

Source: 3GPP TSG-N WG2 Convenors

Title: Status report of TSG-N-WG2 to TSG-N plenary meeting #2

1 Introduction

TSG-N Working group 2 held its inaugural meeting in Sophia Antipolis, kindly hosted by ETSI, 16 – 18 February 1999. The meeting was chaired jointly by the co-convenors, Dr Masami Yabusaki (DoCoMo Europe) and Mr Ian Park (Vodafone).

2 Main achievements

The meeting agreed the terms of reference (Tdoc NP-99023), scope (Tdoc NP-99025), internal structure (Tdoc NP-99024) and relationships with other groups (Tdoc NP-99026) for TSG-N-WG2. These are presented for ratification by TSG-N.

The meeting also identified a list of new work items (Tdoc NP-99022) to be handled by WG2. **This is in addition to the work items inherited from SMG3 WP'C' and SMG3 WP'B', which are listed in Tdoc NP-99025.** This work item list is also presented for ratification by TSG-N.

The meeting also identified the GSM specifications which will provide inputs to the work in WG2, and the specifications which WG2 expects to modify (Tdoc NP-99-028).

Finally, the meeting agreed a proposed set of principles for document handling (Tdoc NP-99027), which is presented for discussion in TSG-N as the basis for rules to be applied in TSG-N or even 3GPP as a whole.

3 Information to be noted

3.1 Meeting schedule

WG2 has arranged hosts and dates for meetings as follows:

- 22 – 26 March, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France (France Télécom/CNET);
- 13 – 15 April, Turkey (TurkTelekom) – joint with SPS3 on CAMEL issues;
- 17 – 21 May, Edinburgh, Scotland (Nortel Networks);
- 19 – 23 July, Gotland, Sweden (Telia Mobile);
- 13 – 17 September, Japan (TTC);
- 15 – 19 November, no host yet.

All meetings will be joint with SMG3 WP'C'.

The possibility of arranging meetings which run from midweek to midweek is being investigated; this would allow 5 full days for the meeting without disrupting two weekends for those delegates who have to travel intercontinental distances. **Provided that WG2 agree to the principle**, such a regime **may** apply for the July meeting, if the hosts can arrange it, and **will** apply for the September and November meetings.

We are in the enviable position of having companies on a waiting list to host meetings. SMG3 WP'C' had arranged hosts in Europe for all their meetings in 1999, but the host companies for September and November have kindly agreed to postpone their offers until 2000, so that we can have meetings in other regions during 1999. TTC have kindly offered to host the September meeting in Japan, at a venue to be decided, but we now need a host for the November meeting (outside Europe!).

3.2 Liaison statements already sent

WG2 agreed to send a number of liaison statements to various bodies; the LSs are presented in Tdoc NP-99041.

4 Issues to be resolved

4.1 Subgroup organisation

As indicated in Tdoc NP-99024, WG2 will do most of its work in two subgroups, which will meet in parallel during the March, May, July, September and November meetings. In order to do this work effectively, it will be necessary to appoint a chairman for each of these subgroups. The approach we intend to use is that the Chairman and Vice-chairman of WG2 should each chair a subgroup; however this requires the election of a vice-chairman, and so far the only candidate is Ian Park (Vodafone, UK). **Another candidate is needed!**

Further, the effective operation of the two subgroups will require **two people to provide PT expert support.**

4.2 Essential inputs

The large majority of the work to be done in WG2 relies on inputs, either stage 1 or stage 2 specifications, from other groups. In order to allow reasonable time for WG2 to develop their part of the specification, these inputs need to be stable in time for WG2 to use them at the meeting of 17 – 21 May.

Work item descriptions also need to be approved in time for the May meeting.

4.3 Relations with other groups

We expect that close interworking between TSG-N-WG2 and TSG-S WG1 and WG2 will be needed. WG2 recommend that the opportunity of collocated TSG-N and TSG-S meetings should be used to open discussion on this.

4.4 Approval of work items

TSG-N are asked to consider and approve the list of additional work items in Tdoc NP-99022.

4.5 GSM specifications to be handled by WG2

Tdoc NP-99028 lists the GSM specifications which WG2 expects to handle. WG2 also identified the need to produce two new specifications, dealing with handover between GSM and UMTS networks (a successor to GSM 03.09) and with the interworking between access signalling and core network signalling (a successor to GSM 09.10 and GSM 09.11). TSG-N are asked to consider and ratify the material in this list which is relevant to WG2.

WG2 also take the view that it is not appropriate to produce a global equivalent of GSM 09.14 (interworking between ISUP v3 and GSM PLMNs), because the regional variations of ISUP would either:

- make such a global specification so limited (if it contains only material which is globally applicable) that it is of very little use as it stands, and would require substantial expansion to meet the requirements of each specific region, or
- make such a global specification include so many options (if it covers all the possibilities for different regions) that it would be very difficult to extract from the combined specification the material required for a specific region.

WG2 therefore recommend that the drafting of the regional equivalent of GSM 09.14 should be the responsibility of each regional standards organisation. TSG-N are asked to ratify this approach.

4.6 Document handling principles

TSG-N are asked to review the document handling principles in Tdoc NP-99027, and to decide whether they are applicable to TSG-N or even more widely in 3GPP.

4.7 Treatment of liaison statements

TSG-N are asked to give guidance on the procedure for the approval of liaison statements generated by working groups; should these be presented for formal approval by a TSG-N plenary before they are sent, or can some other approval process be used?