**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #121bis-eR2-230xxxx**

**Online, April 17 – 26, 2023**

**Title: [draft] LS to SA2 on authorization for multi-path Scenario 2**

**Response to:**

**Release:** **Rel-18**

**Work Item: NR\_SL\_relay\_enh, FS\_5G\_ProSe\_Ph2**

**Source:** **vivo (to be RAN2)**

**To: SA2**

**Cc: RAN3**

**Contact Person:**

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**1. Overall Description:**

The SL relay enhancement WID has considered two multi-path scenarios as follows [RP-223501]:

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| 1. Specify mechanisms to support the following multi-path scenarios [RAN2, RAN3]:
	1. A UE is connected to the same gNB using one direct path and one indirect path via 1) Layer-2 UE-to-Network relay, or 2) via another UE (where the UE-UE inter-connection is assumed to be ideal), where the solutions for 1) are to be reused for 2) without precluding the possibility of excluding a part of the solutions which is unnecessary for the operation for 2).

Note 3A: The mechanisms to support scenario 1 and scenario 2 are specified based on the assumptions and restrictions agreed in study phase.Note 3B: UE-to-Network relay in scenario 1 reuses the Rel-17 solution as the baseline. Note 3C: Support of Layer-3 UE-to-Network relay in multi-path scenario is assumed to have no RAN impact and the work and solutions are subject to SA2 to progress. |

From the WID the two multi-path scenarios are classified as:

* **Scenario 1**: The remote UE is connected to the same gNB using one direct path and one indirect path via Layer-2 UE-to-Network relay
* **Scenario 2**: the remote UE is connected to the same gNB using one direct path and one indirect path via another UE (where the UE-UE inter-connection is assumed to be ideal).

On multi-path Scenario 2, RAN2 has made the following agreements:

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| **RAN2 agreements on Scenario 2**:* RAN2 assumes that the relation between remote UE and relay UE in scenario 2 is pre-configured or static and how the relation is pre-configured or static is out of the 3GPP scope.
* RAN2 does not impose a requirement for interoperability between two UEs from different vendors for scenario 2 in this release.
* RAN2 understand that UE identification in L2 PDU over non-3GPP link is not in 3GPP scope in Scenario 2.
* UE identification is not needed over Uu link in Scenario 2, if relay UE serves only one remote UE and different Uu RLC channels can be assumed for the remote UE and the relay UE.
* Multi-path Relay is applicable to RRC\_CONNECTED remote-UE, for scenario-1 and scenario-2.
* Multi-path Relay is NOT applicable to RRC\_IDLE remote-UE, for scenario-1 and scenario-2.
* As agreed before, RAN2 deprioritizes association mechanism between remote UE and relay UE from CN to RAN. gNB provides bearer mapping information to relay UE through dedicated signalling.
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RAN2 notices the authorization and subscription management for remote UE in multi-path via a Layer-2 U2N relay (for scenario 1 only) is specified in TS 23.304 Clause 4.3.4 and Clause 4.3.5. As RAN2 had discussed some issues that have SA2 impact e.g., multi-path transmission authorization and subscription function for a UE acting as the remote UE or relay UE in Scenario 2, related to the ideal UE-UE inter-connection. RAN2 would like to further check with SA2 whether there is any requirement for support of multi-path transmission authorization and subscription function in Scenario 2 as following:

* Support of multi-path transmission authorization function for a UE acting as the remote UE in scenario 2
* Support of multi-path transmission subscription function for a UE acting as the remote UE in scenario 2
* Support of authorization function for a UE acting as the relay UE in scenario 2
* Support of subscription function for a UE acting as the relay UE in scenario 2

**2. Actions:**

**To SA2:**

**ACTION:** RAN2 kindly asks SA2 to take into account aforementioned RAN2 agreements on multi-path Scenario 2 and provide feedback on potential requirements, if any.

**3. Date of Next TSG-RAN2 Meetings:**

TSG-RAN2 Meeting #122 22-26 May 2023 Incheon, KR

TSG-RAN2 Meeting #123 21-25 August 2023 Toulouse, FR