**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #121 *R2-23XXXXX***

**Athens, Greece, 27th February – 3rd March 2023**

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| *CR-Form-v12.2* | | | | | | | | |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | |
|  | **38.300** | **CR** | **-** | **rev** | **-** | **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 | **X** | Radio Access Network | **x** | Core Network |  |

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|  | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Title:*** | 38.300 Running CR for Network-Controlled Repeater | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to WG:*** | Ericsson | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | R2 | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Work item code:*** | NR\_netcon\_repeater | | | | |  | ***Date:*** | | | 2023-03-03 |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | |  |
| ***Category:*** | **B** |  | | | | | ***Release:*** | | | Rel-18 |
|  | *Use one of the following categories:* ***F*** *(correction)* ***A*** *(mirror corresponding to a change in an earlier release)* ***B*** *(addition of feature),* ***C*** *(functional modification of feature)* ***D*** *(editorial modification)*  Detailed explanations of the above categories can be found in 3GPP [TR 21.900](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/Specs/html-info/21900.htm). | | | | | | | | *Use one of the following releases: Rel-8 (Release 8) Rel-9 (Release 9) Rel-10 (Release 10) Rel-11 (Release 11) … Rel-16 (Release 16) Rel-17 (Release 17) Rel-18 (Release 18) Rel-19 (Release 19)* | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Reason for change:*** | | Introduce the Network-Controlled Repeater feature to the specification | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Summary of change:*** | | * §3: Introducing related abbreviations and definitions. * §4: Introducing the general description | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | | No NG-RAN support for Network-Controlled Repeaters | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Clauses affected:*** | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **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:*** | |  | | | | | | | | |

3 Abbreviations and Definitions

3.1 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in TR 21.905 [1], in TS 36.300 [2] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in TR 21.905 [1] and TS 36.300 [2].

5GC 5G Core Network

5GS 5G System

5QI 5G QoS Identifier

A-CSI Aperiodic CSI

AGC Automatic Gain Control

AKA Authentication and Key Agreement

AMBR Aggregate Maximum Bit Rate

AMC Adaptive Modulation and Coding

AMF Access and Mobility Management Function

ARP Allocation and Retention Priority

BA Bandwidth Adaptation

BCCH Broadcast Control Channel

BCH Broadcast Channel

BFD Beam Failure Detection

BH Backhaul

BL Bandwidth reduced Low complexity

BPSK Binary Phase Shift Keying

C-RNTI Cell RNTI

CAG Closed Access Group

CAPC Channel Access Priority Class

CBRA Contention Based Random Access

CCE Control Channel Element

CD-SSB Cell Defining SSB

CFR Common Frequency Resource

CFRA Contention Free Random Access

CG Configured Grant

CHO Conditional Handover

CIoT Cellular Internet of Things

CLI Cross Link interference

CMAS Commercial Mobile Alert Service

CORESET Control Resource Set

CP Cyclic Prefix

CPA Conditional PSCell Addition

CPC Conditional PSCell Change

DAG Directed Acyclic Graph

DAPS Dual Active Protocol Stack

DFT Discrete Fourier Transform

DCI Downlink Control Information

DCP DCI with CRC scrambled by PS-RNTI

DL-AoD Downlink Angle-of-Departure

DL-SCH Downlink Shared Channel

DL-TDOA Downlink Time Difference Of Arrival

DMRS Demodulation Reference Signal

DRX Discontinuous Reception

E-CID Enhanced Cell-ID (positioning method)

EHC Ethernet Header Compression

ePWS enhancements of Public Warning System

ETWS Earthquake and Tsunami Warning System

FS Feature Set

FSA ID Frequency Selection Area Identity

G-CS-RNTI Group Configured Scheduling RNTI

G-RNTI Group RNTI

GFBR Guaranteed Flow Bit Rate

GIN Group ID for Network selection

GNSS Global Navigation Satellite System

GSO Geosynchronous Orbit

H-SFN Hyper System Frame Number

HAPS High Altitude Platform Station

HRNN Human-Readable Network Name

IAB Integrated Access and Backhaul

IFRI Intra Frequency Reselection Indication

I-RNTI Inactive RNTI

INT-RNTI Interruption RNTI

KPAS Korean Public Alarm System

L2 Layer-2

L3 Layer-3

LDPC Low Density Parity Check

LEO Low Earth Orbit

MBS Multicast/Broadcast Services

MCE Measurement Collection Entity

MCCH MBS Control Channel

MDBV Maximum Data Burst Volume

MEO Medium Earth Orbit

MIB Master Information Block

MICO Mobile Initiated Connection Only

MFBR Maximum Flow Bit Rate

MMTEL Multimedia telephony

MNO Mobile Network Operator

MPE Maximum Permissible Exposure

MRB MBS Radio Bearer

MT Mobile Termination

MTCH MBS Traffic Channel

MTSI Multimedia Telephony Service for IMS

MU-MIMO Multi User MIMO

Multi-RTT Multi-Round Trip Time

MUSIM Multi-Universal Subscriber Identity Module

NB-IoT Narrow Band Internet of Things

NCD-SSB Non Cell Defining SSB

NCGI NR Cell Global Identifier

NCL Neighbour Cell List

NCR Neighbour Cell Relation

NCR Network-Controlled Repeater

NCRT Neighbour Cell Relation Table

NGAP NG Application Protocol

NGSO Non-Geosynchronous Orbit

NID Network Identifier

NPN Non-Public Network

NR NR Radio Access

NSAG Network Slice AS Group

NTN Non-Terrestrial Network

P-MPR Power Management Maximum Power Reduction

P-RNTI Paging RNTI

PCH Paging Channel

PCI Physical Cell Identifier

PDC Propagation Delay Compensation

PDCCH Physical Downlink Control Channel

PDSCH Physical Downlink Shared Channel

PEI Paging Early Indication

PH Paging Hyperframe

PLMN Public Land Mobile Network

PNI-NPN Public Network Integrated NPN

PO Paging Occasion

PRACH Physical Random Access Channel

PRB Physical Resource Block

PRG Precoding Resource block Group

PRS Positioning Reference Signal

PS-RNTI Power Saving RNTI

PSS Primary Synchronisation Signal

PTM Point to Multipoint

PTP Point to Point

PTW Paging Time Window

PUCCH Physical Uplink Control Channel

PUSCH Physical Uplink Shared Channel

PWS Public Warning System

QAM Quadrature Amplitude Modulation

QFI QoS Flow ID

QMC QoE Measurement Collection

QoE Quality of Experience

QPSK Quadrature Phase Shift Keying

RA Random Access

RA-RNTI Random Access RNTI

RACH Random Access Channel

RANAC RAN-based Notification Area Code

REG Resource Element Group

RIM Remote Interference Management

RLM Radio Link Monitoring

RMSI Remaining Minimum SI

RNA RAN-based Notification Area

RNAU RAN-based Notification Area Update

RNTI Radio Network Temporary Identifier

RQA Reflective QoS Attribute

RQoS Reflective Quality of Service

RS Reference Signal

RSRP Reference Signal Received Power

RSRQ Reference Signal Received Quality

RSSI Received Signal Strength Indicator

RSTD Reference Signal Time Difference

RTT Round Trip Time

SCS SubCarrier Spacing

SD Slice Differentiator

SDAP Service Data Adaptation Protocol

SDT Small Data Transmission

SFI-RNTI Slot Format Indication RNTI

SHR Successful Handover Report

SIB System Information Block

SI-RNTI System Information RNTI

SLA Service Level Agreement

SMC Security Mode Command

SMF Session Management Function

SMTC SS/PBCH block Measurement Timing Configuration

S-NSSAI Single Network Slice Selection Assistance Information

SNPN Stand-alone Non-Public Network

SNPN ID Stand-alone Non-Public Network Identity

SPS Semi-Persistent Scheduling

SR Scheduling Request

SRAP Sidelink Relay Adaptation Protocol

SRS Sounding Reference Signal

SRVCC Single Radio Voice Call Continuity

SS Synchronization Signal

SSB SS/PBCH block

SSS Secondary Synchronisation Signal

SSSG Search Space Set Group

SST Slice/Service Type

SU-MIMO Single User MIMO

SUL Supplementary Uplink

TA Timing Advance

TB Transport Block

TCE Trace Collection Entity

TNL Transport Network Layer

TPC Transmit Power Control

TRP Transmit/Receive Point

TRS Tracking Reference Signal

U2N UE-to-Network

UCI Uplink Control Information

UDC Uplink Data Compression

UE-Slice-MBR UE Slice Maximum Bit Rate

UL-AoA Uplink Angles of Arrival

UL-RTOA Uplink Relative Time of Arrival

UL-SCH Uplink Shared Channel

UPF User Plane Function

URLLC Ultra-Reliable and Low Latency Communications

VR Virtual Reality

V2X Vehicle-to-Everything

Xn-C Xn-Control plane

Xn-U Xn-User plane

XnAP Xn Application Protocol

3.2 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in TR 21.905 [1], in TS 36.300 [2] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in TR 21.905 [1] and TS 36.300 [2].

**BH RLC channel**: an RLC channel between two nodes, which is used to transport backhaul packets**.**

**Boundary IAB-node:** as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**Broadcast MRB**:A radio bearer configured for MBS broadcast delivery.

**CAG Cell**:a PLMN cell broadcasting at least one Closed Access Group identity.

**CAG Member Cell**:for a UE, a CAG cell broadcasting the identity of the selected PLMN, registered PLMN or equivalent PLMN, and for that PLMN, a CAG identifier belonging to the Allowed CAG list of the UE for that PLMN.

**CAG-only cell**: a CAG cell that is only available for normal service for CAG UEs.

**Cell-Defining SSB**: an SSB with an RMSI associated.

**Child node**: IAB-DU's and IAB-donor-DU's next hop neighbour node; the child node is also an IAB-node.

**Conditional Handover (CHO**): a handover procedure that is executed only when execution condition(s) are met.

**CORESET#0**: the control resource set for at least SIB1 scheduling, can be configured either via MIB or via dedicated RRC signalling.

**DAPS Handover**: a handover procedure that maintains the source gNB connection after reception of RRC message for handover and until releasing the source cell after successful random access to the target gNB.

**Direct Path**: a type of UE-to-Network transmission path, where data is transmitted between a UE and the network without sidelink relaying.

**Downstream**: direction toward child node or UE in IAB-topology.

**Early Data Forwarding**: data forwarding that is initiated before the UE executes the handover.

**Earth-centered, earth-fixed**: a global geodetic reference system for the Earth intended for practical applications of mapping, charting, geopositioning and navigation, as specified in NIMA TR 8350.2 [51].

**Feeder link**: wireless link between the NTN Gateway and the NTN payload.

**Geosynchronous Orbit**: earth-centered orbit at approximately 35786 kilometres above Earth's surface and synchronised with Earth's rotation. A geostationary orbit is a non-inclined geosynchronous orbit, i.e. in the Earth's equator plane.

**Group ID for Network Selection**: an identifier used during SNPN selection to enhance the likelihood of selecting a preferred SNPN that supports a Default Credentials Server or a Credentials Holder, as specified in TS 23.501 [3].

**gNB**: node providing NR user plane and control plane protocol terminations towards the UE, and connected via the NG interface to the 5GC.

**High Altitude Platform Station**: airborne vehicle embarking the NTN payload placed at an altitude between 8 and 50 km.

**IAB-donor**:gNB that provides network access to UEs via a network of backhaul and access links.

**IAB-donor-CU**: as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**IAB-donor-DU**:as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**IAB-DU**: gNB-DU functionality supported by the IAB-node to terminate the NR access interface to UEs and next-hop IAB-nodes, and to terminate the F1 protocol to the gNB-CU functionality, as defined in TS 38.401 [4], on the IAB-donor.

**IAB-MT**: IAB-node function that terminates the Uu interface to the parent node using the procedures and behaviours specified for UEs unless stated otherwise. IAB-MT function used in 38-series of 3GPP Specifications corresponds to IAB-UE function defined in TS 23.501 [3].

**IAB-node**: RAN node that supports NR access links to UEs and NR backhaul links to parent nodes and child nodes. The IAB-node does not support backhauling via LTE.

**IAB topology**: the unison of all IAB-nodes and IAB-donor-DUs whose F1 and/or RRC connections are terminated at the same IAB-donor-CU.

**Indirect Path**: a type of UE-to-Network transmission path, where data is forwarded via a U2N Relay UE between a U2N Remote UE and the network.

**Inter-donor partial migration:** migration of an IAB-MT to a parent node underneath a different IAB-donor-CU while the collocated IAB-DU and its descendant IAB-node(s), if any, are terminated at the initial IAB-donor-CU. The procedure renders the said IAB-node as a boundary IAB-node.

**Intra-system Handover**:handover that does not involve a CN change (EPC or 5GC).

**Inter-system Handover**:handover that involves a CN change (EPC or 5GC).

**Late Data Forwarding**: data forwarding that is initiated after the source NG-RAN node knows that the UE has successfully accessed a target NG-RAN node.

**Mapped Cell ID**: in NTN, it corresponds to a fixed geographical area.

**MBS Radio Bearer**: A radio bearer configured for MBS delivery.

**MSG1**: preamble transmission of the random access procedure for 4-step random access (RA) type.

**MSG3**: first scheduled transmission of the random access procedure.

**MSGA**:preamble and payload transmissions of the random access procedure for 2-step RA type.

**MSGB**:response to MSGA in the 2-step random access procedure. MSGB may consist of response(s) for contention resolution, fallback indication(s), and backoff indication.

**Multicast/Broadcast Service**: A point-to-multipoint service as defined in TS 23.247 [45].

**Multicast MRB**:A radio bearer configured for MBS multicast delivery.

**Multi-hop backhauling**: using a chain of NR backhaul links between an IAB-node and an IAB-donor.

**NCR-Fwd**: NCR-node function entity which performs the amplify-and-forwarding of UL/DL RF signal between gNB and UE via backhaul link and access link. The behavior of the NCR-Fwd is controlled according to the received side control information from gNB.

**NCR-MT**: NCR-node function entity which communicates with a gNB via a Control link (C-link) to enable exchange of control information (e.g. side control information at least for the control of NCR-Fwd). The C-link is based on NR Uu interface.

**NCR-node**: RAN node capable of transparently forwarding signals between a gNB and UE using NR links, while also being able to receive and process control information from the network.

**ng-eNB**: node providing E-UTRA user plane and control plane protocol terminations towards the UE, and connected via the NG interface to the 5GC.

**NG-C**: control plane interface between NG-RAN and 5GC.

**NG-U**: user plane interface between NG-RAN and 5GC.

**NG-RAN node**: either a gNB or an ng-eNB.

**Non-CAG Cell**: a PLMN cell which does not broadcast any Closed Access Group identity.

**Non-Geosynchronous orbit**: earth-centered orbit with an orbital period that does not match Earth's rotation on its axis. This includes Low and Medium Earth Orbit (LEO and MEO). LEO operates at altitudes between 300 km and 1500 km and MEO at altitudes between 7000 km and 25000 km, approximately.

**Non-terrestrial network**: an NG-RAN consisting of gNBs, which provide non-terrestrial NR access to UEs by means of an NTN payload embarked on an airborne or space-borne NTN vehicle and an NTN Gateway.

**NR backhaul link**: NR link used for backhauling between an IAB-node and an IAB-donor, and between IAB-nodes in case of a multi-hop backhauling.

**NR sidelink communication**: AS functionality enabling at least V2X communication as defined in TS 23.287 [40] and the ProSe communication (including ProSe non-Relay and UE-to-Network Relay communication) as defined in TS 23.304 [48], between two or more nearby UEs, using NR technology but not traversing any network node.

**NR sidelink discovery**: AS functionality enabling ProSe non-Relay Discovery and ProSe UE-to-Network Relay discovery for Proximity based Services as defined in TS 23.304 [48] between two or more nearby UEs, using NR technology but not traversing any network node.

**NTN Gateway**: an earth station located at the surface of the earth, providing connectivity to the NTN payload using the feeder link. An NTN Gateway is a TNL node.

**NTN payload**: a network node, embarked on board a satellite or high altitude platform station, providing connectivity functions, between the service link and the feeder link. In the current version of this specification, the NTN payload is a TNL node.

**Numerology**: corresponds to one subcarrier spacing in the frequency domain. By scaling a reference subcarrier spacing by an integer *N*, different numerologies can be defined.

**Parent node**: IAB-MT's next hop neighbour node; the parent node can be IAB-node or IAB-donor-DU

**PC5 Relay RLC channel**: an RLC channel between L2 U2N Remote UE and L2 U2N Relay UE, which is used to transport packets over PC5 for L2 UE-to-Network Relay**.**

**PLMN Cell**: a cell of the PLMN.

**RedCap UE**: a UE with reduced capabilities as specified in clause 4.2.21.1 in TS 38.306 [11].

**Relay discovery**: AS functionality enabling 5G ProSe UE-to-Network Relay Discovery as defined in TS 23.304 [48], using NR technology but not traversing any network node.

**Satellite**:a space-borne vehicle orbiting the Earth embarking the NTN payload.

**Service link**:wireless link between the NTN payload and UE.

**SNPN Access Mode**: mode of operation whereby a UE only accesses SNPNs.

**SNPN-only cell**: a cell that is only available for normal service for SNPN subscribers.

**SNPN Identity**: the identity of Stand-alone NPN defined by the pair (PLMN ID, NID).

**Transmit/Receive Point**:part of the gNB transmitting and receiving radio signals to/from UE according to physical layer properties and parameters inherent to that element.

**U2N Relay UE**: a UE that provides functionality to support connectivity to the network for U2N Remote UE(s).

**U2N Remote UE**: a UE that communicates with the network via a U2N Relay UE.

**Upstream**: direction toward parent node in IAB-topology.

**Uu Relay RLC channel**: an RLC channel between L2 U2N Relay UE and gNB, which is used to transport packets over Uu for L2 UE-to-Network Relay**.**

**V2X sidelink communication**: AS functionality enabling V2X communication as defined in TS 23.285 [41], between nearby UEs, using E-UTRA technology but not traversing any network node.

**Xn**: network interface between NG-RAN nodes.

4 Overall Architecture and Functional Split

<< Ommited Content Unchanged >>

## 4.X Network-Controlled Repeaters

A Network-Controlled Repeater enables wireless amplify-and-forward functionality in NG-RAN. The repeating node, referred to as NCR-node, is an RF repeater capable of receiving and processing side control information from the network. The NCR-node supports access and backhauling via NR. The terminating node of NR backhauling on network side is a gNB with additional functionality to support Network-Controlled Repeater. The NCR is modelled as in Figure 4.X-1.

The NCR-node supports a repeating functionality referred to as NCR-Fwd, that performs the amplifying-and-forwarding of RF signals between gNB and UE via backhaul and access links respectively, as seen in Figure 4.X-1. The behavior of the NCR-Fwd is controlled according to the received side control information from gNB.

In addition, the Network-Controlled Repeater supports a subset of the UE functionality referred to as NCR-MT, to connect to the gNB to exchange side control information. The control link uses NR Uu interface and NR RRC signalling is used to configure the NCR-MT to receive side control information.Editor’s Note: Whether the NCR supports specific enhancements which are not supported by a non-NCR-MT UE is FFS.

The gNB cell that NCR-Fwd is forwarding is the same cell the NCT-MT is connected to via the control link, whether the NCR-Fwd can forward other cells is up to implementation.

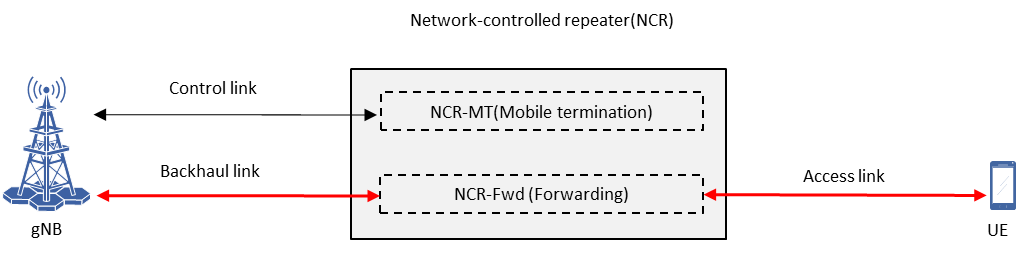


Figure 4.X-1: Conceptual model of network-controlled repeater

<< End of changes >>

# Running CR Annex: Meeting Agreements

Highlighted below are the meeting agreements that have been considered for the CR.

*RAN2#119-bis-e agreements:*

|  |
| --- |
| **Agreement**:   RAN2 confirms to use RRC signalling to configure NCR-MT to receive side control information. How the side control information itself is transmitted (i.e. via RRC or DCI or MAC CE) is up to RAN1 (RAN2 may discussion the initial RAN1 decision and revisit if needed)  NCR-MT supports RRC\_CONNECTED and RRC\_IDLE states, FFS on RRC\_INACTIVE state (e.g. optional support or not support).  NCR-MT supports SRB0/1/2 and DRB is optional. FFS on maximum number of DRBs  NCR-MT should ignore cellBarred, cellReservedForOperatorUse, cellReservedForFutureUse， cellReservedForOtherUse, intraFreqReselection indications and UAC configuration if broadcast in system information.  RRM functions supported by NCR-MR:  - Cell selection is mandatory - Cell reselection, RLM, BFD, BFR are FFS |

*RAN2#120 agreements:*

|  |
| --- |
| * Introduce an NCR-support indication in SIB1 per PLMN; whether it is also per NPN is FFS * WA: RRC\_INACTIVE is optionally supported without any specific enhancements   Agreements  gNB cell that NCR-Fwd is forwarding is the same cell the NCT-MT is connected to. Whether the NCR-Fwd can forward other cells is up to implementation  NCR-MT indicates the maximum number of supported DRB in UE capability, values {1, 16}. If absent, the NCR-MT does not support DRB.  SRB2 is mandatory feature for NCR-MT.  On NCR-Fwd ON/OFF:   * When NCR-MT is in RRC\_CONNECTED mode, the NCR-Fwd can be ON or OFF following the side control information received from the gNB. * After NCR-MT enters RRC\_INACTIVE mode, the NCR-Fwd can be ON or OFF following the last configuration received from the gNB. * Release to RRC-IDLE is FFS.   On NCR-MT RLF:   * After RLF is declared by NCR-MT, NCR-MT performs cell selection and trigger RRC re-establishment; * If NCR-MT enters RRC\_IDLE due to no suitable cell is find, NCR-Fwd is OFF; * During RRC re-establishment procedure, NCR-Fwd is OFF.   NCR-MT mandatorily support cell reselection and RRM measurements in RRC\_IDLE and RRC\_INACTIVE.  In Rel-18, NCR-MT does not support handover and RRM measurements in RRC\_CONNECTED.  For reporting the capabilities of NCR-MT, the existing UECapabilityEnquiry and UECapabilityInformation messages are reused.  In NCR-MT capability discussion, to focus on mandatory features that are required for NCR-MT.  All existing optional features are considered as applicable to NCR-MT unless explicitly excluded (Same as IAB-MT). FFS on taking IAB specified features as a baseline for future discussion.  NPN capable NCR-MT should consider *cellReservedForOtherUse* for determination of an NPN-only cell.  *[Regarding SA3’s LS on NCR solutions (in* [*R2-2211173*](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp//tsg_ran/WG2_RL2/TSGR2_120/Docs//R2-2211173.zip)*)]*   * RAN2 will not treat this topic under the assumption it will be handled by RAN3 |

*RAN2#120 agreements (as of 2023-03-01):*

|  |
| --- |
| * RAN2 will support RAN3 areement to include NCR indication in msg5 * RRC\_INACTIVE is optionally supported without any specific enhancements.   … |