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| **Source:** | Nortel Network |
| **Title:** | IMS clients in UE split |
| **Agenda item:** | 5.2  (Linked to LS in NP-10556) |
| **Document for:** | Discussion and decision |

The document "Liaison statement on UE Functionality Split Related to the IMS" (T2-011170 / NP-10556) raises an important question about how IMS clients should be handled in a UE-split scenario. The liaison quotes a statement agreed by SA1 at their last meeting:

"Call Control Signalling (eg IMS SIP signalling) must not run transparently through the MT by the TE in this release".

In SA1 this statement replaced the previous statement which had been stable for several meetings:

"The IP-multimedia subsystem client may be implemented in the TE. In this case all requirements identified generally for the IMS shall be met [3]. Other types of UMTS client software also needs to be supported."

As can be seen there has been an almost complete reversal in the meaning. We feel that this change of direction has been taken too quickly without consideration of all the issues by the technical experts in the relevant sub-groups.

In order to have the best solution it is proposed that subgroups are asked to study the issue and find a solution according to guidelines issued by the plenary. Expertise from SA3 (security), CN1 (SIP signalling) and possibly SA2 will be needed. It may be desirable to organise a joint meeting on this subject.

The following objectives need to be considered by the working groups when reaching a proposal:
- The security of the UMTS system should be protected.
- The goal of IMS is to utilise the flexibility provided by SIP technology. The solution should maximise this flexibility.
- The implications for the proposed solution on the time-to-market for initial IMS clients should be considered.
- IMS is an application using IP transport. Consistent handling of all IP-based applications is a desirable technical objective. If different handling is required for particular applications then this needs to be very carefully defined to avoid compatibility problems.

3GPP is also urged to consider the following related issues:
- How MTs which have modifiable software (eg in Flash memory or RAM) may be handled?
- Whether testing/approval processes should also cover certain TE software clients?

It is recognised that completion of UE-split may not be possible for the release 5 timetable. However this decision should be finally taken on the basis of what is available at the finalisation of release 5.