**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #112e DRAFT R2-2010839**

**eMeeting, 02 – 13 November 2020**

**Title: [DRAFT]** LS to RAN3 on small data transmission

**Response to:** -

**Release:** Release 17

**Work Item:** NR\_SmallData\_INACTIVE-Core

**Source:** Ericsson [TSG RAN WG2]

**To:** TSG RAN WG3

**Contact Person:**

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

**1. Overall Description:**

RAN2 has started work on the NR Small Data Enhancements WI (RP-201305).

In RAN2 the assumption is that the details of the procedures and possible adaptations related to UE AS context handling for SDT is handled and decided in RAN3. To benefit in those discussions for this Work Item, RAN2 would like to highlight the following related agreements reached so far in RAN2.

**Agreements:**

* Context fetch and data forwarding with anchor re-location and without anchor re-location will be considered. (RAN2 #111e)
* From RAN2 perspective, stored “configuration” in the UE Context is used for the RLC bearer configuration for any SDT mechanism (RACH and CG). (RAN2 #111e)
* The configuration of configured grant resource for UE small data transmission is valid only in the same serving cell (RAN2 #112e).
* UL/DL transmission following UL SDT without transitioning to RRC\_CONNECTED is supported (RAN2 #111e).
* When UE is in RRC\_INACTIVE, it should be possible to send multiple UL and DL packets as part of the same SDT mechanism and without transitioning to RRC\_CONNECTED on dedicated grant. (RAN2 #111e).
* For both RACH and CG based solutions, new keys are generated using the stored security context and the NCC value received in the previous RRCRelease message (i.e. same as legacy procedure) and these new keys are used for generating the data of DRBs that are configured for SDT (RAN2 #112e).

SDT can be initiated by the UE in RRC INACTIVE state either in the same cell/gNB where the UE received RRC Release with suspend configuration, or in case of RACH based SDT, in another cell/gNB if the UE have reselected to a different cell whilst in INACTIVE state. In addition, RAN2 also agreed that the first UL message (i.e. MSG3 for 4-step RACH and MSGA for 2-step RACH) may contain DRB data from one or more DRBs which are configured by the network for SDT.

The RLC configuration used for the SDT DRB data will be based on a UE stored configuration. RAN2 assumption is that the RLC PDU will be processed in the receiving gNB.

RAN2 would also like to clarify that the UE can also send or receive subsequent packets to/from the network without transitioning to RRC CONNECTED state.

**2. Actions:**

**To RAN3 group.**

**ACTION:** RAN2 respectfully requests RAN3 to take the above into account and consider the context fetch and data forwarding related procedures to support SDT data transmission with and without anchor relocation and provide any feedback on the above RAN2 agreements.

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

3GPP RAN2#113-e 25 Jan – 05 Feb 2021 Electronic Meeting