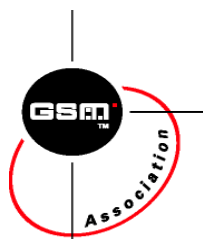


Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects
Meeting #3, Yokohama, Japan, 26-28 April 1999

TSGS#3(99)121



GSM Association
Plenary meeting #41
Helsinki, 20-23 April 1999

PL Doc 110/99

To: 3GPP TSGs
From: GSM Association Plenary
Subject: Open Interfaces; lu, lub and lur

The GSM Association notes with satisfaction that the work in 3GPP is progressing very rapidly and that the previously set timing objectives are within reach.

The GSM Association has at its Plenary #41 formally agreed to request to join the 3GPP organisation as a Market Representative Partner and is looking forward to participate in the work. Of course, many GSM Association members are already actively taking part in 3GPP and its working groups, but the official representation of the GSM Association as an entity will hopefully bring additional and important market and operator perspectives into the picture.

In the light of this, the GSM Association would like to express our full and strong support for open and fully specified interfaces, and then in particular the critical lu, lub and lur interfaces. The GSM Association and its members feel that it is of utmost importance that these interfaces are fully standardised and thus open for a multi vendor environment. This we believe will not only be the technically most pure approach but also an important commercial tool for both Operators and Manufacturers. In its extension, it is believed that fully open interfaces will contribute significantly to an increased commercial success of the 3GPP standards, something we all will enjoy.

In order to assist realisation of as open interfaces as possible, the GSM Association has the intention and is looking for methods to actively contribute to the actual technical specifications. There are already commitments from some members to take part in consolidated efforts to make detailed contributions to the 3GPP work. It is believed that with this, and with the recognised support and continued efforts from manufacturers, this will make possible fully standardised lu, lub and lur interfaces in time.

GSM Association is hence urging 3GPP as such and manufacturer representatives in particular to embrace the objective of fully standardised and open lu, lub and lur interfaces, and put as much emphasise as possible into making this happen. The GSM Association will through its membership in 3GPP and through its members contribute to the work to the extent of our capacity.