

Source: Vodafone
Title: Work item Description: CN work for Intra Domain Connection of RAN Nodes to Multiple CN Nodes
Agenda item: 8.19
Document for: APPROVAL

1 3GPP Work Area

	Radio Access
X	Core Network
	Services

2 Linked work items

- F1 Intra Domain Connection of RAN Nodes to Multiple CN Nodes: Overall System Architecture
SA 2 is responsible for this.
- BB2 RAN work for Intra Domain Connection of RAN Nodes to Multiple CN Nodes
[RAN 3 is predicted to lead the work in RAN]
- BB3 GERAN work for Intra Domain Connection of RAN Nodes to Multiple CN Nodes
[GERAN 2 is predicted to lead the work in GERAN]

3 Justification

In the current network architecture, an RNC can only be connected to one MSC and/or one SGSN. The same restriction applies to BSCs. This has the following consequences:

- a) when a BSC (or RNC) has a relatively large capacity compared to that of an MSC/SGSN there are frequently significant wastages of hardware. (For example, if a BSC has 40% of the capacity of an MSC, do you connect 2 or 3 BSCs to that MSC?)
- b) as networks carry more traffic, the geographic area covered by one MSC or SGSN (of a given capacity) decreases. However, subscribers still tend to travel the same physical distances and therefore there are more inter-MSC/SGSN registration updates. The signalling associated with these inter MSC/SGSN updates causes additional load on MSCs, SGSNs, HLRs, the core network signalling networks and on the radio interface signalling channels.

The ability to connect RNCs and BSCs to more than one MSC and to more than one SGSN could reduce the above problems. In addition, the ability to provide load sharing between MSCs (SGSNs) would further improve the efficiency of hardware utilisation.

This work will focus on a solution where a routing function is placed in the RNC (or BSC). This avoids most of the problems of a standalone node (TR 23.913 called it the Turbo Routing Function), while retaining the other advantages of described in R'99, TR 23.913.

This Work Item (which is a Feature) proposes to provide a standardised mechanism for the connection of multiple MSCs (and SGSNs) to an RNC or a BSC (both A/Gb mode and Iu mode) which reduces mobility management signalling and permits improved efficiency in hardware utilisation.

It is intended that this new concept is an architectural option for any PLMN. Its deployment, or non-deployment, by one network operator should not place requirements on other network operators.

4 Objective

The objective of this Work Item is to produce the necessary updates to the CN TSs and to verify that there is no impact on other CN TSs.

5 Service Aspects

None

6 MMI-Aspects

None

7 Charging Aspects

None

8 Security Aspects

None

9 Impacts

Affects:	USIM	ME	AN	CN	Others
Yes				X	
No	X	X	X		X
Don't know					

10 Expected Output and Time scale (to be updated at each plenary)

New specifications						
Spec No.	Title	Prime rsp. WG	2ndary rsp. WG(s)	Presented for information at plenary#	Approved at plenary#	Comments
Affected existing specifications						
Spec No.	CR	Subject		Approved at plenary#		Comments
23.003		Rules for TMSI partitioning				Is this an SA2 or CN specification?
23.007		None?				Need to verify that no changes are needed.
24.008		Coding of NAS routeing parameter				
29.002		None?				Need to verify that no changes are needed.
29.018		None?				Need to verify that no changes are needed.
29.060		None?				Need to verify that no changes are needed.

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Work item rapporteurs

Duncan Mills, Vodafone

12 Work item leadership

CN 1

13 Supporting Companies

Vodafone, Nokia, Ericsson, Nortel, Mannesmann

14 Classification of the WI (if known)

	Feature (go to 14a)
X	Building Block (go to 14b)
	Work Task (go to 14c)

14a The WI is a Feature: List of building blocks under this feature

(list of Work Items identified as building blocks)

14b The WI is a Building Block:

Parent Feature, F1: Intra Domain Connection of RAN Nodes to Multiple CN Nodes: Overall System Architecture

SA 2 is responsible for this.

14c The WI is a Work Task: parent Building Block

(one Work Item identified as a building block)