

3GPP TSG-SA WG2 meeting #34
Brussels, 18th – 22nd August 2003

Tdoc S2-033262

Title: Liaison Statement on Generic Authentication Architecture

Release: 6

Source: SA2

To: SA3

Cc:

Contact Person:

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Attachments: None

1. Overall Description:

SA2 has recently discussed the general requirement for users to be authenticated for accessing various services within the 3GPP network communicating with the user over IP. SA2 noted that this requirement appears within a variety of contexts in the 3GPP work.

SA2 believes it would be beneficial to avoid unnecessary duplication of functionality within the 3GPP architecture and proliferation of multiple solutions to the same problem. It was suggested at SA2 that it would be valuable if a single generic authentication solution could be defined.

A requirement for user authentication for accessing a service will likely arise within a variety of 3GPP groups. SA2 felt it would be valuable if guidelines could be developed to ensure that the choice of authentication scheme was made on a consistent basis.

SA2 noted that, on the subject of general-purpose tools, the argument that not all operators will deploy one tool is not in itself a justification for developing a second tool for the same purpose.

2. Actions:

SA3:

To consider the above discussion points in their work on Generic Authentication Architecture and in particular:

- To develop guidelines on the criteria which should be used when choosing an authentication solution
- To avoid if possible multiple new solutions to this problem, unless there are differing requirements which lead to a need for multiple solutions

3. Date of Next SA2 Meetings:

Title	Date	Location	Country
SA2#35	27-31 October 2003	Bangkok	Thailand

SA2#36	24-28 November 2003	New York	U.S.A.
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