**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #121 R2-2302242**

**Athens, Greece, 27th of Feb – 3rd of Mar 2023**

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| *CR-Form-v12.2* | | | | | | | | |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | |
|  | **37.340** | **CR** | **0361** | **rev** | **1** | **Current version:** | **17.3.0** |  |
|  | | | | | | | | |
| *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)*.* | | | | | | | | |
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| ***Proposed change affects:*** | UICC apps |  | ME |  | Radio Access Network | **X** | Core Network |  |

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| ***Title:*** | Corrections for DCCA enhancement | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to WG:*** | ZTE Corporation (Rapporteur), Sanechips, Ericsson, Nokia, Nokia Shanghai Bell | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | RAN2 | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Work item code:*** | LTE\_NR\_DC\_enh2-Core | | | | |  | ***Date:*** | | | 2023-3-1 |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | |  |
| ***Category:*** | **F** |  | | | | | ***Release:*** | | | Rel-17 |
|  | *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-16 (Release 16) Rel-17 (Release 17) Rel-18 (Release 18) Rel-19 (Release 19)* | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Reason for change:*** | | Currently, both SN initiated intra-SN CPC and SN/MN initiated inter-SN CPC are supported, and are possibily configured simultaneously for the same UE. In the specification, some procedures are only applicable to intra-SN CPC, and some others are used for inter-SN CPC. However, “CPC” is generally used in some normative texts, but does not differentiate which type of CPC is referred to, which may cause some ambiguities. In addition, it’s unclear which procedure should be used for intra-SN CPC in Rel-17 if the source SN wants to configure both intra-SN and inter-SN PSCell candidates.  Besides, some editorial changes should be fixed.  In addition, some editorial changes for Conditional Handover with Secondary Node from R2-2300468 are merged. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Summary of change:*** | | 1. Add a general introduction for intra-SN CPC procedure in the opening paragraph of section 10.3 SN modification; 2. Add “intra-SN” or “inter-SN” in some texts in section 10.3, 10.4 and 10.5 to clarify the CPC type for the corresponding operation. 3. Add NOTEs in section 10.5, to clarify that intra-SN CPC candidates should be released or modified via SN initiated Conditional SN Modification without MN involvement procedure. 4. Fix some editorial changes in section 10.19.   **Impact Analysis**  Impacted 5G architecture options:  EN-DC, NR-DC  Impacted functionality:  CPAC; CHO with SN  Inter-operability:  1. If the network is implemented according to the CR and the UE is not, there is no inter-operability issue.  2. If the UE is implemented according to the CR and the network is not, there is no inter-operability issue. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | | Ambiguous specification remains, which may cause the ambiguity that “CPC” specified operation can be used for both intra-SN CPC and inter-SN CPC. | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Clauses affected:*** | | 10.3; 10.4; 10.5; 10.19 | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **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:*** | | R2-2301215 | | | | | | | | |

*START OF CHANGE*

## 10.3 Secondary Node Modification (MN/SN initiated)

### 10.3.1 EN-DC

The Secondary Node Modification procedure may be initiated either by the MN or by the SN and be used to modify, establish or release bearer contexts, to transfer bearer contexts to and from the SN or to modify other properties of the UE context within the same SN. It may also be used to transfer an NR RRC message from the SN to the UE via the MN and the response from the UE via MN to the SN (e.g. when SRB3 is not used). In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure is used to modify CPA or inter-SN CPC configuration within the same candidate SN. In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure may also be triggered by the candidate SN to add some prepared PSCells from the suggested list or cancel part of the prepared PSCells. In case of intra-SN CPC, this procedure is used to configure, modify or release intra-SN CPC configuration. This procedure may be initiated by the MN or SN to request the SN or MN to deactivate or activate the SCG.

The Secondary Node modification procedure does not necessarily need to involve signalling towards the UE.

**MN initiated SN Modification**



Figure 10.3.1-1: SN Modification procedure - MN initiated

The MN uses the procedure to initiate configuration changes of the SCG within the same SN, e.g. the addition, modification or release of SCG bearer(s) and the SCG RLC bearer of split bearer(s), as well as configuration changes for SN terminated MCG bearers. Bearer termination point change is realized by adding the new bearer configuration and releasing the old bearer configuration within a single MN initiated SN Modification procedure for the respective E-RAB. The MN uses this procedure to perform handover within the same MN while keeping the SN. The MN also uses the procedure to query the current SCG configuration, e.g. when delta configuration is applied in an MN initiated SN change. The MN also uses the procedure to provide the S-RLF related information to the SN. The MN also uses this procedure to activate or deactivate the SCG. The MN may not use the procedure to initiate the addition, modification or release of SCG SCells. The SN may reject the request, except if it concerns the release of SN terminated bearer(s) or the SCG RLC bearer of MN terminated bearer(s), or if it is used to perform handover within the same MN while keeping the SN. Figure 10.3.1-1 shows an example signalling flow for an MN initiated SN Modification procedure.

1. The MN sends the *SgNB Modification Request* message, which may contain bearer context related or other UE context related information, data forwarding address information (if applicable) and the requested SCG configuration information, including the UE capability coordination result to be used as basis for the reconfiguration by the SN. The MN may request the SCG to be activated or deactivated. In case a security key update in the SN is required, a new *SgNB Security Key* is included. In case of SCG RLC re-establishment for E-RABs configured with an MN terminated bearer with an SCG RLC bearer for which no bearer type change is performed, the MN provides a new UL GTP tunnel endpoint to the SN. The SN shall continue sending UL PDCP PDUs to the MN with the previous UL GTP tunnel endpoint until it re-establishes the RLC and use the new UL GTP tunnel endpoint after re-establishment. In case of PDCP re-establishment for E-RABs configured with an SN terminated bearer with an MCG RLC bearer for which no bearer type change is performed, the MN provides a new DL GTP tunnel endpoint to the SN. The SN shall continue sending DL PDCP PDUs to the MN with the previous DL GTP tunnel endpoint until it performs PDCP re-establishment and use the new DL GTP tunnel endpoint starting with the PDCP re-establishment.

2. The SN responds with the *SgNB Modification Request Acknowledge* message, which may contain SCG radio resource configuration information within a NR RRC configuration message and data forwarding address information (if applicable). If the MN requested the SCG to be activated or deactivated, the SN indicates whether the SCG is activated or deactivated. In case of a security key update (with or without PSCell change), for E-RABs configured with the MN terminated bearer option that require X2-U resources between the MN and the SN, for which no bearer type change is performed, the SN provides a new DL GTP tunnel endpoint to the MN. The MN shall continue sending DL PDCP PDUs to the SN with the previous DL GTP tunnel endpoint until it performs PDCP re-establishment or PDCP data recovery, and use the new DL GTP tunnel endpoint starting with the PDCP re-establishment or data recovery. In case of a security key update (with or without PSCell change), for E-RABs configured with the SN terminated bearer option that require X2-U resources between the MN and the SN, for which no bearer type change is performed, the SN provides a new UL GTP tunnel endpoint to the MN. The MN shall continue sending UL PDCP PDUs to the SN with the previous UL GTP tunnel endpoint until it re-establishes the RLC and use the new UL GTP tunnel endpoint after re-establishment.

NOTE 00: In case SN includes the indication of full RRC configuration in *SgNB Modification Request Acknowledge* message to MN e.g. comprehension failure upon intra-CU inter-DU change, MN performs release and add of the NR SCG part of the configuration but does not release SN terminated radio bearers towards the UE.

3-5. The MN initiates the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure, including the NR RRC configuration message. The UE applies the new configuration, synchronizes to the MN (if instructed, in case of intra-MN handover) and replies with *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete*, including a NR RRC response message, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. Upon successful completion of the reconfiguration, the success of the procedure is indicated in the *SgNB Reconfiguration Complete* message.

7. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SgNB addition procedure. Otherwise, the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

8. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, and when RRC full configuration is not used, the SN Status Transfer takes place between the MN and the SN (Figure 10.3.1-1 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the MN to the SN).

NOTE 0: The SN may not be aware that a SN terminated bearer requested to be released is reconfigured to a MN terminated bearer. The SN Status for the released SN terminated bearers with RLC AM may also be transferred to the MN.

9. If applicable, data forwarding between MN and the SN takes place (Figure 10.3.1-1 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the MN to the SN).

10. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the E-RABs to be released and for the E-RABs for which the S1 UL GTP Tunnel endpoint was requested to be modified.

NOTE 1: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

11. If applicable, a path update is performed.

**SN initiated SN Modification with MN involvement**



Figure 10.3.1-2: SN Modification procedure - SN initiated with MN involvement

The SN uses the procedure to perform configuration changes of the SCG within the same SN, e.g. to trigger the release of SCG bearer(s) and the SCG RLC bearer of split bearer(s) (upon which the MN may release the bearer or maintain current bearer type or reconfigure it to an MCG bearer, either MN terminated or SN terminated), to trigger the release of SCG resources (e.g., release SCG lower layer resources but keep SN), and to trigger PSCell change (e.g. when a new security key is required or when the MN needs to perform PDCP data recovery). The MN cannot reject the release request of SCG bearer and the SCG RLC bearer of a split bearer and the release request of SCG resources. The SN also uses this procedure to activate or deactivate the SCG. The MN shall either accept modification of all of the requested SCG bearer(s) and the SCG RLC bearer of split bearer(s) and the request of activation or deactivation of the SCG, or fail the procedure. Figure 10.3.1-2 shows an example signalling flow for an SN initiated SgNB Modification procedure, with MN involvement.

1. The SN sends the *SgNB Modification Required* message including a NR RRC configuration message, which may contain bearer context related, other UE context related information and the new SCG radio resource configuration. The SN may request the SCG to be activated or deactivated. For bearer release or modification, a corresponding E-RAB list is included in the *SgNB Modification Required* message. In case of change of security key, the *PDCP Change* *Indication* indicates that a S-KgNB update is required. In case the MN needs to perform PDCP data recovery, the *PDCP Change* *Indication* indicates that PDCP data recovery is required. In case SN decides to trigger SCG release, the E-RABs to be modified list includes all the E-RABs of the UE with SCG resource indicated as not present for each E-RAB.

The SN can decide whether the change of security key is required.

NOTE 1a: In case SN includes the indication of full RRC configuration in *SgNB Modification Required* message to MN e.g. comprehension failure upon intra-CU inter-DU change, MN performs release and add of the NR SCG part of the configuration but does not release SN terminated radio bearers towards the UE.

NOTE 1b: In case that either CHO or any conditional reconfiguration is prepared, and if a prepared SN initiated intra-SN CPC procedure or reconfiguration with sync of the SCG using SRB3 is executed, the SN shall notify to the MN via the SgNB Modification Required message. The SgNB Modification Required message may include the SCG configuration that has been applied in the UE. The MN considers that a conditional reconfiguration, if any configured in the UE, has been released due to the execution of the (conditional) SCG reconfiguration.

2/3. The MN initiated SN Modification procedure may be triggered by the *SN Modification Required* message (e.g. to provide information such as data forwarding addresses, new SN security key, measurement gap, etc...)

NOTE 2: If only SN security key is provided in step 2, the MN does not need to wait for the reception of step 3 to initiate the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure.

4. The MN sends the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message including a NR RRC configuration messageto the UE including the new SCG radio resource configuration.

5. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message, including an encoded NR RRC response message, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. Upon successful completion of the reconfiguration, the success of the procedure is indicated in the *SgNB Modification Confirm* message containing the encoded NR RRC response message, if received from the UE.

7. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SN addition procedure. Otherwise, the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

8. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, and when RRC full configuration is not used, the SN Status Transfer takes place between the MN and the SN (Figure 10.3.1-2 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the SN to the MN).

NOTE 2a: The SN may not be aware that a SN terminated bearer requesting to release is reconfigured to a MN terminated bearer. The SN Status for the released SN terminated bearers with RLC AM may also be transferred to the MN.

9. If applicable, data forwarding between MN and the SN takes place (Figure 10.3.1-2 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the SN to the MN).

10. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the E-RABs to be released.

NOTE 3: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

11. If applicable, a path update is performed.

**SN initiated SN Modification without MN involvement**



Figure 10.3.1-3: SN modification - SN initiated without MN involvement

The SN initiated modification without MN involved procedure is used to modify the configuration within SN in case no coordination with MN is required, including the addition/modification/release of SCG SCell and PSCell change (e.g. when the security key does not need to be changed and the MN does not need to be involved in PDCP recovery). The SN may initiate the procedure to configure, modify or release intra-SN CPC configuration within the same SN. Figure 10.3.1-3 shows an example signalling flow for SN initiated SN modification procedure, without MN involvement. The SN can decide whether the Random Access procedure is required.

1. The SN sends the *RRCReconfiguration* message to the UE through SRB3. The UE applies the new configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

2. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN.

3. The UE replies with the *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message.

**SN initiated Conditional SN Modification without MN involvement (SRB3 is used)**



Figure 10.3.1-3a: SN Modification - SN-initiated without MN involvement and SRB3 is used to configure intra-SN CPC.

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is used to configure intra-SN CPC.

1. The SN sends the *RRCReconfiguration* message including CPC configuration to the UE through SRB3.

2. The UE applies the new configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure. The UE starts evaluating the CPC execution conditions for the candidate PSCell(s). The UE maintains connection with the source PSCell and replies with the *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the SN via SRB3.

3. If at least one CPC candidate PSCell satisfies the corresponding CPC execution condition, the UE detaches from the source PSCell, applies the stored configuration corresponding to the selected candidate PSCell and synchronises to the candidate PSCell.

4. The UE completes the CPC execution procedure by sending an *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the new PSCell.

**Transfer of an NR RRC message to/from the UE (when SRB3 is not used)**



Figure 10.3.1-4: Transfer of an NR RRC message to/from the UE

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is not used.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SgNB Modification Required* to the MN.

2. The MN forwards the NR RRC message to the UE in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message.

3. The UE applies the new configuration and replies with the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the NR RRC message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

4. The MN forwards the NR RRC response message, if received from the UE, to the SN in the *SgNB Modification Confirm* message.

5. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SgNB Addition procedure. Otherwise the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

**SN initiated Conditional SN Modification without MN involvement (SRB3 is not used)**



Figure 10.3.1-5: SN Modification - SN-initiated without MN involvement and SRB3 is not used to configure intra-SN CPC

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is not used to configure intra-SN CPC.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SgNB Modification Required* to the MN including the SN RRC reconfiguration message with CPC configuration.

2. The MN forwards the SN RRC reconfiguration message to the UE including it in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message.

3. The UE replies with the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message by including the SN RRC reconfiguration complete message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the SN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure. The UE maintains connection with source PSCell after receiving CPC configuration, and starts evaluating the CPC execution conditions for the candidate PSCell(s).

4. The MN forwards the SN RRC response message, if received from the UE, to the SN by including it in the *SgNB Modification Confirm* message.

5. If at least one CPC candidate PSCell satisfies the corresponding CPC execution condition, the UE completes the CPC execution procedure by an *ULInformationTransferMRDC* message to the MN which includes an embedded *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the selected target PSCell.

6. The *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message is forwarded to the SN embedded in *RRC Transfer* message.

7. The UE detaches from the source PSCell, applies the stored corresponding configuration and synchronises to the selected candidate PSCell.

### 10.3.2 MR-DC with 5GC

The SN Modification procedure may be initiated either by the MN or by the SN and be used to modify the current user plane resource configuration (e.g. related to PDU session, QoS flow or DRB) or to modify other properties of the UE context within the same SN. It may also be used to transfer an RRC message from the SN to the UE via the MN and the response from the UE via MN to the SN (e.g. when SRB3 is not used). In NGEN-DC and NR-DC, the RRC message is an NR message (i.e., *RRCReconfiguration*) whereas in NE-DC it is an E-UTRA message (i.e., *RRCConnectionReconfiguration*). In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure is used to modify CPA or inter-SN CPC configuration within the same candidate SN. In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure may also be triggered by the candidate SN to add some prepared PSCells from the suggested list or cancel part of the prepared PSCells. In case of intra-SN CPC, this procedure is used to configure, modify or release intra-SN CPC configuration. This procedure may be initiated by the MN or SN to request the SN or MN to activate or deactivate the SCG.

The SN modification procedure does not necessarily need to involve signalling towards the UE.

**MN initiated SN Modification**



Figure 10.3.2-1: SN Modification procedure - MN initiated

The MN uses the procedure to initiate configuration changes of the SCG within the same SN, including addition, modification or release of the user plane resource configuration. The MN uses this procedure to perform handover within the same MN while keeping the SN, when the SN needs to be involved (i.e. in NGEN-DC). The MN also uses the procedure to query the current SCG configuration, e.g. when delta configuration is applied in an MN initiated SN change. The MN also uses the procedure to provide the S-RLF related information to the SN or to provide additional available DRB IDs to be used for SN terminated bearers. The MN also uses this procedure to activate or deactivate the SCG. The MN may not use the procedure to initiate the addition, modification or release of SCG SCells. The SN may reject the request, except if it concerns the release of the user plane resource configuration, or if it is used to perform handover within the same MN while keeping the SN. Figure 10.3.2-1 shows an example signalling flow for an MN initiated SN Modification procedure.

1. The MN sends the *SN Modification Request* message, which may contain user plane resource configuration related or other UE context related information, PDU session level Network Slice info and the requested SCG configuration information, including the UE capabilities coordination result to be used as basis for the reconfiguration by the SN. In case a security key update in the SN is required, a new *SN Security Key* is included. In case the PDCP data recovery in the SN is required, the *PDCP Change* *Indication* is included which indicates that PDCP data recovery is required in SN.

2. The SN responds with the *SN Modification Request Acknowledge* message, which may contain new SCG radio configuration information within an SN RRC reconfiguration message*,* and data forwarding address information (if applicable). If the MN requested the SCG to be activated or deactivated, the SN indicates whether the SCG is activated or deactivated.

NOTE 1: For MN terminated bearers to be setup for which PDCP duplication with CA is configured in NR SCG side, the MN allocates up to 4 separate Xn-U bearers and the SN provides a logical channel ID for primary or split secondary path to the MN.

For SN terminated bearers to be setup for which PDCP duplication with CA is configured in NR MCG side, the SN allocates up to 4 separate Xn-U bearers and the MN provides a logical channel ID for primary or split secondary path to the SN via an additional MN-initiated SN modification procedure.

2a. When applicable, the MN provides data forwarding address information to the SN. For SN terminated bearers using MCG resources, the MN provides Xn-U DL TNL address information in the *Xn-U Address Indication* message.

3/4. The MN initiates the RRC reconfiguration procedure, including an SN RRC reconfiguration message. The UE applies the new configuration, synchronizes to the MN (if instructed, in case of intra-MN handover) and replies with MN RRC reconfiguration complete message,including an SN RRC response message, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

5. Upon successful completion of the reconfiguration, the success of the procedure is indicated in the *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message.

6. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SN addition procedure. Otherwise, the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

7. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, and when RRC full configuration is not used, the SN Status Transfer takes place between the MN and the SN (Figure 10.3.2-1 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the MN to the SN).

8. If applicable, data forwarding between MN and the SN takes place (Figure 10.3.2-1 depicts the case where a user plane resource configuration related context is transferred from the MN to the SN).

9. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 2: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

10. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is performed.

**SN initiated SN Modification with MN involvement**



Figure 10.3.2-2: SN Modification procedure - SN initiated with MN involvement

The SN uses the procedure to perform configuration changes of the SCG within the same SN, e.g. to trigger the modification/release of the user plane resource configuration, to trigger the release of SCG resources (e.g., release SCG lower layer resources but keep SN), and to trigger PSCell changes (e.g. when a new security key is required or when the MN needs to perform PDCP data recovery). The MN cannot reject the release request of PDU session/QoS flows and the release request of SCG resources. The SN also uses the procedure to request the MN to provide more DRB IDs to be used for SN terminated bearers or to return DRB IDs used for SN terminated bearers that are not needed any longer. The SN also uses this procedure to activate or deactivate the SCG. Figure 10.3.2-2 shows an example signalling flow for SN initiated SN Modification procedure.

1. The SN sends the *SN Modification Required* message including an SN RRC reconfiguration message, which may contain user plane resource configuration related context, other UE context related information and the new radio resource configuration of SCG. The SN may request the SCG to be activated or deactivated. In case of change of security key, the *PDCP Change* *Indication* indicates that an SN security key update is required. In case the MN needs to perform PDCP data recovery, the *PDCP Change* *Indication* indicates that PDCP data recovery is required.

The SN can decide whether the change of security key is required.

NOTE 3a: In case that either CHO or any conditional reconfiguration is prepared, and if a prepared SN initiated intra-SN CPC procedure or reconfiguration with sync of the SCG using SRB3 is executed, the SN shall notify to the MN via the SN Modification Required message. The SN Modification Required message may include the SCG configuration that has been applied in the UE. The MN considers that a conditional reconfiguration, if any configured in the UE, has been released due to the execution of the (conditional) SCG reconfiguration.

2/3. The MN initiated SN Modification procedure may be triggered by *SN Modification Required* message, e.g. when an SN security key change needs to be applied.

NOTE 3: For SN terminated bearers to be setup for which PDCP duplication with CA is configured in NR MCG side, the SN allocates up to 4 separate Xn-U bearers and the MN provides a logical channel ID for primary or split secondary path to the SN via the nested MN-initiated SN modification procedure.

4. The MN sends the MN RRC reconfiguration message to the UE including the SN RRC reconfiguration message with the new SCG radio resource configuration.

5. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the MN RRC reconfiguration complete message, including an SN RRC response message, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. Upon successful completion of the reconfiguration, the success of the procedure is indicated in the *SN Modification Confirm* message including the SN RRC response message, if received from the UE.

7. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell configured by the SN as described in SN Addition procedure. Otherwise, the UE may perform UL transmission directly after having applied the new configuration.

8. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, and when RRC full configuration is not used, the SN Status Transfer takes place between the MN and the SN (Figure 10.3.2-2 depicts the case where a bearer context is transferred from the SN to the MN).

9. If applicable, data forwarding between MN and the SN takes place (Figure 10.3.2-2 depicts the case where a user plane resource configuration related context is transferred from the SN to the MN).

10. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 4: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

11. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is performed.

**SN initiated SN Modification without MN involvement**

This procedure is not supported for NE-DC.



Figure 10.3.2-3: SN Modification – SN initiated without MN involvement

The SN initiated SN modification procedure without MN involvement is used to modify the configuration within SN in case no coordination with MN is required, including the addition/modification/release of SCG SCell and PSCell change (e.g. when the security key does not need to be changed and the MN does not need to be involved in PDCP recovery). The SN may initiate the procedure to configure, modify or release intra-SN CPC configuration within the same SN. Figure 10.3.2-3 shows an example signalling flow for SN initiated SN modification procedure without MN involvement. The SN can decide whether the Random Access procedure is required.

1. The SN sends the SN RRC reconfiguration message to the UE through SRB3.

2. The UE applies the new configuration and replies with the SN RRC reconfiguration complete message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the SN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

3. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SN Addition procedure. Otherwise the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

**SN initiated Conditional SN Modification without MN involvement (SRB3 is used)**

This procedure is not supported for NE-DC and NGEN-DC.



Figure 10.3.2-3a: SN Modification – SN-initiated without MN involvement and SRB3 is used to configure intra-SN CPC.

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is used to configure intra-SN CPC.

1. The SN sends the SN RRC reconfiguration including CPC configuration to the UE through SRB3.

2. The UE applies the new configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the SN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure. The UE starts evaluating the CPC execution conditions for the candidate PSCell(s). The UE maintains connection with the source PSCell and replies with the *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the SN via SRB3.

3. If at least one CPC candidate PSCell satisfies the corresponding CPC execution condition, the UE detaches from the source PSCell, applies the stored configuration corresponding to the selected candidate PSCell and synchronises to the candidate PSCell.

4. The UE completes the CPC execution procedure by sending an *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the new PSCell.

**Transfer of an NR RRC message to/from the UE (when SRB3 is not used)**

This procedure is supported for all the MR-DC options.



Figure 10.3.2-4: Transfer of an NR RRC message to/from the UE

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is not used.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SN Modification Required* to the MN including the SN RRC reconfiguration message.

2. The MN forwards the SN RRC reconfiguration message to the UE including it in the RRC reconfigurationmessage.

3. The UE applies the new configuration and replies with the RRC reconfiguration complete message by including the SN RRC reconfiguration complete message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the SN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

4. The MN forwards the SN RRC response message, if received from the UE, to the SN by including it in the *SN Modification Confirm* message.

5. If instructed, the UE performs synchronisation towards the PSCell of the SN as described in SN Addition procedure. Otherwise the UE may perform UL transmission after having applied the new configuration.

**SN initiated Conditional SN Modification without MN involvement (SRB3 is not used)**

This procedure is not supported for NE-DC and NGEN-DC.



Figure 10.3.2-5: SN Modification – SN-initiated without MN involvement and SRB3 is not used to configure intra-SN CPC

The SN initiates the procedure when it needs to transfer an NR RRC message to the UE and SRB3 is not used to configure intra-SN CPC.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SN Modification Required* to the MN including the SN RRC reconfiguration message with CPC configuration.

2. The MN forwards the SN RRC reconfiguration message to the UE including it in the *RRCReconfiguration* message.

3. The UE replies with the *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message by including the SN RRC reconfiguration complete message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the SN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure. The UE maintains connection with source PSCell after receiving CPC configuration, and starts evaluating the CPC execution conditions for the candidate PSCell(s).

4. The MN forwards the SN RRC response message, if received from the UE, to the SN by including it in the *SN Modification Confirm* message.

5. If at least one CPC candidate PSCell satisfies the corresponding CPC execution condition, the UE completes the CPC execution procedure by an *ULInformationTransferMRDC* message to the MN which includes an embedded *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message to the selected target PSCell.

6. The *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message is forwarded to the SN embedded in *RRC Transfer* message.

7. The UE detaches from the source PSCell, applies the stored corresponding configuration and synchronises to the selected candidate PSCell.

## 10.4 Secondary Node Release (MN/SN initiated)

### 10.4.1 EN-DC

The Secondary Node Release procedure may be initiated either by the MN or by the SN and is used to initiate the release of the UE context at the SN. The recipient node of this request can reject it, e.g., if a SN change procedure is triggered by the SN.

In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure may be initiated either by the MN or the candidate SN, and it is used to cancel all the prepared PSCells at the candidate SN and initiate the release of related UE context at the candidate SN.

It does not necessarily need to involve signalling towards the UE, e.g., in case of the RRC connection re-establishment due to Radio Link Failure in MN.

**MN initiated SN Release**



Figure 10.4.1-1: SN Release procedure – MN initiated

Figure 10.4.1-1 shows an example signalling flow for the MN initiated Secondary Node Release procedure when SN Release is confirmed by SN.

1. The MN initiates the procedure by sending the *SgNB Release Request* message. If applicable, the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the SN.

2. The SN confirms SN Release by sending the *SgNB Release Request Acknowledge* message. If appropriate, the SN may reject SN Release, e.g. if the SN change procedure is triggered by the SN.

NOTE 0: If CPA or inter-SN CPC is configured, upon reception of the *SgNB Release Request Acknowledge* message the MN cancels all CPAC with the target candidate SN(s).

3/4. If required, the MN indicates in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message towards the UE that the UE shall release the entire SCG configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

NOTE 1: If data forwarding is applied, timely coordination between steps 1 and 2 may minimize gaps in service provision, this is however regarded to be an implementation matter.

5. For bearers using RLC AM, the SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message.

6. Data forwarding from the SN to the MN may start.

7. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 2: If data forwarding is applied, the order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and starts data forwarding with MN is not defined i.e., step 7 can take place before step 6. The SN does not need to wait for the end of data forwarding to send the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message.

8. If applicable, the path update procedure is initiated.

9. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**SN initiated SN Release**



Figure 10.4.1-2: SN Release procedure – SN initiated

Figure 10.4.1-2 shows an example signalling flow for the SN initiated Secondary Node Release procedure.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SgNB Release Required* message which may contain inter-node message to support delta configuration.

2. If applicable, the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the SN in the *SgNB Release Confirm* message. The SN may start data forwarding and stop providing user data to the UE as early as it receives the *SgNB Release Confirm* message.

NOTE 2a: If CPA or inter-SN CPC is configured, upon reception of the *SgNB Release Required* message the MN cancels all CPAC with the target candidate SN(s).

3/4. If required, the MN indicates in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message towards the UE that the UE shall release the entire SCG configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

NOTE 3: If data forwarding is applied, timely coordination between steps 2 and 3 may minimize gaps in service provision. This is however regarded to be an implementation matter.

5. For bearers using RLC AM, the SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message.

6. Data forwarding from the SN to the MN may start.

7. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 4: If data forwarding is applied, the order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and starts data forwarding with MN is not defined i.e., step 7 can take place before step 6. The SN does not need to wait for the end of data forwarding to send the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message.

8. If applicable, the path update procedure is initiated.

9. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

### 10.4.2 MR-DC with 5GC

The SN Release procedure may be initiated either by the MN or by the SN and is used to initiate the release of the UE context and relevant resources at the SN. The recipient node of this request can reject it, e.g., if an SN change procedure is triggered by the SN.

In case of CPA or inter-SN CPC, this procedure may be initiated either by the MN or the candidate SN, and it is used to cancel all the prepared PSCells at the candidate SN and initiate the release of related UE context at the candidate SN.

**MN initiated SN Release**



Figure 10.4.2-1: SN release procedure - MN initiated

Figure 10.4.2-1 shows an example signalling flow for the MN initiated SN Release procedure.

1. The MN initiates the procedure by sending the *SN Release Request* message.

2. The SN confirms SN Release by sending the *SN Release Request Acknowledge* message. If appropriate, the SN may reject SN Release, e.g., if the SN change procedure is triggered by the SN.

NOTE 00: If CPA or inter-SN CPC is configured, upon reception of the *SN Release Request Acknowledge* message the MN cancels all CPAC with the target candidate SN(s).

2a. When applicable, the MN provides forwarding address information to the SN.

NOTE 0: The MN may send the *Xn-U Address Indication* message to provide forwarding address information before step 2.

3/4. If required, the MN indicates in the MN RRC reconfiguration message towards the UE that the UE shall release the entire SCG configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

NOTE 1: If data forwarding is applied, timely coordination between steps 1 and 2 may minimize gaps in service provision, this is however regarded to be an implementation matter.

5. If PDCP termination point is changed to the MN for bearers using RLC AM, the SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message.

6. Data forwarding from the SN to the MN may start.

7. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 1a: If data forwarding is applied, the order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and starts data forwarding with MN is not defined i.e., step 7 can take place before step 6. The SN does not need to wait for the end of data forwarding to send the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message.

8. If applicable, the PDU Session path update procedure is initiated.

9. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**SN initiated SN Release**



Figure 10.4.2-2: SN release procedure - SN initiated

Figure 10.4.2-2 shows an example signalling flow for the SN initiated SN Release procedure.

1. The SN initiates the procedure by sending the *SN Release Required* message which may contain inter-node message to support delta configuration.

2. If data forwarding is requested, the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the SN in the *SN Release Confirm* message. The SN may start data forwarding and stop providing user data to the UE as early as it receives the *SN Release Confirm* message.

NOTE 1b: If CPA or inter-SN CPC is configured, upon reception of the *SN Release Required* message the MN cancels all CPAC with the target candidate SN(s).

3/4. If required, the MN indicates in the MN RRC reconfiguration message towards the UE that the UE shall release the entire SCG configuration. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

NOTE 2: If data forwarding is applied, timely coordination between steps 2 and 3 may minimize gaps in service provision. This is however regarded to be an implementation matter.

5. If PDCP termination point is changed to the MN for bearers using RLC AM, the SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message.

6. Data forwarding from the SN to the MN may start.

7. The SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 3: If data forwarding is applied, the order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and starts data forwarding with MN is not defined i.e., step 7 can take place before step 6. The SN does not need to wait for the end of data forwarding to send the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message.

8. If applicable, the PDU Session path update procedure is initiated.

9. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

## 10.5 Secondary Node Change (MN/SN initiated)

### 10.5.1 EN-DC

The Secondary Node Change procedure is initiated either by MN or SN and used to transfer a UE context from a source SN to a target SN and to change the SCG configuration in UE from one SN to another. In case of inter-SN CPC, the Conditional Secondary Node Change procedure initiated either by the MN or SN is also used for inter-SN CPC configuration and inter-SN CPC execution.

NOTE 1: Inter-RAT SN change procedure with single RRC reconfiguration is not supported in this version of the protocol (i.e. no transition from EN-DC to DC).

The Secondary Node Change procedure always involves signalling over MCG SRB towards the UE.

**MN initiated SN Change**



Figure 10.5.1-1: SN Change – MN initiated

Figure 10.5.1-1 shows an example signalling flow for the MN initiated Secondary Node Change:

1/2. The MN initiates the SN change by requesting the target SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SgNB Addition procedure. The MN may include measurement results related to the target SN. If forwarding is needed, the target SN provides forwarding addresses to the MN. The target SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration.

NOTE 2: The MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration before step 1.

NOTE 2a: In case the target SN includes the indication of the full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE.

3. If the allocation of target SN resources was successful, the MN initiates the release of the source SN resources including a Cause indicating SCG mobility. The Source SN may reject the release. If data forwarding is needed the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the source SN. If direct data forwarding is used for SN terminated bearers, the MN provides data forwarding addresses as received from the target SN to source SN. Reception of the *SgNB Release Request* message triggers the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE and, if applicable, to start data forwarding.

4/5. The MN triggers the UE to apply the new configuration. The MN indicates to the UE the new configuration in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message including the NR RRC configuration message generated by the target SN. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message, including the encoded NR RRC response message for the target SN, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the target SN via *SgNBReconfigurationComplete* message with the encoded NR RRC response message for the target SN, if received from the UE.

7. If configured with bearers requiring SCG radio resources, the UE synchronizes to the target SN.

8. For SN terminated bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the target SN, if needed.

9. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the *SgNB Release Request* message from the MN.

10. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 3: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

11-15. If applicable, a path update is triggered by the MN.

16. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**SN initiated SN Change**



Figure 10.5.1-2: SN Change – SN initiated

Figure 10.5.1-2 shows an example signalling flow for the Secondary Node Change initiated by the SN:

1. The source SN initiates the SN change procedure by sending *SgNB Change Required* message which contains target SN ID information and may include the SCG configuration (to support delta configuration) and measurement results related to the target SN.

2/3. The MN requests the target SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SgNB Addition procedure, including the measurement results related to the target SN received from the source SN. If forwarding is needed, the target SN provides forwarding addresses to the MN. The target SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration.

NOTE 3a: In case the target SN includes the indication of the full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE.

4/5. The MN triggers the UE to apply the new configuration. The MN indicates the new configuration to the UE in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message including the NR RRC configuration message generated by the target SN. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message, including the encoded NR RRC response message for the target SN, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. If the allocation of target SN resources was successful, the MN confirms the release of the source SN resources. If data forwarding is needed the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the source SN. If direct data forwarding is used for SN terminated bearers, the MN provides data forwarding addresses as received from the target SN to source SN. Reception of the *SgNB Change Confirm* message triggers the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE and, if applicable, to start data forwarding.

7. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the target SN via *SgNB Reconfiguration Complete* message with the encoded NR RRC response message for the target SN, if received from the UE.

8. The UE synchronizes to the target SN.

9. For SN terminated bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the target SN, if needed.

10. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the *SgNB Change Confirm* message from the MN.

11. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 4: The order the source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SgNB may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

12-16. If applicable, a path update is triggered by the MN.

17. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**MN initiated conditional SN Change**

The MN initiated conditional inter-SN change procedure is used for inter-SN CPC configuration and inter-SN CPC execution.



Figure 10.5.1-3: Conditional SN Change – MN initiated

Figure 10.5.1-3 shows an example signalling flow for the MN initiated Conditional Secondary Node Change:

1/2. The MN initiates the conditional SN change by requesting the candidate SN(s) to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SgNB Addition procedure, indicating that the request is for CPAC. The MN also provides the candidate cells recommended by MN via the latest measurement results for the candidate SN(s) to choose and configure the SCG cell(s), and provides the upper limit for the number of PSCells that can be prepared by the candidate SN. From the measurement results indicated by the MN, the candidate SN decides the list of PSCell(s) to prepare (considering the maximum number indicated by the MN) and, for each prepared PSCell, the candidate SN decides other SCG SCells and provides the new corresponding SCG radio resource configuration to the MN in an NR *RRCReconfiguration\*\** message contained in the *SgNB Addition Request Acknowledge* message with the prepared PSCell ID(s). If forwarding is needed, the candidate SN provides forwarding addresses to the MN. The candidate SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration. The candidate SN can either accept or reject each of the candidate cells listed within the measurement results indicated by the MN, i.e. it cannot configure any alternative candidates.

NOTE 5: The MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration before step 1.

NOTE 5a: In case the candidate SN includes the indication of the full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE in the conditional configuration.

3. The MN sends to the UE an *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* messageincluding the CPC configuration, i.e. a list of *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** message contains the SCG configuration in the *RRCReconfiguration\*\** messagereceived from the candidate SN in step 2 and possibly an MCG configuration. Besides, the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message can also include an updated MCG configuration, e.g., to configure the required conditional measurements.

4. The UE applies the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message received in step 3, stores the CPC configurationand replies to the MN with an *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

4a. Upon receiving the *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message from the UE, the MN triggers the Data Forwarding Address Indication procedure to the source SN to inform that the CPC has been configured, the source SN, if applicable, together with the Early Status Transfer procedure, starts early data forwarding. The PDCP SDU forwarding may take place during early data forwarding.

NOTE 5b: Separate Data Forwarding Address Indication procedures may be invoked to provide different forwarding addresses of the prepared candidate target SNs. In this case, it is up to the MN and the source SN implementations to make sure that the EARLY STATUS TRANSFER message(s) from the source SN, if any, is forwarded to the right target destination. The Data Forwarding Address Indication procedure may further be invoked to indicate to the source SN to stop already initiated early data forwarding for some SN-terminated bearers if they are no longer subject to data forwarding due to the modification or cancellation of the prepared conditional SN change procedures.

5. The UE starts evaluating the execution conditions. If the execution conditionof one candidate PSCell is satisfied, the UE applies *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** messagecorresponding to the selected candidate PSCell, and sends an *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete\** message, including an NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message for the selected candidate PSCell, and information enabling the MN to identify the SN of the selected candidate PSCell.

6a-6b. The MN triggers the MeNB initiated SgNB Release procedure to inform the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE, and, if applicable, the address of the SN of the selected candidate PSCell to start data forwarding.

7a-7c. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the SN of the selected candidate PSCell via *SgNB Reconfiguration Complete* message, including the SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message. The MN sends the *SgNB Release Request* message(s) to cancel CPC in the other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

8. The UE synchronizes to the PSCell indicated in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** message applied in step 5.

9a-9b. For SN terminated bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends to the SN of the selected candidate PSCell, if needed.

10. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the early data forwarding address in step 4a.

11. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 6: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

12-16. If applicable, a path update is triggered by the MN.

17. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**SN initiated conditional SN Change**

The SN initiated conditional SN change procedure is used for inter-SN CPC configuration and inter-SN CPC execution.

The SN initiated conditional SN change procedure may also be initiated by the source SN, to modify the existing SN initiated inter-SN CPC configuration, or to trigger the release of the candidate SN by cancellation of all the prepared PSCells at the candidate SN and releasing the CPC related UE context at the candidate SN.

NOTE X: To modify or release an existing intra-SN CPC configuration, the source SN triggers an SN initiated Conditional SN Modification (with or without SRB3) without MN involvement, as specified in 10.3.



Figure 10.5.1-4: Conditional SN Change – SN initiated

Figure 10.5.1-4 shows an example signalling flow for the Conditional Secondary Node Change initiated by the SN:

1. The source SN initiates the conditional SN change procedure by sending *SgNB Change Required* message which contains a CPC initiation indication. The message also contains candidate SN ID(s) information and may include the SCG configuration (to support delta configuration), and contains the measurement results related to the candidate SN(s). The message also includes a list of proposed PSCell candidates recommended by the source SN, including execution conditions, the upper limit for the number of PSCells that can be prepared by each candidate SN, and may also include the SCG measurement configurations for CPC (e.g. measurement ID(s) to be used for CPC).

2/3. The MN requests each candidate SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SgNB Addition procedure(s) , indicating the request is for CPAC, and the measurements results related to the candidate SN and indicating a list of proposed PSCell candidates received from the source SN, but not including execution conditions. Within the list of PSCells suggested by the source SN, the candidate SN decides the list of PSCell(s) to prepare (considering the maximum number indicated by the MN) and, for each prepared PSCell, the candidate SN decides SCG SCells and provides the new corresponding SCG radio resource configuration to the MN in an NR *RRCReconfiguration\*\** message contained in the *SgNB Addition Request Acknowledge* message. If data forwarding is needed, the candidate SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The candidate SN includes the indication of full or delta RRC configuration, and the list of prepared PSCell IDs to the MN. The candidate SN can either accept or reject each of the candidate cells suggested by the source SN, i.e. it cannot configure any alternative candidates.

NOTE 6a: In case the candidate SN includes the indication of the full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE in the conditional configuration.

4/5. The MN may indicate the candidate PSCells accepted by each candidate SN to the source SN via *SgNB Modification Request* message before it configures the UE e.g., when not all candidate PSCells were accepted by the candidate SN(s). If the MN does not send such indication, step 4 and 5 are skipped. If requested,the source SN sends an *SgNB Modification Request Acknowledge* message and if needed, provides an updated measurement configurations and/or the execution conditions for CPC to the MN.

6. The MN sends to the UE an *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* messageincluding the CPC configuration, i.e. a list of *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** messagecontains the SCG configuration in the *RRCReconfiguration\*\** messagereceived from the candidate SN in step 3 and possibly an MCG configuration. Besides, the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message can also include an updated MCG configuration, as well as the NR *RRCReconfiguration\*\**\* message generated by the source SN, e.g., to configure the required conditional measurements.

7. The UE applies the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message received in step 6, stores the CPC configurationand replies to the MN with an *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message, which can include an NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\**\* message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

8. If an NR RRC response message is included, the MN informs the source SN with the NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\**\* message via *SgNB Change Confirm* message. If step 4 and 5 are skipped, the MN will indicate the candidate PSCells accepted by each candidate SN to the source SN in the *SgNB Change Confirm* message.

The MN sends the *SgNB Change Confirm* message towards the source SN to indicate that CPC is prepared, and in such case the source SN continues providing user data to the UE. If early data forwarding is applied, the MN informs the source SN the data forwarding addresses as received from the candidate SN(s), the source SN, if applicable, together with the Early Status Transfer procedure, starts early data forwarding. The PDCP SDU forwarding may take place during early data forwarding. In case multiple candidate SNs are prepared, the MN includes a list of Target SgNB ID and list of data forwarding addresses to the source SN.

NOTE 6b: The Data Forwarding Address Indication procedure may further be invoked to indicate to the source SN to stop already initiated early data forwarding for some PDCP SDUs if they are no longer subject to data forwarding due to the modification or cancellation of the prepared conditional PSCell change.

9a-9d. The source SN may send the *SgNB Modification Required* message to trigger an update of CPC execution condition and/or corresponding SCG measurement configuration for CPC. In such case in step 9b, the MN reconfigures the UE and in step 9c the UE responds with *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete*, similarly as in steps 6 and 7.

10. The UE starts evaluating the execution conditions. If the execution conditionof one candidate PSCell is satisfied, the UE applies the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** message corresponding to the selected candidate PSCell, and sends an *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete\** message, including the NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message for the selected candidate PSCell, and information enabling the MN to identify the SN of the selected candidate PSCell.

11a-11b. The MN triggers the MeNB initiated SgNB Release procedure to inform source SN to stop providing user data to the UE, and provide the address of the SN of the selected candidate PSCell and if applicable, start late data forwarding.

12a-12c. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the SN of the selected candidate PSCell via *SgNB Reconfiguration Complete* message, including the SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message. The MN sends the *SgNB Release Request* message(s) to cancel CPC in the other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

13. The UE synchronizes to the PSCell indicated in the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** message applied in step 10.

14a-14b. For SN terminated bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the SN of the selected candidate PSCell, if needed.

15. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the early data forwarding message from the MN.

16. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 7: The order the source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SgNB may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

17-21. If applicable, a path update is triggered by the MN.

22. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

### 10.5.2 MR-DC with 5GC

**MN initiated SN Change**

The MN initiated SN change procedure is used to transfer a UE context from the source SN to a target SN and to change the SCG configuration in UE from one SN to another.

The Secondary Node Change procedure always involves signalling over MCG SRB towards the UE.



Figure 10.5.2-1: SN change procedure - MN initiated

Figure 10.5.2-1 shows an example signalling flow for the SN Change initiated by the MN:

1/2. The MN initiates the SN change by requesting the target SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SN Addition procedure. The MN may include measurement results related to the target SN. If data forwarding is needed, the target SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The target SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration.

NOTE 1: The MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration and to allow provision of data forwarding related information before step 1.

2a. For SN terminated bearers using MCG resources, the MN provides Xn-U DL TNL address information in the *Xn-U Address Indication* message.

3. If the allocation of target SN resources was successful, the MN initiates the release of the source SN resources including a Cause indicating SCG mobility. The Source SN may reject the release. If data forwarding is needed the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the source SN. If direct data forwarding is used for SN terminated bearers, the MN provides data forwarding addresses as received from the target SN to source SN. Reception of the *SN Release Request* message triggers the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE.

4/5. The MNtriggers the UE to apply the new configuration. The MN indicates the new configuration to the UE in the MN RRC reconfiguration message including the target SN RRC reconfiguration message. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the MN RRC reconfiguration complete message, including the SN RRC response message for the target SN, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the target SN via *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message with the included SN RRC response message for the target SN, if received from the UE.

7. If configured with bearers requiring SCG radio resources the UE synchronizes to the target SN.

8. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the target SN, if needed.

9. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the *SN Release Request* message from the MN.

10. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 2: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

11-15. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is triggered by the MN.

16. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue

**SN initiated SN Change**

The SN initiated SN change procedure is used to transfer a UE context from the source SN to a target SN and to change the SCG configuration in UE from one SN to another.



Figure 10.5.2-2: SN change procedure - SN initiated

Figure 10.5.2-2 shows an example signalling flow for the SN Change initiated by the SN:

1. The source SN initiates the SN change procedure by sending the *SN Change Required* message, which contains a candidate target node ID and may include the SCG configuration (to support delta configuration) and measurement results related to the target SN.

2/3. The MN requests the target SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SN Addition procedure, including the measurement results related to the target SN received from the source SN. If data forwarding is needed, the target SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The target SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration.

3a. For SN terminated bearers using MCG resources, the MN provides Xn-U DL TNL address information in the *Xn-U Address Indication* message.

4/5. The MN triggers the UE to apply the new configuration. The MN indicates the new configuration to the UE in the MN RRC reconfiguration message including the SN RRC reconfiguration message generated by the target SN. The UE applies the new configuration and sends the MN RRC reconfiguration complete message, including the SN RRC response message for the target SN, if needed. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the MN RRC reconfiguration message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

6. If the allocation of target SN resources was successful, the MN confirms the change of the source SN. If data forwarding is needed the MN provides data forwarding addresses to the source SN. If direct data forwarding is used for SN terminated bearers, the MN provides data forwarding addresses as received from the target SN to source SN. Reception of the *SN Change Confirm* message triggers the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE and, if applicable, to start data forwarding.

7. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the target SN via *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message with the included SN RRC response message for the target SN, if received from the UE.

8. The UE synchronizes to the target SN.

9. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the target SN, if needed.

10. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the *SN Change Confirm* message from the MN.

11. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 3: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

12-16. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is triggered by the MN.

17. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**MN initiated conditional SN Change**

The Conditional Secondary Node Change procedure is initiated by the MN for inter-SN CPC configuration and inter-SN CPC execution.



Figure 10.5.2-3: Conditional SN change procedure - MN initiated

Figure 10.5.2-3 shows an example signalling flow for the conditional SN Change initiated by the MN:

1/2. The MN initiates the conditional SN change by requesting the candidate SN(s) to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SN Addition procedure, indicating that the request is for CPAC. The MN also provides the candidate cells recommended by MN via the latest measurement results for the candidate SN(s) to choose and configure the SCG cell(s), provides the upper limit for the number of PSCells that can be prepared by the candidate SN. Within the list of cells as indicated within the measurement results indicated by the MN, the candidate SN decides the list of PSCell(s) to prepare (considering the maximum number indicated by the MN) and, for each prepared PSCell, the candidate SN decides other SCG SCells and provides the new corresponding SCG radio resource configuration to the MN in an NR *RRCReconfiguration*\*\* message contained in the *SN Addition Request Acknowledge* message with the prepared PSCell ID(s). If data forwarding is needed, the candidate SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The candidate SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration. The candidate SN can either accept or reject each of the candidate cells listed within the measurement results indicated by the MN, i.e. it cannot configure any alternative candidates.

NOTE 4: The MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration and to allow provision of data forwarding related information before step 1.

3. The MN sends to the UE an *RRCReconfiguration* message including the CPC configuration, i.e. a list of *RRCReconfiguration\** messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each *RRCReconfiguration\** messagecontains the SCG configuration in the *RRCReconfiguration\*\** messagereceived from the candidate SN in step 2 and possibly an MCG configuration. Besides, the *RRCReconfiguration* message can also include an updated MCG configuration, e.g., to configure the required conditional measurements.

4. The UE applies the *RRCReconfiguration* message received in step 3, stores the CPC configurationand replies to the MN with an *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

4a. Upon receiving the MN *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message from the UE, the MN informs the source SN that the CPC has been configured via Xn-U Address Indication procedure, the source SN, if applicable, together with the Early Status Transfer procedure, starts early data forwarding. The PDCP SDU forwarding may take place during early data forwarding.

NOTE 4a: Separate Xn-U Address Indication procedures may be invoked to provide different forwarding addresses of the prepared candidate target SNs. In this case, it is up to the MN and the source SN implementations to make sure that the EARLY STATUS TRANSFER message(s) from the source SN, if any, is forwarded to the right target destination. The Xn-U Address Indication procedure may further be invoked to indicate to the source SN to stop already initiated early data forwarding for some SN-terminated bearers if they are no longer subject to data forwarding due to the modification or cancellation of the prepared conditional SN change procedures.

5. The UE starts evaluating the execution conditions. If the execution conditionof one candidate PSCell is satisfied, the UE applies *RRCReconfiguration\** message corresponding to the selected candidate PSCell, and sends an MN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\** message, including an NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete*\*\* message for the selected candidate PSCell, and information enabling the MN to identify the SN of the selected candidate PSCell.

6a-6c. The MN triggers the MN initiated SN Release procedure to inform the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE, and if applicable, triggers the Xn-U Address Indication procedure to inform the source SN the address of the SN of the selected candidate PSCell, to start late data forwarding.

7a-7c. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the SN of the selected candidate PSCell via *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message, including the SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message. The MN sends the *SN Release Request* message(s) to cancel CPC in the other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

8. The UE synchronizes to the PSCell indicated in the *RRCReconfiguration\** message applied in step 5.

9a-9b. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the message, which the MN sends then to the SN of the selected candidate PSCell, if needed.

10. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the early data forwarding address in step 4a.

11. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 5: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

12-16. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is triggered by the MN.

17. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

**SN initiated conditional SN Change**

The SN initiated conditional SN change procedure is used for inter-SN CPC configuration and inter-SN CPC execution.

The SN initiated conditional SN change procedure may also be initiated by the source SN, to modify the existing SN initiated inter-SN CPC configuration, or to trigger the release of the candidate SN by cancellation of all the prepared PSCells at the candidate SN and releasing the CPC related UE context at the candidate SN.

NOTE X: To modify or release an existing intra-SN CPC configuration, the source SN triggers an SN initiated Conditional SN Modification (with or without SRB3) without MN involvement, as specified in 10.3.



Figure 10.5.2-4: Conditional SN change procedure - SN initiated

Figure 10.5.2-4 shows an example signalling flow for the conditional SN Change initiated by the SN:

1. The source SN initiates the conditional SN change procedure by sending the *SN Change Required* message, which contains a CPC initiation indication. The message also contains candidate node ID(s) and may include the SCG configuration (to support delta configuration), and contains the measurements results which may include cells that are not CPC candidates. The message also includes a list of proposed PSCell candidates recommended by the source SN, including execution conditions, the upper limit for the number of PSCells that can be prepared by each candidate SN, and may also include the SCG measurement configurations for CPC (e.g. measurement ID(s) to be used for CPC).

2/3. The MN requests each candidate SN(s) to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SN Addition procedure(s), indicating the request is for CPAC, and the measurements results which may include cells that are not CPC candidates received from the source SN to the candidate SN, and indicating a list of proposed PSCell candidates received from the source SN, but not including execution conditions. Within the list of PSCells suggested by the source SN, the candidate SN decides the list of PSCell(s) to prepare (considering the maximum number indicated by the MN) and, for each prepared PSCell, the candidate SN decides SCG SCells and provides the new corresponding SCG radio resource configuration to the MN in an NR *RRCReconfiguration\*\** message contained in the *SgNB Addition Request Acknowledge* message. If data forwarding is needed, the candidate SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The candidate SN includes the indication of full or delta RRC configuration, and the list of prepared PSCell IDs to the MN. The candidate SN can either accept or reject each of the candidate cells suggested by the source SN, i.e., it cannot configure any alternative candidates.

4/5. The MN may indicate the candidate PSCells accepted by each candidate SN to the source SN via *SN Modification Request* message before it configures the UE, e.g., when not all candidate PSCells were accepted by the candidate SN(s). If the MN does not send such indication, step 4 and 5 are skipped. If requested, the source SN sends an *SN Modification Request Acknowledge* message and if needed, provides an updated measurement configurations and/or the execution conditions to the MN.

6. The MN sends to the UE an *RRCReconfiguration* message including the CPC configuration, i.e. a list of *RRCReconfiguration\** messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each *RRCReconfiguration\** messagecontains the SCG configuration in the *RRCReconfiguration\*\** message received from the candidate SN in step 3 and possibly an MCG configuration. Besides, the *RRCReconfiguration* messagecan also include an updated MCG configuration, as well as the NR *RRCReconfiguration\*\**\* message generated by the source SN, e.g., to configure the required conditional measurements.

7. The UE applies the *RRCReconfiguration* message received in step 6, stores the CPC configurationand replies to the MN with an *RRCReconfigurationComplete* message, which can include an NR *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\*\** message. In case the UE is unable to comply with (part of) the configuration included in the *RRCReconfiguration* message, it performs the reconfiguration failure procedure.

8. If an SN RRC response message is included, the MN informs the source SN with the SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\*\** message via *SN Change Confirm* message. If step 4 and 5 are skipped, the MN will indicate the candidate PSCells accepted by each candidate SN to the source SN in the *SN Change Confirm* message.

The MN sends the *SN Change Confirm* message towards the source SN to indicate that CPC is prepared, and in such case the source SN continues providing user data to the UE. If early data forwarding is applied, the MN informs the source SN the data forwarding addresses as received from the candidate SN(s), the source SN, if applicable, together with the Early Status Transfer procedure, starts early data forwarding. The PDCP SDU forwarding may take place during early data forwarding. In case multiple candidate SNs are prepared, the MN includes a list of Target SN ID and list of data forwarding addresses to the source SN.

NOTE 5a: The Xn-U Address Indication procedure may further be invoked to indicate to the source SN to stop already initiated early data forwarding for some PDCP SDUs if they are no longer subject to data forwarding due to the modification or cancellation of the prepared conditional PSCell change.

9a-9d. The source SN may send the *SN Modification Required* message to trigger an update of CPC execution condition and/or corresponding SCG measurement configuration for CPC. In such case in step 9b, the MN reconfigures the UE and in step 9c the UE responds with *RRCReconfigurationComplete*, similarly as in steps 6 and 7.

10. The UE starts evaluating the execution conditions. If the execution conditionof one candidate PSCell is satisfied, the UE applies *RRCReconfiguration\** message corresponding to the selected candidate PSCell, and sends an *RRCReconfigurationComplete\** message, including an *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message for the selected candidate PSCell, and information enabling the MN to identify the SN of the selected candidate PSCell.

11a-11c. The MN triggers the MN initiated SN Release procedure to inform the source SN to stop providing user data to the UE, and triggers the Xn-U Address Indication procedure to inform the source SN the address of the SN of the selected candidate PSCell and if applicable, starts late data forwarding.

12a-12c. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the MN informs the SN of the selected candidate PSCell via *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message, including the SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete\*\** message. The MN sends the *SN Release Request* message(s) to cancel CPC in the other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

13. The UE synchronizes to the PSCell indicated in the *RRCReconfiguration\** message applied in step 10.

14. If PDCP termination point is changed for bearers using RLC AM, the source SN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, which the MN sends then to the SN of the selected candidate PSCell, if needed.

15. If applicable, data forwarding from the source SN takes place. It may be initiated as early as the source SN receives the data forwarding address related information from the MN.

16. The source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to the MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 6: The order the SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS flow is stopped.

17-21. If applicable, a PDU Session path update procedure is triggered by the MN.

22. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the source SN releases radio and C-plane related resources associated to the UE context. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue.

## 10.19 Conditional Handover with Secondary Node

### 10.19.1 EN-DC

The Conditional Handover with Secondary Node procedure is used for configuration and execution of CHO with SN. This procedure includes the cases where the SN is kept, changed or added. If the SN is kept, the UE context at the SN is kept. If the SN is changed, the UE context at the source SN is moved to the target SN.



Figure 10.19.1-1: Conditional Handover with Secondary Node procedure

Figure 10.19.1-1 shows an example signaling flow for Conditional Handover with Secondary Node.

NOTE 1: For a CHO without SN change, the source SN and the target SN shown in Figure 10.19.1-1 are the same node.

NOTE 2: For a CHO with SN addition, the source SN and steps involving with the source SN in Figure 10.19.1-1 are ignored.

1. The source MN starts the conditional handover procedure by initiating the X2 Handover Preparation procedure including MCG configuration and, if the UE is configured with an SCG, SCG configuration. The source MN may include the (source) SN UE X2AP ID, SN ID, the UE context in the (source) SN and the Conditional Handover Information Request IE in the *Handover Request* message.

NOTE 3: In case of the CHO with/without SN change, the source MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration, if configured, before step 1.

2. If the candidate MN decides to keep the UE context in the SN, the candidate MN sends the *SgNB Addition Request* message to the SN including the SN UE X2AP ID as a reference to the UE context in the SN that was established by the source MN. If the candidate MN decides to change the SN allowing delta configuration, the candidate MN sends the *SgNB Addition Request* message to the candidate SN including the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN. Otherwise, the candidate MN may send the *SgNB Addition Request* message to the candidate SN including neither the SN UE X2AP ID nor the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN. Within the *SgNB Addition Request* message, the candidate MN also includes the CHO related information, i.e., CHO Information SN Addition IE.

3. The (candidate) SN replies with the *SgNB Addition Request Acknowledge* message. The (candidate) SN may include the indication of full or delta RRC configuration.

NOTE 4: In CHO with SCG configuration, it is up to the candidate MN implementation to make sure that the CG-Config provided from the (candidate) SN can be used in all CHO preparations.

4. The candidate MN includes within the *Handover Request Acknowledge* message a transparent container to be sent to the UE as an RRC message to perform the conditional handover, and may also provide forwarding addresses to the source MN. The candidate MN indicates to the source MN that the UE context in the SN is kept if the candidate MN and the SN decided to keep the UE context in the SN in step 2 and step 3.

5. The source MN sends an *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message to the UE, including the CHO configuration, i.e. a list of *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each *RRCConnectionReconfiguration\** message contains an MCG configuration and possibly an SCG configuration in the *RRCReconfiguration\*\** messagereceived from the candidate SN in step 3.

6. The UE applies the *RRCConnectionReconfiguration* message received in step 5, stores the CHO configuration and replies to the MN with an *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete* message.

7/8. The UE maintains connection with the source MN and, if the UE is configured with a PSCell, with the source PSCell, after receiving CHO configuration, and starts evaluating the CHO execution condition for the candidate cell(s). If at least one CHO candidate cell satisfies the corresponding CHO execution condition, the UE detaches from the source MN, applies the stored corresponding configuration for that selected candidate cell, synchronises to that candidate cell and completes the RRC handover procedure by sending *RRCConnectionReconfigurationComplete\** message to the target MN, which may include an embedded SN *RRCReconfigurationComplete*\*\* message for the target SN. The UE releases stored CHO configurations after successful completion of RRC handover procedure.

NOTE 5: In case the target SN includes the indication of full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE.

9. If configured with bearers requiring SCG radio resources, the UE synchronizes to the (target) SN.

NOTE 6: The order the UE performs Random Access towards the MN (step 7) and performs the Random Access procedure towards the (target) SN (step 9) is not defined.

10. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the target MN informs the (target) SN via *SgNB Reconfiguration Complete* message.

11. The target MN sends the *Handover Success* message to the source MN to inform that the UE has successfully accessed the target cell.

12a/b. The source MN sends *SgNB Release Request* message to the (source) SN including a Cause indicating MCG mobility and, if applicable, data forwarding information. The (source) SN acknowledges the release request.

12c. The source MN sends the *Handover Cancel* message toward the other signalling connections or other candidate MNs, if any, to cancel CHO for the UE.

12d/e. If the target MN is configured with other candidate PCell(s) associated with other candidate SN(s) than the target SN, the target MN sends the *SgNB Release Request* message(s) to the corresponding candidate SN(s). Other candidate MN(s) sends the *SgNB Release Request* message(s) to other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

13a. The (source) SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the source MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR radio for the related E-RABs.

NOTE 7: The order the source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SgNB may send the report when the transmission of the related bearer is stopped.

13b. The source MN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to MME to provide information on the used NR resource.

14. For bearers using RLC AM, the source MN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message, including, if needed, SN Status received from the source SN to the target MN. The target MN forwards the SN Status to the target SN, if needed.

15. If applicable, data forwarding takes place from the source side (i.e. source MN or source SN). If the SN is kept, data forwarding may be omitted for SN-terminated bearers kept in the SN.

16-19. The target MN initiates the S1 Path Switch procedure.

NOTE 8: If new UL TEIDs of the S-GW are included, the target MN performs the MN initiated SN Modification procedure to provide them to the SN.

20. The target MN initiates the UE Context Release procedure towards the source MN.

21. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message, the (source) SN releases C-plane related resources associated to the UE context towards the source MN. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue. The SN shall not release the UE context associated with the target MN if the UE context kept indication was included in the *SgNB* *Release Request* message in step 12a.

### 10.19.2 MR-DC with 5GC

The Conditional Handover with Secondary Node procedure is used for configuration and execution of CHO with SN. This procedure includes the cases where the SN is kept, changed or added. If the SN is kept, the UE context at the SN is kept. If the SN is changed, the UE context at the source SN is moved to the target SN.



Figure 10.19.2-1: Conditional Handover with Secondary Node procedure

Figure 10.19.2-1 shows an example signaling flow for Conditional Handover with Secondary Node.

NOTE 1: For a CHO without SN change, the source SN and the target SN shown in Figure 10.19.2-1 are the same node.

NOTE 2: For a CHO with SN addition, the source SN and steps involving with the source SN in Figure 10.19.2-1 are ignored.

1. The source MN starts the conditional handover procedure by initiating the Xn Handover Preparation procedure including MCG configuration and, if the UE is configured with an SCG, SCG configuration. The source MN includes the (source) SN UE XnAP ID, SN ID, the UE context in the (source) SN and the Conditional Handover Information Request IE in the *Handover Request* message.

NOTE 3: In case of the CHO with/without SN change, the source MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration, if configured, before step 1.

2. If the candidate MN decides to keep the UE context in the SN, the candidate MN sends the *SN Addition Request* message to the SN including the SN UE XnAP ID as a reference to the UE context in the SN that was established by the source MN. If the candidate MN decides to change the SN allowing delta configuration, the candidate MN sends the *SN Addition Request* message to the candidate SN including the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN. Otherwise, the candidate MN may send the *SN Addition Request* message to the candidate SN including neither the SN UE XnAP ID nor the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN. Within the *SN Addition Request* message, the candidate MN also includes the CHO related information, i.e., CHO Information SN Addition IE.

3. The (candidate) SN replies with the *SN Addition Request Acknowledge* message. The (candidate) SN may include the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration.

NOTE 4: In CHO with SCG configuration, it is up to the candidate MN implementation to make sure that the CG-Config provided from the (candidate) SN can be used in all CHO preparations.

3a. For the SN terminated bearers using MCG resources, the candidate MN provides Xn-U DL TNL address information in the *Xn-U Address Indication* message.

4. The candidate MN includes within the *Handover Request Acknowledge* message the MN RRC reconfiguration message to be sent to the UE in order to perform the conditional handover, and may also provide forwarding addresses to the source MN. If PDU session split is performed in the target side during handover procedure, more than one data forwarding addresses corresponding to each node are included in the *Handover Request Acknowledge* message. The candidate MN indicates to the source MN that the UE context in the SN is kept if the candidate MN and the SN decided to keep the UE context in the SN in step 2 and step 3.

5. The source MN sends an RRC reconfiguration message to the UE, including the CHO configuration, i.e. a list of RRC reconfiguration\* messagesand associated execution conditions, in which each RRC reconfiguration\* message contains an MCG configuration and possibly an SCG configuration in the RRC reconfiguration\*\* message received from the candidate SN in step 3.

6. The UE applies the RRC reconfiguration message received in step 5, stores the CHO configuration and replies to the MN with an RRC reconfiguration complete message.

7/8. The UE maintains connection with the source MN and, if the UE is configured with a PSCell, with the source PSCell, after receiving CHO configuration, and starts evaluating the CHO execution condition for the candidate cell(s). If at least one CHO candidate cell satisfies the corresponding CHO execution condition, the UE detaches from the source MN, applies the stored corresponding configuration for that selected candidate cell, synchronises to that candidate cell and completes the RRC handover procedure by sending RRC reconfiguration complete\* message to the target MN, which may include an embedded SN RRC reconfiguration complete\*\* message for target SN. The UE releases stored CHO configurations after successful completion of RRC handover procedure.

NOTE 5: In case the target SN includes the indication of the full RRC configuration, the MN performs release of the SN terminated radio bearer configuration and release and add of the NR SCG configuration part towards the UE.

9. If configured with bearers requiring SCG radio resources, the UE synchronizes to the (target) SN.

NOTE 6: The order the UE performs Random Access towards the MN (step 7) and performs the Random Access procedure towards the (target) SN (step 9) is not defined.

10. If the RRC connection reconfiguration procedure was successful, the target MN informs the (target) SN via *SN Reconfiguration Complete* message.

11. The target MN sends the *Handover Success* message to the source MN to inform that the UE has successfully accessed the target cell.

12a/b. The source MN sends *SN Release Request* message to the (source) SN including a Cause indicating MCG mobility. The (source) SN acknowledges the release request.

12c. The source MN sends *XN-U Address Indication* message to the (source) SN to transfer data forwarding information. More than one data forwarding addresses may be provided if the PDU session is split in the target side.

12d. The source MN sends the *Handover Cancel* message toward the other signalling connections or other candidate MNs, if any, to cancel CHO for the UE.

12e/f. If the target MN is configured with other candidate PCell(s) associated with other candidate SN(s) than the target SN, the target MN sends the *SN Release Request* message(s) to the corresponding candidate SN(s). Other candidate MN(s) sends the *SN Release Request* message(s) to other candidate SN(s), if configured. The other candidate SN(s) acknowledges the release request.

13a. The (source) SN sends the *Secondary RAT* *Data Usage Report* message to the source MN and includes the data volumes delivered to and received from the UE over the NR/E-UTRA radio as described in clause 10.11.2.

NOTE 7: The order the source SN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message and performs data forwarding with MN/target SN is not defined. The SN may send the report when the transmission of the related QoS is stopped.

13b. The source MN sends the *Secondary RAT Data Usage Report* message to AMF to provide information on the used NR/E-UTRA resource.

14. For bearers using RLC AM, the source MN sends the *SN Status Transfer* message to the target MN, including, if needed, SN Status received from the source SN. The target MN forwards the SN Status to the target SN, if needed.

15. If applicable, data forwarding takes place from the source side (i.e. source MN or source SN). If the SN is kept, data forwarding may be omitted for the SN terminated bearers or QoS flows kept in the SN.

16-19. The target MN initiates the Path Switch procedure*.* If the target MN includes multiple DL TEIDs for one PDU session in the *Path Switch Request* message, multiple UL TEID of the UPF for the PDU session should be included in the *Path Switch Ack* message in case there is TEID update in UPF.

NOTE 8: If new UL TEIDs of the UPF for SN are included, the target MN performs MN initiated SN Modification procedure to provide them to the SN.

20. The target MN initiates the UE Context Release procedure towards the source MN.

21. Upon reception of the *UE Context Release* message from source MN, the (source) SN releases C-plane related resources associated to the UE context towards the source MN. Any ongoing data forwarding may continue. The SN shall not release the UE context associated with the target MN if the UE contest kept indication was included in the *SN Release Request* message in step 12a.

*END OF CHANGE*