

Source: Funding and Finance Group Chairman
Title: Funding and Finance Group Activity Report
Agenda item: 6.1

Document for:

Decision	X
Discussion	
Information	

1 Introduction

The Funding and Finance Group (FFG) has met twice since the last PCG/OP meeting. The meetings took place in Quebec, Canada on 7 June, and in Tallinn, Estonia, on 25 September. Both meetings were held in conjunction with TSG meetings. The following representatives took part in the meetings:

Quebec, 7 June 2005

Asok Chatterjee (ATIS)
Sunhye Choi (TTA)
Yasuo Maruyama (TTC) Chairman
Tetsu Tanaka (ARIB)
Adrian Scrase (MCC)
Kari Lang (ETSI)
Wang Zhiqin (CCSA)

Tallinn, 25 September 2005

Asok Chatterjee (ATIS)
Sunhye Choi (TTA)
Yasuo Maruyama (TTC) Chairman
Tetsu Tanaka (ARIB)
Adrian Scrase (MCC)
Kari Lang (ETSI)

FFG has continued to monitor 3GPP expenditure for 2005, based on reports received from MCC, and has prepared a draft budget for 2006. These issues are addressed in the next two sections.

2 Year 2005 Expenditure to June 2005

FFG received and reviewed a comprehensive status report of the expenditure incurred by the Mobile Competence Centre for the first half of 2005. For completeness, the status report has been submitted to this OP meeting for information [3GPP/OP#14(05)06].

Whilst reviewing the Status Report, FFG noted that expenditure was being well controlled and that the

year end prediction indicated that 3GPP would close within its prescribed budget.

3 Year 2006 draft Budget

FFG has prepared a draft budget for 2006 which can be found in document **3GPP/OP#14(05)07**.

3.1 2006 Support Budget

Due note has been taken for the need to reduce cost where possible but, at the same time, to retain a service level which is expected by the 3GPP community. FFG also noted the guidance given by OP#13 that an overall budget reduction of 5% would be a reasonable target to aim for. However, after taking into account the current workload, a support budget has been prepared which shows a 2,2% reduction, which will enable both savings to be made and support to be continued at the current level. FFG believes that any further reduction in manpower result in an unacceptable degradation of support.

In summary, the proposed 2006 Support Budget for 3GPP support shows a further reduction of 2,2% when compared with the 2005 budget, and shows a 23% reduction since 2003.

FFG recommends that the proposed budget be approved by the Organizational Partners.

Recommendation 1: FFG recommends that the Partners approve the draft Support Budget for 2006 contained in **3GPP/OP#14(05)07**.

3.2 2006 Specific Tasks Budget

FFG was made aware of two requests for funding of specific tasks in 2006. These are for the further development of TTCN for UTRAN FDD and TDD modes and the further development of TTCN for GERAN to UTRAN Handover. It should also be noted that in the case of UTRAN TTCN, an additional 17,5 man months (equivalent to 227,5 kEUR) of voluntary effort was also being sought.

FFG is conscious of the fact that the UTRAN TTCN development activity results in a recurring annual demand for 754 kEUR, and questions have been raised as to how this amount is derived and why it is the same amount in each year. Taking into account the desire to reduce the 3GPP budget, the Partners may wish to consider whether the volume of this activity is sustainable for the future.

FFG recommends that the Partners approve these demands, assuming that the overall volume of the TTCN work is acceptable.

Recommendation 2: FFG recommends that the Partners approve the continued funding of TTCN development for UTRA FDD and TDD modes and that the demand for TTCN development for GERAN to UTRAN Handover **3GPP/OP#15(05)07** (subject to confirmation by the Partners that they are satisfied with the overall TTCN volume).

4 FFG future activity

FFG has planned the following future meetings:

16 March 2006	China (conjoint with TSGs)
June 2006	Poland (conjoint with TSGs)
Sept 2006	US (conjoint with TSGs)