3GPP TSG SA WG4 #122 *TDoc S4-230415*

Athens, Greece, 20th – 24th February 2023

**Title: LS on 5G-Advanced formats and codecs for messaging services**

**Response to: -**

**Release: Rel-18/19**

**Work Item: -**

**Source:** **3GPP SA4**

**To:** **GSMA NG, GSMA TSG**

**Cc: -**

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**Attachments: none**

# 1 Overall description

At the SA4#122 meeting, 3GPP SA4 held a discussion on potential new specification work related to 5G-Advanced formats and codecs for messaging services, based on a discussion document in Tdoc S4-230114. It was identified that several aspects may be relevant to GSMA related service profiles and SA4 seeks GSMA input on considerations and potential requirements for such work.

There are many messaging applications that leverage the capabilities of 4G/5G IP connectivity to offer instant exchange between individuals or groups of users of text messages but also multimedia content such as images, audio, and video clips. GSMA RCS (Rich Communications Services) support is increasing, while SMS/MMS is still a very popular service with universal support, interoperability and roaming and is used as fallback to GSMA RCS.

3GPP SA4 is responsible for two messaging related specifications:

- 3GPP TS 26.140 *Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS); Media formats and codecs*

- 3GPP TS 26.141 *IP Multimedia System (IMS) Messaging and Presence; Media formats and codecs*

3GPP SA4 is considering upgrading these specifications to match the relevant media codecs and profiles capabilities defined in their 5G Media streaming specification:

* 3GPP TS 26.511 *5G Media Streaming (5GMS); Profiles, codecs and formats*

For example:

* Adding Super-Wideband and Fullband speech capabilities with EVS codec
* Addling support for Full-HD video
* Adding support for TTML subtitling

A number of formats and codecs recommendations and requirements could also be considered to be removed from future releases, assuming backwards compatibility could still be maintained. For example: DIMS, xHTML and 3GP File format.

It was suggested to decouple the media formats and codecs capabilities specifications from the service specifications. A proposed way forward is by creating a new specification or a new Annex to TS 26.511. This would consistently define media formats and codecs capabilities to be then profiled and referenced by MMS, GSMA RCS but also any messaging application to be used over the 5G System.

Furthermore, 3GPP SA4 discussed the possibility to start a study and specification work on more advanced formats that would cover XR applications such as the exchanged of 3D assets for AR consumption. Such “3D Image Messaging” use case is documented in Annex A.2 of 3GPP TR 26.928 *Extended Reality (XR) in 5G*.

3GPP SA4 would welcome GSMA feedback on the potential upgrade of 3GPP TS 26.140 and 3GPP TS 26.141, the creation of a generic messaging formats and codecs specification and the potential definition of XR formats for messaging applications.

# 2 Actions

**To GSMA NG, GSMA TSG**

**ACTION:** 3GPP SA4 kindly asks GSMA NG and GSMA TSG to provide feedback on potential work with regards to 5G-Advanced formats and codecs for messaging services.

# 3 Dates of next TSG SA WG 4 meetings

SA4#123-e 17th–21st April 2023 Electronic

SA4#124 22nd–26th May 2023 Berlin, Germany