Press Release NGMN and ITU

"Open Source and Standards – The Path Towards 5G and the Internet of Things"

2nd Joint NGMN-ITU Workshop, Bellevue, Washington/USA

Frankfurt, Germany / Geneva, Switzerland, 22 November 2017

Following the success of last year's event, the 2nd workshop "**Open Source and Standards – The Path Towards 5G and the Internet of Things",** jointly organized by NGMN and the ITU, took place on 1 November 2017 in Bellevue (Seattle), Washington, USA. The workshop was kindly hosted by Microsoft and co-organized by the IPR Plenary of the NGMN Alliance and the International Telecommunication Union.

Bringing together key representatives of a wide range of industry, including standards bodies, open source communities and academia, the discussions focused on how best standard-setting organizations and open source communities can capitalize upon each other's deliverables and expertise for building a consistent and coherent 5G eco-system. With more than 100 participants, the workshop discussed how diverse stakeholders can rely on the respective strengths and development models to place a broad range of industries in a strong position to achieve the common vision for 5G and beyond.

Peter Meissner, CEO of the NGMN Alliance: "The NGMN Alliance co-sponsored, welcomed and appreciated this second Joint Workshop on Open Source and Standards as a place where the views and experiences of the Open Source Communities, the Standards Development Organisations and the broad ICT Industry have been shared and discussed in an interactive, open and animating atmosphere. The workshop clearly demonstrated how fast the developments in open source are and how these developments are implemented in the mobile as well as in other vertical industries."

Chaesub Lee, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau: "ITU and NGMN are supporting a major shift towards software-driven networking. This 'softwarization' has strong roots in open source. ITU standards groups are showing increasing interest in interacting with open-source initiatives, most notably in network management and orchestration. We see great value in a strong relationship between standards and open-source software. Standards and open-source communities both hope to increase their interaction – these ITU-NGMN workshops help us to learn from one another, building common understanding of the route to mutually beneficial collaboration."

The documents of the 2nd Workshop can be downloaded from the ITU Website and the NGMN Website.

About ITU:

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), driving innovation in ICTs with a membership of 193 Member States, over 700 private-sector entities and over 150 academic and research institutes. Established in 1865, ITU is responsible for coordinating the shared global use of radiofrequency spectrum, promoting international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, improving communications infrastructure in developing countries, and establishing international standards that support the interconnection and interoperability of a vast range of communications systems. From broadband networks to cutting-edge wireless technologies, aeronautical and maritime navigation, radio astronomy, oceanographic and satellite-based earth monitoring as well as converging fixed-mobile phone, Internet and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world. www.itu.int

About NGMN Alliance

The NGMN Alliance was founded by leading international network operators in 2006. Its objective is to ensure that the functionality and performance of next generation mobile network infrastructure, service platforms and devices will meet the requirements of operators and, ultimately, will satisfy end user demand and expectations. The NGMN Alliance will drive and guide the development of all future mobile broadband technology enhancements with a focus on 5G. The targets of these activities are supported by the strong and well-established partnership of worldwide leading operators, vendors, universities, and successful co-operations with other industry organisations.

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