**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #131 *R2-2506450***

**Bangalore, India, 25th-29th August, 2025**

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| *CR-Form-v12.3* |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** |
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|  | **38.331** | **CR** | **5426** | **rev** | **1** | **Current version:** | **18.6.0** |  |
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| *For* [***HE******LP***](http://www.3gpp.org/3G_Specs/CRs.htm#_blank)*on using this form: comprehensive instructions can be found at* [*http://www.3gpp.org/Change-Requests*](http://www.3gpp.org/Change-Requests)*.* |
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| ***Proposed change affects:*** | UICC apps |  | ME | **x** | Radio Access Network | **x** | Core Network |  |

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| ***Title:***  | Support early CSI acquisition for L3 handover [EarlyCSI\_L3HO] |
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| ***Source to WG:*** | Huawei, HiSilicon, China Unicom, Sony, Turkcell, NTT Docomo INC., Meta, Ericsson, Reliance Jio, Vodafone, ZTE Corporation, BT Plc., Deutsche Telekom, Vivo, LG Electronics Inc., Xiaomi, NEC |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | R2 |
|  |  |
| ***Work item code:*** | TEI19 |  | ***Date:*** | 2025-08-28 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Category:*** | **B** |  | ***Release:*** | Rel-19 |
|  | *Use one of the following categories:****F*** *(correction)****A*** *(mirror corresponding to a change in an earlier release)****B*** *(addition of feature),* ***C*** *(functional modification of feature)****D*** *(editorial modification)*Detailed explanations of the above categories canbe found in 3GPP [TR 21.900](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/Specs/html-info/21900.htm). | *Use one of the following releases:Rel-8 (Release 8)Rel-9 (Release 9)Rel-10 (Release 10)Rel-11 (Release 11)…Rel-17 (Release 17)Rel-18 (Release 18)Rel-19 (Release 19) Rel-20 (Release 20)* |
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| ***Reason for change:*** | Supporting early CSI acquisition for handover. |
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| ***Summary of change:*** | The following functionality to support early CSI acquisition for handover is added* Procedure part when UE receives the CSI acquisition configuration in handover
* Necessary parameters to support early CSI acquisition signalling
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| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | Early CSI acquisition for handover is not supported. |
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| ***Clauses affected:*** | 5.3.5.5.2, 6.3.2 |
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|  | **Y** | **N** |  |  |
| ***Other specs*** | **X** |  |  Other core specifications  | TS 38.306 |
| ***affected:*** |  | **X** |  Test specifications |  |
| ***(show related CRs)*** |  | **X** |  O&M Specifications |  |
|  |  |
| ***Other comments:*** |  |
|  |  |
| ***This CR's revision history:*** |  |

START OF FIRST CHANGE

##### 5.3.5.5.2 Reconfiguration with sync

The UE shall perform the following actions to execute a reconfiguration with sync.

1> if the AS security is not activated, perform the actions upon going to RRC\_IDLE as specified in 5.3.11 with the release cause '*other*' upon which the procedure ends;

1> stop timer T430 if running;

1> if *earlyCSI-Acquisition* is included:

2> indicate to lower layer to perform early CSI acquisition, as specified in TS 38.214 [19].

1> if no DAPS bearer is configured:

2> stop timer T310 for the corresponding SpCell, if running;

1> if this procedure is executed for the MCG:

2> if timer T316 is running;

3> stop timer T316;

3> if the UE supports RLF-Report for fast MCG recovery procedure as specified in TS 38.306 [26]:

4> set the *elapsedTimeT316* in the *VarRLF-Report* to the value of the elapsed time of the timer T316;

4> set the *pSCellId* in the *VarRLF-Report* to the global cell identity of the PSCell, if available, otherwise to the physical cell identity and carrier frequency of the PSCell;

3> else:

4> clear the information included in *VarRLF-Report*, if any;

2> resume MCG transmission, if suspended.

1> stop timer T312 for the corresponding SpCell, if running;

1> if *sl-PathSwitchConfig* is included:

2> apply the value of the *newUE-Identity* as the C-RNTI;

2> if *sl-IndirectPathMaintain* is not included in *reconfigurationWithSync*:

3> if the UE is L2 U2N remote UE at source side:

4> indicate to upper layer to trigger PC5 unicast link release with the source L2 U2N Relay UE;

3> consider the target L2 U2N Relay UE to be the one indicated by the *targetRelayUE-Identity* in the *sl-PathSwitchConfig*;

3> start timer T420 for the corresponding target L2 U2N Relay UE with the timer value set to *t420*, as included in the *sl-PathSwitchConfig*;

3> indicate to upper layer (to trigger the PC5 unicast link establishment) with the target L2 U2N Relay UE indicated by the *targetRelayUE-Identity*;

3> apply the default configuration of SL-RLC1 as defined in 9.2.4 for SRB1;

2> else:

3> consider the connected L2 U2N Relay UE on the indirect path as the target L2 U2N relay UE, and maintain the PC5 connection with the L2 U2N Relay UE;

1> else (*sl-PathSwitchConfig* is not included):

2> if this procedure is executed for the MCG or if this procedure is executed for an SCG not indicated as deactivated in the E-UTRA or NR RRC message in which the *RRCReconfiguration* message is embedded:

3> start timer T304 for the corresponding SpCell with the timer value set to *t304*, as included in the *reconfigurationWithSync*;

2> if the *frequencyInfoDL* is included:

3> consider the target SpCell to be one on the SSB frequency indicated by the *frequencyInfoDL* with a physical cell identity indicated by the *physCellId*;

2> else:

3> consider the target SpCell to be one on the SSB frequency of the source SpCell with a physical cell identity indicated by the *physCellId*;

2> if this procedure is performed due to an LTM cell switch execution:

3> start synchronising to the DL of the indicated LTM candidate cell, if no DL synchronization for the indicated LTM candidate cell has been already acquired;

2> else:

3> start synchronising to the DL of the target SpCell;

2> apply the specified BCCH configuration defined in 9.1.1.1 for the target SpCell;

2> acquire the *MIB* of the target SpCell, which is scheduled as specified in TS 38.213 [13];

2> if *NTN-Config* is configured for the target cell:

3> start timer T430 with the timer value set to *ntn-UlSyncValidityDuration* from the subframe indicated by *epochTime*, according to the target cell *NTN-Config*;

NOTE 1: The UE should perform the reconfiguration with sync as soon as possible following the reception of the RRC message triggering the reconfiguration with sync, which could be before confirming successful reception (HARQ and ARQ) of this message.

NOTE 2: The UE may omit reading the *MIB* if the UE already has the required timing information, or the timing information is not needed for random access, or if not needed for RACH-less initial UL transmission.

NOTE 2a: A UE with DAPS bearer does not monitor for system information updates in the source PCell.

2> If any DAPS bearer is configured:

3> create a MAC entity for the target cell group with the same configuration as the MAC entity for the source cell group;

3> for each DAPS bearer:

4> establish an RLC entity or entities for the target cell group, with the same configurations as for the source cell group;

4> establish the logical channel for the target cell group, with the same configurations as for the source cell group;

NOTE 2b: In order to understand if a DAPS bearer is configured, the UE needs to check the presence of the field *daps-Config* within the *RadioBearerConfig* IE received in *radioBearerConfig* or *radioBearerConfig2*.

3> for each SRB:

4> establish an RLC entity for the target cell group, with the same configurations as for the source cell group;

4> establish the logical channel for the target cell group, with the same configurations as for the source cell group;

3> suspend SRBs for the source cell group;

NOTE 3: Void

3> apply the value of the *newUE-Identity* as the C-RNTI in the target cell group;

3> configure lower layers for the target SpCell in accordance with the received s*pCellConfigCommon*;

3> configure lower layers for the target SpCell in accordance with any additional fields, not covered in the previous, if included in the received *reconfigurationWithSync.*

2> else:

3> reset the MAC entity of this cell group;

3> consider the SCell(s) of this cell group, if configured, that are not included in the *SCellToAddModList* in the *RRCReconfiguration* message, to be in deactivated state;

3> apply the value of the *newUE-Identity* as the C-RNTI for this cell group;

3> configure lower layers in accordance with the received s*pCellConfigCommon*;

3> if *rach-LessHO* is included:

4> configure lower layers in accordance with *rach-LessHO* for the target SpCell;

3> configure lower layers in accordance with any additional fields, not covered in the previous, if included in the received *reconfigurationWithSync.*

2> if the UE is acting as L2 U2N Remote UE at the source side:

3> if the *sl-IndirectPathMaintain* is not included in *reconfigurationWithSync*:

4> indicate upper layer to trigger PC5 unicast link release.

Upon L2 U2N Relay UE receiving *reconfigurationWithSync*, it either indicates to upper layers (to trigger PC5 unicast link release) or sends *NotificationMessageSidelink* message to the connected L2 U2N Remote UE(s) in accordance with 5.8.9.10.

NOTE 4: The MP direct path release is realized by direct-to-indirect path switch procedure (i.e. *sl-PathSwitchConfig* and *sl-indirectPathMaintain* included in *RRCReconfiguration* message), where MP is configured in source side.

START OF SECOND CHANGE

### 6.3.2 Radio resource control information elements

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#### – *CellGroupConfig*

The *CellGroupConfig* IE is used to configure a master cell group (MCG) or secondary cell group (SCG). A cell group comprises of one MAC entity, a set of logical channels with associated RLC entities and of a primary cell (SpCell) and one or more secondary cells (SCells). For an NCR-MT, the *CellGroupConfig* IE is also used to provide the configuration of side control information for the NCR-Fwd access link.

*CellGroupConfig* information element

-- ASN1START

-- TAG-CELLGROUPCONFIG-START

< Unchanged parts are omitted >

ReconfigurationWithSync ::= SEQUENCE {

 spCellConfigCommon ServingCellConfigCommon OPTIONAL, -- Need M

 newUE-Identity RNTI-Value,

 t304 ENUMERATED {ms50, ms100, ms150, ms200, ms500, ms1000, ms2000, ms10000},

 rach-ConfigDedicated CHOICE {

 uplink RACH-ConfigDedicated,

 supplementaryUplink RACH-ConfigDedicated

 } OPTIONAL, -- Need N

 ...,

 [[

 smtc SSB-MTC OPTIONAL -- Need S

 ]],

 [[

 daps-UplinkPowerConfig-r16 DAPS-UplinkPowerConfig-r16 OPTIONAL -- Need N

 ]],

 [[

 sl-PathSwitchConfig-r17 SL-PathSwitchConfig-r17 OPTIONAL -- Cond DirectToIndirect-PathSwitch

 ]],

 [[

 rach-LessHO-r18 RACH-LessHO-r18 OPTIONAL, -- Need N

 sl-IndirectPathMaintain-r18 ENUMERATED{true} OPTIONAL -- Cond MP

 ]],

 [[

 earlyCSI-Acquisition-r19 EarlyCSI-Acquisition-r19 OPTIONAL -- Need N

 ]]

}

EarlyCSI-Acquisition-r19 ::= SEQUENCE {

 early-NZP-CSI-RS-Resource-r19 NZP-CSI-RS-ResourceId,

 early-CSI-IM-Resource-r19 CSI-IM-ResourceId OPTIONAL, -- Need R

 reportQuantity-r19 ENUMERATED {cri-RI-PMI-CQI, spare},

 cqi-Table-r19 ENUMERATED {table1, table2, table3, table4-r17},

 codebookConfig-EarlyCSI-r19 CodeBookConfig-EarlyCSI-r19

}

CodeBookConfig-EarlyCSI-r19 ::= SEQUENCE {

 twoToThirtyTwoPorts CodebookConfig,

 moreThanThirtyTwoPorts CodebookConfig-r19,

 ...

}

-- TAG-CELLGROUPCONFIG-STOP

-- ASN1STOP

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| *ReconfigurationWithSync* field descriptions |
| ***earlyCSI-Acquisition***Indicates the early CSI acquisition configuration for handover. This field is absent if configured in *LTM-Candidate*. If this field is present, UE shall transmit the CSI report using the first PUSCH as specified in clause 5.2.X, TS 38.214 [19]. |
| ***rach-ConfigDedicated***Random access configuration to be used for the reconfiguration with sync (e.g. handover). The UE performs the RA according to these parameters in the *firstActiveUplinkBWP* (see *UplinkConfig*). |
| ***sl-IndirectPathMaintain***Indicates that the L2 U2N Remote UE keeps the PC5 connection with its connected L2 U2N Relay UE. |
| ***smtc***The SSB periodicity/offset/duration configuration of target cell for NR PSCell change and NR PCell change. The network sets the *periodicityAndOffset* to indicate the same periodicity as *ssb-periodicityServingCell* in *spCellConfigCommon* or sets to the same periodicity as *ssb-Periodicity-r17* in *nonCellDefiningSSB-r17* if the first active DL BWP included in this RRC message is configured with *nonCellDefiningSSB-r17*.For case of NR PCell change, the *smtc* is based on the timing reference of (source) PCell. For case of NR PSCell change, it is based on the timing reference of source PSCell.If both this field and *targetCellSMTC-SCG* are absent, the UE uses the SMTC in the *measObjectNR* having the same SSB frequency and subcarrier spacing, as configured before the reception of the RRC message. If the first active DL BWP included in this RRC message is configured with *nonCellDefiningSSB-r17*, this field corresponds to the NCD-SSB indicated by *nonCellDefiningSSB-r17*, otherwise, this field corresponds to the CD-SSB indicated by *absoluteFrequencySSB* in *frequencyInfoDL*. |

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| *EarlyCSI-Acquisition* field descriptions |
| ***early-NZP-CSI-RS-Resource***Periodic *NZP-CSI-RS-Resource* which can be referred from *NZP-CSI-RS-Resource* pool. This is used in early CSI acquisition for handover. |
| ***early-CSI-IM-Resource***Periodic *CSI-IM-Resource* which can be referred from *CSI-IM-Resource* pool. This is used in early CSI acquisition for handover. |
| ***reportQuantity***The CSI related quantities for early CSI report. |
| ***cqi-Table***This field indicates the cqi-Table for early CSI report. |
| ***CodeBookConfig-EarlyCSI***This field indicates CodeBook Config for early CSI report. |

END OF CHANGE