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3GPP TSG-SA Codec Working Group
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Packet-based voice and multimedia communications such as VoIP, video conferencing and video streaming are gaining interest within 3rd generation mobile communication arena. For running forementioned real time or near-real time packet-based applications over 3G mobile networks, optimised user plane error-resiliency would be a critical requirement. Good quality of service would be obtained if such applications could use some error-resilient protocols and tools. On the other hand, available packet domain tools have to enable economically feasible transport over the expensive radio transport path to provide a competitive alternative for currently specified and used circuit switched services.

3GPP TSG-SA4 Working Group (also known as Codec WG) is going to evaluate wireless real time packet switched multimedia services based on H.323 or SIP probably within the standardisation period agreed for 3GPP Release 2000 (Approval in December 2000). For this work TSG-SA4 would like to consider and possibly use in its future specifications relevant error resilient real time protocols and tools, which are currently under discussion in IETF AVT Working Group. Therefore TSG-SA4 encourages IETF AVT Working Group to also consider the characteristics and requirements of 3G mobile networks for this work in progress. Such items to consider are, e.g.,

- long round-trip times due to radio channel coding and interleaving on lower layers in radio access network,
- low radio interface user rates (from 10s of kbit/s to some 100s of kbits/s depending on radio cell size and # of concurrent users) compared to fixed networks
- relatively high residual bit error ratios in Layer 1 transport available for real time bearers and
- need for optimised radio spectrum efficiency (e.g. minimised overhead caused by headers).

As this is the first contact of 3GPP TSG-SA4 towards IETF AVT Working Group, TSG-SA4 would kindly like to ask IETF AVT Working Group for further information on current status and direction of the work on error resilient real time protocols. The next TSG-SA4 meeting is scheduled for June 5-9 ,2000, and the group would solicit your kind response prior to that time to enable prompt progress of planned TSG-SA4 work.