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Adrian Scrase
ETSI Chief Technology Officer and 3GPP PCG Secretary
ETSI, 650 Route des Lucioles
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis
adrian.scrase@etsi.org

Re: Apple Commitment to Dynamic Cap Voting in 3GPP

At the 3GPP Organizational Partners Meeting#48-e held on 28 September 2022, it was agreed that each Organizational Partner would discuss questions and concerns regarding multiple 3GPP Individual Memberships being obtained by closely related companies and propose potential changes (if any) to rules and procedures. Organizational Partner heads of delegations will endeavour to share their recommendations and potentially come to one or more possible approaches by the end of January 2023 for subsequent decision by the PCG. Some expressed an element of urgency for conclusions to be drawn, given that some leadership elections are expected to be held in the first quarter of 2023. See 3GPP/OP#48-e Draft Report V1.0.

Some Organizational Partner member representatives have interpreted Apple's applications for additional memberships submitted in August 2022 as related solely to 3GPP elections being held throughout 2023. That interpretation is incorrect. To make clear Apple's position in this regard, in any 3GPP election or in any TSG or WG vote, Apple Individual Members (taken together) will not cast more than 5% of the total votes eligible to be cast, subject to future developments as mentioned below. In the case of each vote, Apple will use the publicly available voting list to calculate the number of votes Apple may cast without exceeding this threshold (rounding up to the nearest whole vote). For example, if there are a total of 200 eligible votes in the voting list, then Apple would cast no more than 10 votes. Apple welcomes any support 3GPP could provide in the enforcement of this commitment (e.g., to the extent possible, by confirming the number of votes actually cast by Apple). Depending on the outcome of the potential rules changes discussion and the actions of other members (e.g., if a dynamic cap is instituted by rule or in practice with a different threshold), Apple may adjust its vote casting accordingly.

Apple hopes that this clarification will alleviate perceived urgency and allow the Organizational Partners to take the time they require to study potential 3GPP rules changes without any need for disruptive interim measures or rushed proposals that may not serve 3GPP's long term interests. A dynamic cap for all members would provide a straightforward way of addressing the concerns that

have been raised about multiple 3GPP Individual Memberships by closely related companies. Apple encourages 3GPP to consider codifying a dynamic cap into its rules and for other 3GPP members to consider a similar pledge on behalf of their entire corporate group.

Apple's steadily increasing involvement in 3GPP and the Organizational Partners over the years represents a long-term commitment to mobile broadband standardization in these forums. It also reflects Apple's participation in future-looking 6G pre-standardization efforts and its integration into the ecosystem. Apple envisions a strong, transparent 3GPP that develops technical standards based on consensus of independently minded global stakeholders. A dynamic cap supports this goal.

Sincerely,



Dawei Zhang
Head of 3GPP Standardization
Apple Inc.
dawei_zhang@apple.com

CC:

Issam Toufik
Director, Mobile Competence Centre
ETSI, 650 Route des Lucioles
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis
issam.Toufik@etsi.org

Susanna Kooistra
3GPP Mobile Competence Centre
ETSI, 650 Route des Lucioles
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis
susanna.kooistra@etsi.org