DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SMART NETWORKS AND SERVICES JOINT UNDERTAKING
No 01/2026

On the renewal of the mandate of the SNS Policy Working Group and the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group and approval of their updated Terms of Reference, Work Plan and lists of experts

THE GOVERNING BOARD,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe, and in particular Article 17(2)(f) and Article 19(4)(b) thereof,

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Board of the Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking,

Having regard to the Terms of Reference of the SNS JU Strategic Working Groups,

Having regard to the Minutes of the SNS JU Governing Board meeting of 18 December 2025 recalling the annual nature of the mandates of the Strategic Working Groups,

WHEREAS

(1) One of the tasks of the SNS JU Governing Board is to set up, as required, advisory or working groups, in addition to the bodies of the SNS JU, for a determined period of time and to fulfil a specific purpose;

(2) On 13 November 2023, the Governing Board agreed to set up two SNS JU Strategic Working Groups, namely the SNS Policy Working Group and the 5G for Connected and Automated Mobility – Deployment Stream Working Group (5G4CAM WG);

(3) By Decision No 01/2025 of 24 January 2025, the Governing Board renewed the mandate of the SNS Policy Working Group and of the 5G4CAM Working Group for a period of one year, namely from 24 January 2025 until 23 January 2026, and approved the then-applicable lists of experts and Terms of Reference;

(4) According to their respective Terms of Reference, the mandate of these Strategic Working Groups is of an annual nature and must be renewed every year by decision of the Governing Board;

(5) The current mandates are due to expire on 23 January 2026 and it is therefore necessary to decide on their renewal for a further one-year period;

(6) The activities of the two Strategic Working Groups have continued to support the objectives of the SNS JU and the work of the Governing Board, including the preparation of strategic guidance and policy-related outputs;

(7) It appears necessary to approve the updated Terms of Reference of both the SNS Policy Working Group and the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group, as well as the Action Plan 2026-2027 and the updated lists of experts composing those Working Groups;

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Article 1

The Governing Board hereby approves the renewal of the mandate of the SNS Policy Working Group and of the 5G for Connected and Automated Mobility – Deployment Stream Working Group for a period of one year from the date of adoption of this Decision.

Article 2

The Governing Board hereby approves the updated Terms of Reference of the SNS JU Policy Working Group and of the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group as set out in Annex to this Decision.

Article 3

The Governing Board hereby approves the Work Plan of the SNS JU Policy Working Group for the period 2026–2027 and of the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group as set out in Annex to this Decision.

Article 4

The Governing Board hereby approves the updated lists of experts of the SNS Policy Working Group and of the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group as set out in Annex to this Decision.

Article 5

This decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 02 March 2026.

For the Governing Board

Colin Wilcock

The Chair

Annexes:
- Annex 1 – Updated Terms of Reference of the SNS Policy Working Group
- Annex 2 – SNS JU Policy Working Group Work Plan 2026–2027
- Annex 3- Updated list of experts of the SNS Policy Working Group
- Annex 4 – Updated Terms of Reference of the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group
- Annex 5 – SNS JU 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group Work Plan 2026–2027
- Annex 6 – Updated list of experts of the 5G4CAM Deployment Stream Working Group

SNS POLICY WORKING GROUP

1. This Working Group (WG) contributes to shaping clear European policies, including strategies, roadmaps, and recommendations for Smart Networks & Services (SNS) technological, societal, and industrial competitiveness aspects. Its primary purpose is to support the definition of policies that should be implemented in strategic technological, societal, and industrial areas by capturing the priorities and needs of the European Industry, Academia, and other relevant stakeholders in view of providing advice to the SNS JU Governing Board (GB). In that context, it will facilitate dialogues with EU-funded research projects, the SNS JU office, and other European stakeholders to create synergies and work towards common EU policies and goals. In so doing, synergies on areas supported by the SNS Coordination and Support Action (CSA) projects (currently SNS CO-OP[1]) will be established.

OBJECTIVES

- Identify the priorities and needs of the European Industry, Academia and relevant stakeholders priorities in view of shaping policies regarding technological, societal and industrial aspects, including (but not limited to) the below domains:

    o Technological sovereignty in key technologies for smart networks and services

    o Challenges and opportunities in the areas of micro-electronics and photonics for 6G networks

    o Open SNS technological solutions and their impact to the ICT ecosystem,

    o AI/ML frameworks for smart networks and services,

    o Cloud and edge technologies and software-defined implementation of the network,

    o 6G security, trust, resilience, and privacy solutions that adhere to EU principles linking the SNS JU to related EU organisations such as ENISA and ECSO.

---

[1] https://smart-networks.europa.eu/call-3-stream-csa/#SNS-CO-OP

- Derive from topic analysis the impact in terms of EU/national R&I framework requirements including cross initiatives coordination (Chip JU, Photonics cPPP, etc.)

- Provide policy expert views to the SNS JU GB, regarding the above-mentioned policies,

- Contribute to the definition/implementation of EU policies and goals (EU Green deal, Cybersecurity policies, SDGs, including environmental, business, and economic sustainability as well as related opportunities and concerns for EU stakeholders and societal aspects (EMF Awareness, technology acceptance, etc.),

- Create a strong knowledge base of experts in Europe on SNS topics assisting in reversing the brain drain,

- Promote the view of the SNS JU regarding certain policies in the appropriate fora.

ACTIVITIES

- The WG defines its detailed ToR's for the selected study item, using SNS JU steering as appropriate;

- The WG will meet on a regular basis to discuss relevant open issues, address action points and agree on the way forward under the leadership of the appointed co-chairs

- The WG collects, processes and spreads relevant information by questionnaires, information meetings, workshops, webinars, etc.

- The working group proposes and stimulates policy options on the basis of the inputs.

- The WG disseminates and promotes some of its key findings in the form of White Papers

GOVERNANCE / OPERATION

GOVERNANCE

2. The WG is organised under the umbrella of the SNS-JU. The WG co-chairs are appointed by the SNS-JU GB. The WG is chaired by

1. one person representing the public side: Agustin Diaz-Pines, Deputy Head of Unit – Future Connectivity Systems, DG-CNECT E1

2. one person representing the private side (6G-IA): Alexandros Kaloxylos, Executive Director 6G-IA

3. The chair role in the meetings is decided between the co-chairs. The co-chairs roles and responsibilities are:

- To setup ad-hoc sub-groups with corresponding experts from the public and private sides. These experts need to be approved by the SNS JU GB,

- To convene and chair Policy WG meetings,

- To ensure the achievement of the WG objectives,

- To update the ToR and the timeplan of the WG and communicate it for approval to the SNS-JU GB once per year,

- To coordinate the communication of results with the SNS JU Board, the SNS JU Office and the 6G-IA Office

- To ensure that decisions of the Policy WG are followed-through

Currently there are two subgroups active:

1. 3C (Connected, Collaborative Computing) network

2. Standardisation activities

PARTICIPATION

The participation to the WG is done by dedicated invitation to experts that can contribute in the thematic ad-hoc sub-groups. To form these groups, the co-chairs create a list of experts and submit for consideration to the SNS JU GB. Upon approval by the SNS JU GB, the co-chairs reach out to the experts and officially invite them to participate in activities of the WG.The co-chairs and the experts will work together to achieve the abovementioned objecticves

DECISION MAKING

In all decisions, members (i.e., co-chairs and invited experts) of the WG shall endeavour to reach consensus. In the situation of not able to reach consensus on a subject, at least qualified majority shall be needed for the WG to have a position on such subject. Any member not in support to such position shall have the right to have its reservation noted in any such position. A proposal shall be approved when the ratio of positive votes is at least 2/3 of the votes cast. There is one vote per expert in the WG. Abstentions or failures to submit votes by the specified date shall not count as votes cast. Based on co-chairs advice, specific decisions would need to be agreed unanimously. For those decisions, in case of

not able to reach consensus, the decision shall be remitted to the SNS-JU GB for final decision with the chair and co-chair assistance.

All documents and results of the WG need to be presented to the SNS JU GB and approved by it, before making them public.

OPERATION

The operation of the Policy group can be supported by the operational CSA project (currently SNS CO-OP) with the necessary back-office support. Namely, the following have been definied and are operational for the Policy WG:

- The following email reflectors are set-up for the two sub-groups
    - wgs-policy-3C-SNS@sns-ju.eu
    - wgs-policy-SNS-standardization@sns-ju.eu
- An online repository, offering storing and online processing (collaborative working) capabilities with exclusive access per subgroup is set-up as follows:
    - https://bscw.sns-ju.eu/sec/bscw.cgi/291588
    - https://bscw.sns-ju.eu/sec/bscw.cgi/291595

REPORTS AND REVIEWS

- The WG reports periodically (twice a year) and on-need basis to the SNS-JU GB.
- The WG may report to the SNS Steering Board on an ad-hoc basis, to facilitate mutual coordination.
- The mandate of the WG will be renewed every year.
- Every year the SNS JU GB will provide a list of topics that have to be addressed in the scope of the WG. The members of the WG shall agree on a Work Plan, to be submitted to the SNS-JU GB for approval.
- Activities in the Work Plan are contributions driven. Lack of / insufficient contributions shall determine the activity cancellation on unanimous decisions of the co-chairs.

SNS Policy Working Group
Work plan Q2 2026- Q1 2027

1. Introduction

This Smart Networks and Services (SNS) JU Policy Working Group (WG) contributes to shaping European policies, including strategies, roadmaps and recommendations relating to Smart Networks & Services technological, societal and industrial competitiveness aspects. Its primary purpose is to support the definition of policies that should be implemented in strategic technological, societal, and industrial areas by capturing the priorities and needs of the European industry, academia, and other relevant stakeholders by directly advising the SNS JU Governing Board.

The SNS Policy WG consists of two subgroups:

1. 3C (Connected, Collaborative Computing) network
2. Standardisation activities

2. Overall goals for 2026-2027

1. 3C (Connected, Collaborative Computing) network

- Continue and improve cross-programme coordination for achieving synergies and more efficient programme implementation.
- Discuss national initiatives relevant to telco-edge-cloud and their impact on the European strategy.
- Reinforce the importance of AI for achieving a successful European ecosystem for telco-edge-cloud (3Cs), discussing both network for AI and AI for networks.
- Discuss relevant regulatory/policy areas for the success of the 3C networks.

2. Standardisation activities

- Expand the European strategy for 6G standardisation to include NTN, AI, open-source, and related areas.
- Follow up on the January 2026 workshop on 6G standardisation.
- Host strategic discussions and coordination activities among SNS JU projects about standardisation priorities and activities .
- Discuss relevant NTN and spectrum aspects for standardisation.

3. Work plan for 2026-2027

1. 3C (Connected, Collaborative Computing) network
- Organise coordination meetings with relevant initiatives/programmes, such as IPCEI, HE CL4 projects, etc. [2026-2027]
- Organise formal interactions with the HE CL4 Large Scale Pilot and its advisory group, either through joint meetings or with Policy WG Co-Chairs joining the Advisory Group [Q2 2026 onwards].
- Discuss relevant developments at MS level, in particular national 6G initiatives, in cooperation with SRG [2026].
- Organise ad hoc discussions on AI-related aspects of the 3Cs [Q2 2026].
- Discuss of relevant regulations affecting the 3Cs [2026-2027].

2. Standardisation activities
- Prepare a revised version of the document "Outline for a standardisation strategy for SNS" including NTN, AI, testbeds/open source, etc. [Q3 2026]
- Organise thematic discussions on NTN, spectrum, AI, open source, etc [2026-2027]
- Host and support strategic discussions and coordination activities among SNS JU projects for coordinated standardisation activities, upon request from SNS JU clusters of projects
- Summarise the results of the January 2026 workshop on 6G standards and engage in contacts with industry to facilitate joint submissions to 3GPP and other SDOs [Q2 2026].
- Organise ad hoc discussions on other possible relevant topics [2026-2027]

6G SNS

SNS JU Policy Strategic WG

Updated list of experts

Sub-group on 3C coordination/synergies

- From the private side: NOKIA, TIM, Ericsson, DT, Thales, Orange, i2CAT, CTTC, Airbus, Telefonica, TNO, Cap Gemini, Open Nebula, TELENOR, OVH cloud, Scaleway, Ionos, European Cloud Alliance
- From the public side: CNECT E1, E2, E3, E4
- 6G-IA Office representative
- SRG representative
- SNS JU office representatives
- Coordinators of funding programmes (DEP, CEF, IPCEI, etc): CNECT DDG1.01, B5 and C3 where appropriate
- Representatives from SNS JU's CSAs: SNS CO-OP
- European Cloud Alliance
- Other experts may be invited ad-hoc

Sub-group on standardisation:

- From the private side: NOKIA, TIM, Ericsson, DT, Thales, Orange, i2CAT, CTTC, Airbus, Telefonica, TNO, TELENOR, BT, Vodafone, KPN, SES, SatelIoT, Mercedes, Coretura, EUTC, Siemens, 5GMAG, PSCE, Phillips
- From the public side: CNECT E1, E2, 201
- 6G-IA Office representative
- SRG representative
- SNS JU office representatives
- Representatives from SNS JU's CSAs: SNS CO-OP
- Standards Development Organisations (3GPP and/or ETSI)
- Other experts may be invited ad-hoc

5G FOR CONNECTED AND AUTOMATED MOBILITY – DEPLOYMENT STREAM WORKING GROUP

DATE: 02/02/2026

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE GROUP

The 5G for Connected and Automated Mobility (5G4CAM) – Deployment Stream Working Group (WG) provides advice to the SNS JU Governing Board (GB) and contributes guidance towards European Deployment programmes for mobility solutions in various Mobility fields such as roads/automotive, rail, logistics, etc.

In particular its main focus is related to the deployment of solutions for 5G Corridors for CAM across Europe as driven by the CEF Digital Programme[1]. This WG will also lead the development and update(s) of the 5G Strategic Deployment Agenda (5G SDA) for the Mobility sector in Europe and support relevant EU industrial initiatives for the automotive,rail and further modes of transport sectors as necessary. The WG is supported by the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) 5G for Smart Communities[2] Coordination and Support Action (CSA) project and will liaise with representatives from related European industry associations.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide strategic guidance for EU Deployment programmes coordination and in support of project pipelines building such as the CEF-funded 5G Corridors and related/future funding programmes,

- Develop, update and promote the EU 5G Strategic Deployment Agenda (5G SDA) for rail, road, and further modes of transport,

- Facilitate broader stakeholder cooperation and best practice sharing through expert consultation sessions, workshops and networking activities,

- Support the EU vision for clean, sustainable Mobility Solutions adhering to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)[3].

---

[1] https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/cef-digital
[2] https://www.5gsc.eu/
[3] https://sdgs.un.org/goals

ACTIVITIES

- The WG defines its detailed ToR's for the selected study ==or work== item, using SNS JU steering as appropriate;

- The WG meets on a regular basis to discuss relevant open issues, address action points and agree on the way forward under the leadership of the appointed co-chairs;

- The WG provides the platform for the drafting of the 5G for CAM SDA and delivers SDA drafts for approval by the SNS JU GB;

- The WG engages with the private sector, academia and other stakeholders in order to gather different views.

- The WG collects, processes and spreads relevant information by questionnaires, information meetings, workshops, webinars, etc.

- The WG proposes and stimulates directions for future policies and strategies, based on the above inputs.

- The WG disseminates and promotes some of its key findings in the forms of White Papers, brochures such as roadmaps, reference figures, updates on trials and pilots etc.

GOVERNANCE / OPERATION

GOVERNANCE

The WG is organised under the umbrella of the SNS-JU. The WG is chaired by

1. one person representing the European Commission, i.e., DG-CNECT,
2. one person representing the private sector (6G-IA).

The SNS JU Office shall support the chairs and the activities of the WG and can participate in the meetings.

The co-chairs are appointed by the SNS JU GB. The chair role in the meetings is decided between the co-chairs. The co-chairs roles and responsibilities are:

- To setup ad-hoc sub-groups with relevant experts from the public and private sectors in the fields of mobility, including rail infrastructure managers, road operators and automotive industries, and telecoms. These experts need to be approved by the SNS JU GB,

- To convene and chair Policy WG meetings,

- To ensure that the WG commits to the achievement of the WG objectives and the implementation of activities,

- To update the ToR and the timeplan of the WG and communicate it for approval to the SNS JU GB once per year,

- To coordinate the communication of results with the SNS JU Governing Board, the SNS JU Office, the European Commission and the 6G-IA Office.

- To ensure that decisions of the 5G for CAM WG are followed-through.

PARTICIPATION

The participation to the WG is done by dedicated invitations to experts from the public and private sectors that can contribute in the thematic ad-hoc sub-groups.

To form these groups, the co-chairs create a list of experts and submit for consideration to the SNS JU GB. Upon approval by the SNS JU GB, the co-chairs reach out to the experts and officially invite them to participate in activities of the WG.

The co-chairs and the experts will work together to achieve the abovementioned objectives.

On a case-by-case basis, external experts - i.e. that are not members of this WG (e.g. representatives of industry associations) can be invited to participate in selected meetings and events of the WG.

WG members shall maintain strict confidentiality regarding the information discussed during meetings and related documents.

DECISION MAKING

In all decisions, members (i.e., co-chairs and invited experts) of the WG shall endeavour to reach consensus. In situations where no consensus on a subject can be reached, at least a qualified majority shall be needed for the WG to adopt a position on such subject. Any member not in support of such position shall have the right to have its reservation noted in any such position. A proposal shall be approved when the ratio of positive votes is at least 2/3 of the votes cast. There is one vote per expert, and in case of more than one expert of an organisation, only one vote per organisation in the WG. Abstentions or failures to submit votes by the specified date shall not count as votes cast. Based on co-chairs advice, specific decisions would need to be agreed unanimously. For those decisions, in case of not able to reach consensus, the decision shall be remitted to the SNS-JU GB for final decision with the chair and co-chair assistance.

Where documents and results of the WG are to be made public, they first need to be presented to, and approved by, the SNS JU GB.

OPERATION

The operation of the 5G4CAM – Deployment Stream WG can be supported by the 5G Smart Communities CSA project with the necessary back-office support. Namely, the following have been defined and are operational for the 5G4CAM – Deployment stream WG:

- An email reflector with the name: wgs-5g4cam-deployment@sns-ju.eu
- An online repository, offering storing and online processing (collaborative working) capabilities at the following location: https://bscw.sns-ju.eu/sec/bscw.cgi/100273 (WGS-5G4CAM-deployment)

REPORTS AND REVIEWS

- The WG reports periodically (e.g. twice a year) and on an ad-hoc basis to the SNS JU GB.
- The mandate of the WG will be renewed every year.
- Every year the WG shall provide to the SNS JU GB for approval a Work Plan including a list of topics to be addressed by the WG.
- Activities in the Work Plan are contributions driven.
- The SNS JU GB can take the decision at any moment to revoke membership of specific members from the WG.

RULES OF PROCEDURES

Without prejudice to the present Terms of Reference, the WG can adopt rules of procedure to ensure that Secretariat-tasks are conducted with the view to support the functions of the two co-Chairs and the activities of the WG.

Co-Chairs:

- Christian Micas, Senior Policy Officer ; Future Connectivity Systems, DG-CNECT

- Edwin Fischer, Senior Expert; Deutsche Telekom (on behalf of 6G-IA)

6GSNS

SNS Working Group 5G for CAM Deployment
Workplan 2026

1. Overall goals for the current year:

- Provide documents on joint deployment aspects for 5G infrastructure enabling CAM for Rail, Road and further modes of transport
- Address the challenges in 5G for CAM deployment (economics, cooperation models, technology, innovation, performance, regulation etc.)

2. Target Outputs for the current year:

Type	Title	Date
Handbook	Common 5G Strategic Deployment Agenda enabling Rail and Road CAM	March 2026
Set whitepaper/set of reports	Addressing specific challenges	March-December 2026

3. Detailed Workplan for 2026

- Common 5G Strategic Deployment Agenda enabling Rail and Road CAM (including commonalities, synergies and opportunities for 5G network infrastructure deployments serving Rail & Road Transport Corridors)
  - Approval by the SWG: 01/12/2025
  - Approval process (SRG, GB): January-February 2026
- White Papers / Reports based on the following underline candidate topics (facilitated through informal sub-groups): January-December 2026
  - 5G-Edge integration in the 3C Network Vision
  - Extension of the 5G SDA to include additional modes of transport including multimodal aspects (Inland waterways and coastal maritime, UAVs/drones)
  - Innovative financing and investment models for 5G corridors (based on lessons learnt from CEF Digital as a preparation of the next MFF)
  - 5G corridors and their role for supporting the connected and autonomous vehicles (referring to the Automotive Action Plan and ECAVA)
- Events participation / organization (support and facilitation of sessions):
  - Mobile World Congress, Barcelona, Spain, 2-5 March 2026
  - ITS European Congress, Istanbul ,Turkey, 27-29 April 2026
  - EU CNC & 6G Summit, Malaga, Spain, 2-5 June 2026
  - 5G Community Conference, Brussels, October 2026

4. Reporting

- Periodic reports on progress and results to SRG and GB, deadlines to be synchronised with governing bodies' meeting schedules
- Liaisons with other 6G SNS groups, 6G-IA 5G/6G4CAM WG, 5G for CAM deployment projects (CEF Digital and others), plus related partnerships and associations (e.g. CCAM PP)