Agenda Item: 14.2; 16; 17

Source: ETSI SMG3

Title: Liaison Statement on Work Organisation Aspects

Document for: Discussion and Decision

ETSI SMG3 has identified a broad area of activity belonging to the evolution of GSM technology that has to be specified in close connection to the work on the UMTS core network issues. This derives from the fact that the UMTS core network is considered as the evolution of GSM core networks. ETSI SMG3 specifies network features whose evolution is of interest for both GSM and UMTS, including: CAMEL, MAP, Call Control, Mobility Management and GPRS protocols.

The organisation for development of specifications in these common working areas should use all possible means to avoid duplication of work and resources, avoid divergence between GSM and UMTS and avoid separate meetings dealing with the same subject.

According to the above consideration, ETSI SMG3 proposes to have “joint sessions/meetings” with 3GPP TSG Core Network, as an organisational solution that can be considered beneficial for both sides.

This proposal has the benefit to be the most flexible, avoiding, on one side, the duplication of work and the risk of divergence, but allowing, on the other side, the organisation of parallel meetings on specific issues when needed.

Therefore, it is proposed that ETSI SMG3 and 3GPP TSG CN arrange joint meetings, e.g. for one week, and perform most of the work in close co-operation. During these joint meetings some time could be reserved (in the beginning or end of the meeting), on demand, for specific GSM only issues. Such session(s) could also be used for other “regional” specific discussions within 3GPP.