**3GPP TSG-SA5 Meeting #162 *S5-253745d1***

Goteborg, Sweden, 25 - 29 August 2025

**Source: Ericsson**

**Title: Maintenance of TSs in SA5**

**Document for: Discussion and Endorsement**

**Agenda Item: 5.1**

# 1 Decision/action requested

***To discuss and endorse a solution for which TSs to be maintained.***

# 2 References

[1] SP-250432 LS to SA for guidance on maintenance of specifications (Source: SA WG5 (S5-252123))

[2] DRAFT Meeting Report for SP meeting: #SP-108, clause 21.1

# 3 Rationale

3GPP way of working is that errors that are serious (FASMO) shall be corrected in all maintained versions down to the release where the error was introduced or to the release which is maintained (faults in not maintained releases are not to be corrected).

Rel-99 up to Rel-8 are not maintained any more.

SA is complaining on the amount of CRs from SA5 which are on old releases.

For old releases there are many TSs that are not used by vendors and operators anymore (typically those that are automatically upgraded for many releases and for systems that are not evolving anymore).

At the beginning of 2025, SA5 had 625 TSs and TRs of which 40 TSs and 143 TRs are no longer maintained., which meant that 442 TSs and TRs are maintained.

An LS [1] was sent to SA asking for guidance on how to reduce the number of FASMO CRs in old releases. The SA report states the following:

“***Plenary Discussion:***

*There was some surprise that SA WG5 report to have a large number of FASMO CRs to old Releases. The SA WG5 Chair clarified that interoperability and operation problems are considered FASMO, but not clarifications and additional description text. Ericsson added that there are examples where a new Feature is introduced which impacts the operation for previous Releases and this would need correction for the older Releases. Vodafone commented that the old obsolete specifications should not be maintained by SA WG5 and changes should be considered only for active Releases.*

*This was then noted.*

***Status:*** *Noted.*”

In offline discussions with Vodafone (as it was the only company that expressed an opinion in SA), the author and Vodafone has agreed that active releases are Rel-16 and newer.

Therefore, it is proposed that Rel-15 and older, FASMO CRs are not longer to be made in SA5.

NOTE that 3G, 4G and 5G specifications are still maintained in Rel-16 and later releases.

# 4 Detailed proposal

Document this endorsement in SA5 Working Procedures:

Maintenance CRs for release 15 and before are strongly discouraged.