3GPP TSG RAN Meeting #103
Maastricht, Netherlands, March 18-21, 2024

RP-240476

Source: ZTE, Sanechips

Agenda: 15

Views on 3GPP 6G Timeline

Endorsed 6G Timeline (RP-233985 = SP-231693 = CP-233319)

- **First TSG-wide 6G workshop is expected to be in March 2025**
  - Right before the planned Rel-19 RAN1 functional freeze (June 2025). Detailed information for the workshop is TBD
- **Organization of a 3GPP Stage 1 workshop on IMT-2030 use cases is being discussed separately**
  - Refer to SP-231619 (Set to early May 2024)
- **Studies for 6G in 3GPP are expected to start from Release 20**
  - Requirements studies:
    - **SA1 SID is expected to be approved in Sept'2024.**
    - **RAN plenary SID (e.g., radio requirements and KPIs) is expected to be approved TBD (to be decided at RAN#103)**
  - Technology studies:
    - **SA2 SID is expected to be approved in June'2025. Other SA-WG SIDs (e.g., Security, etc.) are expected to be approved TBD**
    - **RAN-WG SIDs are expected to be approved in June'2025**
    - **CT-WG SIDs are expected to be approved TBD**
- **IMT-2030 submission and normative work for 6G in 3GPP are expected to start from Release 21**
  - Release 21 is expected to produce the 1st set of 3GPP 6G technical specifications, and will be the release for IMT-2030 submission before 2030
  - Release 21 is expected to be delivered with a single drop (i.e., a single code freeze)
- **Target TSG#103 (March'2024) for the remaining detailed 6G timeline decisions**

Potential 6G Timeline:

(After taking into account different views and the progress in RAN#102)

Note that ZTE initial proposal in RAN#101 is RP-232296.

Interaction with ITU-R WP5D on requirements

(1) Views on 6G essential UCs, requirements and enabling technologies are expected be shared in 3GPP 6G WS(**Mar.2025**). Based on this, approval of RAN-level SID can be done after the workshop.

(2) Consolidated KPIs per usage scenario are expected to be shared from SA1 to RAN **from TSG#108(Jun.2025)**.

(3) KPI values are expected to be contributed to ITU-R WP5D **from Jun.2025**.

(4) LSs about the progress of TPRs are going to be sent to 3GPP (if needed) from Oct.2024.

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Proposals

- RAN level study item on requirements:
  - **Approval date:** March 2025, **Start date:** June 2025, **End date:** June 2026
  - *TPR work in ITU-R WP5D has been started in January 2024 and there are three WP5D meetings each year in 2024 and 2025.*
  - *According to the WP5D workplan, it may send LS to external organizations starting in October 2024. Preliminary agreements for technical performance requirements can be made starting in 2025.*
    - *LS from WP5D can trigger discussion in ITU AdHoc group in December TSG in 2024, and 3GPP can provide initial feedback on the plan of providing inputs in 2025.*
    - *RAN level SI can be approved in March 2025 immediately after the 3GPP wide 6G workshop. After March 2025, there are three ITU-R WP5D meetings for 3GPP to provide inputs.*
- RAN WG level study item (Rel-20):
  - **Approval date:** June 2025**, Start date:** June 2025 in RAN1**, End date:** June 2027 (i.e. 21 months in each WG)
  - *Sufficient 6G study in Rel-20 should be ensured e.g. the duration of Rel-20 RAN WG 6G study item>=21 months. We can keep 18months for the timeframe of ASN.1 of Rel-20 5G-Advanced.*
- RAN WG level work item (Rel-21):
  - **Approval date:** March 2027**, Start date:** March 2027 in RAN1**, End date:** June 2029 (initial ASN.1 freeze can be in March 2029, and one quarter is dedicated for maintenance in Q2 2029)
  - *It's expected to be challenging to stabilize the first 6G release with regular release plan i.e. 2 quarters from RAN1 freeze to ASN.1 freeze. One more quarter can be dedicated for maintenance without starting Rel-22.*

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Thanks