

Meeting #3, Yokohama, Japan, 26-28 April 1999

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Title: Proposal on the introduction of Wo Me functions within 3GPP
Document for: discussion and decision
Agenda Item: 7.3

With reference to the outcome of the last 3GPP meeting in Ft. Lauderdale we know that:

- there was consensus within the TSG SA, in the context of its coordination role, on the need to have homogeneous Working Methods to be used within the four TSGs; Mr. P. Donat was asked to produce a consistent proposal for one of the next SA meetings; also the proposed Standard (**SP 99048**) on Working Methods, derived from the GSM 01.00, was approved in principle and this approval was confirmed by the PCG (decision **PCG1/7**);
- it was later decided in the PCG (decisions **PCG1/8** and **PCG1/9**) to assign to the **3GPP Support Team** (successively merged into the **3GPP Mobile Competence Centre - MCC**) the responsibility of maintaining the **3GPP Working Methods Standards** and the **3GPP Specification Numbering Scheme**, being reserved to the PCG the final approval;

In this context it is unclear where the proposals about Working Methods Standards come from and in general what is the role of the TSG SA on this matter. A potential conflict between the **TSG SA** and the **MCC** may arise, however this should be carefully avoided, especially in these starting times of 3GPP.

The Working Methods matter is clearly very much relevant for the coordination role that TSG SA has to perform on the TSGs work; several people coming from all Organizational Partners (**OP**), with experience on Working Methods and coordination problems, will undoubtedly attend TSG SA and contribute positively to this subject, so avoiding the “dominance” of only one **OP**'s view.

The way out for this problem should be to allow TSG SA to debate and contribute on 3GPP Working Methods and, at the same time, take into account the new responsibility assigned from PCG to MCC. Therefore the following proposal is presented for discussion and approval to both MCC and TSG SA: it should be stated clearly that:

- the TSG SA should:
 - be entitled to discuss Working Methods issues and to formulate proposals to MCC in the context of its TSGs coordination role;
 - keep (even if obvious) its responsibility of splitting the Work Items into successive Releases, taking also into account the implications on the Version Releases aspects;

- the MCC should be responsible of:
 - the implementation and maintenance of the Working Methods Standards (including Change Requests management, etc.), just as it is done for Standards on other matters, coming from the different TSGs;
 - the presentation for approval of the Working Methods Standards to the PCG;
- there should be an additional direct link between the MCC and the TSG SA (besides the links currently existing for ensuring the ordinary MCC activities necessary for implementing the 3GPP Specification), on matters dealing with the coordination activity in general and specifically the Working Methods, through which proposals, decisions, and comments can pass freely and reach their proper destination. Just for this purpose a **Liaison Rapporteur for Working Methods**, should be appointed officially by TSG SA, with the mandate to attend to the MCC meetings devoted to Working Methods matter and to ease the cooperation and the information flow between the two Bodies;
- the attendance of other TSG SA delegates in the above specific MCC Working Methods meetings should be encouraged;

If such proposal is endorsed (after being perhaps better refined) all the conditions are met in order that:

- the MCC keep the pivotal role between PCG and TSG SA also on Working Methods matter;
- the TSG SA be not excluded from an essential aspect of its coordination role;
- the maximum part of the know-how existing on this matter within ETSI and other **OPs** be not wasted and contributions coming from them be properly taken into account.