3GPP TSG-RAN WG3 Meeting #125 R3-244660

Maastricht, NL, 19 - 23 Aug, 2024

**Title: Reply LS on the Realization of Network Slices for 5G Networks Using Current IP/MPLS Technologies**

**Response to: LS R3-244027 on "A Realization of Network Slices for 5G Networks Using Current IP/MPLS Technologies"**

**Release: Rel-18**

**Work Item: TEI18**

Source: RAN3

**To: IETF Traffic Engineering Architecture and Signaling Working Group (teas)**

**Cc: SA2, SA3, SA5**

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**Send any reply LS to: 3GPP Liaisons Coordinator,** [**mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org**](mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org)

**Attachments:** None

# 1 Overall description

RAN3 thanks IETF TEAS for the LS on "A Realization of Network Slices for 5G Networks Using Current IP/MPLS Technologies" and for the updates on the drafting of the informational document on Network Slice realization model for IP/MPLS networks.

The TEAS WG has requested 3GPP to review the document and provide confirmation that the brief 5G overview included in the Appendix is accurate. RAN3 would like to provide the following feedback.

* RAN3 would like to point out that RAN3 is not responsible for the design and specification of any aspect of IP/MPLS transport networks. However, RAN3´s Terms of Reference includes requirements concerning transport network layer´s protocols to be used for communication over 3GPP defined interfaces terminating at the NG-RAN. On these aspects, RAN3 would be happy to provide feedback, if needed.
* In Appendix B.3 Radio Access Network (RAN), for the BBU/RU/Antenna components, there are no such definitions in RAN specifications. Also, for the F2 connecting between the RU and the DU in Figure 36 there is no such network interface and terminology described in 3GPP RAN specifications. And the DU in the Figure is not aligned with the DU defined in 3GPP RAN specification, in which it is a logical node also holding PHY layer in addition to RLC and MAC layers as specified in TS 38.401.
* In light of the above, and to reflect the 5G NG-RAN architecture agreed in 3GPP, RAN3 kindly suggests IETF TEAS references in their document to TS 38.300, describing the NG-RAN architecture, and TS 38.401, describing the split NG-RAN architecture, to avoid possible misalignments.

# 2 Actions

**To IETF TEAS:**

**ACTION:** RAN3 kindly asks IETF TEAS to take the above information into account.

# 3 Dates of next RAN3 meetings

Updated meeting schedule can be found at: <https://portal.3gpp.org/?tbid=373&SubTB=381#/>

RAN3#125bis 2024-10-14 - 2024-10-18 Hefei, China