INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR

STUDY PERIOD 2005-2008

NGN 'JOINT COORDINATION ACTIVITY'

Doc 31

English only

Original: English

Source: Convener of NGN 'Joint Coordination Activity'

Title: Notes of the sixth meeting of the NGN 'Joint Coordination Activity'

1. Introduction

The sixth meeting of the NGN 'Joint Coordination Activity', convened by the chairman of Study Group 13, was held in Geneva on 25 July 2006. The agenda adopted by the meeting is shown in NGN-JCA Doc 28.

The report of the NGN-JCA meeting on 24 January 2006 (NGN-JCA Doc 26) was noted. Concerning the comments in section 5 of the report about the division of work on QoS and NP it was noted that the issues had been resolved and that that Study Group 12 had since consented Rec. Y.1542.

2. Review of actions since the NGN-JCA meeting on 24 January 2006

It was noted that the main activity had been the NGN-GSI co-located rapporteurs meetings held in Kobe in April 2006. This was the first NGN-GSI event of this type and the arrangements for the meetings had worked well. There was a very good attendance, many documents were considered and good progress was made. A number of issues arose concerning document handling which are considered below. Also two TSR meetings were held.

3. Issues arising from the NGN-GSI TSR

The report of the TSR meetings held in Kobe during the NGN-GSI event in NGN-GSI TSR Doc 7 was noted and that there were no outstanding issues.

Mr. Knight reported verbally on the TSR meeting held on Friday 21 July. He informed the JCA that Study Group 13 had prepared some guidelines on the completion of the NGN R1 (ref: Study Group 13 TD 182 (PLEN)). It was noted that although the guidelines primarily concerned Study Group 13 questions there was also a relationship to the work of other involved study groups.

It was agreed that a link to the NGN-GSI TSR webpage be added to the NGN-GSI website.

Based on experiences at the Kobe NGN-GSI event and taking account of comments / suggestions received on document handling the TSB had developed proposals for documentation arrangements for future such events. Ms. Tatiana Kurakova introduced NGN-JCA Doc 29 which outlined the proposals. It was agreed that these should be implemented as a trial for the October 2006 NGN-GSI co-located Rapporteurs meetings.

4. Issues from TSAG

The chairman informed the meeting that TSAG had asked the TSB Director to collaborate with the Director of the BDT to develop a handbook of general guidelines for testing of the NGN and that the TSB Director had asked the NGN-JCA to advise him on this. It was noted that this could likely require expertise from at least Study Groups 11, 13 and 17. In particular Study Group 11 Questions 6 and 8 are working on such handbooks, Study Group 17 has expertise on the tools and Study Group 13 has overall NGN expertise.

Some questions were raised about the level of detail required in such a handbook and Mr. Kirit Lathia volunteered to develop some ideas for a possible scope and objectives which are attached as Annex 1.

5. Status of the NGN programme and project management

The chairman of Working Party1/13 presented NGN-JCA Doc 30 which summarized the current situation on NGN Release 1 Roadmap and the initial assignment of the Questions and on release planning and coordination. A number of points of clarification were raised. It was emphasized that cooperation with the study groups and other organizations is essential in the further development and maintenance of the database.

An issue was raised concerning the allocation of the items resulting from the joint work in Study Groups 13 and 19 on fixed / mobile convergence. It was agreed that the joint work should have visibility in the planning and that the plans of study groups need to be aligned. Also the JCA decided that the approval of the FMC draft Recs should be handled, from a procedural point of view, by Study Group 19 noting that the resolution of any comments will be handled by the joint rapporteur group that developed the Recommendations.

6. AOB

Mr. Knight introduced TD 78 of WP1/13 which contained some guidelines on the use and development of terminology in the NGN work. The JCA agreed that it would be useful for the guidelines to be more widely applied and they are attached in Annex 2. The information has also been sent to all study groups as a liaison from Study Group 13.

7. Next meeting

The next NGN-JCA meeting will be held during the April 2007 NGN-GSI event. In between time the NGN-JCA will work by correspondence unless an issue arises requiring a meeting.

ANNEX 1

Handbook on General Guidelines for testing of the NGN

Proposed Scope

The ultimate aim of NGN standardisation is to enable interoperability on a global scale. Well-defined and unambiguous Recommendations, together with appropriate testing, are crucial elements in achieving that goal.

This Handbook provides general guidelines on how interoperability testing could be carried out, noting that NGN, per se, may include convergence of many network types and delivering a variety of "e-services" that
Citizens can enjoy with confidence.

It should be emphasised that this Handbook does not provide “conformance and/or conformance testing” requirements.

Proposed Objectives:

The NGN standardisation covers the work of many ITU-T SGs and therefore presents a challenge to enable interoperability on a global scale. Well-defined and unambiguous Recommendations, together with appropriate testing, are crucial elements in achieving that goal. Ultimately, it is the protocol Recommendations that form the basis for interoperability testing.

The primary objective of this Handbook should be to assist in removing the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) as defined by WTO and should provide the basis for testing methodology that conforms with the WTO Code of Good Practice, contained in Annex 3 of the WTO TBT Agreement that provides disciplines, including those related to transparency, for the preparation, adoption and application of standards by all central governmental, local government, non-governmental and regional standardizing bodies.

Modelling and simulation techniques may be used to show that a standard is correct and consistent and that it really describes the functionality it is supposed to standardise.

Therefore, this Handbook should provide Guidelines on how the protocol Recommendations should be tested so as to provide a level of confidence that different implementations of the NGN Recommendations will provide NGN services and applications across different networks.

The Handbook should also provide a brief description of the model architectures and simulation tools necessary for carrying out the testing with further references to the ITU Recommendations providing further details.

ANNEX 2

Principles for future development of ITU-T NGN terminology in Recommendation Y.term:

The following principles were agreed in Study Group 13 concerning development of terminology in the NGN:

- a term should not appear in Recommendation Y.term unless it is required and used in another NGN Recommendation, or is expected to be used in a subsequent NGN Recommendation;

- a term should be defined in the Recommendation that requires the first use of the term;

- rapporteurs should reuse existing defined terms where applicable;

- where a rapporteur defines a new term this definition should be shared with Q.11/13, for the purpose of co-ordination of terminology usage across all of NGN-GSI;

- a document that uses a term previously defined in an ITU-T Recommendation should reference the source of the definition.