

Terms of Reference (ToR) for ETSI ISG Multi-access Edge Computing (ISG MEC)

Approved by the Director-General on 26 September 2018, following ETSI Board#119 consultation

Scope

The purpose of the ISG MEC is to produce deployable Group Specifications, Group Reports and other collateral (e.g. serialized API specifications, white papers) that enable the hosting of third-party applications in an interoperable multi-vendor Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC) environment.

The highest priority of the ISG MEC is to complete Phase 2. This has significant work scope, with items of critical industry need and technically is as wide in scope as Phase 1.

In addition, the ISG MEC plans to maintain leadership in this space as follows:

- ETSI – through MEC – is now widely recognized as the leading SDO and Industry alignment group in Edge Computing
- MEC outreach efforts (Open SW / ETSI Forge, White Papers, PoCs, Hackathons, Conference Presentations) enhance this positioning
- Develop and complete testing and test methodology specifications to promote interoperability & compliance in multi-vendor, multi-network, multi-service environments to further promote the adoption of ISG MEC specified APIs by vendors and open source communities.

The ISG has an active and productive on-going cooperation with ETSI ISG NFV. The ISG also plans to continue monitoring industry developments related to the Edge Computing space, and align with the relevant activities such as:

- ETSI OSM, ETSI ISG ZSM; ONAP; Akraino; 5G Edge Cloud related work by 3GPP; etc
- New verticals (e.g. industrial automation, V2X ...), where ISG MEC will also encourage re-use of the MEC specifications and work to evolve MEC specifications as needed.

Based on identified need, ISG MEC may initiate new work to fill any gaps and to bridge with the key industry initiatives. The ISG will produce specifications that will support the additional requirements and use cases.

All work in ISG MEC, including what has been outlined above, will be further described in work item proposals that will be submitted for approval at the ISG MEC. As a general guideline, the ISG MEC will use and refer to existing specifications (both ETSI and external specifications) where appropriate. In addition, the ISG plans to continue to develop specifications on testing and test methodologies by leveraging the appropriate ETSI capabilities in this area.

The ISG will continue to coordinate experimentation and showcasing of MEC solutions (e.g. PoCs, deployment trials), will produce case studies and document/report of PoC and trial results. The goal of ETSI MEC is to incorporate operational and delivery experience from the ETSI MEC PoCs and deployment trials and re-introduce concepts into existing and future MEC specifications.

The ETSI Secretariat will coordinate and support ETSI MEC Hackathons and PlugTests in collaboration with ISG MEC. The goal is to drive interoperability between different MEC architectural entities and resolve any identified interoperability deficiencies within the draft and published specifications.

It is worth noting that other organizations/fora are working on MEC-related aspects. The ISG will continue to work to strengthen the collaboration with such organizations, encouraging them to build on the ISG MEC work rather than reinvent. The ISG also plans to work constructively with open source communities.

The ISG MEC will continue its efforts to disseminate its results and accelerate the development of compliant solutions.

Planned deliverables and delivery dates

The ISG MEC will maintain and revise its specifications and produce new specifications to support the capabilities required by the industry. Working in cooperation with the ETSI NFV ISG, the MEC ISG may work on enhancements to its existing specifications required for the integration of MEC in NFV environment. Additionally, ETSI ISG MEC will align with the existing and emerging activities in Edge Computing such as:

- ETSI OSM, ETSI ISG ZSM; ONAP; Akraino; 5G Edge Cloud related work by 3GPP; etc
- New verticals (e.g. industrial automation, V2X ...), where ISG MEC will also encourage re-use of the MEC specifications and work to evolve MEC specifications as needed.

In addition, the ISG plans to continue to develop specifications on testing and test methodologies.

All work in ISG MEC, including what has been outlined above, will be further described in their related work item proposals that will be submitted for approval by the ISG MEC.

The proposed target delivery dates (completion) of the ISG MEC deliverables will be agreed when the New Work Items (NWIs) are accepted.

It is expected that the specifications will be drawn up during 2019 and 2020.

Annex (informative): collaboration with other bodies

ETSI groups

The ISG MEC intends to establish and/or maintain a liaison relationship with the following ETSI TB(s) and Partnership Project(s):

- TC NTECH
- TC ITS
- ETSI ISG ARF
- ETSI ISG NFV
- ETSI ISG ZSM
- ETSI OSG OSM
- 3GPP

External groups

Depending on the way in which the work progresses, the ISG MEC may establish and/or maintain a liaison relationship with the following organizations:

- GSMA
- 5GAA
- IEEE
- Wi-Fi Alliance
- Small Cell Forum
- Open Fog Consortium
- Open Edge Computing
- CORD (CORD as well as Open CORD)
- OpenStack,
- LINUX Foundation (OPNFV, OPEN-O),
- Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF),
- OASIS (Advancing Open Standards for the Information Society),

- Cloud Security Alliance (CSA), and
- Open Networking Foundation (ONF).
- VR/AR Association
- VR-IF
- Broadband Forum
- 5G-ACIA
- CCSA

If required, the ISG MEC may decide to establish additional liaison relationships.

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