GSC Emergency Communications Task Force Report (GSC-EM TF)

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GSC-EM TF goal

- **Goal: discover and document a coordinated approach on how to provide emergency communications before, during and after a significant disaster**

- **Expected outcome of the GSC-EM TF:**
  - Identify commonalities, gaps and possible overlaps of standards in each region
  - Catalogue of what exists in each region and what may exist tomorrow on a global scale
  - Collect regulatory requirements
  - Broad scope: Public Safety was considered in the report, and not only Emergency calls
  - Results of the Task Force study: report (word version) to be delivered at GSC#17
  - Based on the word report, make suggestions to the GSC for harmonization

GSC-EM TF organisation

- **All GSC SDOs participated:**

  ARIB (Japan), ATIS (United States of America), CCSA (China), ETSI (Europe), ISACC (Canada), ITU (United Nations), TIA (United States of America), TTA (Korea) and TTC (Japan)

- **Dedicated mailing list: GSC-EM@LIST.ETSI.ORG**
  - **50 people subscribed (submitted by GSC SDOs)**

- **Monthly confcalls (from June 2012 to April 2013)**
  - **Average of 9 participants/confcall**
  - **Aim of confcalls: discuss new input and update draft word report accordingly**

Results of GSC-EM TF study: a word report (1)

- **Each SDO provided input**
  - **About its own standards**
  - **Or, on work/standards done in other organisations or Research & Development Projects (like input from India in many clauses and input from Australia on current initiatives PPDR spectrum)**

- **The word report (GSC17-PLEN-14a1) is a compilation of input provided by different organisations, different people, from different countries or regions**
  - **The aim of the Convenor of the Task Force was to include each input equally, respecting each provider even if the reader may feel there is a lack of harmonisation of some clauses.**

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Results of GSC-EM TF study: a word report (2)

- The 4 scenarios "in case of emergency" were considered
- Only GSC SDOs' regions were addressed: North America, Asia and Pacific, and Europe (due to lack of time and lack of additional input)
- Global standards (like 3GPP and ITU standards) were also included
- Regulatory aspects per country or region are also part of the word report
- Ongoing standardization and regulation initiatives were also considered
- Future possible standards were added
- Conclusions and suggestions finalise the report

Interim conclusions (1)

- **Regulatory approach**
  - **Different National regulations for emergency communications exist in each of the GSC SDOs countries**
  - **In some regions there is collaboration between countries for regulation**

- **Availability of a dedicated spectrum for Public Protection and Disaster Relief is rare**
  - **In most countries this topic is under study, but not all**

- **Availability of standards**
  - **3 scenarios, in case of an emergency, are covered: alerting the individuals, alerting the authorities, communication between and among authorities**
    - **All GSC SDOs' countries/regions have implemented the main standardized systems, but are not necessarily the same**
    - **A national or regional emergency mandated number exist (but is not the same worldwide)**
  - **4th scenario "communications between individuals": there are no standardized systems for this scenario.**

Interim conclusions (2)

- **Future standards**
  - Possible new technologies for public safety (such as Reconfigurable Radio Systems): under study at the moment
  - ITU-T Focus Group on Disaster Relief Systems, Network Resilience and Recovery is conducting a study
    - may lead to further work in ITU-T Study Groups, and so to possible global recommendations
  - Recent technologies such as LTE have been mandated for public safety in some countries (like in U.S.A.) but not for the time being in other countries or regions

- **Standards cooperation**
  - Some initiatives of SDOs cooperation already exist such as 3GPP, MESA, CMAS (Canada and U.S.A.)
  - Collaboration between countries or regions is very important
  - Collaboration between all SDOs (and not only GSC SDOs) seems essential for a coordinated approach

Suggestions (1)

- **Having the same system deployed everywhere in the world, for each kind of communication (such as alerting the individuals), could be an ideal solution**
  - **But regulatory requirements are different from one country/region to another**
  - **Will future technologies solve this issue, or will interoperable solutions between different systems have to be worked out?**

- **Encourage and enhance collaboration between SDOs worldwide, and see if harmonization of standards could be better developed**
  - **Collaboration is already in place in some parts of the world where there are regional (or partly regional) approach (such as Europe and Canada/U.S.A.)**
  - **SDOs have a very good opportunity to collaborate on new capabilities and new technologies for emergency communications and public safety**

Suggestions (2)

- **Encourage interoperable solutions**
  - The report provides a better knowledge of existing technologies/capabilities and gives an opportunity to work with SDOs worldwide to develop interoperable solutions where possible

- **In order to facilitate interoperable solutions and reduce cost and time of deployment, public safety solutions should, whenever practical, be based on global commercial standards**

- **SDOs are encouraged to consider**
  - public safety support when writing standards;
  - and required standardization time and deployment cost.

Suggestions (3)

- **The main suggestion is to continue the work of the GSC-EM Task Force until GSC#18**
  - **in order to complete the report with further input into the current clauses;**
  - **and with additional clauses to cover all the regions and main countries.**

GSC#17 is invited to

- **Note the interim conclusions and suggestions in slides 6 to 10**

- **Encourage and enhance collaboration between SDOs worldwide, and see if harmonization of Standards could be better developed**

- **Encourage interoperable solutions based on global commercial standards**

- **Agree to continue the work of the GSC Task Force en Emergency Communications until GSC#18**

Many thanks to all the participants of this Task Force for their considerable effort!

Thank you!

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