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RP-170286

Discussion on the support of NGC functions for LTE

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Background

- LTE is evolved to support connectivity with NG Core in 5G scenarios, e.g. Option 5 and Option 7/7a, which are important phases of the migration path from the perspective of operators.

- However, how to support functions provided by NGC for LTE was not clear in the phase one study of 5G.

Discussion

- It is needed to enable LTE to not only “connect” to 5G core network, but also support (part of) the new functions provided by NGC, considering the following aspects:
  - LTE will be the main operating network and co-exists with NR in the long term to provide continuous coverage.
  - LTE evolution is also part of 5G.
  - Supporting NGC functions for LTE meets the requirement of operators to provide 5G service as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Proposal

- Work on LTE enhancement to support NGC functions in Rel-15
  - Support the NGC functions in LTE
    - ✓ Identify and specify technical solutions on how to support the NCG functions, e.g. slice, flow based QoS, etc.
    - ✓ Identify and specify technical solutions on how to support LTE connecting to EPC and NGC simultaneously.
  - Avoid overlapping with the work of Rel-15 NR work item

Thanks !

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