Broadband Forum Liaison To:

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From:

Gavin Young

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Liaison Communicated By:

Robin Mersh

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Date: August 2010

Subject: Status of Broadband Forum work on Policy Control

As you are aware from previous liaison letters, the Broadband Forum has been actively pursuing work items related to a Broadband Policy Control Framework, most specifically WT-134.

WT-134 has progressed to where we have 24 defined policy control use-cases, which we are now rationalizing.

The other key piece of work related to Policy Control is WT-203 on interworking between fixed broadband and mobile networks. At the February 2010 joint 3GPP / BBF workshop on WT-203 it was agreed that the Policy Controller node in the fixed network must support the S9* interface based on possible enhancement of 3GPP S9* interface for supporting interworking with the Broadband Forum Policy Framework. Aspects of fixed mobile interworking, including S9* and AAA interfaces, will be specified in WT-203. It was also agreed that a converged Policy Architecture was out of scope for WT-203. However the workshop recommended that the BBF consider the 3GPP Policy & Charging Control (PCC) architecture as part of the BBF work on fixed network policy.

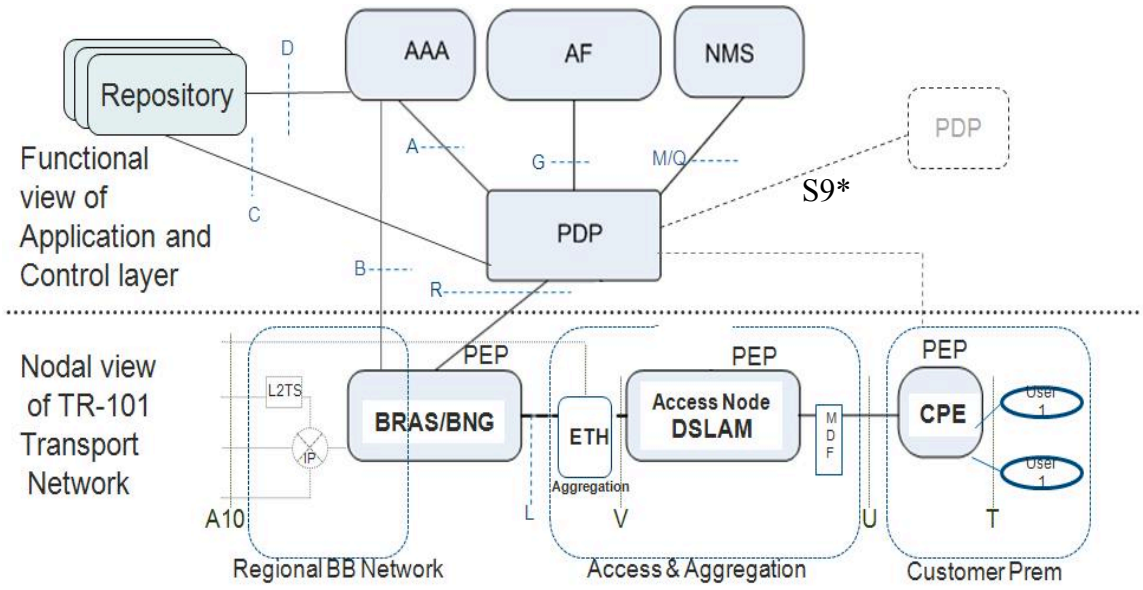
In December 2009 ETSI TISPAN provided a tutorial on RACS to the BBF and provided a gap analysis regarding WT-134 and recommended that the BBF consider RACS as part of the BBF work on fixed network policy.

At the Q1 and Q2 2010 BBF meetings the BBF considered further study of the 3GPP and TISPAN approaches. We have members who utilize the 3GPP approach and others who prefer TISPAN,

and some need to support multiple concurrent frameworks. All our members do see the need for standard capabilities in network elements to support their approach.

At the Q2 meeting in Ottawa the BBF membership resolved to finish WT-134 as soon as possible in its current scope, consolidating the use-cases and developing a BBF Policy Information Model that meets our use-case requirements. Currently we believe it impossible to pick one or more SDO policy frameworks to align with since the industry is split on the approach to take (not to mention the differing requirements from wholesale and regulated arrangements).

We ask that our colleagues in 3GPP and ETSI TISPAN support our approach and join with us to help specify PDP-PEP interactions in the nodal requirements to be covered by a future BBF document, which is the follow on activity on Policy Control after WT-134. We also ask that you consider supporting the capabilities exposed over "R" by the BBF Policy Information Model in your respective policy frameworks.



This diagram maps Policy Control Functionality onto a BBF TR-101 Architecture, where the PEP is a Broadband Network Gateway, an Access Node or a Residential Gateway.

We look forward to your feedback on our approach and to your thoughts on nodal requirements.

Sincerely,

Gavin Young
Broadband Forum Technical Committee Chair

CC:
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Date of Upcoming Broadband Forum Meetings

DATES	LOCATION
20th – 24th September, 2010	Hong Kong, China

Note: A list of upcoming meetings can be found at http://www.broadband-forum.org/meetings/upcomingmeetingsataglance.php

Attachments:

None