

Stockholm
1982-10-04

Notes from the GSM preparatory meeting in Copenhagen 1982-09-17

Participants:

Netherlands:	C. de Jong G. van Velzen L.A.H.M. Melis	Chairman
Sweden:	T. Haug B. Magnusson T. Beijer Ö. Mäkitalo	
Norway:	J.A. Audestad S. Mellemseter	
Finland:	T.I. Hahkio	
Denmark:	P. Sterndorf T. Iversen M. Jacobsen J. Ladegaard M. Rönnebaek B. Nielsen A. Foxman B. Porsild	

The purpose of the meeting was to draft an action plan for working group GSM on question CCH 3, to be presented at the next CCH-meeting in November 1982. The action plan was based on the guidelines given in Doc Temp 23 of the Telecommunications Commission, using as a starting point a draft document from the administration of Netherlands. The outcome of the work is reflected in the revised action plan already distributed to the participants of the meeting, and will not be reported here.

However, some items caused more extensive discussions during the meeting. For this reason it was found appropriate to have some separate notes on the discussions on those items to be used by Mr Thomas Haug for an oral presentation to the chairman of CCH.

The discussions in view regards the question whether an advanced system could be specified already in 1986, i.e. the point of time when the work of the GSM should be finalized according to Doc Temp 23. Several delegates expressed the opinion that it would not be possible to establish a solution based on new technology until that early date. The most severe obstacle concerns the digital radio channel prerequisite for compatibility with the ISDN. A final specification in 1986 would thus imply that the system would have to be based on today's technology, which was assumed not to be the intension of CCH.

Furthermore the general opinion of the meeting was that a system based on new technology will necessarily have to be thoroughly verified by the use of a trial system. Experience shows that this will be quite time consuming. Thus, a realistic appraisal of the time needed for developing a modern, fully digitized system as envisaged in Doc Temp 23, indicates that 1990 would be a suitable time for finalizing the specifications to the necessary detail.

The conclusion of the meeting was to propose a time schedule divided into two phases:

- A first phase leading to an outline system specification to be finalized at the end of 1986;
- A second phase leading to detailed specifications finalized in 1990.

The outline system specification would serve the purpose to define the system performance and its main characteristics. It would be relatively detailed, but it could still be subject to minor modifications resulting from the work after 1986.

The detailed specifications should be enough detailed to ensure compatibility of mobile equipment from different suppliers and the capability of full roaming of the mobile stations. Possibly they might also enable administrations to accept type approval performed by other administrations. The facilities implemented in the mobile stations would not have to be specified.

Considering that 900 MHz-systems are under development in some CEPT-countries, the meeting felt that it would be necessary for the GSM-group to pay regard to this work, with the first objective to ensure compatibility between those systems and the modern system of the 1990'ies from the point of view of spectrum use.

Since there is, according to some delegates, a strong pressure on the market for a standardized system before 1990, the opinion of the meeting was that GSM should also seek possibilities to have an interim solution standardized at an earlier date. Some discussions arose concerning the extent to which the GSM-group should get engaged in the technical work defining such an interim solution. The meeting concluded that the GSM task should be limited to following the on-going developments, and in the future, investigate the possibility to propose as an interim standard a system developed by one individual administration or a group of them.

Thomas Beijer