IEEE 802.11 Working Group Liaison Statement to 3GPP RAN in relation to a proposed joint Coexistence Workshop

Source: IEEE 802.11 Working Group¹

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Subject: IEEE 802.11 Working Group Liaison Statement to 3GPP RAN in relation to a proposed joint Coexistence Workshop

Approval: Approved 2018-07-13 by the IEEE 802.11 Working Group

Dear Mr. Bertényi,

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group has been made aware that the scope of the recently approved 3GPP RAN Study Item for 5G New Radio Unlicensed (NR-U) includes frequency bands both above and below 6 GHz. The IEEE 802.11 Working Group notes that the scope of IEEE 802.11ax, as a multi-band technology covering frequencies up to 7.125 GHz, includes the 6 GHz band.

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group recognises that the availability and regulations for the unlicensed use of the 6GHz band are not yet clear. However, we believe it would be beneficial for the IEEE 802.11 Working Group and 3GPP RAN to collaborate as early as possible on coexistence in the 6GHz band with a goal of enabling fair and efficient access for both 3GPP NR-U and IEEE 802.11ax.

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group would therefore like to propose a joint Coexistence Workshop with 3GPP RAN to coordinate our efforts to achieve this goal. Objectives of the workshop could include:

• Sharing information on future technology plans by each organisation in the 6 GHz band
• Assessing coexistence between IEEE 802.11ax and 3GPP NR-U in the 6 GHz band
• Establishing ongoing collaboration mechanisms between 3GPP RAN and the IEEE 802.11 Working Group

¹ This document represents the views of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group, and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.
• Considering other coexistence related topics of interest to 3GPP RAN or the IEEE 802.11 Working Group, such as 802.11ax/NR-U coexistence in the 5GHz band.

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group proposes to host the Coexistence Workshop coincident with an upcoming IEEE 802.11 Working Group interim or plenary meeting. This would be a follow-on from the 3GPP LAA Workshop hosted by 3GPP RAN in August 2015, which focused on coexistence in the 5GHz band.

We understand that 3GPP RAN/RAN1 meetings coincide with our 9-14 September 2018 meeting in Hawaii, USA and our 11-16 November 2018 meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. Therefore, we propose the Workshop be held coincident with our 13-18 January 2019 meeting in St Louis, Missouri, USA or our 10-15 March 2019 meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group looks forward to a continued, productive exchange with 3GPP RAN.

Regards,

/s/

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Chair, IEEE 802.11 Working Group