



**Question(s):** 9 & 10/4

Geneva, 15-25 February 2005

**Ref. : TD 57 Rev.1 (PLEN/4)**

**Source:** ITU-T SG 4

**Title:** Management Specification Harmonization

**LIAISON STATEMENT**

**To:** ITU-T SG15, TeleManagement Forum, ETSI TISPAN WG8, 3GPP SA5, 3GPP2 TSG-SWG5, ATIS TMOC, IETF O&M Area, NGNMFG

**Approval:** SG 4 plenary

**For:** Action

**Deadline:** asap

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In the current space of telecommunications management specifications there is a degree of difference and overlap among specifications providing the same or similar functionality, minor in some cases and major in others. Additionally, there are many cases where interfaces defined in these organizations are distinctly different although based on the same semantics. For instance, the models and interfaces for event and alarm notification are only slightly different between 3GPP SA5 (32.302, 32.303, 32.111-2, 32.111-3), TMF (TMF814, TMF608), and ITU-T SG4 (X.733, Q.821, Q.827.1) as pointed out in recent liaison to SG4.

Each of the existing management specification organisations below issues specifications according to their mandate. The table (next page) identifies our understanding of the current management specification activities of each organization.

There is a significant potential for all of these organizations to benefit from management specification harmonization that would allow increased use of the results from other organizations while increasing their own value and relevance by strengthening their own efforts in a more focused manner.

The current industry trend for partnership, acquisition, and interoperation between organizations implies an economic need to reduce unnecessary investments. This applies to training of employees in new methodologies and business processes as well as to information models and specific interface implementations. NGN Management requires consistency and interoperability between

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multiple vendors' equipment and software and thus this kind of harmonization effort is seen by ITU-T SG4 as critical to the success of standards efforts.

	Organization						
	ITU-T SG4	ITU-T SG15	3GPP SA5 3GPP2	TMF	ETSI TISPAN	ATIS TMOC	IETF
Management specification focus							
Architecture/ Conceptual framework	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Methodology	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Security	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Business processes	Yes			Yes			
Requirements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Protocol neutral information models	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Interfaces							
- CMIP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
- CORBA	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
- SNMP					Yes		Yes
- XML			Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Conformance	Yes			Yes			Yes
Protocols							Yes

## Proposal

We propose a cooperative effort among the organizations identified above to achieve the following goals:

1. Document what parts of existing specifications and current work plans overlap/conflict.
2. Document the steps required to achieve a roadmap to harmonization of architectures, information models, interfaces and methodologies
3. In parallel with goals 1 and 2, conduct a test case to provide feedback to the harmonization process.
4. Execute the steps identified by the roadmap (goal 2)

Our suggestion for this test case is to harmonize notifications, their subsequent services, protocol-neutral models and interfaces. The test case should also include harmonization of protocol-neutral resource modelling. Physical equipment is a well-known subject that should be suitable for the test case.

Note: SG4 is currently exploring the harmonization of a protocol-neutral model of alarm reporting based on existing SG4 and 3GPP specifications in this area.

The test case will investigate the possibility of harmonization and provide feedback to the roadmap work on the impact of such work on the existing frameworks and methodology of each organization. This would allow this collaboration to propose realistic mechanisms for harmonization.

It is also suggested that because of the cost of backwards compatibility and the timeframe of this effort that the result of this harmonization be common protocol-neutral information models, XML-based interfaces and documentation method.

It is proposed to attempt to achieve goal 1 and 2 by September 2005 when the execution of the roadmap (goal 4) would be started.

It is proposed to achieve goal 3 by January 2006.

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