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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Network Virtualization, Network Softwarization, and Fusion Platform of Computing and Networking

Advanced network virtualization and softwarization are the key technologies for constructing next generation ICT infrastructure and considered to realize attractive features expected in future infrastructure such that, customizable to meet a wide variety of end-user demands, scalable in accordance with service volume, efficient in resource management for heterogeneous environment, sustainable to involve new functionalities and technologies. Network virtualization and softwarization have been studied for various areas such as cloud systems, core-networks, edge-networks, and access-networks for both mobile and fixed services including their fusion infrastructure. Range of the fusion will be getting broader towards highly sophisticated ICT infrastructure. In addition, Open-Source Software (OSS) development will also play an important role in such future ICT, because of its wider consideration and contribution from broad area of developers including SW/HW vendors, ICT service providers, and end-users.

For this section, 9 high-quality papers were submitted and 5 papers were accepted. This includes two invited papers, describing a survey of cutting-edge Network Function Virtualization (NFV) researches and a proposal on virtualization for 5G mobile systems.

The editorial committee members sincerely appreciate all authors and reviewers for their contributions to this special section. We hope that the published studies will promote further investigation of future

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**Teruyuki Hasegawa** (*Member*) received the B.E. and M.E. degrees of electrical engineering from Kyoto University in 1991 and 1993 respectively, and Ph.D degree of information science and technology from the University of Tokyo in 2008. Since joining KDD (now KDDI) in 1993, he has worked in the field of high speed communication protocol, multicast system, future Internet including network operations in KDDI Research. He is currently the head of AI-assisted Network Operation Support Group in Operation Division at KDDI. He received The Meritorious Award on Radio of ARIB in 2003. He is a member of IEICE and IPSJ.

