**3GPP SA WG2 Meeting #164 *S2-240xxxx***

**Maastricht, NL, 19-23 August 2024 *(was S2-240xxxx)***

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| *CR-Form-v12.3* |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** |
|  |
|  | **23.401** | **CR** | **#** | **rev** | **-** | **Current version:** | **18.6.0** |  |
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| *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 | **x** |

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|  |
| ***Title:***  | Adding support of Store and Forwards in E-UTRAN  |
|  |  |
| ***Source to WG:*** | Nokia, Qualcomm?, China Mobile ?, LGE ?, Tencent ?, Samsung ?, OPPO ?, NEC ?, IPLOOK ?, Sateliot ? |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | SA2 |
|  |  |
| ***Work item code:*** | 5GSAT\_ARCH\_Ph3 |  | ***Date:*** | 2024-08-2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Category:*** | B |  | ***Release:*** | Rel-19 |
|  | *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 canbe 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-17 (Release 17)Rel-18 (Release 18)Rel-19 (Release 19) Rel-20 (Release 20)* |
|  |  |
| ***Reason for change:*** | The approved 5GSAT\_ARCH\_Ph3 work item (SP-240986) is set to specify the architecture enhancements, functionalities and procedures to support Store and Forward operation mode based on conclusions of TR 23.700-29 (clause 8.2).This paper adds the general description of the Store and Forward feature and corresponding architecture enhancements in TS 23.401.  |
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| ***Summary of change:*** | 1. Introduction of Store and Forward Architectural options2. Generic principles of Store and Forward Satellite operation. |
|  |  |
| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | Missing support of Store and Forward feature in 5GSAT\_ARCH\_Ph3 in Rel-19.  |
|  |  |
| ***Clauses affected:*** | 3.1, 3.2, (new) Annex.X, (new) 4.13.X |
|  |  |
|  | **Y** | **N** |  |  |
| ***Other specs*** |  |  |  Other core specifications  | TS/TR ... CR ...  |
| ***affected:*** |  |  |  Test specifications | TS/TR ... CR ...  |
| ***(show related CRs)*** |  |  |  O&M Specifications | TS/TR ... CR ...  |
|  |  |
| ***Other comments:*** |  |
|  |  |
| ***This CR's revision history:*** |  |

*FIRST CHANGE*

# 3 Definitions and abbreviations

## 3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in TR 21.905 [1] 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].

**MME Pool Area:** An MME Pool Area is defined as an area within which a UE may be served without need to change the serving MME. An MME Pool Area is served by one or more MMEs ("pool of MMEs") in parallel. MME Pool Areas are a collection of complete Tracking Areas. MME Pool Areas may overlap each other.

**Serving GW Service Area:** A Serving GW Service Area is defined as an area within which a UE may be served without need to change the Serving GW. A Serving GW Service Area is served by one or more Serving GWs in parallel. Serving GW Service Areas are a collection of complete Tracking Areas. Serving GW Service Areas may overlap each other.

**PDN Connection:** The association between a PDN represented by an APN and a UE, represented by one IPv4 address and/or one IPv6 prefix (for IP PDN Type) or by the UE Identity (for Non-IP and Ethernet PDN Types).

**Default Bearer:** The EPS bearer which is first established for a new PDN connection and remains established throughout the lifetime of the PDN connection.

**Default APN:** A Default APN is defined as the APN which is marked as default in the subscription data and used during the Attach procedure and the UE requested PDN connectivity procedure when no APN is provided by the UE.

**eCall Only Mode:** A UE configuration option that allows the UE to attach at EPS and register in IMS to perform only eCall Over IMS, and an IMS call to a non-emergency MSISDN or URI for test and/or terminal reconfiguration services. For a short period following either such call, an incoming call (e.g. callback from a PSAP or HPLMN operator) or other incoming session (e.g. for USIM reconfiguration) is possible. At other times when the UE is configured in this mode, the UE is required to refrain from any signalling to a network. Use of eCall Only Mode is configured in the USIM for the UE.

**PDN Connection to the SCEF:** The association between a UE, represented by the UE Identity, and a PDN represented by an APN to external packet data network via SCEF to allow transfer of Non-IP data. It includes establishment and persistence of T6 connection between MME and SCEF (see TS 29.128 [79]).

**Emergency attached UE:** A UE which only has bearer(s) related to emergency bearer service.

NOTE 1: The above term is equivalent to the term "attached for emergency bearer services" as specified in TS 24.301 [46].

**LIPA PDN connection:** a PDN Connection for local access (e.g. for IP or Ethernet access) for a UE connected to a HeNB.

**en-gNB:** As defined in TS 37.340 [85].

**SIPTO at local network PDN connection:** a PDN connection for SIPTO at local network for a UE connected to a (H)eNB.

**Correlation ID:** For a LIPA PDN connection, Correlation ID is a parameter that enables direct user plane path between the HeNB and L-GW.

**SIPTO Correlation ID:** For a SIPTO at local network PDN connection, SIPTO Correlation ID is a parameter that enables direct user plane path between the (H)eNB and L-GW when they are collocated.

**Local Home Network:** A set of (H)eNBs and L-GWs in the standalone GW architecture, where the (H)eNBs have IP connectivity for SIPTO at the Local Network via all the L-GWs.

**Local Home Network ID:** An identifier that uniquely identifies a Local Home Network within a PLMN.

**Presence Reporting Area:** An area defined within 3GPP Packet Domain for the purposes of reporting of UE presence within that area due to policy control and/or charging reasons. In the case of E-UTRAN, a Presence Reporting Area may consist in a set of neighbor or non-neighbor Tracking Areas, or eNodeBs and/or cells. There are two types of Presence Reporting Areas: "UE-dedicated Presence Reporting Areas" and "Core Network pre-configured Presence Reporting Areas" that apply to an MME pool.

**RAN user plane congestion:** RAN user plane congestion occurs when the demand for RAN resources exceeds the available RAN capacity to deliver the user data for a prolonged period of time.

NOTE 2: Short-duration traffic bursts is a normal condition at any traffic load level, and is not considered to be RAN user plane congestion. Likewise, a high-level of utilization of RAN resources (based on operator configuration) is considered a normal mode of operation and might not be RAN user plane congestion.

**IOPS-capable** eNodeB**:** an eNodeB that has the capability of IOPS mode operation, which provides local connectivity (e.g. for IP or Ethernet) and public safety services to IOPS-enabled UEs via a Local EPC when the eNodeB has lost backhaul to the Macro EPC or it has no backhaul to the Macro EPC.

**IOPS network:** an IOPS network consists of one or more eNodeBs operating in IOPS mode and connected to a Local EPC.

**Local EPC:** a Local EPC is an entity which provides functionality that eNodeBs in IOPS mode of operation use, instead of the Macro EPC, in order to support public safety services.

**Macro EPC:** the EPC which serves an eNodeB when it is not in IOPS mode of operation.

**Nomadic EPS:** a deployable system which has the capability to provide radio access (via deployable IOPS-capable eNodeB(s)), local connectivity (e.g. for IP or Ethernet) and public safety services to IOPS-enabled UEs in the absence of normal EPS

**Multi-USIM UE:** a UE with multiple USIMs, capable of maintaining a separate registration state with a PLMN for each USIM at least over 3GPP Access and supporting one or more of the features described in clause 4.3.33.

**IOPS-enabled UE:** is an UE that is configured to use networks operating in IOPS mode.

**Cellular IoT:** Cellular network supporting low complexity and low throughput devices for a network of Things. Cellular IoT supports IP, Ethernet and Non-IP traffic. Unless otherwise stated in this specification, Cellular IoT and all functionality applicable to Cellular IoT also apply to satellite access.

**Narrowband-IoT:** a 3GPP Radio Access Technology that forms part of Cellular IoT. It allows access to network services via E-UTRA with a channel bandwidth limited to 180 kHz (corresponding to one PRB). Unless otherwise indicated in a clause, Narrowband-IoT is a subset of E-UTRAN. Unless otherwise stated in this specification, Narrowband-IoT also includes satellite access.

**LTE-M:** a 3GPP RAT type Identifier used in the Core Network only, which is a sub-type E-UTRAN RAT type, and defined to identify in the Core Network the E-UTRAN when used by a UE indicating Category M in its UE radio capability. Unless otherwise stated in this specification, LTE-M also includes satellite access.

**WB-E-UTRAN:** in the RAN, WB-E-UTRAN is the part of E-UTRAN that excludes NB-IoT. In the Core Network, the WB-E-UTRAN also excludes LTE-M. Unless otherwise stated in this specification, WB-E-UTRAN also includes satellite access.

**DCN-ID:** DCN identity identifies a specific dedicated core network (DCN).

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions given in TS 23.167 [81] apply:

**eCall Over IMS:** See TS 23.167 [81].

**RLOS attached UE:** A UE is attached only for accessing Restricted Local Operator Services (see TS 23.221 [27]).

**IAB-donor:** For the purposes of this specification, this is a NR Secondary RAN node is further described in TS 37.340 [85] that supports Integrated access and backhaul (IAB) feature and provides connection to the core network to IAB-nodes. It supports the CU function of the CU/DU architecture for IAB defined in TS 38.401 [90].

**IAB-node:** A relay node that supports wireless in-band and out-of-band relaying of NR access traffic via NR Uu backhaul links. It supports the UE function and the DU function of the CU/DU architecture for IAB defined in TS 38.401 [90].

**Feeder link:** as defined in TS 36.300 [6].

**Service link:** as defined in TS 36.300 [6]

**S&F Satellite operation:** operation mode providing communication service (in storing and forwarding information) to a UE in periods of time and/or geographical areas in which the serving satellite is not simultaneously connected to the ground network via feeder link or ISL. For the case of UL, "store" refers to on-board storage of UL information from UE and "forward" refers to forwarding of stored UL information to the ground network. For the case of DL, "store" refers to on-board storage of DL information from the ground network and "forward" refers to forwarding of stored DL information to the UE.

*SECOND CHANGE*

## 3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in TR 21.905 [1] 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].

5GS 5G System

AF Application Function

ARP Allocation and Retention Priority

AMBR Aggregate Maximum Bit Rate

CBC Cell Broadcast Centre

CBE Cell Broadcast Entity

CIoT Cellular IoT

CSG Closed Subscriber Group

CSG ID Closed Subscriber Group Identity

C-SGN CIoT Serving Gateway Node

CSS CSG Subscriber Server

DAPS Dual Active Protocol Stacks

DCN Dedicated Core Network

DeNB Donor eNode B

DL TFT DownLink Traffic Flow Template

DRX Discontinuous Reception

ECGI E-UTRAN Cell Global Identifier

ECM EPS Connection Management

ECN Explicit Congestion Notification

EMM EPS Mobility Management

eNodeB evolved Node B

EPC Evolved Packet Core

EPS Evolved Packet System

E-RAB E-UTRAN Radio Access Bearer

E-UTRAN Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network

GBR Guaranteed Bit Rate

GUMMEI Globally Unique MME Identifier

GUTI Globally Unique Temporary Identity

GW Gateway

HeNB Home eNode B

HeNB GW Home eNode B Gateway

HFN Hyper Frame Number

IAB Integrated Access and Backhaul

IMEI/TAC IMEI Type Allocation Code

IOPS Isolated E-UTRAN Operation for Public Safety

IoT Internet of Things

ISR Idle mode Signalling Reduction

LAA Licensed Assisted Access

LBI Linked EPS Bearer Id

L-GW Local GateWay

LIPA Local IP Access

LWA LTE/WLAN Aggregation

LWIP LTE/WLAN Radio Level Integration with IPsec Tunnel

MBR Maximum Bit Rate

MME Mobility Management Entity

MMEC MME Code

MTC Machine-Type Communications

MT-EDT Mobile Terminated Early Data Transmission

M-TMSI M-Temporary Mobile Subscriber Identity

NB-IoT Narrowband IoT

NR New Radio

NR-U New Radio Unlicensed

NTN Non-Terrestrial Network

OCS Online Charging System

OFCS Offline Charging System

OMC-ID Operation and Maintenance Centre Identity

P‑GW PDN Gateway

PCC Policy and Charging Control

PCRF Policy and Charging Rules Function

PRA Presence Reporting Area

PDCP Packet Data Convergence Protocol

PMIP Proxy Mobile IP

PSAP Public Safety Answering Point

PSM Power Saving Mode

PTI Procedure Transaction Id

QCI QoS Class Identifier

RACS UE Radio Capability Signalling optimization

RCAF RAN Congestion Awareness Function

RFSP RAT/Frequency Selection Priority

RLOS Restricted Local Operator Services

RN Relay Node

RUCI RAN User Plane Congestion Information

S&F Store and Forward

S‑GW Serving Gateway

S-TMSI S-Temporary Mobile Subscriber Identity

SDF Service Data Flow

SIPTO Selected IP Traffic Offload

TAC Tracking Area Code

TAD Traffic Aggregate Description

TAI Tracking Area Identity

TAU Tracking Area Update

TI Transaction Identifier

TIN Temporary Identity used in Next update

UCMF UE radio Capability Management Function

URRP-MME UE Reachability Request Parameter for MME

UL TFT UpLink Traffic Flow Template

ULR-Flags Update Location Request Flags

*THIRD CHANGE*

### Annex.X S&F architecture



Figure X-1: Illustration of S&F operation mode



Figure X-2: S&F architecture based on MME split

Figure X-2 depicts the EPS architecture supporting Store & Forward based on split MME. S&F based on split MME is further described in clause 4.13.X.2.

NOTE 1: The interface between MME on-board satellite and MME on the ground is out of scope of 3gpp.



Figure X-3: S&F architecture based on EPC on-board

Figure X-3 depicts the EPS architecture supporting Store & Forward based on EPC on-board satellite. S&F based on EPC on-board is further described in clause 4.13.X.3.

NOTE 2: In full EPC on-board deployment, the deployment of proxies and the associated interface between them are out of scope of 3GPP.

NOTE 3: The full EPC on-board deployment does not support roaming in this release of specification.

*FOURTH CHANGE*

## 4.13 Introduction of satellite support for Cellular IoT

### 4.13.x Support of Store and Forward Satellite Operation

The Store and Forward Satellite operation in a E-UTRAN system with satellite access is intended to provide communication service for UEs when the satellite covering the UE, can’t provide simultaneous service link connection and feeder link connection. The Store and Forward Satellite operation is suitable for delay-tolerant communication services (i.e./e.g.? CIoT/MTC, SMS).

In “S&F Satellite operation” mode, the end-to-end exchange of signalling/data traffic shall be handled as a combination of two steps not concurrent in time. In first step, signalling/data exchange between the UE and the satellite takes place, without the satellite being simultaneously connected to the UE via service link and ground network via feeder link. The satellite moves from being connected to the UE in first step to being connected to the ground network in second step. In second step, the connectivity between the satellite and the ground network is established so that communication between the satellite and the ground network can take place.

#### 4.13.x.1 General

The S&F operation is supported in regenerative architecture, and two deployment options shall be considered:

a) MME functionality is split into two parts: the MME-SAT, which is the MME part onboard the satellite and MME-ground. All other core network elements are placed on the ground connected to satellite via feeder link.

b) with all CN functions including MME, SGW, PGW, HSS, E-SMLC, SMSC etc are on board each satellite, including proxies that are deployed on the satellite and the ground for application traffic, including support of MT traffic, MO traffic, SMS, etc. The implementation of the proxies used for storing and forwarding of signalling and user plane data is out of scope of 3GPP.

The E-UTRAN system running in S&F mode shall inform the UE when the satellite is running in S&F mode (e.g. eNB broadcast support of S&F operation as part of System Information).

The UE needs to register in S&F mode to avail S&F based services from E-UTRAN satellite access running in S&F mode. This network attachment and availing of S&F based services may require multiple satellite participation depending on the deployment options.

The satellite shall reject the initial attach, TAU or service request if:

1. the MME do not have UE security context
2. or if integrity fails
3. or access to feeder link connection to carry out authentication and security mode procedures is not available
4. or HSS on-board satellite do have UE specific authentication vectors or subscription information.

During rejection of initial attach, TAU or service request the MME on-board satellite can optionally provide list of satellite from the same PLMN with which UE can attempt to retry initial attach, TAU or service request in future. Optionally, the S&F system can provide a reject cause (e.g. congestion cause) and a back-off timer to the UE. Upon expiry of the timer the retry attempt can be made by the UE towards any of the satellite among the list of satellites provided.

NOTE 1: A pre-rel 19 UE or UE not capable of reading the S&F cell broadcast information shall ignore the Satellite ID if provided by the MME.

The MME may indicate to HSS on the ground the timestamp information based on the time when the initial request was received. This timestamp information may be checked by HSS if it is the latest one in authentication request. The MME may trigger Update location with the HSS along with authentication procedure. The Update Location Request includes an indication that this location update is provisional i.e. the HSS shall not consider the UE as registered until it receives the final Update Location Request.

*End of CHANGEs*