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Source: **TIM, Cingular Wireless, T-Mobile, Vodafone, NTT DoCoMo**

Title: **MBMS FEC selection**

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Agenda Item: **7.4.1**

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1. Background

In MBMS it is not possible to perform a dynamic negotiation for the media codecs between the network and the terminals. In order to guarantee the maximum level of interoperability, it is consequently strongly recommended that only one mandatory MBMS FEC code is selected.

A failure to meet such requirement would lead to an unsustainable number of possible configurations for the media co-decoding of the MBMS contents to be supported, in order to guarantee interoperability with any potential type of terminal implementation available in the future on the market.

Taking into account the current situation for the media codecs:

- MBMS Audio Codecs: AMR-WB+ and E-AAC+ both 'recommended'
- MBMS Video Codecs: H.263 'optional' and H.264/AVC 'recommended'

4 configurations are (unfortunately) already possible.

If 2 MBMS FEC codes were selected, the possible configurations would increase up to 8.
In order to guarantee full interoperability between the network and terminals, it would be necessary to implement all the configurations:

- either in the terminals, leading to remarkable increase in their complexity/cost,
- or in the BM-SC providing 8 TMGIs for each service, de facto multiplying by 8 the MBMS services and dramatically increasing the overload both in the CN and in the (GE)RAN, thus spoiling the MBMS benefit.

2. Proposal

In order to avoid further jeopardizing the above mentioned interoperability and guarantee the most extensive quality, availability and usability of the MBMS service for the mass market delivery, it is requested that for any service type (Download & Play and Streaming) only one MBMS FEC code is selected and is specified as mandatory.