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## Korea and Europe unify standards for satellite mobile communication technology.

- The unified standard for the IMT-2000-based satellite mobile communication technology is expected to increase our share of the global market. -

The National Radio Research Agency (NRRA, Director-General Dong-Hyung Lee) of the Korea Communications Commission (KCC) announced that the unified standard for the satellite mobile communication technology, proposed by Korea and Europe at the International Telecommunication Union satellite study group (ITU-R SG4) meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland last September, was adopted as an international standard.

This technology makes it possible for mobile phones such as smartphones to use satellite communication networks as well as the usual cell networks. This way, the phone will stay connected even when on remote islands or in mountainous areas not having any base stations, and can be effectively used for emergency communication in case of a natural disaster like a volcano, typhoon or earthquake.

Based on the WCDMA-based satellite transmission standard,

which was developed by the Electronics and Telecommunication Research Institute (ETRI) in 2000 and became an ITU standard, Korea began the unification process with the European Standardization Organization in 2009.

"Research on personal mobile satellite communication transmission technology is being actively conducted as a supplement for the ground network," said Mr. Do-Seop Ahn, head of the Satellite and Wireless Convergence Research Department. "This standard is significant in that, as the international standard based on our technology has been adopted, we will be able to export satellite mobile terminals made in Korea to the gigantic European market."

This unified technical standard will be confirmed around the end of this year after the approval of ITU member states.