**3GPP TSG-CT Meeting #96CP-221324**

**Budapest, Hungary, 05th – 06th June 2022**

Title: LS on allowing sufficient time for stage 3 work

Source: CT

To: SA

Cc: RAN

**Contact Person:**

Name: Lena Chaponniere

E-mail Address: lguellec@qti.qualcomm.com

**Send any reply LS to: 3GPP Liaisons Coordinator,** [**mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org**](mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org)

Attachments: None

**1. Overall Description:**

For the past couple of releases, a duration of 9 months between the stage 2 freeze date in SA WGs and the stage 3 freeze date in CT WGs has been strictly enforced during release schedule planning. This has in most cases worked well for the stage 2 requirements coming from SA2, since 9 months generally allow sufficient time for CT WGs to specify the stage 3 and liaise with SA2 for aspects which need clarification (even when multiple round-trips of LSs are required to reach a conclusion), although occasionally some SA2 stage 2 requirements do get specified after the stage 2 freeze date.

However, there has been more frequent occurences of stage 2 requirements coming from SA3, SA4 or SA5 very late, which puts CT WGs under significant stress to try and meet the stage 3 freeze date. In several cases, the stage 2 requirements even came after the Rel-17 stage 3 freeze date of March 2022 (for instance for the EVEX WI, the 5G\_ProSe WI and the eNPN WI).

CT believes that this stems from the fact that SA2 is a “stage 2-only” group, while SA3, SA4 and SA5 produce both stage 2 and stage 3 specifications. As a result, SA2 works toward a single deadline (the stage 2 freeze date) whereas many of the WIDs in SA3, SA4 and SA5 are approved with a target completion date set to the stage 3 freeze date. In other words, there is not enough visibility in the planning of the work into exactly when the stage 2 portion of it needs to be completed.

CT would like SA to discuss possible solutions to this issue to ensure that stage 2 requirements which will have stage 3 impacts in CT WGs are made available in a timely manner.

**2. Actions:**

**To SA group.**

**ACTION:** CT kindly asks SA to discuss possible ways to improve work management to ensure timely completion of stage 2 work which has stage 3 impacts in CT WGs

**3. Date of Next CT4 Meetings:**

3GPP TSG CT#97-e 09/2022 Online