Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects TSGS#3(99)212
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Source: **TSG SA**

Destination: **TSG-RAN, TSG-CN, TSG-T, all sub working groups**

Title: **LS on Principles for Bearer services and Quality of service**

Document for: **Information**

Agenda Item: **-**

There has been some confusion about the meaning of the phrase "Quality of Service". This has been used to denote two concepts:

1. QoS as perceived by the user relating to end-to-end communications services
2. QoS as provided within the UMTS access and/or core network for a given data communications link between UMTS nodes.

To avoid any confusion following definition shall be used:

Quality of Service is the quality of a requested service (Teleservice or Bearer Service or any other service, e.g. customer care) as perceived by the customer (ITU-T M.xxxx). QoS is always meant end-to-end. Network Performance of several network elements of the originating and terminating network(s) contribute to the QoS as perceived by the customer including terminals and terminal attachments. In order to offer the customer a certain QoS the serving network need to take into account network performance components of their network, reflect the performance of the terminal and ad sufficient margin for the terminating networks in case network performance requirements cannot be negotiated. As far as the QoS to 3rd Generation subscribers is concerned 3G network elements have to provide sufficient performance (reflecting possible performance constraints in terminating networks) that 3G networks cannot be considered as a bottleneck.

TSG-S1 will define requirements 'end to end QoS', regarding UMTS as a part of a communications link which may in general consist of UMTS, one or more transit networks, and a terminating network.

TSG-S2, TSG-RAN and TSG-CN will elaborate the network performance parameters of specific communications link within the UMTS system in order that end to end QoS requirements can be achieved. Primary responsibility for co-ordinating this is TSG-S2.

The methods defined by IETF for QoS in the internet environment shall be used were appropriate.