**3GPP TSG-RAN3 Meeting #129R3-255784**

**Bengaluru, India, 25 – 29 August 2025**

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| *CR-Form-v12.3* | | | | | | | | |
| **CHANGE REQUEST** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | |
|  | **38.300** | **CR** | **-** | **rev** | **-** | **Current version:** | **18.6.0** |  |
|  | | | | | | | | |
| *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 for Wireless Access Backhaul | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to WG:*** | Qualcomm, Ericsson, CATT, ZTE, Nokia, Nokia Shanghai Bell | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Source to TSG:*** | R3 | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Work item code:*** | NR\_WAB\_5GFemto | | | | |  | ***Date:*** | | | 2025-8-28 |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | |  |
| ***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 can be 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)* | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Reason for change:*** | | Support for Wireless Access and Backhaul (WAB) | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Summary of change:*** | | Clause 3.1: Add WAB abbreviation.  Clause 3.2: Define WAB related terms.  Clause 4.X: Add WAB functionality. | | | | | | | | |
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| ***Consequences if not approved:*** | | No RAN support for Wireless Access and Backhaul. | | | | | | | | |
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| ***Clauses affected:*** | | 3.1, 3.2, 4.x (new), 4.x.1 (new). | | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **Y** | **N** |  | | | |  | | |
| ***Other specs*** | | **X** |  | Other core specifications | | | | TS 38.401 CR 0439 | | |
| ***affected:*** | |  | **X** | Test specifications | | | | TS/TR ... CR ... | | |
| ***(show related CRs)*** | |  | **X** | O&M Specifications | | | | TS/TR ... CR ... | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | | |
| ***Other comments:*** | | - | | | | | | | | |

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| ***This CR's revision history:*** |  |

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| *--- Begin of Changes ---* |

# 3 Abbreviations and Definitions

## 3.1 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in TR 21.905 [1], in TS 36.300 [2] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in TR 21.905 [1] and TS 36.300 [2].

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VR Virtual Reality

V2X Vehicle-to-Everything

WAB Wireless Access Backhaul

Xn-C Xn-Control plane

Xn-U Xn-User plane

XnAP Xn Application Protocol

XR eXtended Reality

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## 3.2 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in TR 21.905 [1], in TS 36.300 [2] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in TR 21.905 [1] and TS 36.300 [2].

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**Uu Relay RLC channel**: an RLC channel between L2 U2N Relay UE or MP Relay UE and gNB, which is used to transport packets over Uu for L2 UE-to-Network Relay or for indirect path in case of MP.

**V2X sidelink communication**: AS functionality enabling V2X communication as defined in TS 23.285 [41], between nearby UEs, using E-UTRA technology but not traversing any network node.

**WAB-gNB**: as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**WAB-MT**: as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**WAB-node**: as defined in TS 38.401 [4].

**Xn**: network interface between NG-RAN nodes.

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## 4.X Wireless Access Backhaul

Wireless Access Backhaul (WAB) is supported by means of the WAB-node, which provides NR access links to UEs via a gNB functionality, referred to as the WAB-gNB. The WAB-node further supports a WAB-MT function, which terminates an NR Uu interface to a stationary gNB that is used for the backhauling of the WAB-gNB’s traffic. The WAB-node may support physical mobility.

Further details of WAB are defined in TS 23.501 [3] and TS 38.401 [4].

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| *--- End of Changes ---* |