

**Title: NGMN View on Importance of Completion of Architecture Options in Release 15**

**Source: NGMN**

**To: 3GPP RAN #79 Plenary 19-22 March 2018**

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**Attachments: Annex 1**

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## 1. Introduction/Background

In the RAN Chairman Summary presentation from RAN Plenary #78, Slide 7 gives a view on the work on the Architecture options. See Annex 1 below.

In the Release 15 program management, it was understood, as noted on the slide, that all architecture options remain within the scope of Release 15 (June 2018). We also note that the current sequencing is to address within Release 15, the Option 4 and Option 7 families in an earnest manner once Option 2 and Option 3 families are stabilized.

In recent observations about the work on Option 4 and Option 7 families, it has been noted that the sequencing of the work is Option 7 (leveraging the Option 3 and Option 5) and then to address Option 4 (leveraging the Option 2).

One concerning aspect is an undercurrent of viewpoint that Option 4 and/or Option 7 would not be finalized under the scope of Release 15 and might even be moved to Release 16.

## 2. Intention

This contribution discusses the need for ALL architecture option families to be included in the June 2018 Release 15 specifications and in particular that both the architecture Option 4 and Option 7 Families are within the scope and completed in Release 15 as has been previously stated.

The architecture options (i.e., 2 & 3) that support the NSA and SA variants of 5G on either NR or LTE, Option 5, and also the architectures (i.e., 4 & 7) that more tightly integrate the NR and LTE variant of 5G deployments with dual connectivity and spectrum co-existence are ALL critical to the 5G evolution and to wider scale and larger coverage area deployments.

*It is very important that the Option 4 and Option 7 are both available in Release 15 to support the broad global portfolio of 5G deployments that will commence from late 2019 onwards.*

Release 15 was intended to be the first functional 5G ecosystem from 3GPP. That Release 15 ecosystem must include the envisaged NR, enhanced LTE, Next Generation Core and the relevant portfolio of all the agreed architecture Options (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7) – else 3GPP will not have met its published goals for Release 15 and 5G.

### **3. Requested action**

NGMN requests that 3GPP RAN carefully consider the views expressed on completion of the agreed architecture option families that were already planned to be in the scope of Release 15.

- *ALL* of the agreed architecture Options must complete in Release 15.
- Option 2 and Option 3 as well as Option 5 must be finalized in due time in Release 15 – as agreed
- *Both Option 4 and Option 7 must remain and be completed within the scope of Release 15, and should be completed as part of Release 15 in June 2018.*

## Annex 1

### *Architecture options*

- 📶 It is recognized that all architecture options remain within the scope of the NR WID (completion target: June/2018)
- 📶 **Conclusion:**
  - Until March/2018 WGs shall prioritize Option-3 stabilization (only essential corrections allowed), and on Option-2 specification work
    - NR-NR DC is within the scope of the work, but needs basic Option-2 functionalities to stabilize first → NR-NR DC to commence in Q2
  - For Option-4, Option-7x: commence work once Option-2 and Option-3 are stabilized
  - Check the progress in March, and adjust plans/measures if necessary