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Introduction

Following the completion of Release '99 in December it is anticipated that the 3GPP will focus its efforts upon the delivery of the next release of specifications for the 3rd Generation system. In order to establish a clear set of requirements for this development, work needs to be initiated as soon as possible within TSG SA - specifically in the areas of Services and Architecture requirements.

General

A companion contribution has made proposals that should result in a set of stable and achievable requirements for delivering Release '99 3GPP specifications at the next (June) meeting of TSG SA. This will enable work on the requirements for the second release of specifications to be initiated at that meeting. These requirements should then be sufficiently mature to allow the delivery focused TSGs (CN, RAN and T) to continue their work beyond December.

It is proposed, therefore, that discussions relating to the requirements for the second release of 3GPP specifications be addressed at the June meeting of TSG SA.

The second release of 3GPP specifications will be characterised by their scope and the timescales for their completion.

Their scope will be determined as a result of the need to meet some requirements that can not be delivered in Release '99 as well as the need to support additional features based upon new requirements.

The timescale for their delivery will be dependant upon market forces, the time required for their development and the success of Release '99.

It is proposed that 3GPP members are encouraged to contribute to the June TSG SA meeting on the scope and timescales for the delivery of the second release of 3GPP specifications.

Conclusion

This contribution has highlighted the need to initiate new activities within the 3GPP in order to progress the development of specifications beyond Release '99. It has proposed that discussions are initiated at the June TSG SA meeting relating to both the scope and timescales for the second release.