



Title: Liaison Statement from the NGMN Alliance to 5G IA on the 5G trials framework.

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To: 5G Infrastructure Alliance (5G IA)

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About the NGMN Alliance

The NGMN Alliance (see www.ngmn.org) 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, other industry players (like software companies, vertical industry representatives) and by successful co-operations with industry organisations.

NGMN 5G Work-Programme and the NGMN Trial and Testing Initiative with the Pre-Commercial Networks Trials phase.

In February 2015 the NGMN Alliance published its 5G White Paper providing a consolidated view of the 5G requirements from operators. Subsequently in 2016, NGMN published a number of deliverables that detail the requirements and architecture as well as business principles, including views on the vertical industry applications. In June 2016, NGMN started a further extension of its 5G-focused work-programme with the launch of new additional work-items for the coming years: 5G Trial & Testing Initiative, End-to-end Architecture Framework, and the V2X Task-Force. The mission of the Trial and Test Initiative can be summarized as below:

- Enable global collaboration of testing activities to support an efficient, successful, and in-time 5G technology and service introduction

- Consolidate contributions and report on industry progress in order to ensure the development of globally aligned 5G technology and service solutions
- Identify, test, and promote new business opportunities and use-cases with industry stakeholders (e.g. from vertical industries).

The pre-commercial networks trials phase is a part of the trial and testing initiative. with a focus on end to end field trials testing using close to commercial 5G equipment in realistic environments. The scope of this phase is twofold:

- Developing a testing framework for 5G, as developed by 3GPP, allowing the harmonization of the testing methodologies between the different parties conducting trials.
- Reporting on pre-commercial trials conducted according to the framework and sharing the conclusions and insights from the trials with the wider industry.

The testing framework builds on and extends the deployment scenarios and parameter definitions defined for 5G in 3GPP Rel-15. The framework covers deployment scenarios, test parameters, testing procedures and success criteria and is jointly developed by more than 20 of the leading operators, vendors and research institution worldwide and supported by all operator partners within the NGMN Alliance.

The 5G testing framework will serve as a baseline for global trial activities and will enable to benchmark the implementation of 5G against the targets set by 3GPP and NGMN. It will also enable the comparison of different trial results in an efficient way.

The first version of the framework has been released covering 5G non-standalone (NSA) and some aspects of standalone (SA) and is available on the NGMN website at: <https://www.ngmn.org/publications/technical-deliverables.html>

A second version of the framework will be released in Q3 2018 covering the remaining aspects of 5G standalone architecture as well as additions and improvements to the test cases.

NGMN encourages 5G IA to promote this framework among its member companies and to provide comments and feedback on the document.