



Mr. Stephen Hayes
Chair 3GPP TSG-CN
Ericsson Inc., USA
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August 29, 2001

Dr. Michael Walker
Chair OHG
Vodafone, UK
mike.walker@vf.vodafone.co.uk

Dear Mike,

We appreciate your initiative in addressing the area of All-IP Core Network harmonization. We agree that this is an issue which should be addressed between the 3GPP and 3GPP2 and applaud the OHG efforts to facilitate this process.

Before we can engage in this effort, it is desirable that the OHG clarify the scope of the harmonization desired. It should be noted that the 3GPP has abandoned the term "All-IP core network" due to its ambiguity. It should be noted that the 3GPP IP based CN may be considered to consist of three conceptual layers: the IP transport infrastructure, GPRS, and the IP multimedia subsystem (IMS). Each of these strata is designed to be independent of the other strata and each of these strata can be targeted for either 3GPP/3GPP2 independence, 3GPP to 3GPP2 interworking, or 3GPP/3GPP2 harmonization. It is desirable that the OHG ambition level be clarified before any experts' meeting is held.

In terms of process, the OHG is encouraged to contribute proposals on this work into the 3GPP via member companies. The next opportunity to address this is at the upcoming 3GPP CN plenary which is scheduled for September 19-21, 2001 in Beijing, China. Furthermore, since CN harmonization could potentially have system architecture impacts and schedule impacts, any decision would need to be ratified at the 3GPP SA plenary which will be held the following week.

Regards,

Stephen Hayes
Chair 3GPP TSG-CN

cc: Niels Anderson	Chair, 3GPP TSG-CN
Steve Dennett	Chair, 3GPP2 SC
Steven Blust	Chair, ITU-R WP-8F
John Visser	Chair, ITU-T SSG on IMT-2000 and Beyond



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