Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects   ***TSGS#6(99)502***

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Source: **SA WG2**

Title: **Proposed LS to SMG on the requirement for ERAN to support the 3rd Generation evolved Circuit interface for Release 2000**

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Agenda Item: **4.2.2**

3GPP TSG SA S2#9   **S2-99C35**

London, UK, October 25-29, 1999

To: **SMG, TSG SA, GSM Association and TSA SA WG1**

Cc: **SMG2**

Source: **TSG SA WG2**

Subject: Proposed LS to SMG on the requirement for ERAN to support the 3rd Generation evolved Circuit interface for Release 2000

TSG SA WG2 has received a liaison from SMG2 raising several questions at the architectural level concerning the connection of an ERAN to the core network.

Some assumption have been made in a previously presented report on the all IP architecture at TSG SA level from TSG SA WG2 which has been endorsed in TSG SA during the Kiongju meeting in Korea. This assumption is based on the connection to the packet domain based on the UMTS architecture (Iups and not Gb as for GSM).

One of the main question that has been raised concern the connection to the Circuit Switched domain of the core network domain.

For this two possibilities exists. The first one being to re-use the A interface specification knowing that for data the limitation will be to 64 Kbit/s. The nature of the two interface type (circuit domain and packet domain will add complexity to the handover procedure due to the fact that different procedure will have to be implemented for both types of traffic. On the other hand this will minimise the modification to be brought to the already existing networks if A interface is re-used.

The second solution would be to go for a full third generation compatibility for the connection to the Core network that is to say the full Iu interface specification. This solution has also some advantages that handover for between ERAN and UMTS will be largely simplify as all signalling will be re-used. On the other hand it requires that all already existing equipment shall be modified for the second generation networks when ERAN is introduced.

Following the above reasoning, TSG SA WG2 is seeking advice from SMG, GSM Association and TSG SA WG1 on the way that shall be taken in order to ensure acceptability by all involved parties.