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Tdoc T3-000433

Source: TSG-T WG3

To: TSG-RAN WG2

Cc: TSG-SA WG3, TSG-T WG2, TSG-CN WG1

Title: Response to LS (R2-001541) on Parameters to be stored in the USIM
(Original LS: T3-99304)

Contact: Christian Heim, Giesecke & Devrient
Email: christian.heim@gdm.de
Tel.: +49 89 4119 2547

TSG-T3 would like to thank TSG-RAN WG2 for their information about network related parameters to be stored in the USIM.

TSG-T3 has some questions in order to ensure that the implementation in the specifications meets all the requirements of TSG-RAN WG2:

Ciphering information

All information related to ciphering, i.e. CK, IK, KSI, START, is incorporated in the existing version of TS 31.102 (USIM application). This is done for the CS as well as for the PS domain.

Nevertheless, each object is only stored once, i.e. there is no storage provided for 'Old' parameters, e.g. 'Old CK'.

T3's understanding is that only the current values are to be stored and that this is in line with the S3 requirements. T3 asks TSG-RAN WG2 for clarification if this concurrent storage of 'old values' is required for the Access Stratum.

Frequency information

Neighbour cell list

T3's understanding of these parameters is that they are used to accelerate the network cell selection when the UE is switched on.

These parameters are subscription related, i.e. stored in the USIM and as such only accessible if the USIM has been selected successfully.

As a consequence the ME can access these parameters rather late in the startup procedure, i.e. only after a successful PIN Verification. In order to make these parameters available to the ME at a

very early stage it is recommendable to store these parameters internally in the ME rather than in the USIM.

Nevertheless, in case that these parameters have to be stored in the USIM, T3 asks for guidance on the exact structure to be used to store the parameters.

Other Frequency Information

There might be other frequency information than the neighbour cell list that can be considered for storage in the USIM in order to accelerate cell selection, e.g. the frequency ranges assigned to the operator and as such associated to a specific USIM (in GSM: the BA_RANGE).

T3 would require information about the number of parameters and their structure. Changes of such parameters have to be taken into account, e.g. in case an operator acquires new frequency ranges.

Multiplicity values and type constraint values

T3 kindly asks for information about the maximum number of CN domains. In T3's understanding there are two CN domains only, the CS and the PS domain.

Also T3 asks for confirmation if the maximum number of GSM cells is 8 as indicated in the LS from TSG-RAN WG2, in case that this parameter has to be stored in the USIM.

In GSM the information provided by the network (System Information 2) is stored transparently in the relevant file (EF_{BCCCH}) without taking into consideration the number of cells and the coding which is used.

T3 would like to thank the TSG-RAN WG2 for their co-operation and is looking forward to receiving their views on the subject.