



# ICT × Japan -Policy Information -

Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications(MIC), Japan

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## TOPIC

### About Partial Report from the Information and Communications Council on Technical Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities Enabling Network Switchover to IP - Technical Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities for Intercarrier Roaming in Emergency Situations -

#### 1. About Technical Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities for Intercarrier Roaming in Emergency Situations

On December 17, 2024, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) received a partial report from the Information and Communications Council, chaired by ENDO Nobuhiro, special advisor to NEC Corporation, regarding the Technical Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities for Intercarrier Roaming in Emergency Situations (hereinafter referred to as the "Roaming in Emergency") , which are part of the Technical Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities Enabling Network Switchover to IP (Consultation No. 2020, dated October 31, 2005).

Based on this partial report, the MIC intends to implement institutional amendments promptly.

#### 2. Background

Since mobile phone services are essential lifelines for people's daily lives and economic activities, the MIC aims to realize "intercarrier roaming in emergency situations," which enables mobile phone users to temporarily use other carriers' networks during natural disasters, communication failures, and other emergencies. To this end, the MIC has hosted the "Study Group on Intercarrier Roaming in Emergency Situations" since September 2022.

In August 2024, the MIC transferred responsibility of a review forum to the Information and Communications Council to facilitate deeper discussions on policymaking, such as developing technical standards based on findings from the review. Aiming to introduce the intercarrier roaming system around the end of FY 2025, the MIC is actively conducting technical studies and verifications.

The Technical Requirements were reviewed by the IP Network Equipment Committee under the Information and Communications Council from August to December 2024 and were compiled into a report. The report was further deliberated by the ICT Subcommittee, chaired by OIE Yuji, professor emeritus of the Kyushu Institute of Technology, which led to the partial report from the Information and Communications Council.

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#### 3. Future plans

In response to the partial report, the MIC will implement institutional amendments promptly to specify functions that terminal equipment must support for intercarrier roaming in emergency situations.

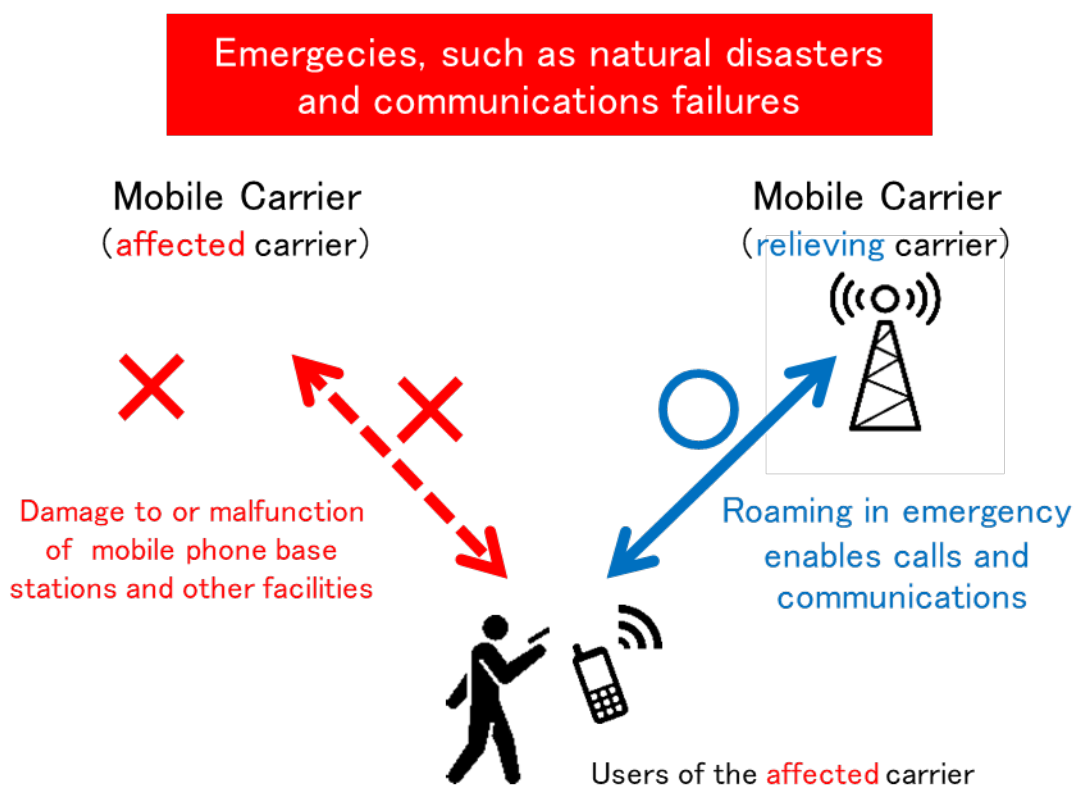


Image depicting intercarrier roaming in emergency