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3GPP TSG SA WG3 Security — S3#18

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Phoenix, USA

Source: TSG-SA WG3

To: T3, S1, GSMA-SG Cc: T2, CN1

Title: Reply to LS on rejection of 2G authentication and key agreement by 3G ME with USIM in UTRAN

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S3 would like to thank T3 for the liaison statement in T3-010379, regarding use of 2G authentication by a 3G ME.

S3 can confirm that the security architecture was designed under the understanding that if a USIM were used in a 3G terminal to access UTRAN, then 3G authentication would be applied. This would be the case irrespective of whether access were to a home or visited network.

The implication of this is that although USIMs may be issued by an operator, prior to that operator being able to offer 3G service, such USIMs are only able to gain service from GSM networks until the operator provisions 3G authentication in its AuC.