

**TSG-RAN Workshop on UTRAN Evolution  
Helsinki, Finland, 5-6 February 2001**

**RPW010016**

**Title:** **Revised draft Report of the Workshop on UTRAN Evolution  
(Helsinki, Finland, 5-6 February 2001)**

**Document for:** **Comment**

**Source:** **3GPP support team**

Hans van der Veen  
ETSI Mobile Competence Centre  
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis Cedex  
Tel +33 4 92 94 42 61  
email: Hans.vanderVeen@etsi.fr

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## 1 Agenda

In the TSG-RAN #10 meeting in Bangkok, it was decided to hold a Workshop on the evolution of UTRAN. The Workshop invited the following groups to provide input:

- TSG RAN and its working groups
- TSG SA WG2 and WG3
- TSG GERAN

The agenda was proposed and agreed as follows (documents presented under the various agenda items are indicated in **bold**; document **RPW010008** was withdrawn):

1. Status of the current situation of UTRAN in Rel4
  - Presentation of the TSG RAN WG3 status including the Iub/Iur, Iu and IP Transport  
**RPW010010 Report of IP-Transport Work Item (Alcatel)**
  - High Speed Downlink Packet Access (HSDPA) status and expected requirements on UTRAN architecture and functional split  
**RPW010002 HSDPA presentation (TSG-RAN WG2 Chairman, HSDPA rapporteur)**
2. Presentation of the TSG GERAN architecture status
3. Requirements from TSG SA WG2  
**RPW010003 Requirements for Open RAN Target Architecture (Mobile Wireless Internet Forum (MWIF))**
4. Requirements from TSG SA WG3 from the security point of view
5. Identification of possible improvements of the Rel4 UTRAN (contributions invited from companies)
  - RPW010004 Requirements for an Evolved UTRAN (Hutchison 3G UK Ltd)**
  - RPW010012 IP based RAN Architecture (Samsung Electronics Ltd)**
  - RPW010009 Architecture Principles and Requirements (Lucent Technologies)**
  - RPW010001 Evolution for IP Based UTRAN Architecture (Nokia)**
  - RPW010006 Towards an IP-based RAN (Siemens)**
  - RPW010005 Vision on UTRAN evolution (NEC)**
  - RPW010011 UTRAN Evolutions (Alcatel)**
  - RPW010007 UTRAN Evolution (Ericsson)**
6. Discussion to identify the requirements
7. Drafting of the tentative conclusions
8. Summary and review of the conclusions

The remainder of this report is the result of agenda items 6, 7 and 8.

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## 2 Discussion

### **RPW010013 Result of drafting session (Drafting group)**

- This document was the result of discussion on Monday evening 5 February.
- It consisted a list of possible motivations for RAN evolution.
- This list was **not** agreed in the evening session (i.e., not all companies agreed on all motivations listed). In other words, there was no consensus in the evening session on the **validity** of the motivations.
- However, it was a summary of all issues that had been brought up in the presentations, which had already been **screened** to some extent in the evening discussion.
- It was also important to realise that the motivations were general (**not** necessarily assuming an IP architecture).

- The result of the Workshop was proposed to be a feasibility study into the issues identified on the list, without any prejudice on whether or not a new UTRAN architecture is necessary.
- It was stated that so far still no compelling reasons had been presented why a new architecture is needed. It was still not clear that anything is impossible with the existing architecture. The level of legacy compatibility was missing from the list.
- Most of the items on the list seemed to be important, and likely to be agreeable as necessary to happen. However, none of the items as listed now seem to **require** a new architecture.
- It was commented that instead of taking a decision on the necessity of a new architecture based on each of the issues, it might be better to do that in any feasibility study. However, the issues were discussed.
- It was stated that for all feasibility studies that were agreed, it was important not only to show feasibility, but also to show benefits. Cost and complexity should be considered as well.
- Several presenters of the first day stated after the discussion of the listed issues (see below) that they actually do not like the term "new architecture" and that their proposals are intended as enhancements to the current architecture.
- The issues listed were discussed in detail:
  - *Multiradio support*: It was stated that it was possible to provide multiradio support with a local solution using the existing architecture. A counter-argument was that such support could perhaps be provided in a better way with a new architecture (although it remained to be seen if that was indeed the case).
  - *Air interface user plane efficiency for common (and HS) shared MAC*: There was consensus that for the new (HSDPA) shared channel functionality it was worthwhile studying if it was useful to move that functionality to Node B. However, it was also questioned why this would be necessary for existing shared channels, as there was a Release '99 solution that works. If that was proposed, it would need to be justified clearly. The words "air interface" were confusing and it was decided to remove this issue from the list completely.
  - *Optimised location of the MDC*: It was not clear if a totally new architecture is needed, although there may be a need for a partial new architecture. There was consensus that this issue could be studied in a feasibility study.
  - *Operability of the network (avoid RNC to be single point of failure)*: There was consensus that a new architecture would improve this.
  - *Reduce delay/processing in UTRAN*: Some companies believe that delay can be reduced by moving MAC/c/shared closer to or into Node B, but this was doubted by other companies. There was consensus that this issue could be studied in a feasibility study.
  - *Open basic UTRAN management*: This was originally proposed as an item irrespective of an architecture change. However, another opinion was that it could be possible to provide this in a better manner with a different architecture.
  - *More cost effective solution*: There was agreement that "more cost effective solution" was something desirable, but not that a new architecture was needed to achieve that. It was stated that "widely used protocols and products" does not necessarily mean "IETF protocols and products". The other example (different servers) provoked counter-arguments. Good would be to have a multivendor environment, but there was concern that this would actually increase rather than decrease cost.

#### RPW010014 Some items for UTRAN evolution (Nokia)

This document was for information only.

## 3 Way forward

### 3.1 Feasibility study on UTRAN evolution

This Workshop provides **starting point** for discussion.

- Requirements in this workshop will be provided
- High level solutions will be discussed

### 3.2 Everything in one group or different groups?

#### 1 Architecture study:

- Consolidation of results of individual studies
- Specific issues:
  - *Operability of the network (avoid RNC to be single point of failure)*
  - *More cost effective solution*
    - *Synergies and economy of scale, convergence to widely used protocols and products*
    - *(ex. openness of additional network elements, like UE positioning server, etc.)*
    - *Counter-argument: increase complexity and costs with new open protocols*

#### 2 Individual study (studies):

- Discuss about technical solutions
- Identify system impact of different solutions
- Provide preliminary report by XXX
- Topics:
  - *Multiradio support*
  - *Optimised location of the MDC*
    - *Enable of direct SRNC-Node B transport for DCH?*
  - *Reduce delay/processing in UTRAN*
    - *Optimised location of the MACsh?*
  - *Open basic UTRAN management*

#### 3 Individual study (studies) with less impact on architecture:

- To be handled in WGs; new architecture should also consider above items.
- Topics:
  - *Multicasting on air interface*
  - *Service area broadcast restriction*
  - *Support of multicarrier*
  - *Improved support for inter-PLMN handover and cell reselection*
  - *DSCH power control improvements*
  - *Support for RL timing adjustment*
  - *Neighbouring cell information reporting optimisation*
  - *DPC Rate Control*

#### 4 Another Workshop around XXX

### 3.3 How to organise work

- Convenor for e-mail discussions nominated to start the work: Antti Toskala.
- Topic of one e-mail discussion: Confirmation with RAN on results of this workshop
- Topic of other e-mail discussion: Organisation of the groups
  - How to organise groups (in WGs or new groups?/ who will lead the groups?)
  - How to run the groups (e-mail, physical meeting?)
  - What milestones?

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## Annex A: List of delegates

**Guest organisation for 3GPP (OTHER)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
1. Mr. Wassim Ferzali	ENVOY Networks	US	+1 978 262 9999 x2	wferzali@envoynetworks

**Market partner representative (OTHER)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
2. Mr. James Kempf	MWIF	US	+1 650 786 5890	james.kempf@sun.com

**Member of 3GPP (ARIB)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
3. Mr. Yukitsuna Furuya	NEC Corporation	JP	+81 45 939 2666	furuya@ptl.yh.nec.co.jp
4. Mr. Osamu Kato	Matsushita Communication	JP	+81 468 40 5420	osamu.kato@yrp.mci.me
5. Mr. Taketsugu Masandri	NEC Corporation	JP	+81 3 3798 4624	masanori@mcs.mt.nec.c
6. Mr. Göran Rune	Nippon Ericsson K.K.	SE	+46 13 284 200	goran.rune@era.ericsson
7. Mr. Kazuhiko Terashima	SONY Corporation	JP	+81 3 5782 5199	tera@wtlab.sony.co.jp
8. Mr. Akihisa Ushirokawa	NEC Corporation	JP	+81 45 039 2672	a-ushirokawa@aj.jp.nec.c
9. Mr. Kunio Watanabe	Fujitsu Limited	JP	+81 44 754 3018	kunio.watanabe@jp.fujits

**Member of 3GPP (CWTS)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
10. Mr. Lixin Sun	CATT	CN	+86 10 62304422-2	sunlx@catt.ac.cn

## Member of 3GPP (ETSI)

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
11. Mr. Alf Ahlström	ALLGON AB	SE	+46854083068	alf.ahlstrom@allgon.se
12. Mr. Niels Peter Skov Andersen	MOTOROLA A/S	DK	+45 43 48 81 10	npa001@email.mot.com
13. Mr. Jérôme Andres	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 55 16	jerome.andres@alcatel.fr
14. Mr. Bo Axerud	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 50 552 9231	bo.axerud@nokia.com
15. Mr. Byron Bakaimis	SAMSUNG Electronics	GB	+44 (0) 1784 428 60	byronbak@aol.com
16. Mr. Serge Baudet	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 82 70	serge.baudet@alcatel.fr
17. Mr. Helmut Becker	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 24698	helmut.becker@mch.scn
18. Mr. Per Beming	ERICSSON L.M.	SE	+46 8 404 4681	per.beming@era.ericsson
19. Ms. Julia Borozdina	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+372 6106 769	julia.borozdina@nokia.co
20. Mr. Achim V. Brandt	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 41981	Achim.Brandt@icn.sieme
21. Mr. DAVIDE BUDICIN	MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS	GB	+390106002049	davide.budicin@marconi
22. Mr. Jose Eugenio Caballero	AIRTEL Movil SA	ES	+34 610 51 3873	jcaball@airtel.es
23. Mr. Francesco Casalino	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 01 12287422	francesco.casalino@csel
24. Mr. François Courau	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 94 68	francois.courau@alcatel.
25. Mr. Luca D'Antonio	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 3900 9245	ldantonio@mail.tim.it
26. Mr. Andrea De Pasquale	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624319	andrea.depasquale@om
27. Mr. Guillaume Decarreau	France Telecom	FR	+33 1 45 29 58 99	guillaume.decarreau@fra
28. Dr. Steve Dick	INTERDIGITAL COMMUNICATION	US	+1 631 622 4001	steve.dick@interdigital.co
29. Mr. Nicolas Drevon	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 09 16	nicolas.drevon@alcatel.fr
30. Dr. Ulrich Dropmann	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 38458	ulrich.dropmann@icn.sie
31. Dr. Amer El-Saigh	VODAFONE Group Plc	GB	+44 1 635 673842	amer.el-saigh@vf.vodafo
32. Mr. Jan Elling	Dansk MobilTelefon I/S	DK	+45 172127246	jae@sonofon.dk
33. Mr. Michael Färber	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89722 24935	michael.faerber@icn.siem
34. Mr. Denis Fauconnier	NORTEL NETWORKS (EUROPE)	FR	+33 1 39 44 52 87	dfaconn@nortelnetwork
35. Mr. Daniele Franceschini	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 85 89 463	daniele.franceschini@cse
36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tommaso.franco@amena
37. Mr. Tim Frost	MITEL Semiconductor Ltd	GB	+44 1752 693331	tim_frost@mitel.com
38. Ms. Christina Gessner	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 30 386 33346	christina.gessner@icn.sie
39. Mr. Inge Groenbaek	TELENOR AS	NO	+47 22 77 76 57	inge.groenback@telenor.
40. Mr. Marko Halme	SONERA Corporation	FI	+358 408 281836	marko.halme@sonera.co
41. Mr. Shkumbin Hamiti	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 40 733 9658	shkumbin.hamiti@nokia.c
42. Mr. Christoph Herrmann	PHILIPS GmbH	DE	+49 241 600 3577	christoph.herrmann@phi
43. Mr. Katsuhiko Hiramatsu	PANASONIC MOBILE COMMUNICA	JP	+81 468 40 5422	katsuhiko.hiramatsu@yrp
44. Mr. Kevan Hobbis	Hutchison 3G UK Limited	GB	+44 1628 765252	Kevan.Hobbis@hutchiso

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
11. Mr. Alf Ahlström	ALLGON AB	SE	+46854083068	alf.ahlstrom@allgon.se
12. Mr. Niels Peter Skov Andersen	MOTOROLA A/S	DK	+45 43 48 81 10	npa001@email.mot.com
13. Mr. Jérôme Andres	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 55 16	jerome.andres@alcatel.fr
14. Mr. Bo Axerud	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 50 552 9231	bo.axerud@nokia.com
15. Mr. Byron Bakaimis	SAMSUNG Electronics	GB	+44 (0) 1784 428 60	byronbak@aol.com
16. Mr. Serge Baudet	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 82 70	serge.baudet@alcatel.fr
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36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tomaso.franco@amena
45. Mr. Andrew Howell	MOTOROLA GmbH	GB	+44 1256 790 170	andrew.howell@motorola
46. Ms. Woonhee Hwang	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 9 511 30149	woonhee.hwang@nokia.
47. Mr. Jari Isokangas	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 3 257 4562	jari.isokangas@nokia.com
48. Mr. Mathias Johansson	ERICSSON L.M.	FI	+46 8 757 2369	mathias.p.johansson@er
49. Dr. Dimitris Koulakiots	NOKIA UK Ltd	GB	+44 1252 867 174	dimitris.koulakiots@noki
50. Mr. Kari Laihonen	SONERA Corporation	FI	+358 40 82 37800	kari.laihonen@sonera.co
51. Mr. Vincent Lemoine	BOUYGUES Telecom	FR	+33 1 41 09 56 10	vlemoine@bouyguestele
52. Mr. Gert-Jan Lieshout	ERICSSON L.M.	SE	+31 534 505 406	gert-jan.van.lieshout@eln
53. Mr. Zhongrong Liu	Deutsche Telekom MobilNet	DE	+49 228 936 1406	zhongrong.liu@t-mobil.de

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36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tomaso.franco@amena
54. Mr. Fabio Longoni	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358405689884	fabio.longoni@nokia.com
55. Mr. Pertti Lukander	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 9 5113 8444	pertti.lukander@nokia.co
56. Mr. Matteo Magotti	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624 628	matteo.magotti@omnitel.
57. Dr. Babul Miah	Lucent Technologies N. S. UK	DE	+44 1 793 883 931	miah@lucent.com
58. Mr. Martin Nilsson	ALLGON AB	SE	+46 8 540 834 71	martin.nilsson@allgon.se
59. Mr. Stawros Orkopoulos	MANNESMANN Mobilfunk GmbH	DE	+49 211 533 3783	stawros.orkopoulos@d2v
60. Mr. Jan Oudelaar	Lucent Technologies EMEA B.V.	NL	+31 35 687 17 36	oudelaar@lucent.com
61. Mr. Hakan Persson	TELIA AB	SE	+46 8 713 8233	hakan.n.persson@telia.s
62. Mr. Chris Pudney	VODAFONE Group Plc	GB	+44 1 635 673 397	chris.pudney@vf.vodafon

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
11. Mr. Alf Ahlström	ALLGON AB	SE	+46854083068	alf.ahlstrom@allgon.se
12. Mr. Niels Peter Skov Andersen	MOTOROLA A/S	DK	+45 43 48 81 10	npa001@email.mot.com
13. Mr. Jérôme Andres	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 55 16	jerome.andres@alcatel.fr
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16. Mr. Serge Baudet	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 82 70	serge.baudet@alcatel.fr
17. Mr. Helmut Becker	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 24698	helmut.becker@mch scn
18. Mr. Per Beming	ERICSSON L.M.	SE	+46 8 404 4681	per.beming@era.ericsson
19. Ms. Julia Borozdina	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+372 6106 769	julia.borozdina@nokia.co
20. Mr. Achim V. Brandt	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 41981	Achim.Brandt@icn.sieme
21. Mr. DAVIDE BUDICIN	MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS	GB	+390106002049	davide.budicin@marconi
22. Mr. Jose Eugenio Caballero	AIRTEL Movil SA	ES	+34 610 51 3873	jcaball@airtel.es
23. Mr. Francesco Casalino	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 01 12287422	francesco.casalino@cse
24. Mr. François Courau	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 94 68	francois.courau@alcatel.
25. Mr. Luca D'Antonio	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 3900 9245	ldantonio@mail.tim.it
26. Mr. Andrea De Pasquale	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624319	andrea.depasquale@om
27. Mr. Guillaume Decarreau	France Telecom	FR	+33 1 45 29 58 99	guillaume.decarreau@fra
28. Dr. Steve Dick	INTERDIGITAL COMMUNICATION	US	+1 631 622 4001	steve.dick@interdigital.co
29. Mr. Nicolas Drevon	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 09 16	nicolas.drevon@alcatel.fr
30. Dr. Ulrich Dropmann	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 38458	ulrich.dropmann@icn.sie
31. Dr. Amer El-Saigh	VODAFONE Group Plc	GB	+44 1 635 673842	amer.el-saigh@vf.vodafo
32. Mr. Jan Elling	Dansk MobilTelefon I/S	DK	+45 172127246	jae@sonofon.dk
33. Mr. Michael Färber	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89722 24935	michael.faerber@icn.siem
34. Mr. Denis Fauconnier	NORTEL NETWORKS (EUROPE)	FR	+33 1 39 44 52 87	dfaconn@nortelnetwork
35. Mr. Daniele Franceschini	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 85 89 463	daniele.franceschini@cse
36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tomaso.franco@amena
63. Mr. Roberto Ravasio	SIEMENS ICN S.p.A	IT	+39 02 2733 7229	roberto.ravasio@icn.siem
64. Dr. Giuseppe Ricagni	NORTEL NETWORKS (EUROPE)	GB	+39 34 82 84 48 18	ricagni@nortelnetworks.c
65. Miss ANNA ROLANDO	OMNITEL	IT	+39 348 400625	anna.rolando@omnitel.it
66. Mr. Cinzia Sartori	SIEMENS ICN S.p.A	IT	+39 02 2733 7533	Cinzia.Sartori@icn.sieme
67. Mr. Michael Schopp	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 43039	michael.schopp@icn.siem
68. Mr. Philippe SEHIER	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 01 30 77 18 9	philippe.sehier@alcatel.fr
69. Mr. Eiko Seidel	PANASONIC Deutschland GmbH	DE	+49 6103 766 160	seidel@panasonic.de
70. Mr. Emmanuel Seurre	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 55 66 66 80	emmanuel.seurre@bsf.a
71. Mr. Armin Sitte	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 303 86 29077	armin.sitte@icn.siemens.

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
11. Mr. Alf Ahlström	ALLGON AB	SE	+46854083068	alf.ahlstrom@allgon.se
12. Mr. Niels Peter Skov Andersen	MOTOROLA A/S	DK	+45 43 48 81 10	npa001@email.mot.com
13. Mr. Jérôme Andres	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 55 16	jerome.andres@alcatel.fr
14. Mr. Bo Axerud	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 50 552 9231	bo.axerud@nokia.com
15. Mr. Byron Bakaimis	SAMSUNG Electronics	GB	+44 (0) 1784 428 60	byronbak@aol.com
16. Mr. Serge Baudet	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 82 70	serge.baudet@alcatel.fr
17. Mr. Helmut Becker	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 24698	helmut.becker@mch scn
18. Mr. Per Beming	ERICSSON L.M.	SE	+46 8 404 4681	per.beming@era.ericsson
19. Ms. Julia Borozdina	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+372 6106 769	julia.borozdina@nokia.co
20. Mr. Achim V. Brandt	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 41981	Achim.Brandt@icn.sieme
21. Mr. DAVIDE BUDICIN	MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS	GB	+390106002049	davide.budicin@marconi
22. Mr. Jose Eugenio Caballero	AIRTEL Movil SA	ES	+34 610 51 3873	jcaball@airtel.es
23. Mr. Francesco Casalino	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 01 12287422	francesco.casalino@cse
24. Mr. François Courau	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 94 68	francois.courau@alcatel
25. Mr. Luca D'Antonio	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 3900 9245	ldantonio@mail.tim.it
26. Mr. Andrea De Pasquale	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624319	andrea.depasquale@om
27. Mr. Guillaume Decarreau	France Telecom	FR	+33 1 45 29 58 99	guillaume.decarreau@fra
28. Dr. Steve Dick	INTERDIGITAL COMMUNICATION	US	+1 631 622 4001	steve.dick@interdigital.co
29. Mr. Nicolas Drevon	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 09 16	nicolas.drevon@alcatel.fr
30. Dr. Ulrich Dropmann	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 38458	ulrich.dropmann@icn.sie
31. Dr. Amer El-Saigh	VODAFONE Group Plc	GB	+44 1 635 673842	amer.el-saigh@vf.vodafo
32. Mr. Jan Elling	Dansk MobilTelefon I/S	DK	+45 172127246	jae@sonofon.dk
33. Mr. Michael Färber	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89722 24935	michael.faerber@icn.siem
34. Mr. Denis Fauconnier	NORTEL NETWORKS (EUROPE)	FR	+33 1 39 44 52 87	dfaconn@nortelnetwork
35. Mr. Daniele Franceschini	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 85 89 463	daniele.franceschini@cse
36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tomaso.franco@amena
72. Mr. Wilfried Speltacker	Lucent Technologies	DE	+49 911 526 2720	wspeltacker@lucent.com
73. Mr. Iain Stanbridge	ORANGE PCS LTD	GB	+44 1454 206377	iain.stanbridge@orange.c
74. Mr. Michel Stutzmann	SAGEM Group	FR	+33 1 55 75 35 37	michel.stutzmann@sage
75. Dr. Chi-An Su	ACER Peripherals Holland B.V.	NL	+886-3-5678787#62	casu@acermn.com.tw
76. Mr. Antti Torskala	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 9 511 38221	Antti.Torskala@nokia.com
77. Mr. Richard Townend	BT	GB	+44 1473 605 429	richard.townend@bt.com
78. Mr. Jean-Michel Traynard	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 61084	jean-michel.traynard@icn
79. Mr. Stephen Truelove	TELEFONICA de España S.A.	GB	+44 1372 804 864	stephen.truelove@t-mod
80. Mr. Thomas Ulrich	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 30 386 23372	thomas.ulrich@icn.sieme

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
11. Mr. Alf Ahlström	ALLGON AB	SE	+46854083068	alf.ahlstrom@allgon.se
12. Mr. Niels Peter Skov Andersen	MOTOROLA A/S	DK	+45 43 48 81 10	npa001@email.mot.com
13. Mr. Jérôme Andres	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 55 16	jerome.andres@alcatel.fr
14. Mr. Bo Axerud	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+358 50 552 9231	bo.axerud@nokia.com
15. Mr. Byron Bakaimis	SAMSUNG Electronics	GB	+44 (0) 1784 428 60	byronbak@aol.com
16. Mr. Serge Baudet	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 82 70	serge.baudet@alcatel.fr
17. Mr. Helmut Becker	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 24698	helmut.becker@mch scn
18. Mr. Per Beming	ERICSSON L.M.	SE	+46 8 404 4681	per.beming@era.ericsson
19. Ms. Julia Borozdina	NOKIA Corporation	FI	+372 6106 769	julia.borozdina@nokia.co
20. Mr. Achim V. Brandt	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 41981	Achim.Brandt@icn.sieme
21. Mr. DAVIDE BUDICIN	MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS	GB	+390106002049	davide.budicin@marconi
22. Mr. Jose Eugenio Caballero	AIRTEL Movil SA	ES	+34 610 51 3873	jcaball@airtel.es
23. Mr. Francesco Casalino	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 01 12287422	francesco.casalino@cse
24. Mr. François Courau	ALCATEL France	FR	+33 1 30 77 94 68	francois.courau@alcatel.
25. Mr. Luca D'Antonio	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 3900 9245	ldantonio@mail.tim.it
26. Mr. Andrea De Pasquale	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624319	andrea.depasquale@om
27. Mr. Guillaume Decarreau	France Telecom	FR	+33 1 45 29 58 99	guillaume.decarreau@fra
28. Dr. Steve Dick	INTERDIGITAL COMMUNICATION	US	+1 631 622 4001	steve.dick@interdigital.co
29. Mr. Nicolas Drevon	ALCATEL S.A.	FR	+33 1 30 77 09 16	nicolas.drevon@alcatel.fr
30. Dr. Ulrich Dropmann	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89 722 38458	ulrich.dropmann@icn.sie
31. Dr. Amer El-Saigh	VODAFONE Group Plc	GB	+44 1 635 673842	amer.el-saigh@vf.vodafo
32. Mr. Jan Elling	Dansk MobilTelefon I/S	DK	+45 172127246	jae@sonofon.dk
33. Mr. Michael Färber	SIEMENS AG	DE	+49 89722 24935	michael.faerber@icn.siem
34. Mr. Denis Fauconnier	NORTEL NETWORKS (EUROPE)	FR	+33 1 39 44 52 87	dfaconn@nortelnetwork
35. Mr. Daniele Franceschini	TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.	IT	+39 06 85 89 463	daniele.franceschini@cse
36. Mr. Tommaso Franco	AMENA	ES	+34 91 206 5730	tomaso.franco@amena
81. Mr. Niclas Välme	TELIA AB	SE	+46 8 601 7429	niclas.r.valme@telia.se
82. Mr. Hector Vayanos	QUALCOMM EUROPE S.A.R.L.	FR	+1 858 845 3011	avayanos@qualcomm.co
83. Mr. Juan Manuel Vazquez	TELEFONICA de España S.A.	ES	+34 63 000 9397	vazquez_jm1@tsm.es
84. Mr. Tom Wikstrom	TELECOM. ADMIN. CENTRE	FI	+358 9 696 6877	tom.wikstrom@thk.fi
85. Mr. Mick Wilson	FUJITSU Europe Telecom R & D C	GB	+44 20 8606 4801	m.wilson@fujitsu.co.uk
86. Mr. Marco Zangani	OMNITEL	IT	+39 0125 624 308	marco.zangani@omnitel.
87. Mr. Fabrizio Zizza	SIEMENS ICN S.p.A	IT	+39 02 2733 8934	fabrizio.zizza@icn.sieme

**Member of 3GPP (T1)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
88. Mr. John Goodier	SIEMENS INFO & COMM NTWKS, I	GB	+44 1794 833 352	jg@roke.co.uk
89. Ms. Tmima Koren	Cisco Systems Inc.	US	+1 408-257-2274	tmima@cisco.com
90. Mr. Joseph Levy	LayerOne Wireless Technology	US	+01 631 592-7327	j.levy@layer-1.com
91. Mr. Michael Marcovici	Lucent Technologies	US	+1 630 979 4062	marcovici@lucent.com
92. Mr. Thomas Towle	Lucent Technologies	US	+1 630 979 7303	towle@lucent.com
93. Mr. Peter S. Wang	LayerOne Wireless Technology	US	+1-631-592-7316	p.wang@layer-1.com
94. Mr. Donald E. Zelmer	Cingular Wireless LLC	US	+1 404 249 3689	don.zelmer@cingular.com

**Member of 3GPP (TTA)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
95. Mr. Sungho Choi	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd	KR	+82 312 779 6807	shchoi1@telecom.samsu
96. Mr. Choi Jinsung	LG Electronics Inc	KR	+82 31 450 2062	jinsungc@lgic.co.kr
97. Mr. Hyeon Woo Lee	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd	KR	+82 31 779 6613	woojaa@samsung.com

**Member of 3GPP (TTC)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
98. Mr. Toru Domon	Fujitsu Limited	JP	+81 44 740 8157	domon@hcs.ts.fujitsu.co.
99. Mr. Akira Okubo	Mitsubishi Electric Corp	JP	+81-467-41-2886	regain@csc.melco.co.jp
100. Mr. Moto Wakaki	Japan Telecom Co. Ltd	JP	+81 355408420	wakaki@japan-telecom.c

**Organisation partner representative (ARIB)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
101. Mr. Masahide Kubo	ARIB	JP	+81 3 5510 8593	kubo@arib.or.jp

**Organisation partner representative (ETSI)**

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTED ORGANISATION	CTRY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
102. Mr. Shinobu Ikeda	Mobile Competence Centre	FR	+33 4 92 94 42 06	shinobu.ikeda@etsi.fr
103. Mr. Hans van der Veen	Mobile Competence Centre	FR	+33 4 92 94 42 61	hans.vanderveen@etsi.fr

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## Annex B: List of documents

Doc.No.	Title	Source	Ag.It.	Comments
RPW010001	Evolution for IP Based UTRAN Architecture	Nokia	6	
RPW010002	HSDPA presentation	TSG-RAN WG2 Chairman, HSDPA rapporteur	1	
RPW010003	Requirements for Open RAN Target Architecture	Mobile Wireless Internet Forum (MWIF)	5	
RPW010004	Requirements for an Evolved UTRAN	Hutchison 3G UK Ltd	6	
RPW010005	Vision on UTRAN evolution	NEC	6	
RPW010006	Towards an IP-based RAN	Siemens	6	
RPW010007	UTRAN Evolution	Ericsson	6	
RPW010008	Consideration for IP UTRAN Evolution	Lucent Technologies	6	withdrawn
RPW010009	Architecture Principles and Requirements	Lucent Technologies	6	
RPW010010	Report of IP-Transport Work Item	Alcatel	1	
RPW010011	UTRAN Evolutions	Alcatel	6	
RPW010012	IP based RAN Architecture	Samsung Electronics Ltd	6	
RPW010013	Result of drafting session	Drafting group	7	
RPW010014	Some items for UTRAN evolution	Nokia	7	
RPW010015	Draft minutes	Secretary		RPW010016
RPW010016	Revised draft minutes	Secretary		