

Smarter technology for all

3GPP TSG RAN#93-e

RP-212463

Electronic Meeting, September 13 – September 17, 2021

Agenda Item:	9.0.1
Source:	Lenovo, Motorola Mobility
Document for:	Discussion

RAN Rel-18 package, schedule and time planning considerations

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Indiscipline – the bane of RAN

- A large number of proposals submitted for R18
 - Last webinar discussions indicated strong desire, from operators in particular, to consider proposals that solve real problems aka commercial demand
- Lack of discipline in RAN plenary during package identification has been a major issue for many releases and will continue unless
 - Realistic view taken during each Release planning stage
 - Honest accounting of TU budgets for both - pending R17 topics and R18 candidates
 - Accounting of lack of face2face meetings until second half of 2022 at the earliest
- Completion of several Rel-17 WIs unlikely before the end of Q1 2022

Status in RAN WG1

- RAN WG1 significantly delayed and latest status indicates that many RAN WG1-led R17 WIs are not even 60% completed
- Completing remaining 40% over 3 ~1.5-week long meetings very unlikely
 - Contentious issues often left to end (and sometimes beyond) to resolve
 - progress is not necessarily linear
 - RAN WG2 will be shifted out 2 meeting cycles accordingly
- Typically, significant work done in RAN WG1 for many meetings to finalize final optional/mandatory (i.e. work is actually incomplete in RAN WG1)
- Need to honestly determine if RAN WG1 can start any R18 discussions in February meeting

Current proposal being considered

- Stagger start of R18 in RAN WG1 for different features starting with February 2022 meeting
- Questions:
 - What to do with R17 incomplete items in RAN WG1 ?
 - and consequence on ASN.1?
- Typical action so far: Down-scope
- Alternate proposal:
 - Continue until completion => stagger start, but Release 17 is considered complete only when at least RAN WG1, WG2 and WG3 are at least for e.g. 95% complete and Exceptions given for tiny number of truly exception items

Option 1 for R17 – Down-scoping of R17

- Down the line down-scoping has become a way of life; encourages continued indiscipline in RAN
- Promotes feature stuffing in beginning to get agreement, followed by inevitable down-scoping
- Down-scoping should be stopped
 - The vertical market requires completeness of functionality for successful adoption
 - As 3GPP addresses more verticals in future, realistic planning and committed execution needed
 - Alternate: Either entire feature is dropped or pushed into following release

Option 2 for R17 – Staggered Start of R18

- Problem: Perpetuates the stagger all the way down into next release and on and on...
 - Cycle never ends
- Need for honest, realistic accounting of TUs needed to complete R17 left over topics and sticking to it without further delays in completion
 - Accordingly staggering the start of approved R18 SI/WI
- Honest assessment of completion date of R18 for desired package
- A single ASN.1 version per release
 - or we need to introduce ASN.1 per feature approach
 - Since otherwise it delays ASN.1 release

Summary

- Status: True completion of R17 RAN1 not Dec 2021/Jan2022 but most likely March 2022
- RAN WG1 shall consider mandatory/optional aspects of a feature where useful during agreements not at the end of the cycle (preferably even for remaining R17 cycle)
- A single ASN.1 version shall be approved for release
 - Release completion (external date) should be identified by ASN.1 completion and strictly adhered to
- Down-scoping of R17 is not encouraging good behavior and honest assessments
- Staggered start likely inevitable due to differing completion status/TU needs of various features
- **RAN-Plenary shall take into account creep of R17 into R18 cycle and account for actual TU budget available for a desired externally announced R18 completion date**
 - Decide complete RAN R18 package accordingly along with market demands

thanks.

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