3GPP TSG GERAN Meeting #11   **GP-022743**
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A., 26th – 30th August 2002

Title:	Response LS regarding AT command +WS46
Source:	GERAN
To:	GSMA TWG, TSG-T, TSG-T WG2, TSG RAN WG2
Cc:	-
Response to:	GSMA TWG
Release:	5

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Attachments:	none

1. Response to LS

Dear GSMA TWG colleagues,

3GPP TSG GERAN thanks GSMA TWG for their liaison statement in document GP-022469 regarding the 3GPP TS 27.007 specification for AT command +WS46.

1.1 Intention of AT+WS46 command

3GPP TSG GERAN believes that the intention of the AT+WS46 command is to enable the high level selection of wireless interface class, e.g. WLAN, cellular or others. This is to say that the multi-RAT capabilities of a UE capable of GERAN/UTRAN operation shall be treated as a single wireless interface class, such as "3GPP cellular", as both GERAN and UTRAN specifications provide such a UE with advanced mobility management and inter-working among both the GERAN and UTRAN domains based on UE capabilities. Furthermore, such mobility management and inter-working capabilities are expected to be specified in future wireless standards.

3GPP TSG GERAN would therefore ask that the Portable Computer and Communication Association (PCCA) Standard 101 be modified to reflect this intention, specifically

1) that the value for "AT+WS46 = 12" be associated with GERAN/UTRAN based on UE capability, replacing association with GSM only in [1], and
2) the removal of i) "AT+WS46 = 22" for WCDMA, as this would be covered by wireless interface class described by "AT+WS46 = 12" and ii) "AT+WS46 = 25 for GPRS over GSM", as [2], clause 10.1.9 specifies commands for specific packet switched domain attach/detach operations and is therefore not needed.

1.2 Finer control over RAT selection

If additional capability involving finer granularity control over the selection of a specific air interface is desired, viz. the ability to force the UE to operate only on only a single RAT in a wireless interface class containing more than one RAT (e.g. only the GSM domain or only on the UTRAN domain), then TSG-GERAN recommends that 3GPP specifications be modified as per the following guidelines:

a) 3GPP Specifications should be updated to reflect the additional requirement for enabling the selection of any single radio access technology from a universe of commercially applicable wireless interface classes comprising two or more RATs, with some reasonable anticipation of extensibility for future technologies.

b) A requirement to return to a default wireless interface class should be defined, which would cause the UE to revert to the wireless interface class from whence it came before it was overridden by the command to select a specific single RAT.

c) The selection of a single RAT as per (a) above should persist until i) a subsequent command is issued to the mobile, as per (b) above, causing it to revert to its default wireless interface class, ii) the UE is switched off and subsequently switched on, or iii) the user otherwise initiates such an operation by other means, e.g. via a user interface command.

d) Return to the default wireless interface class should not be automatic, as such a method i) may result in the unnecessary utilisation of radio resources for the transmission of signalling information when automatic return to default class may not needed and ii) has the potential to confuse the user, who may desire a particular application to be associated only with a specific RAT.

If you have further questions or comments, please submit your LS to 3GPP TSG GERAN. The next meeting of 3GPP TSG GERAN is 18-22 November 2002 in Sophia Antipolis, France.

Best regards,

3GPP TSG GERAN,
Meeting #11, Los Angeles, CA., U.S.A.

2. References

[1], "Unclear standardisation of AT command +WS46", (Liaison statement from TWG, GERAN Tdoc #GP-022469; TSG GERAN #11; Los Angeles, CA., U.S.A.), August 26th – 30th, 2002.

[2], "3GPP TS 27.007; Technical Specification 3rd Generation Partnership Project; Technical Specification Group Terminals AT command set for User Equipment (UE)", (3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP); Technical Specification (TS)).