**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #113-e *Draft* R2-21xxxxx**

**Electronic meeting, Jan 25th – Feb 5th, 2021**

**Agenda item:** 8.11.2.1

**Source:** CATT

**Title:** Report of [AT113-e][608][POS] Continue discussion of latency enhancements

**Document for:** Discussion and Agreement

# 1 Introduction

This is to continue discussion of the proposals in R2-2100407 and R2-2101950. The goal of this discussion [AT113-e][608] is:

* converge to an agreeable TP for latency enhancements
* recommendations from RAN2 perspective
* [AT113-e][608][POS] Continue discussion of latency enhancements (CATT)

Scope: Discuss the proposals in R2-2100407 and R2-2101950 and converge to an agreeable TP. Additional latency enhancements from the previous email discussion can be captured if they have a clear consensus. Recommendations from RAN2 perspective should be clarified.

Intended outcome: Endorsable TP

Deadline: Tuesday 2021-02-02 1200 UTC

Rapporteur would like to have the following schedule for this email discussion to have time for preparing the summary report.

* Phase 1 (**Monday 2021-02-01 10:00 UTC**): Companies are invited to provide inputs and comments.
* Phase 2 (**Tuesday 2021-02-02 8:00 UTC**): Rapporteur will provide draft summary with proposals.

The remainder of this document is organized as the following. Section 2 contains the questionnaire on proposals in R2-2100407 and R2-2101950. The purpose is to collect the views and identify the commonalties and differences in order to converge to an agreeable TP and recommendations from RAN2 perspective.

# 2 Discussion

## 2.1 RAN2 centric objective proposals in R2-2100407

### 2.1.1 Request and response of positioning assistance data aspect

According to the email discussion results in [Post112-e][617][POS]: 8/11 companies supported request and response of positioning assistance data aspect to be further studied, and 6/10 companies support option 3 in [AT112-e][607].

* Option 3: Specify signalling and procedures for Deferred MT-LR (as proposed in R2-2010096) to support positioning configuration signalling in advance;

The proposal on Request and response of positioning assistance data aspect in the report of [Post112-e][617][POS] included both RAN1 centric and RAN2 centric objectives. However that statement brought confusion to companies because RAN1 centric objective is different from RAN2.

So the proposal on this aspect has been simplified here and focused on the discussion result in RAN2 only.

**Proposal 1: RAN2 to agree Deferred MT-LR for Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data.**

**Q1-1: Do you agree with proposal 1?**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with clarification and modification. | The positioning configuration signaling in advance is not restricted to deferred MT-LR; it is equally applicable to MT-LR, NI-LR, and MO-LR, as described in R2-2010095, R2-2101469 and commented in ED [Post112-e][617][POS].  The Proposal could be:  "Latency reduction via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed".  This is applicable to Capabilities, Assistance Data, and Location Requests. |
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**Q1-2: If your answer to Question 1-1 was "Yes", do you agree with the text proposal #1 below? Or do you have any suggestion on the text proposal #1?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #1-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

* + The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:
    - Latency reduction related to the measurement gap
    - Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurement (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules)
    - Latency reduction related to measurements
    - Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via Deferred MT-LR)

**----------------------------End of Text Proposal #1-------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with modification | The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:   * Latency reduction related to the measurement gap * Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements (e.g., via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed, via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules) * Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed, via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure) * Latency reduction related to measurements |
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**Q1-3: If your answer to Question 1-1 was "Yes", do you agree text proposal # 2 as recommendation from RAN2 perspective?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #2-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency are recommended for normative work, including DL and DL+UL positioning methods

* + The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:
    - Latency reduction related to the measurement gap
    - Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurement (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules)
    - Latency reduction related to measurements
    - **Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via Deferred MT-LR)**

**----------------------------End of Text Proposal #2-------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with modification | See our response to Q1-2. |
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### 2.1.2 Measurement report optimization aspect

According to the email discussion results in [Post112-e][617][POS]: 11/12 companies agreed to study latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements and one company agreed with condition (depends on the context). However companies had different understanding on detail solutions, e.g. CG-based solution.

RAN2 only discussed the CG-based solution because other RAN1 related solutions are not discussed by RAN2 before.

Some company mentioned that CG-based solution is not clear and there is no consensus during the online meeting. So this email continues to discuss the proposal of CG-based here.

There are only two candidate CG-Based solutions from companies, according to the results in [AT112-e][607].

* Option 1(summarized from five companies’ comments): Using the existed CG-based transmission for a certain logical channel.

It is already supported by the configuration of logical channel in NR Rel-16 which is up to the network implementation to configure CG. However there is NRPPa spec impact. gNB may get the PRS period from LMF via NRPPa.

* Option2: New type or separate CG for positioning which is used to adapt the PRS period and positioning specific configured grant may be introduced in Rel-17.

This can be used as positioning use only uplink resources, so that periodic positioning measurement report could be sent without waiting any L1 signals.

Discussion results in [Post112-e][617][POS] show that: **2 companies**(vivo, InterDigital) support the option2 and 5 companies think option1 has worked now(i.e. using the existing CG-based transmission).

Companies are invited to review the options and answer the questions as below:

**Q2-1: Which option do you prefer?**

**– Option 1: Drop the CG-based solution.**

**– Option 2: Agree the existing CG-based solution for Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements.**

**– Option 3: Keep CG-based solution for Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements.**

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| **Company name** | **Option1/ 2/ 3** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm |  | To us, it is still unclear what a "CG-based solution" includes and what latency gains can be achieved. However, it does not have to be ruled-out if proponents can show an end-to-end solution and corresponding latency gains. It has been mentioned that additional NRPPa signalling may be required, which would add additional latency.  We think CG would be more appropriate for the "idle/inactive positioning" objective. |
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**Q2-2: If your answer to Question 2-1 was "Option2", do you agree with the text proposal #3 below? Or do you have any comments on the text proposal #3?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #3-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency can be studied and specified, if needed

* + Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure)
  + Latency reduction related to the reception of DL PRS (e.g., priority rules for the reception of DL PRS)
  + Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements (existing CG-based transmission)

**----------------------------End of Text Proposal #3-------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
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**Q2-3: If your answer to Question 2-1 was "Option2", do you agree to recommend text proposal#4 from RAN2 perspective?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #4-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency are recommended for normative work, including DL and DL+UL positioning methods

* + The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:
    - Latency reduction related to the measurement gap
    - Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurement (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules)
    - Latency reduction related to measurements
    - **Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements (existing CG-based transmission)**

**----------------------------End of Text Proposal #4 -------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
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### 2.1.3 Capability procedure aspect

According to the email discussion results in [Post112-e][617][POS]: 9/12 companies agree with the capability procedure aspect for latency reduction, 1/12 company disagree and 2/12 companies share the concern and issues to be investigated. Therefore we only captured the baseline, and details can be further studied and LS will be sent to SA2 in WI phase.

**Proposal 2:** **RAN2 to agree capture capability procedure for latency reduction and SA2 will be involved in WI.**

**Q3-1: Do you agree with proposal 2?**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with clarification | As mentioned in our response to Q1-1, the "Latency reduction via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed" is applicable to Capabilities, Assistance Data, and Location Requests.  As long as this is within the scope, we agree with the proposal. |
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**Q3-2: If your answer to Question 3-1 was "Yes", do you agree with the text proposal #5 below? Or do you have any comments on the text proposal #5?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #5-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency can be studied and specified, if needed

* + Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure)
  + Latency reduction related to the reception of DL PRS (e.g., priority rules for the reception of DL PRS)
  + **Latency reduction related to capability procedure (SA2 will be involved in WI).**

**-------------------------------- End of Text Proposal #5 -------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with modification | The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency can be studied and specified, if needed   * Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed, via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure) * Latency reduction related to the reception of DL PRS (e.g., priority rules for the reception of DL PRS) * Latency reduction related to capability procedure (e.g., via location scheduling in advance of the time of when the location is needed) * SA2 will be involved in WI. |
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**Q3-3: If your answer to Question 3-1 was "Yes", do you agree to recommend text proposal #6 from RAN2 perspective?**

**--------------------------------Text Proposal #6-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency are recommended for normative work, including DL and DL+UL positioning methods

* + The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:
    - Latency reduction related to the measurement gap
    - Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurement (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules)
    - Latency reduction related to measurements
    - **Latency reduction related to capability procedure (SA2 will be involved in WI).**

**----------------------------End of Text Proposal #6 -------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with modification | See our response to Q3-2. |
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### 3.2.3 Architecture enhancement aspect

According to the email discussion results in [Post112-e][617][POS]: **2/9companies**(InterDigital, Qualcomm) agree with the aspect, **4/9 companies**(Intel, Nokia, Apple, Convida) suggest other groups involved (e.g. SA2 and RAN3 should be involved for the architecture enhancement) and **3/9 companies**(Huawei/HiSilicon, ZTE, Ericsson) disagree it.

It seems there is no clear consensus on if architecture enhancement aspect for latency reduction will be further studied in RAN2.

Companies think RAN3 and SA2/SA3 may be involved address architecture and security aspects whenever that may be. Therefore rapporteur suggests there is no proposal on architecture enhancement aspect for latency reduction.

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm |  | It seems rather obvious that other groups need to be involved, which applies to almost all objectives being discussed here, incl. e.g., capability procedure aspects, etc.  It should be clarified how the e.g., latency reduction via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure is supposed to work without any architecture enhancements. Those studies seem clearly under RAN2 scope (including the related architectural aspects). Similar to Proposal 2 by the rapporteur, SA2 and others can be involved during WI phase. |
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## 2.2 RAN1 centric objective proposals in R2-2100407

There is no any agreement on latency in RAN #90-e and no relative objective is added in new WID of ePOS [2] because RAN1 is waiting for the progress of RAN2 on latency.

Measurement gap and priority rules for the reception of DL PRS were discussed in [Post112-e][617][POS]. However they are RAN1 centric objective. Now there is agreement on measurement gaps optimizations and priority rules for the reception of DL PRS from RAN1 as below:

* **The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:**
  + **Latency reduction related to the measurement gap**
* **The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency can be studied and specified, if needed**
  + **Latency reduction related to the reception of DL PRS (e.g., priority rules for the reception of DL PRS)**

It seemed that the RAN1 centric objectives proposals in R2-2100407 had brought confusion to companies according to the online meeting #113-e. Because some of them were discussed in RAN2 while others not. Therefore these RAN1 centric objective proposals are not discussed again in this email discussion because RAN1 have reached the agreement and captured them into TR.

Only the agreements which are in the email discussion scope are listed above just for your information.

## 2.3 New proposals in R2-2101950

### 2.3.1 Broadcast delay optimization aspect

According to R2-2101392, broadcast delays for positioning are substantial and cannot be ignored.i.e. the total delay would be Periodicty\*NumberOfSegments + NumberOfSegments\*SI\_WindowLenghth. Currently SI-windows with same length for all SI messages is configured. By introducing a separate SI window length for the SI messages carrying positioning SIBs, it is possible to configure this window short enough, without consideration of any legacy SIB impact. The short SI window has the advantage of shortening the acquisition time of multiple segments and also of all positioning SIBs that is of interest for the UE.

R2-2101392 **Proposal 2:** Adjustable and Short SI Window length of 1 slot is considered in Rel-17 for posSIBs.

Additionally, in order to reduce broadcast delays, it should be made possible that each posSIB segment are sent in a separate back to back SI messages. Considering 3 segments of a posSIB; if each segment is scheduled back to back in different SI messages, it will reduce the latency.

R2-2101392 **Proposal 3:** Flexible SI scheduling allowing back to back delivery of posSIB segments is considered to reduce broadcast delays.

**Rapporteur’s comments:** There is a new posSIBs broadcast mechanism(proposal 2&3 below) which is quite different from the legacy broadcast mechanism as summarized in R2-2101950. The broadcast delay optimization is not in the scope of latecy analysis[3][4] for Rel-17 SI. On the other hand, it is observerd that the proposals 2&3 may reduce the latency of braodcast AD.

So RAN2 will discuss at first if the broadcast delay optimization is in the scope of latecy reduction, and then evaluate the candidate solutions within both implementation effort and the gains.

**Q4-1: Do you agree broadcast delay optimization aspect should be a part of latency reduction?**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | The main benefit of broadcast is that a UE could always have valid assistance data stored. This already implies a latency reduction. The available broadcast periodicities can already be very small, therefore, we do not see a need for System Information enhancements.  However, if any System Information enhancements are going to be studied (e.g., for other purposes than latency reduction), it should not be specific to positioning. |
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**Q4-2: If your answer to Question 4-1 was "Yes", please provide your views: e.g. performance evaluation of the solutions above, or specifying the solutions above in detail.**

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**Q4-3: If your answer to Question 4-1 was "Yes", do you recommend broadcast delay optimization aspect from RAN2 perspective?**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
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### 2.3.2 The additional delay incurred by Beam Failure and NLOS

This new proposal on beam failure and NLOS effects is highly related with RAN1. But considering this is the last meeting for Rel-17 SI, RAN2 may discuss it here.

Based on R2-2100933, single or multiple beam/TRP failures that involve DL-PRS transmissions can impact the overall positioning performance and incur additional latency, including RAT-dependent positioning techniques that rely on DL and UL positioning measurements. In addition, the latency evaluations performed by RAN1 and RAN2, did not consider the additional delays incurred through retransmissions of the measurement report, which can affect the overall end-to-end latency.

**Observation 6:** Beam failure events and measurement report retransmissions can introduce additional delays, which may affect the end-to-end latency of determining a UE’s location estimate.

Also, for Rel-17 IIoT positioning, other non-ideal positioning radio events may occur such as the effect of multiple NLOS beams/multipath components or a lack of suitable LOS beams will impact the quality of the DL-PRS measurements performed at UE and thus decrease the computed positioning accuracy at the LMF (UE-assisted positioning) or at the UE (UE-based positioning). This is an additional concern since it has been established that certain indoor factory setting have a high probability of NLOS components.

**Observation 7:** NLOS TRPs/links can incur additional latency in terms of beam reselection procedures, request of PRS configuration and thus affect the accuracy of a location estimate.

Below is the proposal from Lenovo, Motorola Mobility:

R2-2100933 **Proposal 7:** RAN2 to study mechanisms for mitigating the effects of beam failure and NLOS effects, which can impact the end-to-end positioning latency.

**Rapporteur’s comments:** It seems that there is no clear evaluation on latency and clear candidate latency reduction sultion in the contribution.

**Q5-1: Do you agree mechanisms for mitigating the effects of beam failure and NLOS effects as one of aspects of latency reduction?**

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| **Company name** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm |  | We understand this is related to the reliability of the communication link? If so, it has generally an impact on latency, but seems out of scope of the positioning WI. |
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**Q5-2: If your answer to Question 5-1 was "Yes", please provide your views: e.g. performance evaluation of the solutions above, or specifying the solutions above in detail.**

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| **Company name** | **Comments** |
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# 3 Conclusion

Based on company feedback, the following is observed and proposed:

**TBD**

# 4 References

1. R2-2010868 [AT112-e][607][POS]Gathering of latency enhancement solutions (CATT), CATT
2. RP-202900 New WID on NR Positioning Enhancements, CATT, Intel Corporation, Ericsson
3. 3GPP TR 38.857 V1.0.0 (2020-12)
4. R2-2010669 Summary of 8.11.2 Enhancements for commercial use cases
5. R2-2008810 Further discussion on enhancements for commercial use cases, CATT
6. R2-2008886 Discussion on End-to-End Latency Reduction for DL/UL Positioning, InterDigital, Inc.
7. R2-2009001 Report of [Post111-e][625][POS] End-to-end latency analysis (Intel), Intel Corporation
8. R2-2009023 Solution directions to reduce end-to-end latency, Intel Corporation
9. R2-2010096 NR Positioning Latency Analysis and Enhancements, Qualcomm Incorporated
10. R2-2010276 Discussion on IDLE INACTIVE pos, on-demand PRS and latency analysis, Huawei, HiSilicon
11. R2-2010277 Discussion on R17 positioning enhancement, Huawei, HiSilicon
12. R2-2010072 Enhancements for commercial use cases, Ericsson
13. R2-2009039 Discussion on positioning enhancement, vivo
14. R2-2009137 Discussion on positioning enhancements for commercial use cases, Spreadtrum Communications
15. R2-2009577 Positioning enhancements on RRC idle/inactive UE and latency reduction, Beijing Xiaomi Electronics
16. R2-2009897 Considerations on potential positioning enhancements, Sony
17. R2-2010627 Discussion on enhancement for commercial use cases, Samsung R&D Institute UK
18. R2-2008261 [AT111-e][612][POS] Assumptions for analysis of commercial use cases, Ericsson
19. R2-2101950 Summary of AI 8.11.2.1 Latency analysis and latency enhancements CATT
20. R2-2100933 On Positioning Latency Reduction Solutions Lenovo, Motorola Mobility
21. R2-2101392 Discussion on Latency Aspects Ericsson

# 5 Participants

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| **Company Name** | **Participant name/contact** |
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# 6 Annex

The agreement on latency in potential positioning enhancements after RAN1 #103-e meeting is below:

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| Agreement:  Capture the following in the TR:   * The enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency are recommended for normative work, including DL and DL+UL positioning methods   + The details of the solutions are left for further discussion in normative work, which may include the following aspects:     - Latency reduction related to the measurement gap     - Latency reduction related to the reporting and request of the measurements (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure, and/or priority rules)     - Latency reduction related to measurement time * The following enhancements of signaling & procedures for reducing NR positioning latency can be studied and specified, if needed   + Latency reduction related to the request and response of positioning assistance data (e.g., via RRC signaling, MAC-CE and/or physical layer procedure)   + Latency reduction related to the reception of DL PRS (e.g., priority rules for the reception of DL PRS) * No assumptions are made on whether the LCS architecture specified in TS 23.273 is enhanced or not. |

There is no any agreement on latency in RAN #90-e and no relative objective is added in new WID of ePOS [2].