Source: **PCG**

Title: **3G Standardization on target to meet December, 1999 deadline**

3G Speech codec agreed at Fort Lauderdale, USA (meeting of 3GPP)

More than 20 countries participate in Fort Lauderdale, USA to define 3G standards

3GPP goes full steam ahead to meet December, 1999 schedule

International 3G Partnership Project (3GPP) elects its officials

Fort Lauderdale meeting commits Global cooperation to define 3G Standards by December 1999 deadline

Agenda item: **10.3**

Document for:

Decision	**X**
Discussion	
Information	

The Project Co-ordination Group (PCG) and the four Technical Specification Groups (TSGs) at the Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) for mobile communications met in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA from 1 to 4 March 1999.

The meeting was hosted by BellSouth, Ericsson, Lucent Technologies, Nokia Americas, Nortel Networks, North American GSM Alliance LLC, Omnipoint, Pacific Bell Wireless, Siemens Communications Networks.

In total more than 320 Delegates from more than 20 countries came together for this 3GPP meeting. This included 190 Delegates from Europe, 14 from Korea, 60 from Japan, and 55 from the United States.

The most important matters of these 3GPP meetings were the elections of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen for the TSGs and for PCG as well as the furthest pursuit of the standardization work that stated already in December 1998 at Sophia Antipolis, France.

In the elections a good balance between the three regions and the individual member companies was achieved. This can be considered as a good sign of trust and confidence in each other.

The following 3GPP TSG officials were elected by the TSGs and appointed by the PCG:

TSG RAN	**Name**	**Individual member**	**Org Partner**	**Country**
Chairman	Yukitsuna FURUYA	NEC	ARIB	Japan
Vice-Chairman	Francois COURAU	ALCATEL	ETSI	France
Vice-Chairman	Donald ZELMER	BELL SOUTH	T1	U.S.A
TSG SA	**Name**	**Individual member**	**Org Partner**	**Country**
Chairman	Niels ANDERSEN	MOTOROLA	ETSI	Danmark
Vice-Chairman	Gary JONES	OMNIPOINT	T1	U.S.A
Vice-Chairman	Armin TOEPFER	MANNESMAN	ETSI	Germany
TSG T	**Name**	**Individual member**	**Org Partner**	**Country**
Chairman	Sang-Keun PARK	SAMSUNG	TTA	Korea
Vice-Chairman	Ed EHRLICH	NOKIA	T1	U.S.A
Vice-Chairman	Kevin HOLLEY	BT	ETSI	U. K
TSG CN	**Name**	**Individual member**	**Org Partner**	**Country**
Chairman	Harald DETTNER	SIEMENS	ETSI	Germany
Vice-Chairman	Masami YABUSAKI	NTT DoCoMo	TTC	Japan
Vice-Chairman	Stephen HAYES	ERICSSON	T1	U.S.A

The Chairpersons for the PCG were appointed as follows:

Chairman Karl Heinz Rosenbrock, ETSI, France

Vice Chairman Akio Sasaki, ARIB, Japan

Vice Chairman Asok Chatterjee, T1, U.S.A

Regarding the specification work related to 3GPP the following achievements were reached during the Fort Lauderdale meeting:

1 Mandatory Speech Codec

The definition of the narrowband telephony speech service for 3G systems requires to select and specify a speech codec to be mandatory supported by all 3G terminals and network equipment.

The corresponding specifications need to be finished by the end of 1999.

In order to meet this deadline, the mandatory speech codec must be identified as soon as possible. The baseline specifications (Transcoding functions essentially) should be available by April 1999 in order to complete and approve the standard by December 1999. Once the codec has been selected, a considerable amount of work will be required to fully specify and characterise the operation of the speech codec over the 3G radio channels (W-CDMA or TD/CDMA.

Based on the results of the evaluation of multiple candidate speech codecs, TSG SA approved the selection of the GSM AMR (Adaptative Multi Rate Codec) as the mandatory speech codec for 3GPP.

The GSM AMR includes multiple (8) codec modes providing the required flexibility to offer a toll quality speech service without compromising the system capacity.

The GSM AMR included the GSM EFR (at 12.2 kbps) and the IS136 EFR (at 7.4 kbps) offering a high level of compatibility with key mobile systems of the second generation.

Background

The technical specifications for the next generation of mobile communication are being developed by an inter-regional partnership, the so-called Third Generation Partnership Project, 3GPP.

3GPP encompasses five recognised standards organisations from three regions:

1. America:T1 (U.S.A)

2. Asia: ARIB (Japan), TTA (Korea), TTC (Japan

3. Europe: ETSI (35 European and 15 countries from overseas)

Furthermore, 3GPP has two Market Representation Partners:

The UMTS Forum and

GSA, the Global Mobile Suppliers Association

The specification work within 3GPP is done within four Technical Specification Groups, TSGs:

TSG RAN for Radio Access Networks,

TSG SA for System and Services Aspects,

TSG T for Terminals, and

TSG CN for Core Networks.

Furthermore, a Project Co-ordination Group, PCG, has been created in order to oversee and co-ordinate the whole Project.