TSG CN SS ad hoc   3GPP Tdoc N_SS-99041
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To: SMG1
CC: TSG SA WG1

LS on document handling of
supplementary service specifications for Release 99

The TSG CN SS ad hoc is a working group within TSG CN, responsible for supplementary service matters of the UMTS Release 99. During their first meeting the CN SS ad hoc has recognised that there are no stage 1 specifications of supplementary services available in 3GPP.

This fact has raised some concerns within the TSG CN SS ad hoc. This is because the 3GPP TSG CN has agreed that the Core Network of UMTS Phase 1 will be developed as an evolution of the GSM Core Network based on Release 98. Therefore it was agreed by TSG CN and SMG#28 to forward the majority of the core specifications in responsibility of SMG3, including the supplementary service specifications, to 3GPP TSG CN.

This was considered to be very important to enable the concept of the evolution of the GSM core network towards UMTS, agreed together with the organisational partners of ETSI within 3GPP.

Since the implementation of all supplementary services is based only on functions and procedures of the core network (including the layer 3 access protocol), it is desirable from the SS ad hoc viewpoint to have supplementary service stage 1 specifications available in 3GPP.

It is assumed that from service viewpoint, the operation of supplementary service will not be changed in UMTS Phase 1 compared to GSM Release 98. To confirm this, the TSG CN SS ad hoc group kindly asks SMG1 to check together with TSG SA WG1 the existing supplementary service stage 1 specifications on impact due to UMTS Phase 1. It is proposed by the TSG SS ad hoc to forward then the updated supplementary service stage 1 specifications to 3GPP TSG SA WG1 for further treatment, similar to the decision taken by SMG3 and TSG CN. This is considered as very important to make a consistent specification set (Stage 1, 2 and 3) globally available within 3GPP.