

STATEMENT OF THE NGMN ALLIANCE REGARDS WRC-12 (Version 5 111216)

NGMN notes future mobile broadband spectrum shortage and supports Agenda Item 8.2 at ITU-R WRC-12 towards spectrum studies and possible additional allocations to the mobile service and identification of bands for IMT at ITU-R WRC-15. NGMN urges that ITU-R Working Party 5D have the lead role in conducting the relevant studies.

NGMN supports the ITU-R World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 in its deliberation on Agenda Item 8.2, and seeks a positive outcome on future spectrum and band discussions to support the on-going deployment of terrestrial mobile broadband applications utilizing IMT wireless technologies and systems.

NGMN recognizes that mobile broadband delivered by the IMT technology families has had immense success around the world. Mobile communications and the on-going mobile broadband deployments have been playing very positive roles in the economic and social developments of both developed and developing countries.

Mobile broadband traffic and the number of subscriptions have dramatically increased in the last few years. In 2010 alone growth in global mobile traffic has seen an increase of over two-and-a-half times, nearly tripling for the third year in a row. The number of global mobile subscriptions has increased from 3.9 billion in 2008 to 5.3 billion in 2010. New types of mobile devices, such as smart phones and tablets, and new user behaviours have emerged and are now a well-established demand dynamic. Smart phones are expected to increase from 23% of total phone shipments in 2010 to more than 45% in 2015. Machine type communications (M2M) and embedded devices are a fast growing-market segment which is seen to have the possibility for 20 billion connections by year 2020. These and other factors are triggering an ever greater need to deliver not only high data rate services but also high quality of service to mobile broadband consumers.

It is recognized that spectrum is the fuel for the mobile broadband engine and that the spectrum situation now and in the near future in many Regions of the world is not sufficient even with the pace of technology evolution producing significant advances in spectral efficiencies to keep up with the rampant demand.

NGMN supports the ITU-R World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 in its deliberation on Agenda Item 8.2. NGMN supports putting into play towards decisions in WRC-15, the discussions and studies in ITU-R on spectrum demands and requirements for the development of terrestrial mobile broadband applications focused on IMT and possible regulatory actions, including additional allocations to the mobile service and identification of bands for IMT. NGMN recognizes the successful contribution that ITU-R Working Party 5D has made to the advance of IMT and is of the opinion that the relevant ITU studies related to a future agenda item on mobile broadband focused on IMT at WRC-15 should be conducted by WP 5D. It is recognized that the discussions and studies on additional spectrum for IMT systems will be a difficult process. WP 5D has shown in the past how reliable and efficient it is with dealing with such complex issues, and should be involved to minimize the risk that the necessary studies will not be completed in time for WRC-15.

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Chairman of the Board of the NGMN Alliance