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Agenda Item: 11.3

Source: ZTE，China Telecom, Ericsson

Title: TP to BL CR of 37.340 on QoE enhancement in NR-DC

Document for: Discussions & Approval

# Introduction

This paper provides the text proposals to the BL CR of 37.340.

# TP to BL CR of 37.340

-------------------------------------------Start of changes-------------------------------------------

10.5.2 MR-DC with 5GC

**MN initiated SN Change**

The MN initiated SN change procedure is used to transfer a UE context from the source SN to a target SN and to change the SCG configuration in UE from one SN to another.

The Secondary Node Change procedure always involves signalling over MCG SRB towards the UE.

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**Figure 10.5.2-1: SN change procedure - MN initiated**

Figure 10.5.2-1 shows an example signalling flow for the SN Change initiated by the MN:

1/2. The MN initiates the SN change by requesting the target SN to allocate resources for the UE by means of the SN Addition procedure. The MN may include measurement results related to the target SN. If data forwarding is needed, the target SN provides data forwarding addresses to the MN. The target SN includes the indication of the full or delta RRC configuration..

NOTE 1: The MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration and SN-associated QMC configuration, and to allow provision of data forwarding related information before step 1.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>Unchanged parts are skipped<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

**SN initiated SN Change**

The SN initiated SN change procedure is used to transfer a UE context from the source SN to a target SN and to change the SCG configuration in UE from one SN to another.

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**Figure 10.5.2-2: SN change procedure - SN initiated**

Figure 10.5.2-2 shows an example signalling flow for the SN Change initiated by the SN:

1. The source SN initiates the SN change procedure by sending the *SN Change Required* message, which contains a candidate target node ID and may include the SCG configuration (to support delta configuration) and measurement results related to the target SN. For supporting QMC continuity during mobility, the *SN Change Required* message may contain the source SN associated QMC configuration.

-------------------------------------------Next change-------------------------------------------

### 10.7.2 MR-DC with 5GC

Inter-MN handover with/without MN initiated SN change is used to transfer UE context data from a source MN to a target MN while the UE context at the SN is kept or moved to another SN. During an Inter-Master Node handover, the target MN decides whether to keep or change the SN (or release the SN, as described in clause 10.8). Only intra-RAT Inter-Master node handover with/without SN change is supported (e.g. no transition from NGEN-DC to NR-DC).



Figure 10.7.2-1: Inter-MN handover with/without MN initiated SN change procedure

Figure 10.7.2-1 shows an example signalling flow for inter-MN handover with or without MN initiated SN change:

NOTE 1: For an Inter-Master Node handover without Secondary Node change, the source SN and the target SN shown in Figure 10.7.2-1 are the same node.

1. The source MN starts the handover procedure by initiating the Xn Handover Preparation procedure including both MCG and SCG configuration. The source MN includes the source SN UE XnAP ID, SN ID and the UE context in the source SN in the *Handover Request* message.

NOTE 2: The source MN may trigger the MN-initiated SN Modification procedure (to the source SN) to retrieve the current SCG configuration and SN-associated QMC configuration and to allow provision of data forwarding related information before step 1.

2. If the target MN decides to keep the UE context in source SN, the target MN sends *SN Addition Request* to the SN including the SN UE XnAP ID as a reference to the UE context in the SN that was established by the source MN. If the target MN decides to change the SN allowing delta configuration, the target MN sends the *SN Addition Request* to the target SN including the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN. Otherwise, the target MN may send the *SN Addition Request* to the target SN including neither the SN UE XnAP ID nor the UE context in the source SN that was established by the source MN.

-------------------------------------------Next change-------------------------------------------

## **13.x Application Layer Measurement Collection**

### **13.x.1 Overview**

* The QoE Measurement Collection function as described in TS 38.300 [3] is extended to address NR-DC operation. The requirements on the gNB provided in TS 38.300 [3] apply to the MN, together with additional requirements on MN and SN provided in following sub-clauses.

### **13.x.2 QoE Measurement Configuration**

#### **13.x.2.1 QoE Measurement Collection Activation and Reporting in NR-DC**

For a UE in NR-DC, the MN and the SN may coordinate QoE measurement collection activation and reporting as follows:

For management-based QoE activation, the MN:

- Allocates the measurement configuration application layer ID, and indicates to SN if needed;

- Determines whether the MN or the SN sends the QoE configuration to the UE, in case SN enquires MN.

For management-based QoE measurement configuration received directly by the SN from the OAM, the SN may perform UE selection. For a selected UE, the SN indicates to the MN the QoE reference of the management-based QoE session and, separately for the QoE reports and RAN visible QoE reports, the SN indicates whether it is going to receive the corresponding reports via the MN (using SRB4) or using SRB5. Upon receiving the request, the MN can decide and notify the SN whether the MN sends the QoE and RAN visible QoE configuration to the UE, or whether the SN should send the configuration(s) to the UE. The SN can send a QoE and a RAN visible QoE measurement configuration directly to the UE via SRB3, or in a transparent container to the MN, which then sends it to the UE via SRB1.

For management-based QoE configurations received from the OAM and for the signalling based QoE configurations, the MN can only send the configuration to the UE via SRB1, and the UE can send the QoE reports via SRB4 or SRB5.

The network explicitly indicates to the UE whether to send QoE reports via SRB4 or SRB5, per QoE reference, separately for QoE reports and RAN visible QoE reports. The SRB for QoE reporting can be changed during the application session. The command for changing the SRB used for reporting may be sent to the UE by the node that configured that specific QoE configuration. The node that currently receives the QoE reports via the Uu can request from the peer node that the QoE reporting leg is switched to the peer node per QoE Reference. The leg switch for QoE reporting needs to be approved by both nodes serving the UE. RAN visible QoE reports can be sent over the same leg, as the QoE reports pertaining to the same QoE reference, or over the other leg.

The MN should inform the SN that a UE is configured with a management-based QoE/RAN visible QoE measurement configuration.

If the MN has configured the UE with QoE measurements, and if the UE is configured to send the QoE reports to the SN, then, if the MN decides that the SN forwards the reports directly to the MCE, the MN should indicate to the SN the QoE reference, the MCE IP address and the measConfigAppLayerId.

If the SN has configured the UE with QoE measurements, and if the UE is configured to send the QoE reports to the MN, then, if the SN decides that the MN forwards the reports directly to the MCE, the SN should indicate to the MN the QoE reference and the MCE IP address.

If the SN has released a QoE configuration towards a UE, the SN should inform the MN.

#### 13.x.2.2 RAN Overload Handling

In NR-DC, when RAN overload happens in the node which receives QoE reports from the UE. The node may coordinate with its peer node to reconfigure the QoE reporting path, by sending the QoE Reporting Path Request in the QMC Coordination Request IE, via SN modification procedure.

When neither the MN nor the SN are able to receive the QoE reports due to RAN overload, the network can indicate to the UE to pause QoE reporting, as specified in TS 38.300 [3].

### **13.x.3 QoE Measurement Continuity for Mobility**

For ongoing sessions, QoE measurement continuity needs to be ensured during mobility in NR-DC e.g., during inter-MN handover and SN change scenarios.

To ensure QoE measurement continuity during SN change, the SN-initiated SN change procedure and/or the MN-initiated SN modification procedure can be used to provide the information about the SN-associated QMC configurations to the MN. The MN can then transfer this information to the new SN during the SN Addition procedure.

To ensure QoE measurement continuity during inter-MN handover with SN change, the source SN should provide the information about the SN-associated QMC configurations to the source MN. During the handover procedure, the target MN is provided with all the information that the source MN has about the SN-associated QMC configuration.

If the MN configured the UE with QoE measurements, every subsequent MN serving the UE can configure and release the RAN visible QoE measurements.

At SN release, all the QoE measurements configured by the SN should be released.

-------------------------------------------End of changes-------------------------------------------