
Agenda item: 4.2
Source: UMTS Forum ¹
Title: Liaison statement on UMTS Release 2000

During UMTS Forum GA#18 a workshop was conducted to discuss and reach consensus on the Forum's view on Release 2000, including both radio access and core network aspects. The following recommendations to 3GPP are based on some key benefits to the Operators and Vendors community:

- strong drive towards introducing an architecture that would considerably reduce Operators costs, including equipment, network deployment, maintenance etc..
- flexibility in service creation especially in the area of Internet integration e.g. opportunity to quickly provide value added services and create new service revenue streams
- an effective way to make available to mobile users integrated services such as multimedia

The UMTS Forum would like to draw the attention of 3GPP to the following recommendations:

- 1) The UMTS Forum supports an IP-based solution for the Release 2000 architecture. In this respect, the UMTS Forum would ask the 3GPP to analyse the following issues:
 - Quality of services for real-time services: including voice and music
 - IP version to be used in standardisation (IPv4 vs. IPv6)
 - Security aspects
 - Mobility management
 - Global roaming including terminal circulation

The solutions to the above-mentioned issues should take into account the following requirements:

- Phased introduction of the IP technology in the UMTS system. As an example UMTS Forum has identified four possible phases:
 - Phase 1: IP as the technology to be used in the interconnection of 3G networks (i.e., NNI)
 - Phase 2: IP introduced within the UMTS Core Network, down to and including the Radio Network Controller.
 - Phase 3: IP introduced also within the RAN, down to the Node B.
 - Phase 4: IP down to the terminal, over the radio interface.
- Smooth evolution from Release 99. The IP solution, which can be seen as a revolutionary approach, must be reached through an evolution from current solution.
- Support of backward compatibility for Release 99 circuit-oriented services.
- Compatible solutions across different Releases.
- Single global IP solution preferred. The number of options must be minimised both within 3GPP and world-wide.

3GPP should clarify which level of IP introduction in the UMTS system, solving all the related issues, could be achieved in the time frame of Release 2000.

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- 2) The UMTS Forum would like to emphasise that stabilisation of Release 99 should be achieved during the Release 2000 work, especially in the Radio Access Network area, since this segment of the network is the most innovative part of UMTS.
- 3) 3GPP should clarify the level of interconnection between 2G (GSM/GPRS) and 3G networks that is being specified (at the RAN level or at the Core Network level).
- 4) 3GPP should consider a system approach including services, applications and network.
- 5) The UMTS Forum stresses the importance of network management, billing and service provisioning issues.
- 6) 3GPP should develop test requirements for all the standardised modules.
- 7) In developing an IP network, 3GPP should be open to incorporate IETF working methods as appropriate.