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Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Net Futures  
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**Subject: 3GPP TSG RAN meeting #72 Busan - Liaison Statement (LS) on 5G policy developments in Europe**

Dear 3G PP TSG RAN Chairman, *Dear Dimo*

I would like to recall our previous Liaison Statement, doc RP-151668 that we input as a result of the work of the 5G PPP towards the RAN #70 meeting, last December, in Barcelona.

Since then, the European Commission published an ambitious Digital Single Market related strategy setting out the path to digitise European industry.

In this strategy, 5G technological advances and standardisation as well as an ambitious 5G action plan focussed on investments are considered as a cornerstone.

Next generation of converged 5G networks are expected be the platform of choice to satisfy the multiple use cases and innovative business models of all vertical industries.

As already outlined in our previous Liaison Statement, developing 5G with a technological approach that efficiently supports, with similar levels of priority, the multiplicity of all use cases identified in the eMBB, URLL, mMTC classification of ITU, remains a key priority for the European Commission.

In such context, we understand that the next 3G PP meeting in Busan will consider several contributions calling for a redefinition of the 3G PP timeline with a potential impact on the 5G standardisation process and priorities to be considered to deliver the first phases of the standard.

While we understand that this standardisation process needs to consider market issues that are emerging, we are concerned with an unjustified accelerated approach that may lead to early technological choices that may prevent the necessary later evolution of the standards towards its full and efficient set of service capabilities, especially if the study period being shortened will not allow to take seriously into account the whole set of requirements coming from all the identified use cases, and notably those from the industrial vertical sectors.

From that perspective, we would like to reiterate that the notion of "forward compatibility" introduced at a previous TSG RAN meeting is a fundamental one, which should not be compromised by a redesigned standardisation process to serve only short term milestones.

From a European Commission perspective, this would be very detrimental to the overall success of a globally accepted 5G standard.

I hope that the above considerations can be taken up during your very important meeting, and I fully appreciate the difficult task you are faced with.

I would be very happy to further discuss with you the outcome of the Busan event, and in the meantime I wish you a very successful RAN Plenary meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Mário Campolargo