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| A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generated | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY |  |
| **The 30th Meeting of the APT Wireless Group**  **(AWG-30)** |  |
| 5 – 9 September 2022, Bangkok, Thailand | 9 September 2022 |

Source: AWG-30/OUT-25

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON CURRENT STATUS OF VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF MOBILE DEVICES IN MOBILE NETWORK OPERATORS**

**Section 1: Elementary Part**

# 1. Introduction

As the mobile device is embraced with the various bearer technologies such as 3G/4G/5G, the practical approaches and the means for ensuring the device’s quality and competency to international standards have become more important. In this perspective, there are two types of testing and certification bars. One is the regulatory certification program which is mandated by the government regulatory authorities, the other is the voluntary certification program which is industry-led means of ensuring device quality and interoperability. The voluntary certification program has widely been used and adapted by the mobile operators and manufacturers in most of EU, and North American countries, but not yet in widespread to Asia Pacific Region Countries. Therefore, this questionnaire is to find the current status of voluntary certification programs required by the mobile network operators of each APT country.

# 2. Objectives

The objective of this questionnaire is to collect information on the current status of voluntary certification requirement of mobile network operators in the process that they are accepting mobile devices for their network.

Responses to the questionnaire will be utilized for the study to derive the implications for (1) protecting the network from the non-compliant-to-standard device, (2) improving user satisfaction with the quality of service, (3) guaranteeing the mobile device quality when roamed to other countries and (4) advancing the wireless industry of member countries. All the purposes of this study are not limited to above mentioned.

Furthermore, in order to achieve these purposes, the study will find and suggest the direction of what tasks can be pursued within the AWG community afterward.

* **Preliminary Information**

The Global Certification Forum, known as GCF, is an active partnership between mobile network operators, mobile device manufacturers, and the testing industry. GCF was founded in 1999, and its membership has been responsible for creating an independent certification program to help ensure global interoperability between mobile devices and networks. The GCF certification process is based on technical requirements as specified within dedicated test specifications provided by the 3GPP, 3GPP2, OMA, IMTC, the GSM Association, and others. The current GCF membership includes mobile network operators, more than 40 leading terminal manufacturers, and over 65 test equipment manufacturers, test laboratories, and other organizations from mainly a test environment.

The PCS Type Certification Review Board, known as PTCRB, was established in 1997 as the certification forum by select North American cellular operators. The purpose of the PTCRB is to provide the framework within which device certification can take place for members of the PTCRB. This includes, but is not limited to, the determination of the test specifications and methods necessary to support the certification process for wireless devices. This group will also be responsible to generate input regarding the testing of devices for standards development organizations.

The Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association, known as CTIA, represents the U.S. wireless communications industry, from carriers and equipment manufacturers to mobile app developers and content creators. The association was established in 1984. One of the missions of CTIA is to operate the certification programs for the [wireless industry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wireless_Industrial_Networking_Alliance) and publishes wireless industry surveys. Since 1991, CTIA has set the certification programs, CTIA Certification. The CTIA Certification and its working groups have developed industry standards and best practices for the mobile wireless industry. The CTIA Certification programs are recognized globally and they are utilized by network operators and device manufacturers to ensure quality and reliability. The CTIA Certification is playing a crucial role in advancing the wireless industry.

# 3. Responsible Group

Working Group on IMT (WG IMT)

# 4. Rapporteur of the Questionnaire

Mr. Dujeong Choi (Republic of Korea)

# 5. Meeting in which the Questionnaire was approved

AWG-30 (September 2022)

# 6. Target Responder

APT Members (Support of Mobile Network Operators in APT Member Countries is required)

and/or APT Affiliate Members

# 7. Deadline for Responses

AWG-32 (TBD 2024)

**Section 2: Questionnaire Part**

* **Administration Information and Profile (Company and Person in contact)**
* Country: <please type here>
* Operator name: <please type here> **(Anonymous is possible)**
* Answer date: <please type here>
* **Instructions**
* Please put a tick in the box of your choice or write in the space as the case of “Other”.
* **Multiple choices are possible when applicable.**
* You may skip the answer when the following question is contradicted or not applicable to your previous answer.
* **Questions**

1. Which of the following does your company accept the mobile device in your network?

(a) that are directly quality-controlled by the operator’s own method and permission

(b) that are not directly quality-controlled by the operator (same concept of Open Market)

(c) we use both (a) and (b)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

(Note) Open Market: Mobile devices are sold by the on/off line shops by the manufacturers or the distribution channel which is not directly related to MNOs. The quality of mobile devices is not controlled by the MNOs. MNOs are only involved in the SIM card authorization and subscription processes.

1. Please put a tick in the box of which your company currently requires for the acceptance of mobile devices from the device manufacturers.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Based on | Requirements | | tick box | Remarks |
| Operator  specification | Operators' own Additional Testing  because of the unique features and capabilities of the network (ex. Lab and/or Field) | |  |  |
| GCF/PTCRB/  CTIA | Network Interoperability Testing | Field Trial |  |  |
| In-House Lab |  |
| GCF/PTCRB/  CTIA | Laboratory Conformance Testing  (ex. RF, Protocol, RRM, (U)SIM, OTA, etc.) | |  |  |
| Other: \_\_\_\_\_ | <please type here when there are other requirements> | |  |  |
| - | No specific Certification or Test Report required | |  |  |

(Note) GCF/PTCRB/CTIA: Please put a tick when your company requires either of the followings.

* + Certification from such voluntary certification forum
  + Not to require certification, but at least to require the test report from the accredited 3rd party laboratories in accordance with such voluntary certification programs
  + Not to require certification, but at least to require the test report from the testing by the operator’s own personnel and test equipment in accordance with such voluntary certification programs

1. In Q2, if you put a tick in “Laboratory Conformance Testing” based on GCF/PTCRB/CTIA, which of the following does your company requires?

Certification from such voluntary certification forum

Not to require certification, but at least to require the test report from the accredited 3rd party laboratories in accordance with such voluntary certification programs

Not to require certification, but at least to require the test report from the testing by the operator’s own personnel and test equipment in accordance with such voluntary certification programs

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In Q2, if you chose “No specific Certification or Test Report required”, then which of the following reason is/are applicable?

Time burden for testing and certification (Time to market perspective)

Device manufacturer’s cost burden for testing and certification

Because the manufacturers have made a commitment to take full responsibility for the quality of their mobile devices

Not enough information on existing voluntary certification programs (Do not know about such certification programs before)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Does your company have any experiences or issues on quality-control of mobile devices?

Yes

No

If “yes”, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is your company willing to participate the further study and discussion if there are more information-sharing opportunities in APT about existing voluntary certification programs? (Using a scale of 1~5)

5 – Yes, we’d love to

4 – Yes, we’d like to

3 – Yes, but neutral

2 – No, we don’t want

1 – Never

* **End of Survey**