



## Liaison Statement

**Liaison Statement Title:**

LS to 3GPP on user plane security

**Source Meeting Information**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Meeting Location
DESS#79	2022-05-11	Virtual call

**Document Details**

Document Number:	Creation Date:	Document Author:
DESS#79 Doc 06	2022-05-09	Ewout Pronk, DESS Chair
Originating GSMA Source:	Deadline for response:	Liaison Statement Contact
DESS	-	<a href="mailto:gsmalaisons@gsma.com">gsmalaisons@gsma.com</a>
Security Classification	Non-confidential	

**Action Required by Recipient**

Internal Recipients:	Cc: RIFS, NRG
External Recipients:	To: 3GPP SA3

## **1 Background**

The GSMA Diameter End-to-End Security Subgroup (DESS), a subgroup of the GSMA Fraud and Security Group (FASG), encourages mandating confidentiality, integrity, and replay protection for other interfaces besides N32, as per 3GPP TS 33.501 section 9.9. Based on TS 33.501, DESS has ensured that GSMA specifications mandate the use of Network Domain Security/Internet Protocol (NDS/IP) between mobile network operators to secure the user plane (N9) accordingly.

DESS has noticed that 3GPP TS 33.210 is not aligned with the requirements of TS 33.501. These specifications have contradicting statements in relation to securing user plane traffic with NDS/IP.

- TS 33.501 section 9.9 specifies that NDS/IP shall apply to non-SBA inter-PLMN interfaces (including N9 user plane);
- TS 33.210 sections 4.3 and B.1 state that NDS/IP does not extend to the user plane.

## **2 Request to 3GPP SA3**

DESS kindly requests 3GPP SA3 to update TS 33.210 to be consistent with TS 33.501, mandating user plane security for the N9 interface if the intention is indeed to secure the N9 interface based on the statements in TS 33.501 section 9.9.

Alternatively, if there are any operational or other concerns around securing user plane traffic via NDS/IP, DESS would like to understand better the implications of the discrepancy between TS 33.501 and TS 33.210. DESS suggests correcting and/or clarifying the contradicting statements around user plane traffic.

## **3 NEXT MEETINGS:**

- DESS#80 June 1<sup>st</sup>
- DESS#81 June 22<sup>nd</sup>
- DESS#82 July 13<sup>th</sup>

And at 3-week intervals thereafter.