
**Terms of Reference
for the
Reliability, Availability and Assurance Working Group
(NFV REL WG)**

Approved at NFV#8 Nov. 2014

Responsibilities

The main responsibilities of this working group are:

- Specifications in areas of reliability and availability in the practical context of an operational virtual environment.
- Investigating enhancements in the context of a NFV environment to ensure reliable and highly available NFV-based network services.
- Analysing reliability and availability techniques in a NFV environment.
- Responding to requests on analysing reliability and availability for current or new features to be supported in the context of the NFV.
- Provide guidance on mechanisms for validation, assurance and SLAs.
- Providing guidance on interworking with PNFs in the area of reliability, availability and assurance.
- Driving the necessary contributions and/or change requests in other ISG documents and working drafts in order to reflect specific aspects on reliability, availability and assurance.

Areas of activity / scope

The areas of activity include:

- Reliability and availability of the elements of NFV systems.
- Techniques and mechanisms to ensure reliability, availability and assurance in an operational virtual environment.
- Gap analysis of supporting tools and frameworks for reliability and availability of NFV systems, e.g., Open Source implementations of functional blocks as detailed in the NFV Architectural Framework.
- Best practices, studies on other non-functional aspects related to reliability, availability and assurance in virtual environments.

Organization and working methods

- The WG shall work in accordance with the ETSI ISG Directives and, in particular, the Technical Working Procedures.
- The WG shall take as inputs the existing Group Specifications delivered by the ISG NFV.
- The outputs of the WG will be Group Specifications or changes on published ones, which are submitted to the ETSI ISG NFV plenary for approval.
- The WG chairman and vice-chairman shall report on the progress of the WG to the ISG NFV TSC on a regular basis, and to the ISG NFV plenary and NOC as requested.
- The WG shall collaborate with the rest of ISG NFV WGs in order to ensure that specifications fulfil the use cases and requirements and deliver full interoperability of NFV solutions.