Agenda Item   **: 5.2**

Source   **: Ericsson**

Title   **: Feedback from TSG RAN Meeting #2 in Florida**

Document for   **: Information**

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1   Introduction

This document contains a brief report from the TSG RAN meeting #2 in Florida. The intention is not to give a full report on the meeting, only to report items that could be relevant for the RAN WG3 meeting #2 to consider. For a full report from the meeting, please refer to the official minutes.

2   Specifications

2.1   Structure

The issue on whether or not it is good to have the user plane and the data transport and transport signalling specifications of the DCH data streams for Iur and Iub together (as now in S3.26 and S3.27) or separately was raised. RAN WG3 was requested to discuss the issue again and report the outcome at the next TSG RAN meeting (TSG RAN #3).

2.2   Specification Numbering

The numbering structure of the TSG RAN specifications was discussed. Two issues were raised:

a) Should the numbering be made unambiguous with regards to other TSGs?
   For instance, does S4.xx refer to a specification in RAN WG4 or in another TSG? Please note that the full number is RAN S4.xx but the general reference used would most likely be S4.xx.
b) Should the numbering be independent of WG structure?
   Presently it is not.

The 3GPP support group proposed a GSM like specification numbering system, see ref. [Brief explanation of the numbering scheme of the SMG UMTS specifications series, Source: ETSI 3GPP support, TSG#2 RP(99)156]. This type of numbering would give compatibility with the numbering of the GSM specifications and fully traceable changes for the specifications moved from SMG to 3GPP. This applies more specifically to some of the specifications in TSG SA.

The issue was to be discussed at the PCG meeting on Thursday 4 March. The outcome is presently unknown.

2.3   Version Numbering / Draft Specifications in April

The issue of whether or not the "April draft specifications" refers to version 3.0.0 of the specifications was discussed. The 3GPP support group proposed that in order to have the "April draft specifications" in version 3.0.0 by the TSG RAN meeting in April (meeting #3) the specifications presented to the TSG RAN meeting #2 should be raised to version 1.0.0. This in order to be able to submit the specifications to the TSG RAN meeting #3 as version 2.0.0, in accordance with the SMG principles of version handling.

Concerns about a lot of specifications being only the first editors version, i.e. never approved by the WG, were raised. There was no real conclusion regarding version numbering at the meeting. No decision to raise the specifications to 1.0.0 was taken. However, it was noted in the minutes that when a specification is in version 1.0.0 that implies some sort of stability (authors note: at least that is the case applying the SMG principles).

It is unclear what version of the specifications that is the expected output from the TSG RAN meeting #3.

For more information on the version numbering of specification (as well as working procedures) proposed by the 3GPP-support group, see ref. [Proposed Working Methods for 3GPP Technical Specifications Groups, Source: SMG Group on Working Methods (WOME), TSGR#2(99)071]

2.4 Naming

It was commented that the naming of the specifications for the Iu Interface is somewhat ambiguous. This since the specifications are related to the Iu interface provided by UTRAN and not the Iu reference point, defined by TSG SA. The Iu reference point may relate to more than one Iu interface. It was commented that the naming could be changed to "UTRAN Iu Interface, ..." or something else that distinguish these Iu interface specifications from other such specifications.

3 Working Methods

3.1 Phasing

The need for phasing of the functionality of UTRAN was discussed. There was no conclusion on explicit items to include or exclude. However, there were some guidelines agreed. These guidelines essentially are:

If there is any missing item when the WG comes to a milestone, it should be identified whether the item missing to fulfil the milestone is essential for the basic functionality of RAN or not, and:
a) if the missing item is essential to the basic functionality of RAN the working groups should as soon as possible resolve the situation.
b) if the missing item is not essential for the basic functionality, move the item to a later release and put this information in a report for "Study Items for Future Releases".

Reference [Proposal of working procedures related to items for Release 99, Source: Drafting group, TSGR#2(99)] was discussed and agreed with some modifications. The modifications, and possibly the new text, will be shown in the official minutes from the meeting.

3.2 Co-ordination (within RAN, between TSGs)

It was agreed that TSG RAN has the main responsibility for co-ordination of the work in the different WGs. It was also agreed in all TSGs that the TSG SA has the responsibility for the co-ordination of cross TSG issues. The TSG SA has the role of a "TSG Plenary" to fulfil this co-ordination responsibility. TSG SA will use the specifications 22.00 (responsibility of SA WG1) and 23.20 (responsibility of SA WG2) as the main tool of co-ordination, see ref. [Liaison statement to TSGS-CN, RAN, T on the proposal to use UMTS 22.00 and 23.20 for the purpose of technical co-ordination among TSGs and WGs, Source: TSG-SA, TSG#2 RP(99)158]. The other TSGs were requested to "Pay Attention" to these specifications.

3.3 Assignment of "new" Study Items

There was an Ad Hoc discussion among the WG chairmen and convenors and other interested parties regarding how to handle new study items/requirements that were "not clear enough to start work on in parallel in all four WGs". This resulted in an input document that provided some guide lines on how to proceed with such items. The guide lines were that such a new item should first be assigned to one WG, i.e. the WG that has the responsibility for the area where the item is mainly considered to be located. This WG would have to clarify the item to establish a "definition" of what the item is before the work starts in the other concerned WGs.

Reference [Work organisation within TSG-RAN and between TSG-RAN and other TSGs, Source: WG Chairmen and Convenors, TSGR#2(99)162] was discussed and agreed with some modifications. The modifications, and possibly the new text, will be shown in the official minutes from the meeting.

3.4 Template for Work Plan

There was a liaison statement from TSG SA providing a template for layout of work plans, see ref. [Liaison statement to TSGS-CN, RAN, T on the proposed table format to show the work plan of each TS/TR, Source: TSG-SA, TSG#2 RP(99)157]. The purposed of having this template was to facilitate for TSG SA to fulfil its co-ordination task. The template was approved.

4 Terms of Reference of RAN WG3

The outcome of the O&M Ad Hoc meeting in Milan, February 22, was a proposal to change the responsibility of the "Iub specification" in the Terms of Reference of RAN WG3 to "Iub specification (including Logical O&M and Transport of Implementation Specific O&M)", see ref. [Proposal for Iub O&M Work Item and amendment of TSG-RAN Terms of Reference, Source: RAN WG3 O&M Ad Hoc]. The meeting agreed to the proposed division of responsibility between TSG RAN and TSG SA. However, the "Iub specification" part of the Terms of Reference for WG3 was changed to:

- "Iub specification (including Logical O&M)"

- "Transport of the Implementation Specific O&M between OMC-B and Node B"

It may be noted that the previous description ("Iub specification") already included the logical O&M (since there was no restriction described) but the modification was agreed to avoid future misunderstandings.

In the TSG SA it was also agreed that the responsibility of the Iub specification is fully within TAG RAN including any O&M related part of the Iub, see ref. [Handling of Network Management Standardisation in 3GPP, Source: Vodafone, TSGS#2 SP(99)067 [also TSGR#2(99)138, presented to TSG RAN for information]]. However, there was no change of the ToR for SA WG5 since "this was the way the present terms of references of SA WG5 should be interpreted".

5 RAN WG3 Meeting Schedule

Some concerns were raised regarding the RAN WG3 schedule. These concerns particularly related to the fact that there is only one RAN WG3 meeting before the next TSG RAN meeting (22 - 23 April). It was questioned that the work plan of RAN WG3, with some of the specifications completed in April, would be possible unless the meeting scheduled for 26 - 30 April was moved and placed before the TSG RAN meeting #3. It was furthermore noted that the present schedule would make it difficult to have the draft specifications ready in April. Some delegates thus suggested that RAN WG3 should change its schedule with respect to this.

This issue, i.e. how to keep the "April milestones" in the work plan, should be discussed at the RAN WG3 meeting #2.

6 References

1. Brief explanation of the numbering scheme of the SMG UMTS specifications series, Source: ETSI 3GPP support, TSG#2 RP(99)156
2. Proposed Working Methods for 3GPP Technical Specifications Groups, Source: SMG Group on Working Methods (WOME), TSGR#2(99)071
3. Proposal of working procedures related to items for Release 99, Source: Drafting group, TSGR#2(99)167
4. Liaison statement to TSGS-CN, RAN, T on the proposal to use UMTS 22.00 and 23.20 for the purpose of technical co-ordination among TSGs and WGs, Source: TSG-SA, TSG#2 RP(99)158
5. Work organisation within TSG-RAN and between TSG-RAN and other TSGs, Source: WG Chairmen and Convenors, TSGR#2(99)162
6. Liaison statement to TSGS-CN, RAN, T on the proposed table format to show the work plan of each TS/TR, Source: TSG-SA, TSG#2 RP(99)157
7. Proposal for Iub O&M Work Item and amendment of TSG-RAN Terms of Reference, Source: RAN WG3 O&M Ad Hoc
8. Handling of Network Management Standardisation in 3GPP, Source: Vodafone, TSGS#2 SP(99)067 [also TSGR#2(99)138, presented to TSG RAN for information]