Liaison Contribution to SC21 — Anticipated Work on Lower Layer Multicast Services and Protocols

At its meeting in Berlin in July, 1991, ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 6 approved a resolution calling for an Interim Meeting of SC6 to be convened to deal with issues arising from the New Project (NP) ballot on "Enhanced Transport Mechanism Guidelines" (JTC 1/N 1515). This meeting took place in Paris on 10-13 February, 1992, following the successful conclusion of the NP ballot and the inclusion of the new project in the JTC1 program of work as JTC1.06.36. At this meeting, a number of issues concerning the potential definition of service elements and protocol mechanisms to support multicast communication in the lower layers of OSI were discussed; these issues are summarized in the attachment, "Request for National Body Contributions on Lower Layer Multicast Services and Mechanisms" (SC 6/N xxxx), which is contributed to SC21's project JTC1.21.** for information.

SC6 has also recently inaugurated a new project on "Group Network Addressing" in support of its work on multicast services and protocols for the lower layers. This project has implications for the architecture of naming and addressing throughout OSI, and will be pursued by SC6 in close liaison with the appropriate project(s) in SC21.

SC21's work on the architecture of multipeer and multicast communication in OSI is very important for the progression of SC6's work on lower layer multicast in the context of its new project JTC1.06.36 ("Enhanced Communication Functions and Facilities for OSI Lower Layers", formerly "Enhanced Transport Mechanism Guidelines"). We strongly encourage SC21 to place a high priority on resumption and timely completion of its work on multipeer/multicast architecture, and to maintain a close liaison relationship with SC6 on this topic.