3GPP/PCG#10 Meeting
Ottawa, Canada
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Source: **Secretary**

Title: **Report of MCC Activities since PCG#9**

Agenda item: **8.1**

Document for:

Decision	
Discussion	
Information	**X**

1   Introduction

This report covers the period between PCG#9 and PCG#10 and contains detailed information concerning year end statistics for 2002.

2   The Support Team

2.1   Departures and arrivals

There has been one addition to MCC during this period in the form of Leila Jeha, a University student, who will spend six months with MCC as part of her degree course. Leila will assist in clarifying the process used when votes are conducted within 3GPP and also in the preparation of a Chairman's Survival Guide.

You may recall that from last August that Susanna Kooistra has been on maternity leave. I am pleased to report that she returned to work on 5 March and has now resumed her work within MCC. No replacement was sought during her period of absence and this resulted in an increased workload for the rest of the team.

There have been no departures during this period but one departure will take place by end June. Lidia Salmeron will leave to start a new career as a mother! Lidia has worked within MCC (and other related activities) for some considerable time now and TSG T WG1 and TSG GERAN WG5 have profited from her support in recent years. Of course we wish her well for the future.

2.2   Organization of MCC

The figure given below shows the allocation of resources to each entity within 3GPP and is a snapshot taken on 10 March 2003.

This chart is regularly maintained and the latest version may always be obtained from the 3GPP website at http://www.3gpp.org/
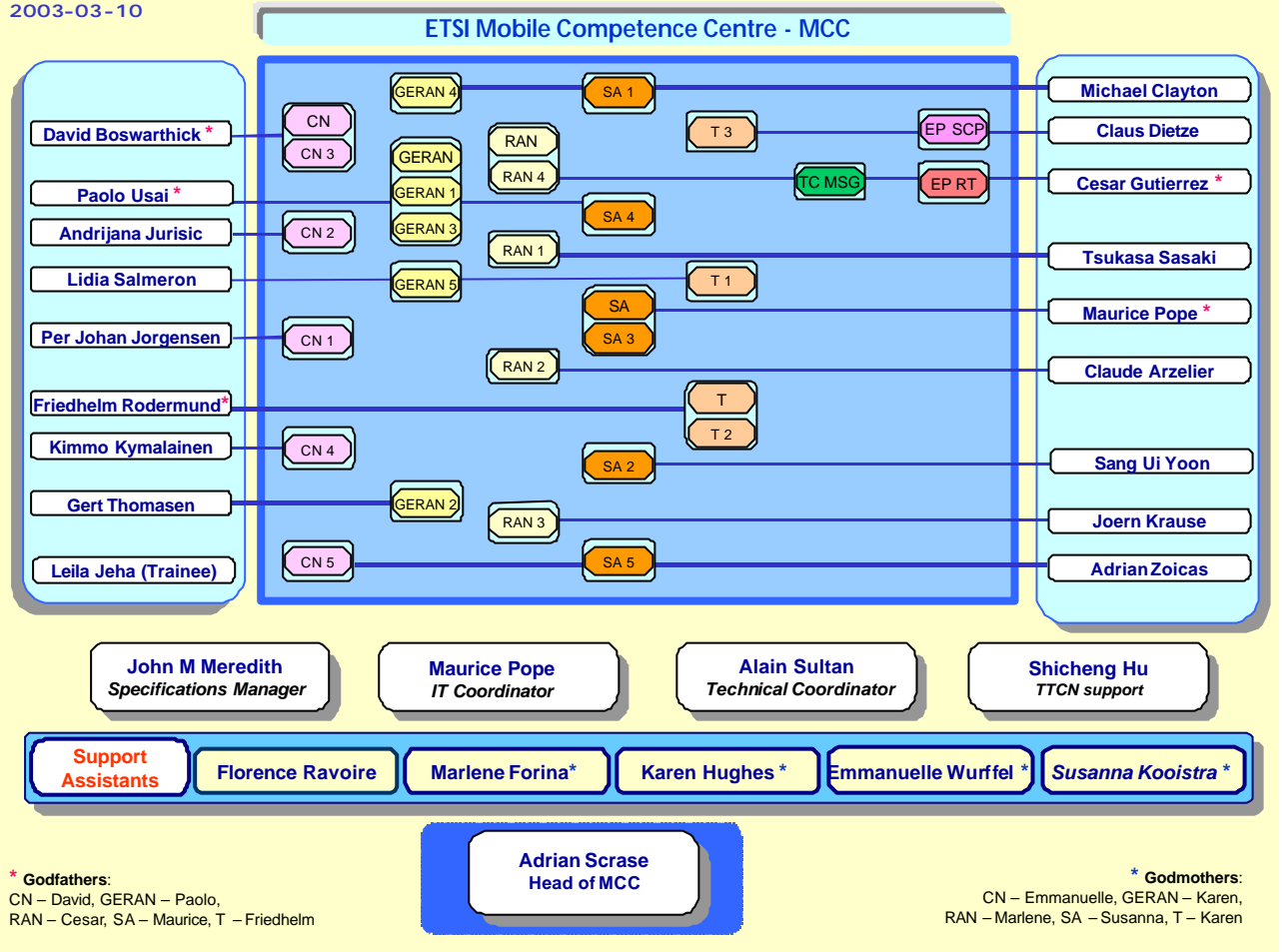
Figure 1:   MCC Organizational Chart

3   Statistics and targets

3.1   Interesting statistics

At the end of 2002 MCC were managing **2549** active specifications.   The distribution of those specifications looks as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF ACTIVE SPECS
Phase 2	182
Release 96	200
Release 97	218
Release 98	280
Release 99	443
Release 4	520
Release 5	578
Release 6	128
TOTAL SPECIFICATIONS	**2549**

The table below shows the number of approved change requests for these specifications across the different 3GPP Releases as at the end of 2002.

CLASSIFICATION	CRs in 1999	CRs in 2000	CRs in 2001	CRs in 2002	TOTAL
Rel 99 Specifications	1408	4400	2266	1004	**9078**
Rel-4 Specifications		374	2807	1901	**5082**
Rel-5 Specifications		27	620	3281	**3928**
Rel 6 Specifications				171	**171**
TOTAL	**1408**	**4801**	**5693**	**6357**	**18259**

3.2 MCC performance

MCC continues to monitor the time taken for the implementation of change requests following each TSG session and measures that performance against defined targets. The performance is reported to every TSG SA meeting. It is this aspect of work that is deemed to be of the highest importance and priority is therefore afforded to it.

The chart below shows the results obtained in the delivery of specifications up to the end of 2002.

The chart indicates that MCC performance was not as good towards the end of 2002 as in the past and some measures have been taken to improve the performance. It may be that the Christmas holidays interfered with work but this does not fully account for the results.
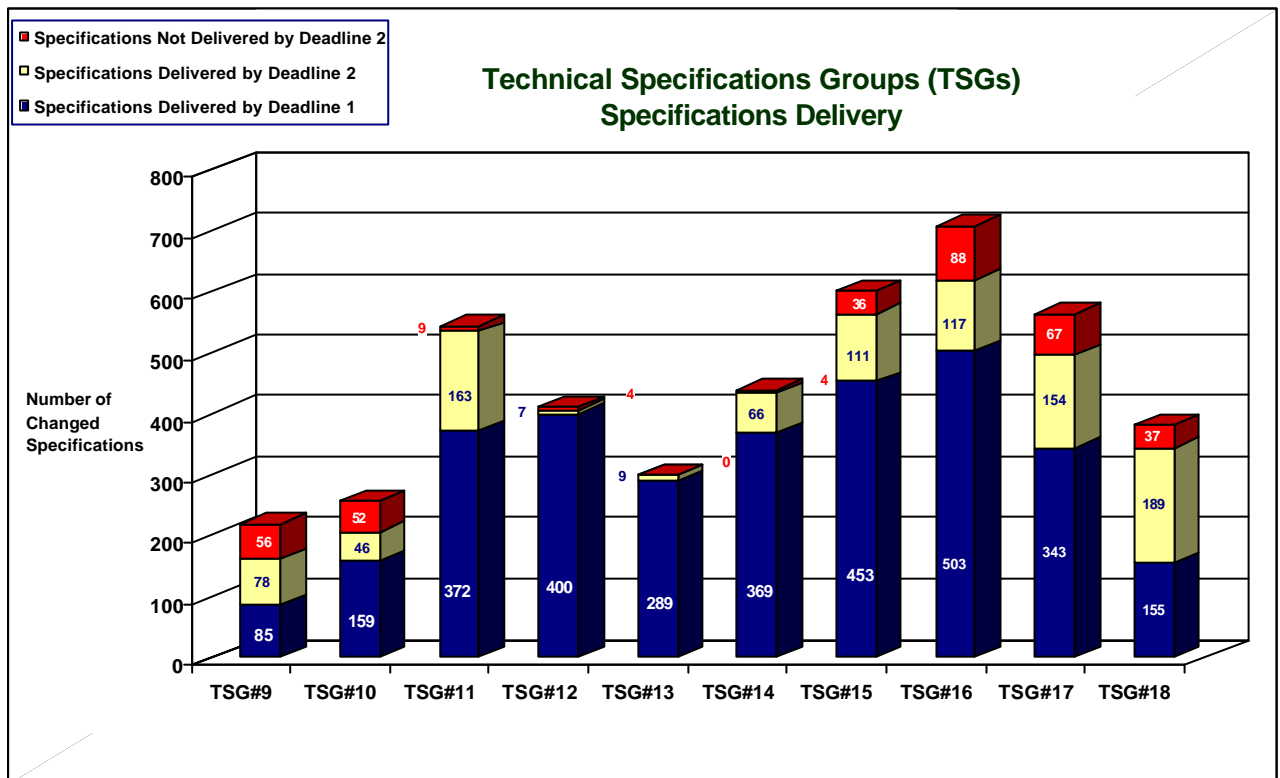

Figure 2:   MCC Performance

And now the good news! Although the performance seems to have tailed off in terms of volume, the accuracy of the work has not. From the start of monitoring (TSG#14) until the start of TSG#19, 7961 change requests had been implemented by MCC. 31 implementation errors have been detected representing an overall error rate of better than 0,4%, or 4 errors in 1000 implementations. The chart below shows how the error rate has changed with time and it can be seen that the rate shows an improving trend.
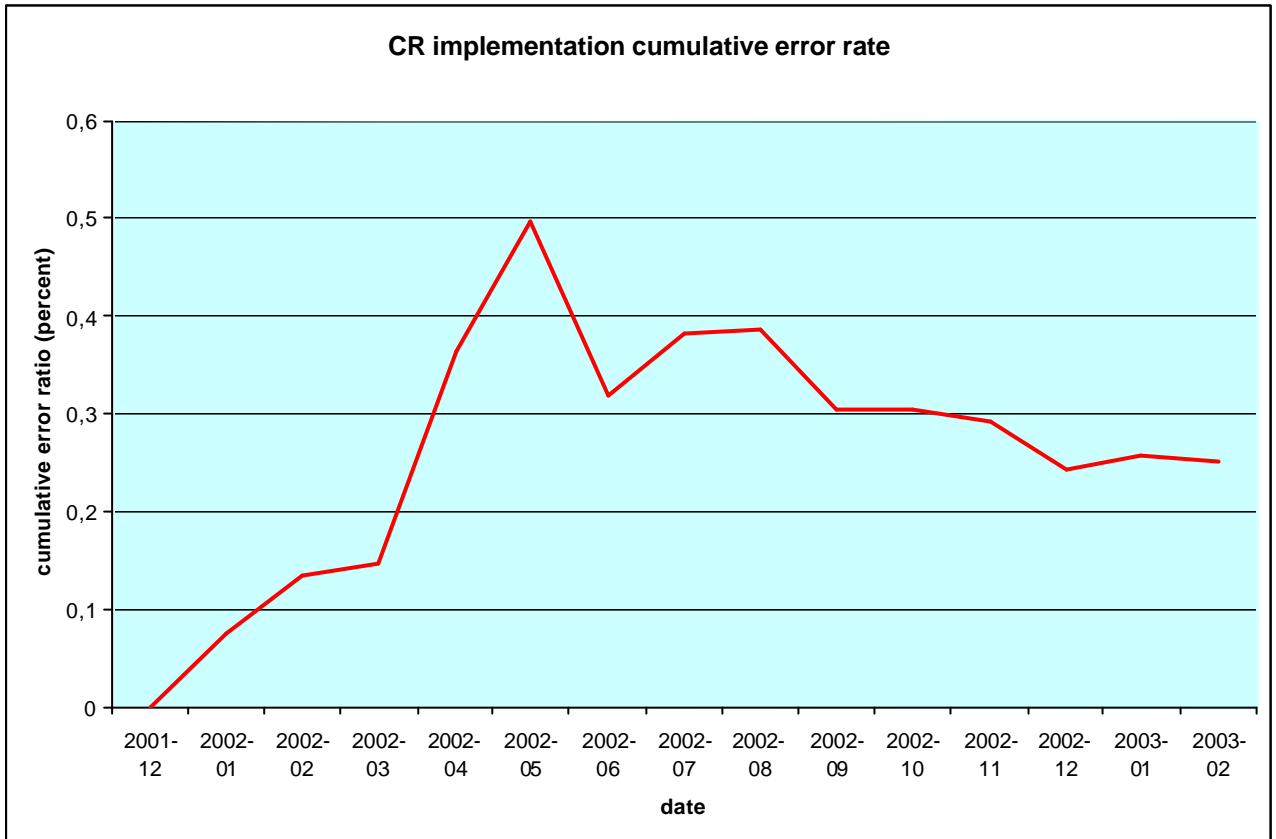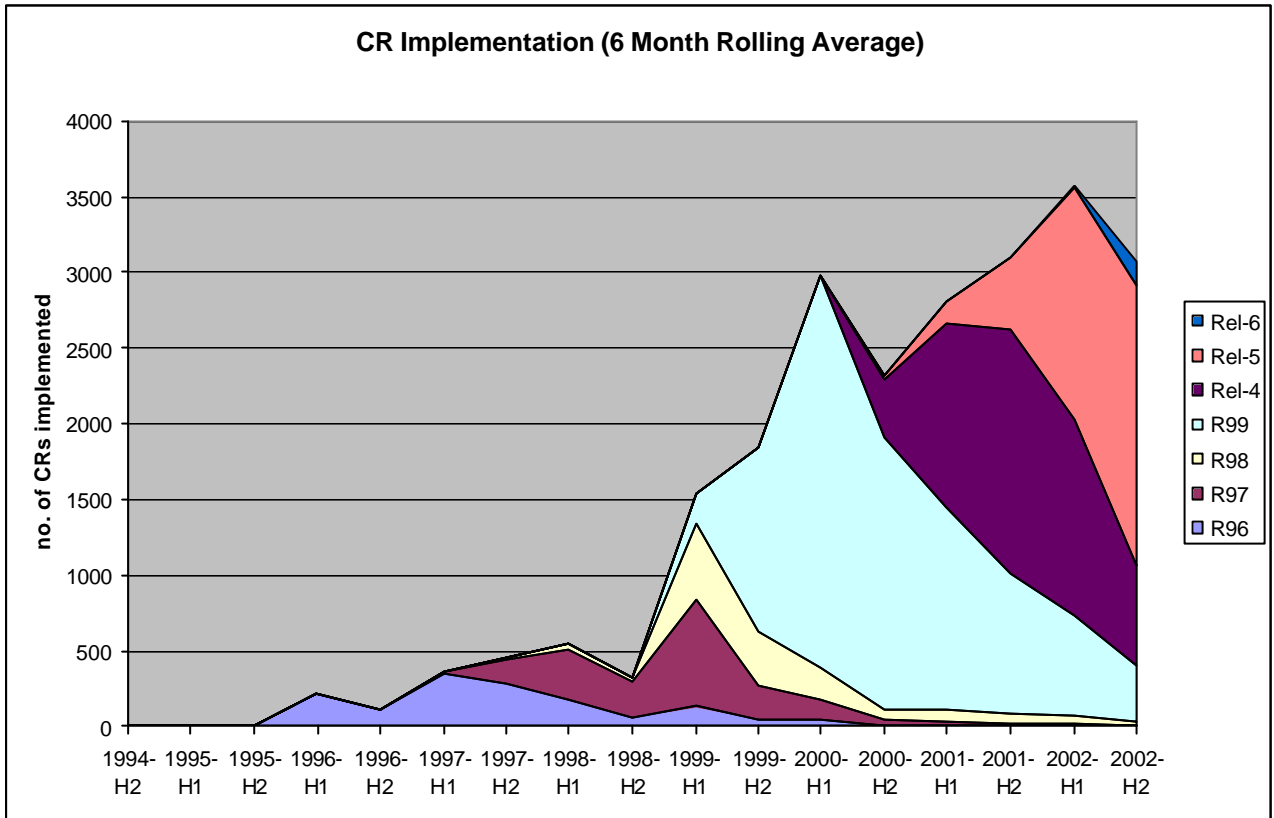
Figure 3:   CR implementation error rate

4   MCC Workload

4.1   Change Requests

At previous PCG meetings a detailed analysis of Change Request trends has been reported in order to determine the workload of MCC. The same data can also be used to determine the stability of each Release and it is now clear that Release '99 and Release '4 are "stable" in so much as the number of Change Requests to those Releases has fallen considerably.
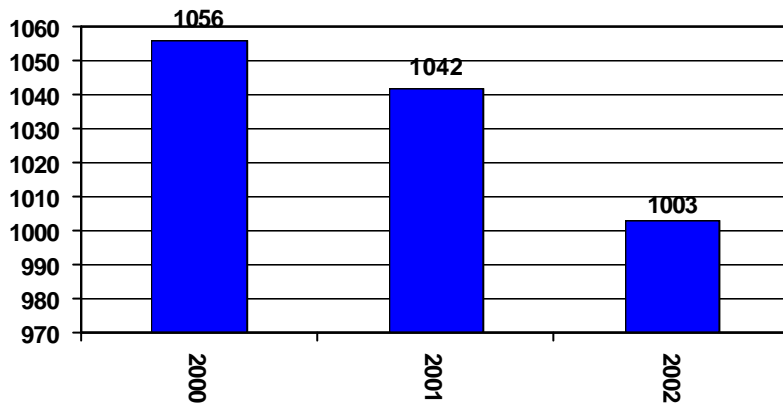
The chart below shows the rolling average of the number of Change Requests per Release and a pattern can be seen that repeats itself after the functional freezing of each Release. It is expected that at the point in time where Release 6 is functionally frozen future Releases will follow the same pattern, at least as long as our working practices remain the same.
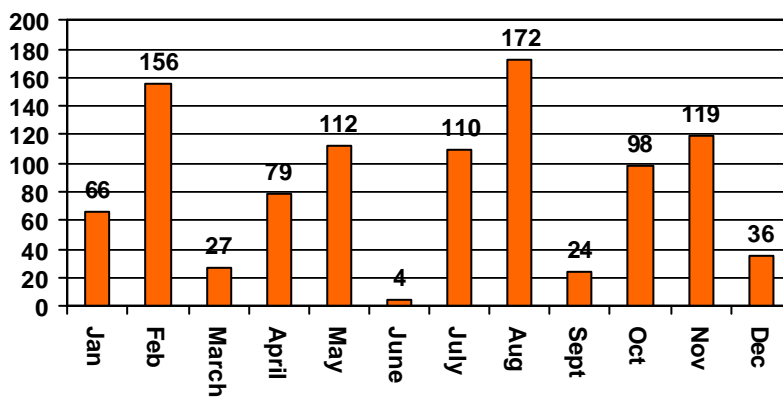
CR Implementation (6 Month Rolling Average)

4.2 Liaison Statements

One of the functions performed by MCC is the processing of liaison statements, from receipt to delivery. The function is performed centrally within MCC and at times the volume of Liaison Statements received can be very high. It is of course necessary to despatch liaison statements in a timely fashion and the target set within MCC is that they should be processed within 24 hours of receipt. Some comments were received during the recent Chairmen's Satisfaction Survey on the visibility of the process and an improvement action has already begun in that direction. However, the two charts below may be of interest to 3GPP delegates since they give some explanation of the size of the task. It can be seen that the number of Liaison Statements has shown a slightly decreasing trend over the last three years but the annual rate is still in excess of 1000 per year. When considering the distribution over year 2002 it can be seen that the work is not evenly distributed (which is hardly surprising) and this of course gives rise to periods of peak traffic.

Liaison Statements processed by MCC

Liaison Statements processed per month – 2002

5 Budget restrictions

The 3GPP budget has been the subject of much discussion in recent months and inevitably the discussion concerns budget reductions. The budget for 2003 has now been prepared by the 3GPP Funding and Finance Group and will be presented for approval at the OP meeting on 2 May. The consequences of the budget are that the current composition of MCC **_cannot_** be maintained for the year. Two MCC experts are already expected to leave the team by the middle of the year and they will **_not_** (or rather cannot) be replaced. This will undoubtedly result in reduced service though it is still hoped that all working groups will continue to receive dedicated support. Discussions are already underway to provide an orientation for the 2004 budget and the indications are that there will be a further reduction in manpower.

The reduction in available manpower emphasises the importance of the TSGs themselves looking for the most efficient internal structure, since the support demand is directly linked to the number of entities to be supported. The TSG Chairmen have already been involved in this discussion and this was further progressed in a conference call which resulted in document PCG#10(03)24. It is anticipated that a more detailed discussion will take place during this PCG meeting.

The 3GPP community as a whole has the right to determine how much is invested in the provision of support to the Technical Specification Groups and MCC will always work within the prescribed budget.

6 Chairmen's Satisfaction Survey

MCC has conducted a Satisfaction Survey among the TSG and WG Chairmen and Vice Chairmen and the results of that survey are now available. They are contained in a separate document to this meeting (PCG#10(03)20)

7 Concluding remarks.

Budget reductions will continue to dominate the landscape for the coming months and changes will be necessary within MCC. The volume of work shows little sign of reducing and with less manpower there will certainly be an impact on MCC experts themselves. I hope that MCC can continue to deliver a dependable and professional service but also that 3GPP members will understand when service levels need to be reduced.

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