**3GPP TSG RAN WG2#116-e R2-21xxxxx**

**e-Meeting, 1st - 12th November, 2021**

**Title: [Draft] Reply LS** **on UP security policy updated by intra-cell handover**

**Response to:** R2-2109346

**Release:** Release 16

**Work Item:** TEI16

**Source:** China Telecom (to be RAN2)

**To:** RAN3, SA3

**Cc:**

**Contact Person:**

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**Send any reply LS to: 3GPP Liaisons Coordinator,** **mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org**

**1. Overall Description:**

RAN2 would like to thank RAN3 for the LS on the UP security policy updated by intra-cell handover.

RAN2 has discussed the question raised in LS and would like to inform RAN3 that

according to TS 38.331, “*Ciphering and integrity protection can be enabled or disabled for a DRB. The enabling/disabling of ciphering or integrity protection can be changed only by releasing and adding the DRB.*” Furthermore, still according to TS 38.331, “*The integrity protection and ciphering algorithms can only be changed with reconfiguration with sync.*”

Both can be achieved with one RRC reconfiguration message. However, in the former case (enabling/disabling of ciphering or integrity protection), whether to carry *reconfigurationWithSync* depends on the policy of the gNB.

In other words, from RAN2’s perspective, enabling/disabling of ciphering or integrity protection of one or multiple DRBs can be achieved within one RRC reconfiguration message indicating release and add of the DRBs. Additionally, in the same RRC reconfiguration message the gNB is not precluded to use *reconfigurationWithSync*. Furthermore, RAN2 also understands that the intra-cell handover *alone* is not sufficient for enabling/disabling of ciphering or integrity protection of one or multiple DRBs.

**2. Actions:**

**To RAN3:**

**Action:** RAN2 respectfully asks RAN3 and SA3 to take the above information into account.

**3. Dates of Next TSG-RAN WG2 Meetings:**

TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #116-bis-e 17 – 25 January 2022 Online

TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #117-e 21 February – 3 March 2022 Online