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Reply to Liaison Statement on UMTS Simultaneous Mode

From: 3GPP TSG-RAN WG3
To: ETSI SMG12, 3GPP TSG-SA WG2
Cc: 3GPP TSG-RAN

TSG-RAN WG3 thanks ETSI SMG12 for its Liaison Statement concerning “UMTS Simultaneous Mode” (PSTN/ISDN communications and IP simultaneously).

TSG-R WG3 has considered the requirement for the provision of simultaneous mode within UTRAN, and reports that the UTRAN architecture has been designed to support simultaneous mode efficiently. As SMG12 correctly notes, there is a single RRC connection between UTRAN and UE, which will support all radio access bearers that are active for the user, irrespective of the CN domain that is using them. Various other features of UTRAN, including the Common ID Update procedure (a procedure to inform the RNC of a user’s permanent CN identity to aid in co-ordinated “paging”), are included to support simultaneous mode communications.

Furthermore, WG3 has recently decided to include a “domain distribution function” into the UTRAN Architecture. The purpose of this function is basically to route the Layer 3 Non Access Stratum messages to the appropriate CN entity.

In summary, TSG-R WG3 has considered “simultaneous mode” from the perspective of the UTRAN architecture and has found that it is fully supported.