**3GPP TSG-SA WG6 Meeting #45-bis-e S6-212358**

**e-meeting, 11th – 19th October 2021 (revision of S6-21xxxx)**

Title: Reply LS on the definition of EAS and EAS context

Response to: LS (S4-211231 / S6-212356) on the definition of EAS and EAS context

Release: Release 17

Work Item: EDGEAPP

Source: SA6

To: SA4

Cc: SA2

**Contact Person:**

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Attachments: None.

**1. Overall Description:**

SA6 would like to thank SA4 for their LS in S4-211231/S6-212356, seeking clarifications related to Application Context and Application Context Relocation.

SA6 has discussed the questions and below are the SA6 responses:

**SA4’s Question#1**. Please confirm our understanding that an EAS is an instance of an AS running in the Edge DN either directly on a bare metal server, as a virtual machine instance, as a container, as a set of collaborating containers or as a serverless function?

**SA6’s response:** SA4’s understanding is correct.Each application server instance that executes in the Edge DN is an EAS, irrespective of hosting environment choice.

**SA4’s Question#2**. Does SA6 consider Application Context Relocation as migrating the complete EAS (e.g. by taking a snapshot of a running virtual machine or container, moving it to a target host, and starting up the EAS instance there), or just transferring the data context of the running AS instance between a source EAS instance and a target EAS instance?

**SA6’s response:** ACR procedure performs the latter. Once the need for ACR is established and all the functional entities involved are coordinated, as part of the ACR procedure, the application layer data i.e. the Application Context, is transferred from a source EAS to a target EAS.

**SA4’s Question#3**. In the latter case, what procedure is used to collect the application context from the source EAS instance? In particular, what happens if the application context is distributed over multiple processes running on the EAS?

**SA6’s response:** The particulars of how the Application Context is collected by the EAS (e.g., from a single process or multiple processes) is out of scope of SA6 and depends on EAS implementations. Other than EELManagedACR, it is also the responsibility of the EASs to coordinate and perform the transfer of the Application Context.

In case of EELManagedACR, source EES and the target EES coordinate and transfer the Application Context. However, the Application Context is provided by the source EAS to the source EES at a predetermined storage location, and the contents of the Application Context are opaque to the EESs.

SA6 kindly requests SA4 to take the above responses into account. SA6 also requests SA4 to share any follow-up questions or any requirements for the Rel-18 eEDGEAPP architecture, that may help ease the management of Application Context for different types of multimedia applications

**2. Actions:**

**To SA4:**

**ACTION:** SA6 kindly requests SA4 to take the above information into account.

**3. Date of Next TSG-SA6 Meetings:**

SA6#46-e 15th Nov – 23rd Nov 2021 e-meeting