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Title: Summary of Conclusions on Multimedia.

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This is an output of the SMG1, SMG4, SMG12 adhoc on multimedia that was held in Hanover Dec 2-3, 1998.

Summary of Conclusions on Multimedia

The following text summarises the conclusions reached by the joint meeting on Multimedia:

On Multimedia System Standards:

- It shall be possible to use H.324 specifications in the Circuit Switched domain in UMTS Release 99.
- It shall be possible to use H.323 specifications in the Packet Switched domain in UMTS Release 99.

On bearers:

It has been identified that a bearer optimised for voice in UMTS is required for voice only calls.

It may be that additional optimised bearers will be required for multimedia services but at the moment there are no services identified which are mainstream and would benefit sufficiently from optimised bearers.

On the approach to multimedia:

There is a need to provide for solutions which allow the following:

- A **terminal based** approach where services are transparent to the network.
- A **network based** approach where the network is able to distinguish different types of multimedia call and provide appropriate services (the network may be the one serving the calling party, the called party or another Service Provider).

On the need for network interaction:

Service Providers wish to provide services to users for multimedia (e.g. Call Forwarding). In order to achieve this it will be necessary for the network to communicate which type of application is using a given bearer, and calls may be processed according to user preferences. **This will require a standardised call control plane for UMTS multimedia.**

Service Providers wish to provide "multimedia messaging" services which allow a called user to divert incoming multimedia calls to "messaging". It must be possible for the message facility to intercept any call and record multimedia messages from multimedia calls. The messaging facility may be able to understand the content, in which case the user may be able to "play back" only selected components (e.g. speech only in the case of a video/speech message). If the messaging facility does not understand the content (even if it is encrypted) it shall nevertheless be able to store the content and replay it when the user requests.

On standardising applications:

The mainstream approach to multimedia applications is expected to be based on a client/server type of relationship between servers (e.g. in the UMTS network) and the terminal or other end-user equipment. This will in many cases be supported by the Virtual Home Environment using toolkit mechanisms to download application-specific software. There might additionally be a need for specific / selected multimedia applications to be standardised (as has been the case for voice telephony in classical networks). Currently no applications other than voice telephony have been identified as candidates for standardisation but this could be done on a case by case basis as needed.

