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**UNITED STATES – MEXICO
HIGH LEVEL CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Security Communications Task Group
September XX, 2007

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SUBJECT: Recommendations Report on Action Plan for U.S.-Mexico Long Term Solution for
Cross Border Security Communications

The Security Communications Task Group (SCTG) recommends that the attached draft Action Plan be considered for adoption by the High Level Consultative Commission (HLCC) for the Long Term Solution for Cross Border Security Communications.

In July 2006, the HLCC principals, based on a recommendation from the Security Communications Task Group, amended the 2005 interim Protocol for sharing the use of the 380-399.9 MHz band in the common border area, and placed into effect the so called “short term solution for cross border security communications” to allow use of certain frequencies in the 380-399.9 MHz band on a temporary excepted basis which was limited exclusively to ten stations located in the Arizona-Sonora portion of the border. The short term solution was limited in time to allow the U.S. and Mexican governments to formulate and implement an Action Plan for the “Long Term Solution for Cross Border Security Communications.”

The above recommendation for the adoption of the Action Plan is based on more than one year of work by the SCTG and has incorporated input from several federal, state and local public safety organizations with interests in improving cross border communications for first responders with particular emphasis on combating border violence. The Action Plan includes several recommendations centered around establishing cross border microwave links in ten city-pairs for direct connectivity of communications centers of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Mexican C _____(C4). By employing state of the art switching and continuous (24/7) dispatcher intervention capability at the communications centers at each link, the configuration will allow for interconnecting an array of communications methodologies, including “live” voice and data repeater networks in different radio frequency bands. This capability will allow immediate direct communications between responders “on the ground” who find that they need to communicate with each other to coordinate public safety activities of mutual interest in the immediate vicinity of the common border.

Also, the members of the SCTG from both governments request that the HLCC, in adopting the Action Plan, send a recommendation to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and to Mexico’s Ministry of Public Safety (SSP) for its implementation. In addition, the SCTG recommends that the HLCC undertake negotiations of a new agreement that is binding under

international law to provide certain spectrum policy support for the “long term solution” with the goal of entering the agreement into force as expeditiously as possible.

Attachment – Draft Action Plan