ONUG AI-Enabled WAN Connectivity API Workgroup:
Transforming Enterprise Bandwidth Procurement

What: The ONUG AI-Enabled WAN Connectivity API Workgroup is developing an enterprise-driven API to help businesses discover and compare WAN connectivity options from telecom providers in real time. This addresses inefficiencies in the manual RFP process, limited provider visibility, and inconsistent data access. This vendor-neutral API will enable on-demand route discovery, providing standardized KPIs such as latency, jitter, SLA commitments, and path diversity. By establishing a widely adopted framework for connectivity procurement, the initiative prioritizes enterprise needs, enhancing transparency, improving access to critical connectivity data, and enabling data-driven decision-making.

Why: WAN procurement remains one of IT's last high-friction processes. While cloud computing, security, and SDN have been automated, networking still relies on manual, relationship-driven sales cycles, delaying deployments and limiting visibility. Without automation, enterprises struggle to adjust connectivity dynamically as business needs evolve. This API seeks to eliminate inefficiencies by streamlining and automating network procurement—like how cloud infrastructure is provisioned today. ONUG, backed by leading enterprises, is positioned to drive adoption and influence telcos to support standardized, API-driven connectivity sourcing. ONUG's history in shaping enterprise networking best practices makes it well-suited to lead this effort, helping enterprises move toward greater automation and transparency in WAN procurement.

When: The need for instant, automated global connectivity is urgent as enterprises accelerate their cloud, AI, and real-time data initiatives. However, they remain constrained by legacy procurement models that no longer align with modern IT needs. SD-WAN and NaaS architectures are expanding, requiring standardized API-driven networking. IT leaders are prioritizing automation, while telcos that fail to adapt risk losing business to faster, self-service procurement models. With ONUG's leadership and industry backing, this transformation can progress swiftly (with strong enterprise backing), compelling telcos to modernize their offerings.

How: Led by the ONUG AI-Enabled WAN Connectivity API Workgroup, this initiative unites enterprises, hyperscalers, financial institutions, SD-WAN/NaaS providers, and telcos to modernize WAN procurement. The process begins with gathering enterprise

requirements to define API use cases, followed by the development of a standardized framework to ensure interoperability. Early commitments from enterprises will drive adoption, while prototypes will be built and tested with select telcos and SD-WAN providers to validate functionality. ONUG will actively engage telcos, encouraging them to integrate with the API and support modern, self-service connectivity procurement. Cloud and SD-WAN providers will benefit from seamless, API-driven multi-cloud networking. While telco participation is essential for full implementation, this initiative marks a significant step toward automating connectivity procurement at scale. By establishing a widely supported, enterprise-backed standard, ONUG is driving automation, efficiency, and transparency in connectivity sourcing.

The Ask: We invite enterprises, telcos, cloud providers, and SD-WAN/NaaS vendors to participate in this transformative initiative in one of two ways:
1) by committing to using the API once standardized to automate and optimize network connectivity sourcing—eliminating inefficiencies and enabling faster and more dynamic access to connectivity, subject to telco integration
2) by joining the workgroup to directly influence its development, ensuring it meets enterprise needs and drives the modernization of WAN procurement. Suppliers that could use this API include:

1. Traditional Telecom Carriers
2. Cloud Providers
3. Data Center / Colocation Providers
4. Satellite Connectivity Providers
5. Wireless and Fixed Wireless ISPs (WISPs)
6. Internet Exchanges and Interconnection Platforms
7. Network-as-a-Service (NaaS) Providers
8. Managed SD-WAN Providers
9. Municipal and Regional Broadband Networks
10. CDN and Edge Providers (Emerging)

This is a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of a connectivity revolution, collaborating with industry leaders to define key capabilities and accelerate the shift toward automated, transparent, and efficient network procurement. Enterprises will gain enhanced access to connectivity options, improving procurement speed and flexibility, while telcos and NaaS providers can ensure their services are discoverable and integrated into the next-generation procurement model. Cloud and SD-WAN

vendors will also benefit from seamless, API-driven multi-cloud networking for their customers. As the industry evolves, those who embrace automation and standardization will lead the way—be part of the movement redefining global connectivity. Join the ONUG Workgroup today and shape the future of enterprise networking! Register here.