SK TELECOM CO LTD Form 20-F June 29, 2007

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 29, 2007

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 20-F

(Mark One)

o REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006

OR

o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

o SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shall company report

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-14418

SK Telecom Co., Ltd.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

SK Telecom Co., Ltd.

(Translation of Registrant s name into English)

The Republic of Korea (Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 11, EULJIRO 2-GA, JUNG-GU SEOUL, KOREA

(Address of principal executive offices)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

Title of Each Class

American Depositary Shares, each representing one-ninth of one share of Common Stock
Common Stock, par value ₩500 per share

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

New York Stock Exchange, Inc.

New York Stock Exchange, Inc.*

* Not for trading, but only in connection with the registration of the American Depositary Shares.

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer s classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

81,193,711 shares of common stock, par value \\ \psi 500 \text{ per share}

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes b No o

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes o No b

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes b No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer b Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o

Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow. Item 17 o Item 18 þ

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No b

(APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Sections 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court. Yes o No o

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CERTAIN DEFINED TERMS AND CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

All references to Korea contained in this report shall mean The Republic of Korea. All references to the Government shall mean the government of The Republic of Korea. All references to we, us, our or the Company shall mean SK Telecom Co., Ltd. and its consolidated subsidiaries. References to SK Telecom shall mean SK Telecom Co., Ltd., but shall not include its consolidated subsidiaries. All references to U.S. shall mean the United States of America.

All references to KHz contained in this report shall mean kilohertz, a unit of frequency denoting one thousand cycles per second, used to measure band and bandwidth. All references to MHz shall mean megahertz, a unit of frequency denoting one million cycles per second. All references to GHz shall mean gigahertz, a unit of frequency denoting one billion cycles per second. All references to Kbps shall mean one thousand binary digits, or bits, of information per second. All references to Mbps shall mean one million bits of information per second. Any discrepancies in any table between totals and the sums of the amounts listed are due to rounding.

In this report, we refer to third generation, or 3G, technology and 3.5G technology. Second generation, or 2G, technology was designed primarily with voice communications in mind. On the other hand, 3G and 3.5G technologies are designed to transfer both voice data and non-voice, or multimedia, data, generally at faster transmission speeds than was previously possible.

All references to Won, (Won) or W in this report are to the currency of Korea, all references to Dollars, \$ or U to the currency of the United States of America and all references to Yen or Y are to the currency of Japan.

Unless otherwise indicated, all financial information in this report is presented in accordance with Korean generally accepted accounting principles ($Korean\ GAAP$).

Unless otherwise indicated, translations of Won amounts into Dollars in this report were made at the noon buying rate in The City of New York for cable transfers in Won per US\$1.00 as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Unless otherwise stated, the translations of Won into Dollars were made at the noon buying rate in effect on December 31, 2006, which was Won 930.0 to US\$1.00. On June 28, 2007, the noon buying rate was Won 926.6 to US\$1.00. See Item 3.A. Selected Financial Data Exchange Rates .

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report contains forward-looking statements , as defined in Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that are based on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about our company and our industry. The forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Generally, these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as anticipate , believe , considering , depends , estimate , expect plan , planning , planned , project and similar expressions, or that certain events, actions or results may , might , could occur, be taken or be achieved.

Forward-looking statements in this annual report include, but are not limited to, statements about the following:

our ability to anticipate and respond to various competitive factors affecting the wireless telecommunications industry, including new services that may be introduced, changes in consumer preferences, economic conditions and discount pricing strategies by competitors;

our implementation of high-speed download packet access, or HSDPA, technology, high-speed upload packet access, or HSUPA, technology and wireless broadband internet, or WiBro, technology;

our plans to spend approximately Won 1.55 trillion for capital expenditures in 2007 for a range of projects, including investments in our backbone networks (and our WCDMA and WiBro networks in particular), investments in our wireless Internet-related and convergence businesses and funding for mid-to long-term research and development projects, as well as other initiatives, primarily related to our ongoing businesses and in the ordinary course;

our efforts to make significant investments to build, develop and broaden our businesses, including developing and providing wireless data, multimedia, mobile commerce and Internet services;

our ability to comply with governmental rules and regulations, including the regulations of the Ministry of Information and Communication, or the MIC, related to telecommunications providers, rules related to our status as a market-dominating business entity under the Korean Monopoly Regulation and Fair Trade Act, or the Fair Trade Act, and the effectiveness of steps we have taken to comply with such regulations;

our ability to manage effectively our bandwidth and to implement timely and efficiently new bandwidth-efficient technologies;

our expectations and estimates related to interconnection fees; tariffs charged by our competitors; regulatory fees; operating costs and expenditures; working capital requirements; principal repayment obligations with respect to long-term borrowings, bonds and obligations under capital leases; and research and development expenditures and other financial estimates;

the success of our various joint ventures and investments in other telecommunications service providers; and

the growth of the telecommunications industry in Korea and other markets in which we do business and the effect that economic, political or social conditions have on our number of subscribers, call volumes and results of operations.

We caution you that reliance on any forward-looking statement involves risks and uncertainties, and that although we believe that the assumptions on which our forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and, as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions could be incorrect. Risks and uncertainties associated with our business, include but are not limited to, risks related to changes in the regulatory environment; technology changes; potential litigation and governmental actions; changes in the competitive environment; political changes; foreign exchange currency risks; foreign ownership limitations; credit risks and other risks and uncertainties that are more fully described under the heading. Item 3. Key Information. Risk Factors and elsewhere in this report. In light of these and other uncertainties, you should not conclude that we will necessarily achieve any plans and objectives or projected financial results referred to in any of the forward-looking statements. We do not undertake to release the results of any revisions of these forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances.

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PART I

Item 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS

Item 1.A. Directors and Senior Management

Not applicable.

Item 1.B. Advisers

Not applicable.

Item 1.C. Auditors

Not applicable.

Item 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

Item 3. KEY INFORMATION

Item 3.A. Selected Financial Data

You should read the selected consolidated financial and operating data below in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this report. The selected consolidated financial data for the five years ended December 31, 2006 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto.

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with Korean GAAP, which differ in certain respects from U.S. GAAP. For more detailed information you should refer to notes 31 and 32 of the notes to our audited consolidated financial statements included in this annual report.

As of or for the Year Ended December 31,									
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006				
((In billions of Won and millions of dollars, except per share and percentage data)								

OME TEMENT ean GAAP:

l Operating										
enue ⁽¹⁾	\mathbf{W}	9,324.0	<i>¥</i> 10,272.1	₩	10,570.6 ₩	¥ 10,721.8	₩	11,028.0	US\$	11,85
ular Service ⁽¹⁾		9,156.8	10,091.8		10,297.6	10,361.9		10,515.6		11,30
$er^{(2)}$		167.2	180.3		273.0	359.9		512.4		55
rating Expenses		6,526.4	7,167.0		8,130.9	8,051.2		8,406.9		9,03

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rating Income	2,797.6	3,105.1	2,439.7	2,670.6	2,621.1	2,818
me before						
me Taxes and						
ority Interest	2,218.8	2,754.3	2,123.2	2,561.6	2,021.6	2,173
me before						
ority Interest	1,520.3	1,965.3	1,493.4	1,868.3	1,449.6	1,558
Income	1,487.2	1,966.1	1,491.5	1,873.0	1,451.5	1,560
Income per						
e of Common						
$\mathbf{k}^{(3)}$	17,647	26,187	20,261	25,443	19,801	21
ted Net Income						
Share of						
mon Stock ⁽³⁾	17,647	26,187	20,092	25,036	19,523	20
dends Declared						
Share of						
mon Stock	1,800	5,500	10,300	9,000	8,000	8
ghted Average						
iber of Shares	84,270,450	75,078,219	73,614,297	73,614,296	73,305,026	73,305,026
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	As of or for the Year Ended December 31,											
		2002 2003			2004 2005				2006		2006	
		(In billio	ns of	Won and I	millio	ons of dolla	ars, e	except per	shar	re and percentage data)		
U.S. GAAP:												
Total Operating												
Revenue	₩	9,219.7	W	10,225.1	W	10,534.6	₩	10,701.4	₩	10,541.8	US\$	11,335.3
	-77	6,643.4	**	7,044.5		8,137.6	-vv	7,847.7	**	7,720.0	OSÞ	8,301.1
Operating Expenses		2,576.3		3,180.6		2,397.0		2,853.7		,		3,034.2
Operating Income Net Income		2,370.3 1,301.1		2,062.7		1,553.1		2,833.7		2,821.8 1,880.5		
		1,301.1		2,002.7		1,333.1		2,027.0		1,880.3		2,022.0
Net Income per Share of Common Stock ⁽³⁾		15,440		27,475		21,097		27,543		25,653		27.58
Diluted Net Income per		13,440		21,713		21,077		21,545		25,055		27.30
Share of Common												
Stock ⁽³⁾		15,439		27,475		20,918		27,089		25,236		27.14
BALANCE SHEET		13,737		21,713		20,710		27,007		25,250		27,17
DATA												
Korean GAAP:												
Working Capital												
(Deficiency) ⁽⁴⁾	₩	(189.7)	₩	(461.4)	₩	1,323.8	₩	1,735.2	₩	1,455.5	US\$	1,565.1
Property and Equipment,		(10)11)	• •	(10111)	• •	1,020.0	• •	1,700.2		1,.00.0	υsφ	1,0 0011
Net		4,569.4		4,641.5		4,703.9		4,663.4		4,507.3		4,846.6
Total Assets		14,228.7		13,818.2		14,283.4		14,704.8		16,240.0		17,462.3
Long-term Liabilities ⁽⁵⁾		3,693.4		3,193.5		4,010.7		3,513.9		3,548.5		3,815.6
Capital Stock		44.6		44.6		44.6		44.6		44.6		48.0
Total Shareholders				0								
Equity		6,231.9		6,093.8								
1 2		•		*								