

Source: TSG-SA Chairman
Title: Best Practices from other TSGs
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Best Practices from other TSGs

SA handles the widest range of issues of all the TSGs. TSG-SA has also been tasked by PCG with the overall coordination of the 3GPP project management. This coordination role could be improved. Below are some practices currently adopted in other TSGs which SA should consider.

1. From TSG-RAN: Use of Study Items

Within SA it is not always clear which work items are feasibility studies and which are intended to actually produce changes to technical specifications. There is also a disturbing tendency for work items intended as feasibility studies to silently change into implementation WIDs without any explicit decision being taken.

SA should consider adding a check box to the WID form identifying a WID as a feasibility study. Furthermore, feasibility studies should not migrate into regular WIDs without an explicit plenary decision. This does not mean that work needs to stall, the “CRs” can be parked in a TR until there is a decision to implement them

Recommendation: That these practices be endorsed by TSG-SA and the SA management team be tasked with implementing them.

2. From TSG-CT: Greater Use of TSG Wide WIDs

Within SA there is a tendency for each WG to work independently and propose independent work items. Coordination is improved by having a single work item with the overall responsibility being housed in the WG with the greatest amount of work to do. The WID includes the work to be done in other WGs (within the TSG) and is reviewed by those WGs.

This idea of TSG wide WIDs is especially useful in the case of feasibility studies. To study the feasibility of a topic, you must consider both what new functionality is needed and what is required to provide this functionality. It makes no sense whatsoever to have independent feasibility studies on the same topic in both SA1 and SA2.

Recommendation: That this practice be encouraged for all new WIDs being proposed from TSG-SA#29 and on. Guidance on implementation to be provided to the WGs by the SA management team.

3. From TSG-CT: Reorganization of the agenda along feature lines.

Currently SA reports by WG. This is a tradition inherited from the SMG. This means that you will typically consider for example CRs related to I-WLAN separately under each WG. In CT, these CRs and issues would be grouped together and discussed under the same agenda item. This means it is easier to deal with the linkages between CRs and any issues of principle related to the topic at that time. A report is still given for each WG to give the delegates an overview of what is going on in a WG and discuss any administrative or organizational issues, but detailed technical discussion is usually deferred until the feature is discussed in the agenda.

Recommendation: A revised agenda structure be adopted from TSG-SA#29 onwards.