



LS to 3GPP on 2G/3G subscriber distinction and roaming restriction

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High Level Document Summary:

This document is an answer to the LS from 3GPP IREG Doc 46_038 on specification of 2G/3G roaming restriction capabilities.

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To: 3GPP SA, SA1

Copy: 3GPP CN, CN1, CN4, GSMA/SERG,

From: GSMA/IREG

Subject: 2G/3G subscriber distinction and roaming restriction

Date: 2/03/2004

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The GSMA/IREG thanks 3GPP SA for their CR to 3GPP TS 22.011 concerning 2G/3G subscription restriction management ("Administrative restriction of subscriber's access" parameter), and requesting IREG opinion on it.

IREG agrees that the new subscription information "GERAN/UTRAN only" is an answer to the IREG need to be able to restrict 2G subscribers access to 3G networks. IREG is aware that specification work on this new feature is ongoing, and just wants to ensure that:

- This new feature will be mandatory and not optional **for vendors**. Indeed, if the feature is optional, all vendors may not implement it, which will considerably decrease its usefulness.
- No permanent rejection cause shall be used to reject the subscriber in case of roaming restriction related to this new parameter. For example, if a subscriber is forbidden on 3G coverage due to 2G/3G restriction, the rejection cause shall not prevent access on 2G coverage of the same operator. It shall be possible to send the rejection case #15.

On the other hand, this new feature does not resolve the following need also present in the original GSMA/IREG LS:

- *It should be possible for a VPLMN to specify different roaming authorizations for his 2G and 3G coverage, even in case of combined 2G/3G network elements.*

In other words, it shall be possible for the VPLMN to control in-bound roamers' access to the VPLMN's 2G and 3G networks even in the case of combined 2G/3G MSCs and SGSNs. This control shall be independent of the administrative restriction parameter provided by the HPLMN. For example, the VPLMN may wish to prevent all subscribers of a specific HPLMN from accessing its 3G network in the case where there is no 3G roaming agreement and this even if a subscriber is allowed UTRAN access according to his subscription data.

Actions

IREG kindly asks 3GPP SA

- To ensure that the new "Administrative restriction feature" will be mandatory **for vendors**
- **The specifications should be made in the way that Operators who do not want to make 2G/3G distinction do not have to change their actual implementation, i.e the implementation of the distinction feature should be backwards compatible to the current situation with no distinction**

- To confirm that that the possibility "*for a VPLMN to specify different roaming authorizations for his 2G and 3G coverage, even in case of combined 2G/3G network elements*" requirement will also be taken into account in 3GPP specifications.