**3GPP TSG SA WG4#128 *Tdoc S4-241045***

**Jeju, Korea, 20 May – 24 May, 2024**

**Title: LS on enhancement to the protocol stack of IMS Data Channel**

**Response to: -**

**Release: Rel-19**

**Work Item:**

**Source:** **3GPP SA4**

**To:** **3GPP SA3, SA3-LI**

**Cc:**

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**Attachments: S4-240589**

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## **Overall description**

In 3GPP SA4#127-bis-e meeting, S4-240589 as attached, provides the observations and suggests to extend the protocol stack of IMS Data Channel to enable operators to choose encrypting data channel media in IMS session or not, just like they can choose encrypting audio and video media in IMS session or not. SA4 has discussed S4-240589 which provides the following arguments:

- Operators need to have the ability to choose the encryption mechanisms on different layers based on their deployment decisions to eliminate the extra system overhead and latency introduced by repeatedly encryption.

- According to 3GPP TS 33.328, the support for IMS data channel media integrity and confidentiality protection are mandatory in IMS UE and IMS core network elements, but its usage is optional and depends on the operator's decision.

However consensus was not reached during SA4 discussion regarding requirement on media plane encryption.

## **Actions**

3GPP SA4 kindly asks:

SA3 to provide their feedbacks on:

Is there any requirement of mandating the usage of IMS media plane encryption? Can operators decide whether to encrypt DC media, similar to how they can choose to encrypt IMS audio and video media?

SA3-LI to provide their feedbacks on:

Whether it is beneficial to be able to activate/deactivate IMS media plane encryption from lawful interception perspective?

## **Dates of next 3GPP TSG SA WG 4 meetings**

SA4#129-e 19th – 23rd August 2024 Online

SA4#130 18th – 22nd November 2024 Orlando (US)