



Mr. Himanshu Kapania, Chairman and Mr. Marten Pieters, Vice Chairman of COAI

New Delhi, July 11, 2013: Mr. Himanshu Kapania, Managing Director, Idea Cellular Ltd. was re-elected as the Chairman of Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) for the year 2013-14. Mr. Marten Pieters, Managing Director & CEO, Vodafone India Ltd., was also re-elected as the Vice-Chairman for the same period at the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of COAI, held on 8th July 2013. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were elected unanimously by the AGM.

Mr. Kapania in his address as the Chairman COAI stated that, "India is inching towards the landmark figure of one billion mobile subscriptions by the year 2014. At the end of 2012, the India mobile subscriber base stood at 865 million and the country contributed over 13% of the global subscription base. In spite of its overweight, India is still a part of the unfinished growth story in global mobile telephony. But before we get too euphoric about our weight in the global telecom scene, let me also share with you that Indian telecom closed Calendar Year 2012 with revenues of USD 27 billion, and this is a meager 2.3% of the estimated global telecom revenue of USD 1.16 trillion".

Mr. M. F. Farooqui, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) was the Guest of Honour at the AGM and made the Keynote Address to industry representatives on "The Road Ahead for the Indian Telecom Industry". The Secretary also participated in a question and answer session with members. Mr Farooqui released the annual report of COAI at the function.

Mr. Rajan S. Mathews, Director General, COAI, extended his heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Himanshu Kapania, for the bold, courageous and excellent leadership provided by him through one of the most challenging periods in the history of Indian telecoms since the last several years. He congratulated both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman and looked forward to their leadership to continue to guide and lead the industry to a brighter future.

About COAI:

The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) was constituted in 1995 as a registered, non-profit, non-governmental society dedicated to the advancement of communication, particularly modern communication through Cellular Mobile Telephone Services. With a vision to establish and sustain a world-class cellular infrastructure and facilitate affordable mobile communication services in India, COAI's main objectives are to protect the common & collective interests of its members. (<http://www.coai.in/>).