**3GPP TSG-SA2 Meeting # 153E** **(e-meeting) *S2-220abcd***

**Elbonia, October 10th-17th , 2022 (new CR)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *CR-Form-v12.2* | | | | | | | | |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | |
|  | 23.501 | **CR** | ? | **rev** | **-** | **Current version:** | ? |  |
|  | | | | | | | | |
| *For* [***HE******LP***](http://www.3gpp.org/3G_Specs/CRs.htm#_blank)*on using this form: comprehensive instructions can be found at* [*http://www.3gpp.org/Change-Requests*](http://www.3gpp.org/Change-Requests)*.* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Proposed change affects:*** | UICC apps |  | ME |  | Radio Access Network |  | Core Network | **X** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Title:*** | Support for Service Function Chaining in 5GS | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to WG:*** | Intel | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | SA2 | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Work item code:*** | SFC | | | | |  | ***Date:*** | | | 2022-09-26 |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | |  |
| ***Category:*** | B |  | | | | | ***Release:*** | | | Rel-18 |
|  | *Use one of the following categories:* ***F*** *(correction)* ***A*** *(mirror corresponding to a change in an earlier release)* ***B*** *(addition of feature),* ***C*** *(functional modification of feature)* ***D*** *(editorial modification)*  Detailed explanations of the above categories can be found in 3GPP [TR 21.900](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/Specs/html-info/21900.htm). | | | | | | | | *Use one of the following releases: Rel-8 (Release 8) Rel-9 (Release 9) Rel-10 (Release 10) Rel-11 (Release 11) … Rel-15 (Release 15) Rel-16 (Release 16) Rel-17 (Release 17) Rel-18 (Release 18) Rel-19 (Release 19)* | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Reason for change:*** | | Based on the conclusion in TR 23.700-18, the changes listed below are proposed-   * Introduce new sub-clause 5.6.X to describe high level summary on Service Function Chaining support in 5GS. * Update Table 5.6.7-1, with SFC ID and Metadata in clause 5.6.7.1 * Add Service Function Chaining capability in the UPF functionality list in clause 6.2.3 * Add support for Service Function Chaining as a criterion for UPF selection in clause 6.3.3.3. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Summary of change:*** | | It is proposed to add a new clause for Service Function Chaining describing how how to enble AF to influence 5G traffic steering to support SFC. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | | SFC feature not supported in Rel-18. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Clauses affected:*** | | 5.6.X, 5.6.7.1, 6.2.3, 6.3.3.3 | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **Y** | **N** |  | | | |  | | |
| ***Other specs*** | |  | **X** | Other core specifications | | | | TS/TR ... CR ... | | |
| ***affected:*** | |  | **X** | Test specifications | | | | TS/TR ... CR ... | | |
| ***(show related CRs)*** | |  | **x** | O&M Specifications | | | | TS/TR ... CR ... | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Other comments:*** | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***This CR's revision history:*** | |  | | | | | | | | |

\* \* \* Start of Changes \* \* \*

### 5.6.X Support for Service Function Chaining

The content of this clause applies to non-roaming and to LBO deployments i.e. to cases where the involved entities (AF, PCF, SMF, UPF) belong to the Serving PLMN or AF belongs to a third party with which the Serving PLMN has an agreement. AF influence on traffic routing does not apply in the case of Home Routed deployments. PCF shall not apply AF requests to influence traffic routing to PDU Sessions established in Home Routed mode.

It is assumed that a service level agreement exists between the operator and a third party that includes a list of authorized predefined Service Function Paths (SFPs), each SFP being identified based on the Service Function Chaining Identifier (SFC ID). The AF may request the selected traffic flows to be steered towards a specific SFP, either at PDU Session establishment or any time after PDU Session establishment.

The AF requests are sent to the PCF via the NEF. The AF requests may contain the information as described in the Table 5.6.7-1. The PCF based on the SFC ID received from the AF evaluates whether the SFC ID correspond to an authorized SFC policy for the AF. Based on the SFC ID received from the AF, the PCF derives either into TSP IDs or SFP IDs that can be different for uplink and downlink directions that apply to PDU Session and sends the TSP IDs or SFP IDs and optionally Metadata (as provided by the AF) to the SMF as part of the PCC rules. The SMF provides the TSP IDs or SFP IDs and optionally Metadata to the UPF via N4 in a FAR.

* If the PCC rule includes TSP IDs, the UPF applies traffic steering mechanism based on TSP IDs as described in clause. In this case, the UPF serving as PSA uses the TSP ID to steer traffic over N6 and the TSP ID identifies a specific Service Function Path in the SFC.

NOTE: When the PCC rule contains the TSP IDs, it is assumed that all UPFs in the operator network serving as PSA for the DNN/S-NSSAI/DNAI subject to SFC control need to be configured with the same traffic steering information for SFC processing.

* If the PCC rule includes SFP IDs, the SMF selects UPF with SFC capability that implements an SFC functionality with several SFPs corresponding to pre-defined SFC polices, which resides on N6 and is different from the PDU Session Anchor. Based on the PCC rules received from the PCF, the SMF configures the PSA via N4 message including PDR and FAR as described in Table 6.4.2-1. The SMF configures the UPF with SFC capability with uplink and downlink PDR and FAR via N4 message as described in Table 6.4.2-2. The UPF with SFC capability uses the SFP ID and optionally Metadata received in the PCC rule is used by the traffic classifier in the SFC and also in the SFC encapsulation header as defined in RFC 8300 [ref].

Table 5.6.X-1: PDR and FAR configuration in PSA

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **UPLINK traffic** | | | |
| IN interface | OUT interface | PDR | FAR |
| N3/N9 | N6s | Local F-TEID (N3/N9), UL SDF | Remote F-TEID (N6s) for UL traffic |
| **DOWNLINK traffic** | | | |
| IN interface | OUT interface | PDR | FAR |
| N6 | N6s | DL SDF | Remote F-TEID (N6s) for DL traffic |
| N6s | N3/N9 | Local F-TEID (N6s) for DL traffic, DL SDF | Remote F-TEID (N3/N9) |
| NOTE: In this table "downlink" refers to the global traffic direction. In reference to N6s, it is noted that the "downlink" traffic is carried in both directions. | | | |

Table 5.6.X-2: PDR and FAR configuration in UPF with SFC functionality

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **UPLINK traffic** | | | |
| IN interface | OUT interface | PDR | FAR |
| N6s | SFC | Local F-TEID (N6s) for UL traffic, UL SDF | SFP ID (uplink), Metadata (uplink) |
| **DOWNLINK traffic** | | | |
| IN interface | OUT interface | PDR | FAR |
| N6s | SFC | Local F-TEID (N6s) for DL traffic, DL SDF | SFP ID (downlink), Metadata (uplink) |
| SFC | N6s | SFP ID (downlink), DL SDF | Remote F-TEID (N6s) for DL traffic |
| NOTE: In reference to N6s, it is noted that the DOWNLINK traffic is carried in both directions. | | | |

\* \* \* Next Changes \* \* \*

#### 5.6.7.1 General

The content of this clause applies to non-roaming and to LBO deployments i.e. to cases where the involved entities (AF, PCF, SMF, UPF) belong to the Serving PLMN or AF belongs to a third party with which the Serving PLMN has an agreement. AF influence on traffic routing does not apply in the case of Home Routed deployments. PCF shall not apply AF requests to influence traffic routing to PDU Sessions established in Home Routed mode.

An AF may send requests to influence SMF routeing decisions for traffic of PDU Session. The AF requests may influence UPF (re)selection and (I-)SMF (re)selection and allow routeing user traffic to a local access to a Data Network (identified by a DNAI).

The AF may issue requests on behalf of applications not owned by the PLMN serving the UE.

If the operator does not allow an AF to access the network directly, the AF shall use the NEF to interact with the 5GC, as described in clause 6.2.10.

The AF may be in charge of the (re)selection or relocation of the applications within the local part of the DN (as defined in TS 23.548 [130]). Such functionality is not defined. For this purpose, the AF may request to get notified about events related with PDU Sessions.

In the case of AF instance change, the AF may send request of AF relocation information.

The AF requests are sent to the PCF via N5 (in the case of requests targeting specific on-going PDU Sessions of individual UE(s), for an AF allowed to interact directly with the 5GC NFs) or via the NEF. The AF requests that target existing or future PDU Sessions of multiple UE(s) or of any UE are sent via the NEF and may target multiple PCF(s), as described in clause 6.3.7.2. The PCF(s) transform(s) the AF requests into policies that apply to PDU Sessions. When the AF has subscribed to UP path management event notifications from SMF(s) (including notifications on how to reach a GPSI over N6), such notifications are sent either directly to the AF or via an NEF (without involving the PCF). For AF interacting with PCF directly or via NEF, the AF requests may contain the information as described in the Table 5.6.7-1:

Table 5.6.7-1: Information element contained in AF request

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Information Name | Applicable for PCF or NEF (NOTE 1) | Applicable for NEF only | Category |
| Traffic Description | Defines the target traffic to be influenced, represented by the combination of DNN and optionally S-NSSAI, and application identifier or traffic filtering information. | The target traffic can be represented by AF-Service-Identifier, instead of combination of DNN and optionally S-NSSAI. | Mandatory |
| Potential Locations of Applications | Indicates potential locations of applications, represented by a list of DNAI(s). | The potential locations of applications can be represented by AF-Service-Identifier. | Conditional  (NOTE 2) |
| Target UE Identifier(s) | Indicates the UE(s) that the request is targeting, i.e. an individual UE, a group of UE represented by Internal Group Identifier (NOTE 3), or any UE accessing the combination of DNN, S-NSSAI and DNAI(s). | GPSI can be applied to identify the individual UE, or External Group Identifier can be applied to identify a group of UE. | Mandatory |
| Spatial Validity Condition | Indicates that the request applies only to the traffic of UE(s) located in the specified location, represented by areas of validity. | The specified location can be represented by geographical area. | Optional |
| AF transaction identifier | The AF transaction identifier refers to the AF request. | N/A | Mandatory |
| N6 Traffic Routing requirements | Routing profile ID and/or N6 traffic routing information corresponding to each DNAI and an optional indication of traffic correlation. | N/A | Optional  (NOTE 2) |
| Application Relocation Possibility | Indicates whether an application can be relocated once a location of the application is selected by the 5GC. | N/A | Optional |
| UE IP address preservation indication | Indicates UE IP address should be preserved. | N/A | Optional |
| Temporal Validity Condition | Time interval(s) or duration(s). | N/A | Optional |
| Information on AF subscription to corresponding SMF events | Indicates whether the AF subscribes to change of UP path of the PDU Session and the parameters of this subscription. | N/A | Optional |
| Information for EAS IP Replacement in 5GC | Indicates the Source EAS identifier and Target EAS identifier, (i.e. IP addresses and port numbers of the source and target EAS). | N/A | Optional |
| User Plane Latency Requirement | Indicates the user plane latency requirements | N/A | Optional |
| Information on AF change | N/A | Indicates the AF instance relocation and relocation information. | Optional |
| Indication for EAS Relocation | Indicates the EAS relocation of the application(s) | N/A | Optional |
| Indication for Simultaneous Connectivity over the source and target PSA at Edge Relocation | Indicates that simultaneous connectivity over the source and target PSA should be maintained at edge relocation and provides guidance to determine when the connectivity over the source PSA can be removed. | N/A | Optional |
| Service Function Chaining Identifier | Service Function Chaining Identifier refers to authorized pre-agreed Service Function Chaining policy as defined in a Service Level Agreement between the operator and the third party. | N/A | Optional |
| Metadata | Metadata refers to pre-agreed set of Metadata that the third party is allowed to insert into the Service Function Chain. | N/A | Optional |
| NOTE 1: When the AF request targets existing or future PDU Sessions of multiple UE(s) or of any UE and is sent via the NEF, as described in clause 6.3.7.2, the information is stored in the UDR by the NEF and notified to the PCF by the UDR.  NOTE 2: The potential locations of applications and N6 traffic routing requirements may be absent only if the request is for subscription to notifications about UP path management events only.  NOTE 3: Internal Group ID can only be used by an AF controlled by the operator and only towards PCF. | | | |

For each information element mentioned above in the AF request, the detailed description is as follows:

1) Information to identify the traffic. The traffic can be identified in the AF request by

- Either a DNN and possibly slicing information (S-NSSAI) or an AF-Service-Identifier

- When the AF provides an AF-Service-Identifier i.e. an identifier of the service on behalf of which the AF is issuing the request, the 5G Core maps this identifier into a target DNN and slicing information (S-NSSAI)

- When the NEF processes the AF request the AF-Service-Identifier may be used to authorize the AF request.

- An application identifier or traffic filtering information (e.g. 5 Tuple or FQDN range). The application identifier refers to an application handling UP traffic and is used by the UPF to detect the traffic of the application

When the AF request is for influencing SMF routing decisions, the information is to identify the traffic to be routed.

When FQDN range is provided it may be used by SMF as one of the triggers for retrieving EAS Deployment Information from NEF. Retrieval of EAS Deployment Information is defined in TS 23.548 [130].

NOTE 1: It is also possible that the SMF triggers retrieving EAS Deployment Information based on implementation or local configuration.

When the AF request is for subscription to notifications about UP path management events, the information is to identify the traffic that the events relate to.

2) Information about the N6 traffic routing requirements for traffic identified as defined in 1). This includes:

- Information about the N6 traffic routing requirements that is provided per DNAI: for each DNAI, the N6 traffic routing requirements may contain a routing profile ID and/or N6 traffic routing information.

- An optional indication of traffic correlation, when the information in 4) identifies a group of UEs. This implies the targeted PDU Sessions should be correlated by a common DNAI in the user plane for the traffic identified in 1). If this indication is provided by the AF, the 5GC should select a common DNAI for the target PDU Sessions from the list of DNAI(s) specified in 3).

NOTE 2: The N6 traffic routing requirements are related to the mechanism enabling traffic steering in the local access to the DN. The routing profile ID refers to a pre-agreed policy between the AF and the 5GC. This policy may refer to different steering policy ID(s) sent to SMF and e.g. based on time of the day etc.

NOTE 3: The mechanisms enabling traffic steering in the local access to the DN are not defined.

3) Potential locations of applications towards which the traffic routing should apply. The potential location of application is expressed as a list of DNAI(s). If the AF interacts with the PCF via the NEF, the NEF may map the AF-Service-Identifier information to a list of DNAI(s). The DNAI(s) may be used for UPF (re)selection and (I‑)SMF (re)selection.

4) Information on the UE(s). This may correspond to:

- Individual UEs identified using GPSI, or an IP address/Prefix or a MAC address.

- Groups of UEs identified by an External Group Identifier as defined in TS 23.682 [36] when the AF interacts via the NEF, or Internal-Group Identifier (see clause 5.9.7) when the AF interacts directly with the PCF.

- Any UE accessing the combination of DNN, S-NSSAI and DNAI(s).

When the PDU Session type is IPv4 or IPv6 or IPv4v6, and the AF provides an IP address and/or an IP Prefix, or when the PDU Session type is Ethernet and the AF provides a MAC address, this allows the PCF to identify the PDU Session for which this request applies and the AF request applies only to that specific PDU Session of the UE. In this case, additional information such as the UE identity may also be provided to help the PCF to identify the correct PDU Session.

Otherwise the request targets multiple UE(s) and shall apply to any existing or future PDU Sessions that match the parameters in the AF request.

When the AF request targets an individual UE and GPSI is provided within the AF request, the GPSI is mapped to SUPI according to the subscription information received from UDM.

When the AF request targets any UE or a group of UE, the AF request is likely to influence multiple PDU Sessions possibly served by multiple SMFs and PCFs.

When the AF request targets a group of UE it provides one or several group identifiers in its request. The group identifiers provided by the AF are mapped to Internal-Group identifiers. Members of the group have this Group Identifier in their subscription. The Internal-Group Identifier is stored in UDM, retrieved by SMF from UDM and passed by SMF to PCF at PDU Session set-up. The PCF can then map the AF requests with user subscription and determine whether an AF request targeting a Group of users applies to a PDU Session.

When the AF request is for influencing SMF routing decisions, the information is to identify UE(s) whose traffic is to be routed.

When the AF request is for subscription to notifications about UP path management events, the information is to identify UE(s) whose traffic the events relate to.

When the AF request is for traffic forwarding in a PDU Session serving for TSC, the MAC address used by the PDU Session is determined by the AF to identify UE whose traffic is to be routed according to the previously stored binding relationship of the 5GS Bridge and the port number of the traffic forwarding information received from TSN network.

5) Indication of application relocation possibility. This indicates whether an application can be relocated once a location of the application is selected by the 5GC. If application relocation is not possible, the 5GC shall ensure that for the traffic related with an application, no DNAI change takes place once selected for this application.

6) Temporal validity condition. This is provided in the form of time interval(s) or duration(s) during which the AF request is to be applied.

When the AF request is for influencing SMF routing decisions, the temporal validity condition indicates when the traffic routing is to apply.

When the AF request is for subscription to notifications about UP path management events, the temporal validity condition indicates when the notifications are to be generated.

7) Spatial validity condition on the UE(s) location. This is provided in the form of validity area(s). If the AF interacts with the PCF via the NEF, it may provide geographical area (e.g. a civic address or shapes) and the NEF maps the information to areas of validity based on pre-configuration. The PCF in turn determines area(s) of interest based on validity area(s).

When the AF request is for influencing SMF routing decisions, the spatial validity condition indicates that the request applies only to the traffic of UE(s) located in the specified location.

When the AF request is for subscription to notifications about UP path management events, the spatial validity condition indicates that the subscription applies only to the traffic of UE(s) located in the specified location.

8) Information on AF subscription to corresponding SMF events.

The AF may request to be subscribed to change of UP path associated with traffic identified in the bullet 1) above. The AF request contains:

- A type of subscription (subscription for Early and/or Late notifications).

The AF subscription can be for Early notifications and/or Late notifications. In the case of a subscription for Early notifications, the SMF sends the notifications before the (new) UP path is configured. In the case of a subscription for Late notifications, the SMF sends the notification after the (new) UP path has been configured.

- Notification target address for receiving event notification.

- Optionally, an indication of "AF acknowledgment to be expected".

The indication implies that the AF will provide a response to the notifications of UP path management events to the 5GC. The SMF may, according to this indication, determine to wait for a response from the AF before the SMF configures in the case of early notification, or activates in the case of late notification, the new UP path as described in clause 5.6.7.2.

The AF subscription can also request to receive information associating the GPSI of the UE with the IP address(es) of the UE and/or with actual N6 traffic routing to be used to reach the UE on the PDU Session; in this case the corresponding information is sent by the SMF regardless of whether a DNAI applies to the PDU Session.

9) An AF transaction identifier referring to the AF request. This allows the AF to update or remove the AF request and to identify corresponding UP path management event notifications. The AF transaction identifier is generated by the AF.

When the AF interacts with the PCF via the NEF, the NEF maps the AF transaction identifier to an AF transaction internal identifier, which is generated by the NEF and used within the 5GC to identify the information associated to the AF request. The NEF maintains the mapping between the AF transaction identifier and the AF transaction internal identifier. The relation between the two identifiers is implementation specific.

When the AF interacts with the PCF directly, the AF transaction identifier provided by the AF is used as AF transaction internal identifier within the 5GC.

10) Indication of UE IP address preservation. This indicates UE IP address related to the traffic identified in bullet 1) should be preserved. If this indication is provided by the AF, the 5GC should preserve the UE IP address by preventing reselection of PSA UPF for the identified traffic once the PSA UPF is selected.

11) Information for EAS IP Replacement in 5GC. This indicates the Source EAS identifier and Target EAS identifier (i.e. IP addresses and port numbers of the source and target EAS) for a service subject to Edge Computing.

12) User Plane Latency Requirement. This includes AF requirements for User Plane latency. (see clause 6.3.6 of TS 23.548 [130]).

13) Information on AF change. The AF relocation information includes:

- AF Identifier: the identifier of the target AF instance.

NOTE 4: The AF relocation information is applicable for interaction with NEF only and it is not stored in UDR or transferred to PCF, even for the case AF directly interacts with PCF.

14) Indication for EAS relocation. This indicates the application(s) are to be relocated.

15) Indication for Simultaneous Connectivity over source and target PSA at Edge Relocation (see clause 6.3.4 of TS 23.548 [130]). Indicates that source and target PSA should coexist for some time at PSA relocation, and may influence the establishment of a temporary N9 forwarding tunnel between the source UL CL and target UL CL. It may also provide guidance for the time interval after the described traffic ceases when the connectivity over the source PSA may be removed.

An AF may send requests to influence SMF routeing decisions, for event subscription or for both.

The AF may request to be subscribed to notifications about UP path management events, i.e. a UP path change occurs for the PDU Session. The corresponding notification about a UP path change sent by the SMF to the AF may indicate the DNAI and /or the N6 traffic routing information that has changed as described in clause 4.3.6.3 of TS 23.502 [3]. It may include the AF transaction internal identifier, the type of notification (i.e. early notification or late notification), the Identity of the source and/or target DNAI, the IP address/prefix of the UE or the MAC address used by the UE, the GPSI and the N6 traffic routing information related to the 5GC UP.

NOTE 5: The change from the UP path status where no DNAI applies to a status where a DNAI applies indicates the activation of this AF request; the change from the UP path status where a DNAI applies to a status where no DNAI applies indicates the de-activation of this AF request.

In the case of IP PDU Session Type, the IP address/prefix of the UE together with N6 traffic routing information indicates to the AF how to reach over the User Plane the UE identified by its GPSI. N6 traffic routing information indicates any tunnelling that may be used over N6. The nature of this information depends on the deployment.

NOTE 6: N6 traffic routing information can e.g. correspond to the identifier of a VPN or to explicit tunnelling information such as a tunnelling protocol identifier together with a Tunnel identifier.

NOTE 7: In the case of Unstructured PDU Session type the nature of the N6 traffic routing information related to the 5GC UP is described in clause 5.6.10.3.

In the case of Ethernet PDU Session Type, the MAC address of the UE together with N6 traffic routing information indicates to the AF how to reach over the User Plane the UE identified by its GPSI. The UE MAC address (es) is reported by the UPF as described in clause 5.8.2.12. The N6 traffic routing information can be, e.g. a VLAN ID or the identifier of a VPN or a tunnel identifier at the UPF.

When notifications about UP path management events are sent to the AF via the NEF, if required, the NEF maps the UE identify information, e.g. SUPI, to the GPSI and the AF transaction internal identifier to the AF transaction identifier before sending the notifications to the AF.

The PCF, based on information received from the AF, operator's policy, optionally service experience analytics per UP path received from NWDAF, etc., authorizes the request received from the AF and determines for each DNAI, a traffic steering policy ID (derived from the routing profile ID provided by the AF) and/or the N6 traffic routing information (as provided by the AF) to be sent to the SMF as part of the PCC rules. The traffic steering policy IDs are configured in the SMF or in the UPF. The traffic steering policy IDs are related to the mechanism enabling traffic steering to the DN.

The DNAIs are related to the information considered by the SMF for UPF selection and (I‑)SMF (re)selection, e.g. for diverting (locally) some traffic matching traffic filters provided by the PCF.

The PCF acknowledges a request targeting an individual PDU Session to the AF or to the NEF.

For PDU Session that corresponds to the AF request, the PCF provides the SMF with a PCC rule that is generated based on the AF request, Local routing indication from the PDU Session policy control subscription information and taking into account UE location presence in area of interest (i.e. Presence Reporting Area). The PCC rule contains the information to identify the traffic, information about the DNAI(s) towards which the traffic routing should apply and optionally, an indication of traffic correlation and/or an indication of application relocation possibility and/or indication of UE IP address preservation. The PCC rule also contains per DNAI a traffic steering policy ID and/or N6 traffic routing information, if the N6 traffic routing information is explicitly provided in the AF request. The PCF may also provide in the PCC rule information to subscribe the AF (or the NEF) to SMF events (UP path changes) corresponding to the AF request in which case it provides the information on AF subscription to corresponding SMF events received in the AF request. This is done by providing policies at PDU Session set-up or by initiating a PDU Session Modification procedure. When initiating a PDU Session set-up or PDU Session Modification procedure, the PCF considers the latest known UE location to determine the PCC rules provided to the SMF. The PCF evaluates the temporal validity condition of the AF request and informs the SMF to activate or deactivate the corresponding PCC rules according to the evaluation result. When policies specific to the PDU Session and policies general to multiple PDU Sessions exist, the PCF gives precedence to the PDU Session specific policies over the general policies. The PCF authorizes the AF request of User Plane Latency Requirements. If the PCF determines that the requirements can't be authorized, the PCF rejects the AF request.

The spatial validity condition is resolved at the PCF. In order to do that, the PCF subscribes to the SMF to receive notifications about change of UE location in an area of interest (i.e. Presence Reporting Area). The subscribed area of interest may be the same as spatial validity condition, or may be a subset of the spatial validity condition (e.g. a list of TAs) based on the latest known UE location. When the SMF detects that UE entered the area of interest subscribed by the PCF, the SMF notifies the PCF and the PCF provides to the SMF the PCC rules described above by triggering a PDU Session Modification. When the SMF becomes aware that the UE left the area subscribed by the PCF, the SMF notifies the PCF and the PCF provides updated PCC rules by triggering a PDU Session Modification. SMF notifications to the PCF about UE location in or out of the subscribed area of interest are triggered by UE location change notifications received from the AMF or by UE location information received during a Service Request or Handover procedure.

When the PCC rules are activated, the SMF may, based on local policies, take the information in the PCC rules and, optionally, the Service Experience analytics and/or DN Performance analytics per UP path (including UPF and/or DNAI and/or AS instance) as defined in clause 6.4.3 and clause 6.14.3, respectively, of TS 23.288 [86] into account to:

- (re)select UP paths (including DNAI(s)) for PDU Sessions. The SMF is responsible for handling the mapping between the UE location (TAI / Cell-Id) and DNAI(s) associated with UPF and applications and the selection of the UPF(s) that serve a PDU Session. This is described in clause 6.3.3. If the PDU Session is of IP type and if Indication of UE IP address preservation is included in the PCC rules, the SMF should preserve the UE IP address, by not reselecting the related PSA UPF once the PSA UPF is selected, for the traffic identified in the PCC rule. If the user plane latency requirement is included in the PCC rules, the SMF chooses the PSA UPF that satisfies the user plane latency requirement. If the PCC rules are related to a 5G VN group served by the SMF and if the Information about the N6 traffic routing requirements includes an indication of traffic correlation, the SMF should select a common DNAI for the PDU Sessions of the 5G VN group.

- configure traffic steering at UPF, including activating mechanisms for traffic multi-homing or enforcement of an UL Classifier (UL CL). Such mechanisms are defined in clause 5.6.4. This may include that the SMF is providing the UPF with packet handling instructions (i.e. PDRs and FARs) for steering traffic to the local access to the DN. The packet handling instructions are generated by the SMF using the traffic steering policy ID and/or the N6 traffic routing information in the PCC rules corresponding to the applied DNAI. In the case of UP path reselection, the SMF may configure the source UPF to forward traffic to the UL CL/BP so that the traffic is steered towards the target UPF.

- if Information on AF subscription to corresponding SMF events has been provided in the PCC rule, inform the AF of the (re)selection of the UP path (UP path change). If the information includes an indication of "AF acknowledgment to be expected", the SMF may decide to wait for a response from the AF before it activates the new UP path, as described in clause 5.6.7.2.

When an I-SMF is inserted for a PDU Session, the I-SMF insertion, relocation or removal to a PDU session shall be transparent (i.e. not aware) to the PCF and to the AF. The processing of the AF influence on traffic routing is described in clause 5.34 and detail procedure is described in clause 4.23.6 of TS 23.502 [3].

\* \* \* Next Changes \* \* \*

### 6.2.3 UPF

The User plane function (UPF) includes the following functionality. Some or all of the UPF functionalities may be supported in a single instance of a UPF:

- Anchor point for Intra-/Inter-RAT mobility (when applicable).

- Allocation of UE IP address/prefix (if supported) in response to SMF request.

- External PDU Session point of interconnect to Data Network.

- Packet routing & forwarding (e.g. support of Uplink classifier to route traffic flows to an instance of a data network, support of Branching point to support multi-homed PDU Session, support of traffic forwarding within a 5G VN group (UPF local switching, via N6, via N19)).

- Packet inspection (e.g. Application detection based on service data flow template and the optional PFDs received from the SMF in addition).

- User Plane part of policy rule enforcement, e.g. Gating, Redirection, Traffic steering).

- Lawful intercept (UP collection).

- Traffic usage reporting.

- QoS handling for user plane, e.g. UL/DL rate enforcement, Reflective QoS marking in DL.

- Uplink Traffic verification (SDF to QoS Flow mapping).

- Transport level packet marking in the uplink and downlink.

- Downlink packet buffering and downlink data notification triggering.

- Sending and forwarding of one or more "end marker" to the source NG-RAN node.

- Functionality to respond to Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) requests and / or IPv6 Neighbour Solicitation requests based on local cache information for the Ethernet PDUs. The UPF responds to the ARP and / or the IPv6 Neighbour Solicitation Request by providing the MAC address corresponding to the IP address sent in the request.

- Packet duplication in downlink direction and elimination in uplink direction in GTP-U layer.

- NW-TT functionality.

- High latency communication, see clause 5.31.8.

- ATSSS Steering functionality to steer the MA PDU Session traffic, refer to clause 5.32.6.

NOTE: Not all of the UPF functionalities are required to be supported in an instance of user plane function of a Network Slice.

- Inter PLMN UP Security (IPUPS) functionality, specified in clause 5.8.2.14.

- Exposure of network information, i.e. the QoS monitoring information, as specified in clause 6.4 of TS 23.548 [130].

- Service Function Chaining capability, specified in clause 5.6.X

\* \* \* Next Changes \* \* \*

#### 6.3.3.3 Selection of an UPF for a particular PDU Session

If there is an existing PDU Session, and the SMF receives another PDU Session request to the same DNN and S-NSSAI, and if the SMF determines that interworking with EPC is supported for this PDU Session as specified in clause 4.11.5 of TS 23.502 [3], the SMF should select the same UPF, otherwise, if the SMF determines that interworking with EPC is not supported for the new PDU Session, a different UPF may be selected.

For the same DNN and S-NSSAI if different UPF are selected at 5GC, when the UE is moved to EPC network, there is no requirement to enforce APN-AMBR. Whether and how to apply APN-AMBR for the PDN Connection associated with this DNN/APN is implementation dependent, e.g. possibly only AMBR enforcement per PDU Session applies.

The following parameter(s) and information may be considered by the SMF for UPF selection and re-selection:

- UPF's dynamic load.

- Analytics (i.e. statistics or predictions) for UPF load, Service Experience analytics and/or DN Performance analytics per UP path (including UPF and/or DNAI and/or AS instance) and UE related analytics (UE mobility, UE communication, and expected UE behavioural parameters) as received from NWDAF (see TS 23.288 [86]), if NWDAF is deployed.

- UPF's relative static capacity among UPFs supporting the same DNN.

- UPF location available at the SMF.

- UE location information.

- Capability of the UPF and the functionality required for the particular UE session: An appropriate UPF can be selected by matching the functionality and features required for an UE.

- Data Network Name (DNN).

- PDU Session Type (i.e. IPv4, IPv6, IPv4v6, Ethernet Type or Unstructured Type) and if applicable, the static IP address/prefix.

- SSC mode selected for the PDU Session.

- UE subscription profile in UDM.

- DNAI as included in the PCC Rules and described in clause 5.6.7.

- Local operator policies.

- S-NSSAI.

- Access technology being used by the UE.

- Information related to user plane topology and user plane terminations, that may be deduced from:

- 5G-AN-provided identities (e.g. CellID, TAI), available UPF(s) and DNAI(s);

- Identifiers (i.e. a FQDN and/or IP address(es)) of N3 terminations provided by a W-AGF or a TNGF or a TWIF;

- Information regarding the user plane interfaces of UPF(s). This information may be acquired by the SMF using N4;

- Information regarding the N3 User Plane termination(s) of the AN serving the UE. This may be deduced from 5G-AN-provided identities (e.g. CellID, TAI);

- Information regarding the N9 User Plane termination(s) of UPF(s) if needed;

- Information regarding the User plane termination(s) corresponding to DNAI(s).

- RSN, support for redundant GTP-U path or support for redundant transport path in the transport layer (as in clause 5.33.2) when redundant UP handling is applicable.

- Information regarding the ATSSS Steering Capability of the UE session (ATSSS-LL capability, MPTCP capability, or both) and information on the UPF support of RTT measurements without PMF.

- Support for UPF allocation of IP address/prefix.

- Support of the IPUPS functionality, specified in clause 5.8.2.14.

- Support for High latency communication (see clause 5.31.8).

- User Plane Latency Requirements within AF request (see clause 5.6.7.1 and clause 6.3.6 of TS 23.548 [130]).

- Support for Service Function Chaining (see clause 5.6.X) and the information provided by the AF regarding the use of a specific Service Function Chaining Identifier.

NOTE 1: How the SMF determines information about the user plane network topology from information listed above, and what information is considered by the SMF, is based on operator configuration.

NOTE 2: In this release the SMF uses no additional parameters for UPF selection for a PDU Session serving TSC. If a PDU Session of a specific DS-TT needs to connect to a specific UPF hosting a specific TSN 5GS bridge, this can be achieved e.g. by using a dedicated DNN/S-NSSAI combination.

A W-AGF or a TNGF may provide Identifiers of its N3 terminations when forwarding over N2 uplink NAS signalling to the 5GC. The AMF may relay this information to the SMF, as part of session management signalling for a new PDU Session.

\* \* \* End of Changes \* \* \*