3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #116-e Tdoc R2-2111360

Electronic Meeting, Nov 1st - 12th, 2021

**Title:** [Draft] LS reply on the coordination between gNBs supporting RedCap UEs

**Response to:** Reply LS on the coordination between gNBs on the supporting of RedCap UEs (R3-214422)

**Release:** Rel-17

**Work Item:** NR\_redcap-Core

**Source:** Ericsson [To be RAN2]

**To:** RAN3

**Cc:**

**Contact Person:**

**Name:** Tuomas Tirronen

**E-mail Address:** tuomas dot tirronen at ericsson dot com

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

**Attachments:**

**1. Overall Description:**

RAN2 would like to thank RAN3 for the reply LS on the coordination between gNBs supporting RedCap UEs. RAN2 has discussed the questions RAN3 asked and concluded the following respectively.

1. RAN3’s first question: Can RAN2 confirm that RedCap UEs should not attempt to camp/access in legacy cells or be handed over to such cells; if so, can RAN2 please explain how access control will work for legacy gNBs. This is related to one option considered in RAN3, where it is assumed that the broadcast in supporting cells would be designed to indicate support (or access allowed), and the presence (or contents) of such broadcast would be indicated at Xn level by the possible introduction of new information elements, rather than a barring indication as mentioned in the LS.

RAN2’s reply to the first question:

*RAN2 can confirm that RedCap UEs should not attempt to camp/access in legacy cells or be handed over to such cells. Support for RedCap UEs in a cell is signalled by RedCap-specific indicators, e.g., RedCap-specific IFRI, in system information broadcast. Absence of RedCap-specific indicators would indicate that the cell does not support RedCap UEs.*

1. RAN3’s second question: Can RAN2 confirm whether a legacy gNB can detect via the (RedCap) UE Radio Capabilities (e.g. at Handover preparation) that it cannot configure or serve the RedCap UE? This is related to another option considered by RAN3 in which a Rel-17 gNB can perceive, e.g., the support or barring by a neighbour gNB cell of RedCap UE via the handover preparation failure with signalling a proper cause value at XnAP level.

RAN2’s reply to the second question:

*RAN2 can confirm it is not possible for a legacy gNB to identify a RedCap UE via RedCap UE radio capabilities. A legacy target gNB may not understand e.g. new values or fields introduced in the radio capability signalling for RedCap UEs*. *Additionally, a legacy target gNB may not be able to signal new cause values for the source gNB to understand that possible rejection is due to the UE being a RedCap UE.*

**2. Actions:**

**To RAN3**

**ACTION:** RAN2 kindly asks RAN3 to take the information above into consideration.

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

TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #116bis-e January 17th – 25th, 2022 E-Meeting

TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #117-e February 21st – March 3rd, 2022 E-Meeting