**3GPP TSG-RAN WG3 #111-e** **R3-210500**

**25 January – 4 February 2021**

**Title:** [DRAFT] Reply LS on small data transmission

**Reply to:** LS to RAN3 on small data transmission (R2-2010839)

**Release:** Release 17

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

**Source:** Ericsson [To Be RAN3]

**To:** RAN2

**Cc:**

**Contact Person:**

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**Attachments:** n/a

**1. Overall Description:**

RAN3 thanks RAN2 for the LS on their progress.

RAN3 has briefly discussed how to support SDT in RRC\_INACTIVE WI, and would like to inform RAN2 about our initial progress on RACH-based SDT as followings:

* WA1: The existing Retrieve UE Context procedure can be reused for both with and without anchor relocation scenarios with some enhancements. These enhancements will be discussed later.
* WA2: UL data for SDT is buffered at the receiving node in the successful context retrieval procedure. For other cases, the common understanding is that UL data may need to be buffered as well, details are pending.
* WA3: The last serving gNB, i.e., anchor gNB, will be the decision maker on whether to relocate anchor or not. Assistance information or guidance provided by the receiving gNB may help on the decision. Details of assistance information or guidance are pending future discussion in RAN3 and/or RAN2 inputs.
* RAN3 discussed the statement in the LS that RLC handling is processed in the receiving gNB and would like to ask if this is confirmed as a firm agreement in RAN3. Several companies in RAN3 proposed to analyse the topic further, but RAN3 does not know whether RAN2 needs an immediate decision in order to make further progress.

Based on the above considerations, RAN3 will continue discussing on possible solutions when the WI starts in RAN3 in Q4 2021.

**2. Actions:**

**To RAN2 working group.**

**ACTION:** RAN3 kindly RAN2 to take the progress into account and provide further inputs if any.

**3. Date of Next TSG-RAN WG3 Meetings:**

RAN3#112 May 2021 Online