

Attention

Agenda Item 9

Purpose SMG3 Chairman's Letter
For Information / For Endorsement

Source: ETSI
Harald Dettner
Chairman SMG3¹

To: TSG_CN

Title: Relation SMG3 – TSG_CN

Introduction

In general it was endorsed that SMG3 will continue its work within the 3GPP TSG_CN environment as a joint group to prevent redundant work and to be not needlessly different between an (evolving) GSM core network and a G-UMTS Core-Network .

This documents tries to describe in more detail the transfer of work, work-items, specifications from SMG3 to TSG_CN and to outline the practical consequences according to actual positions agreed in SMG#28.

Of special interest/importance is the section on **work style / SMG3 approval** since a mechanism is proposed which tries to cover ETSI SMG requirements by a rather pragmatic approach.

This proposal nevertheless seeks formal approval by SMG plenary at a later point in time.

Alignment of Organisation Structure

In order to prevent redundant work it was agreed to align the SMG3 structure to the structure of TSG_CN.

This is the most important step to have a common/joint meeting philosophy for to come to a workstyle where all work is conducted in one physical group.

Document / Work Item transfer to TSG_CN

It is agreed that 3GPP Core Network will be based on GSM release '98.

Currently an assessment is performed by the 3 TSG_CN working groups together with the SMG3 working parties on which GSM specifications to allocate to which TSG working group. The results of this exercise are going to be approved at this TSG_CN meeting #2.

SMG3 will formally offer the listed specifications to 3GPP and TSG_CN has to accept them with the requirement endorsed by SMG#28 (full maintenance of previous specification versions).

The transfer of work items from SMG3 to TSG_CN means practically the offer/request from SMG3 to continue the work on the respective topics in the TSG_CN working groups, instead of having separated SMG3 only meetings to progress the respective issues.

Only those topics which are of exclusive sole interest of ETSI SMG should be treated in separated "physical" SMG3 meetings.

The review work so fare conducted identified no clear pure SMG work items.

Nevertheless some issues are identified where further analysis is required, e.g.:

- Interworking between G-UMTS and ISDN (region specific?!)
- Handover GSM-UMTS (2nd generation issue?!).

The summarisation/compilation of all WI's to be treated in TSG_CN in 1999 will be one of the tasks of this meeting. Respective pre-analysis work happened in the 1.st WG meetings.

Work Style

Joint meetings

It is repeatedly stressed that duplication of work shall be prevented and therefore SMG came up with the philosophy of joint meetings for the GSM evolved core network. Chairing of this meetings will be by the TSG-chair in co-ordination with the SMG3 chair person. SMG3 members participate as individual members in these meetings.

Approvals within such meetings means approval by the TSG_CN group only.

Such approvals do not implicitly mean approval by SMG3.

Approval by SMG3 and working groups

To achieve SMG3 endorsement/approval of the work/output of such meetings a separated SMG3 meeting has to be called.

Nevertheless since SMG3 members participate already in the working groups the proposal is to attach a (rather short) SMG3 (working party) session at the end of the joint meetings. Scope of this session is to endorse/approve the work/outcome of the "just finished" joint meeting.

It is expected that such sessions will be rather short since all technical discussions already happened before. Therefore it will be more a listing of documents to be endorsed resp. not to be endorsed by SMG3 working party xyz.

Whether this procedure is applicable for Working group / Working party meetings only or also to for SMG3 plenary requires further consideration/discussion it is at least sure that the SMG3 plenary meetings will need more time than a very few hours slot.

The rational of having immediately after a TSG meeting a consecutive "SMG3 slot" is to have rapid formal feedback to- and approval of work by- the ETSI SMG(3) community and on the other hand prevention of unnecessary travelling / expenditure / loss of time....

Furthermore such SMG3 meetings shall be used in addition to immediately identify issues of distinct ETSI SMG3 interest (deviations/refinements to 3GPP work) and rapidly organize SMG3 internal consequential actions for the identified issues (ad hoc meetings, e-mail discussions, ...).

Nevertheless this is the first proposal from the SMG community (SMG3 chairman with some consultation) which will be experienced and afterwards modified/improved when needed.

Reporting

It is assumed that some support team will produce meeting reports for the TSG meetings.

These TSG reports shall be distributed beside the TSG information flows also to the SMG(3) hierarchy.

As addenda to these TSG reports notes/minutes of the SMG3 "session" shall be attached to those reports being forwarded to the SMG branch.

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