# Telco Edge Cloud Forum

**“TEC Forum”**

## Terms of Reference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEC Forum Participants</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge Alliance</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>T-Mobile USA, Inc</td>
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## Description

A body that monitors and guides the developments in the Telco Edge Cloud (TEC) and aims to promote compatibility, portability and interconnection of parallel deployments.

## Overall Objectives

- Discuss and agree principles for TEC implementations, to promote interconnection and interoperability of different TEC hubs.
- Identify gaps and barriers for development, deployment and interconnection within the TEC platforms and propose initiatives.
- Promote interconnection to help set up global TEC network and services.
• Gather commercial and business requirements for the GSMA Operator Platform Group’s (OPG) and other bodies’ consideration.
• Share experiences from pre-commercial trials and service launches.
• Invite other associations, like 5GAA, 5GMAG, 5GACIA, etc, to share their requirements on Edge Computing and their experience with Edge Cloud with the TEC community.
• Other discussions necessary for the proper functioning and/or adoption of TEC: global partnership opportunities, schemes to verify/show compliance to OPG/TEC, input to WAS on inter-operator agreements for federation, interconnection, charging schemes.

TEC Forum Governance
• The Forum will gather all company representatives in a series of virtual or in-person events throughout the year (2 to 5). Aim should be to align timings with existing GSMA events.
• The member companies will be represented by individuals at CxO or CxO-1 levels (i.e. CEO-1 or CEO-2). This is because TEC Forum activities will require certain decisions and influence in the Industry as well as access to the executive levels of companies participating.
• TEC Forum events will be open to all participants. The GSMA will consider the need to limit some discussions to certain participants, in compliance with anti-trust law.
• The Forum will be supported by a Steering Committee formed by a subset of the Forum representatives that will work in-between events preparing agendas, communication plans, coordination with other associations, etc.
• The Forum will coordinate with the GSMA OPG on the development of technical aspects.
• GSMA will provide and manage a shared space for document sharing, the registration of the members and the organization of activities (MS Teams and Infocentre2).
• The Forum physical and virtual meetings will be partly or fully funded through sponsorship. OPG partners will be contacted to access the Forum sponsorship options.
• The Forum may launch specific taskforces to prepare documents like whitepapers, guidelines, TEC trial results or business/commercial requirements. The taskforces may be proposed by any Forum members, approved by the Forum and executed by volunteers from the Forum members on their own and/or in collaboration with other partners or associations.
• The Forum will assign TEC awards annually to Best Contribution to Edge Computing, Best Telco Edge Computing trial, etc, in recognition of efforts made by institutions, private companies and individuals in the development of the Telco Edge Cloud worldwide.
• TEC Forum activities are governed by the overall GSMA regulatory framework (notably GSMA’s Antitrust Policy) but not subject to the general rules of participation associated with other GSMA activities.
• The TEC Forum activities exclude Industry Specification activities. These activities are managed under GSMA PRD AA.35 - Procedures for Industry Specifications.
• Participants who don’t adhere to the defined obligations will be removed from the TEC Forum.

Levels of Participation Status
• Forum members need to show they are:
  (i) active within Telco Edge Cloud activities, or
  (ii) running multi-operator trials, or
  (iii) participating in a Telco Edge Cloud deployment, or
  (iv) sharing an active contribution in any of the bodies contributing to standardisation and development of the Telco Edge Cloud.

Participation Rights
Participants have the right to:
• Assign a representative to the TEC Forum, called the TEC Forum member.
• Attend TEC Forum meetings/events.
• Propose and/or participate in TEC Forum Taskforces.
• Participate in TEC Trial events.

Participation Obligations
Participants are required to:

- Provide a C-level representative to engage within the TEC Forum.
- Optionally, a delegate can be appointed in the event of the main representative being unable to attend the meeting.
- Provide an administrative contact to cover logistic arrangements and administrative issues.
- Participate in at least two of the TEC Forum events each year.
- Provide resources for the activities that the member proposes to launch or commits to participating in.

**GSMA Liability**

- GSMA shall not be liable for any TEC Forum Participants or third-party reliance on or claims in relation to the TEC Forum and/or associated matters.
- In the case of any alleged third-party reliance on or claim in relation to the TEC Forum and/or any associated matters, the TEC Forum Participants will fully settle such matter (irrespective if brought against the GSMA or a TEC Forum Participant) from their own funds without any recourse to the GSMA.

**Default Intellectual Property Rights Provisions**

- For the purpose of the TEC Forum:
  
  (i) “Independently Developed Material” is material, including Intellectual Property that a TEC Forum Participant has developed independently i.e. not specifically developed with the view of being incorporated into a TEC Forum activity, including off-the-shelf software (in such case the Supplier will have to demonstrate that the cost of such development is not charged to the GSMA); and

  (ii) “Intellectual Property” means any copyright and related rights, patents, rights to inventions, registered designs, database rights, design rights, topography rights, trademarks, service marks, trade names and domain names, trade secrets, rights in unpatented know-how, rights of confidence and any other intellectual or industrial property rights of any nature including all applications (or rights to apply) for, and renewals or extensions of such rights and all similar or equivalent rights or forms of protection which subsist or will subsist now or in the future in any part of the world.

- Unless agreed otherwise, by default:
  
  (i) No right or interest are assigned, transferred, licensed or granted under any patents, trademarks or other intellectual property rights, to any Independently Developed materials by virtue of the TEC Forum; and

  (ii) Save in the case of any Independently Developed Material, all materials and underlying IPR generated in the course of TEC Forum activities shall be jointly owned by all the TEC Forum Participants.

**TEC Forum Exit Provisions**

- In absence of any alternative provisions and save in the case of any Intellectual Property, upon termination of the TEC Forum, all assets generated during the course of the TEC Forum activities shall be jointly owned by all the TEC Forum Participants.

**Term**

- N/A

**Participants Commitment**

TEC Forum Participants are required at all times to adhere to the up-to-date Terms of Reference for the TEC Forum.