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Contents

Intellectual Property Rights 2
Foreword 2
Modal verbs terminology 2
Foreword 9
Introduction 9
1 Scope 10
2 References 10
3 Definitions and abbreviations 10
3.1 Definitions 10
3.2 Abbreviations 11
4 Architectural requirements 12
4.1 General 12
4.1.1 Introduction 12
4.1.2 Requirements 12
4.1.3 Requirements for supporting 3rd party API providers 12
4.2 Service API publish and discover 12
4.2.1 Introduction 12
4.2.2 Requirements 12
4.3 Security 13
4.3.1 Introduction 13
4.3.2 Requirements 13
4.3.3 Additional requirements for 3rd party API provider 13
4.4 Charging 13
4.4.1 Introduction 13
4.4.2 Requirements 13
4.5 Operations, Administration and Maintenance 14
4.5.1 Introduction 14
4.5.2 Requirements 14
4.6 Service API invocation monitoring 14
4.6.1 Introduction 14
4.6.2 Requirements 14
4.7 Logging 14
4.7.1 Introduction 14
4.7.2 Logging events related to service API invocations 14
4.7.3 Logging events related to API invoker onboarding 15
4.7.4 Logging events related to API invoker interaction with the CAPIF 15
4.8 Auditing service API invocation 15
4.8.1 Introduction 15
4.8.2 Requirements 15
4.9 Onboarding API invoker 15
4.9.1 Introduction 15
4.9.2 Requirements 15
4.10 Policy configuration 15
4.10.1 Introduction 15
4.10.2 Requirements 15
4.11 Protocol design 16
4.11.1 Introduction 16
4.11.2 Requirements 16
5 Involved business relationships 16
6 Functional model 17
6.1 General 17
6.2 Functional model description 17

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6.3 Functional entities description 18
6.3.1 General 18
6.3.2 API invoker 18
6.3.3 CAPIF core function 18
6.3.4 API exposing function 18
6.3.5 API publishing function 19
6.3.6 API management function 19
6.4 Reference points 19
6.4.1 General 19
6.4.2 Reference point CAPIF-1 (between the API invoker and the CAPIF core function) 19
6.4.3 Reference point CAPIF-1e (between the API invoker and the CAPIF core function) 19
6.4.4 Reference point CAPIF-2 (between the API invoker and the API exposing function) 19
6.4.5 Reference point CAPIF-2e (between the API invoker and the API exposing function) 20
6.4.6 Reference point CAPIF-3 (between the API exposing function and the CAPIF core function) 20
6.4.7 Reference point CAPIF-4 (between the API publishing function and the CAPIF core function) 20
6.4.8 Reference point CAPIF-5 (between the API management function and the CAPIF core function) 20

7 Application of functional model to deployments 21
7.1 General 21
7.2 Centralized deployment 21
7.3 Distributed deployment 22

8 Procedures and information flows 24
8.1 Onboarding the API invoker to the CAPIF 24
8.1.1 General 24
8.1.2 Information flows 24
8.1.2.1 Onboard API invoker request 24
8.1.2.2 Onboard API invoker response 25
8.1.3 Procedure 25
8.2 Offboarding the API invoker from the CAPIF 26
8.2.1 General 26
8.2.2 Information flows 26
8.2.2.1 Offboard API invoker request 26
8.2.2.2 Offboard API invoker response 26
8.2.3 Procedure 26
8.3 Publish service APIs 27
8.3.1 General 27
8.3.2 Information flows 27
8.3.2.1 Service API publish request 27
8.3.2.2 Service API publish response 28
8.3.3 Procedure 28
8.4 Unpublish service APIs 28
8.4.1 General 28
8.4.2 Information flows 29
8.4.2.1 Service API unpublish request 29
8.4.2.2 Service API unpublish response 29
8.4.3 Procedure 29
8.5 Retrieve service APIs 30
8.5.1 General 30
8.5.2 Information flows 30
8.5.2.1 Service API get request 30
8.5.2.2 Service API get response 30
8.5.3 Procedure 30
8.6 Update service APIs 31
8.6.1 General 31
8.6.2 Information flows 31
8.6.2.1 Service API update request 31
8.6.2.2 Service API update response 32
8.6.3 Procedure 32
8.7 Discover service APIs 32
8.7.1 General 32
8.7.2 Information flows 33

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8.7.2.1 Service API discover request 33
8.7.2.2 Service API discover response 33
8.7.3 Procedure 33
8.8 Subscription, unsubscription and notifications for the CAPIF events 34
8.8.1 General 34
8.8.2 Information flows 34
8.8.2.1 Event subscription request 34
8.8.2.2 Event subscription response 35
8.8.2.3 Event notification 35
8.8.2.4 Event notification acknowledgement 35
8.8.2.5 Event unsubscription request 35
8.8.2.6 Event unsubscription response 36
8.8.3 Procedure for CAPIF event subscription 36
8.8.4 Procedure for CAPIF event notifications 36
8.8.5 Procedure for CAPIF event unsubscription 37
8.8.6 List of CAPIF events 38
8.9 Revoking subscription of the CAPIF events 38
8.9.1 General 38
8.9.2 Information flows 38
8.9.2.1 Subscription revoke notification 38
8.9.2.2 Subscription revoke notification acknowledgement 39
8.9.3 Procedure 39
8.10 Authentication between the API invoker and the CAPIF core function 39
8.10.1 General 39
8.10.2 Information flows 39
8.10.3 Procedure 39
8.11 API invoker obtaining authorization to access service API 40
8.11.1 General 40
8.11.2 Information flows 40
8.11.3 Procedure 40
8.12 AEF obtaining service API access control policy 41
8.12.1 General 41
8.12.2 Information flows 41
8.12.2.1 Obtain access control policy request 41
8.12.2.2 Obtain access control policy response 41
8.12.3 Procedure 42
8.13 Topology hiding 42
8.13.1 General 42
8.13.2 Information flows 43
8.13.2.1 Service API invocation request (API invoker – AEF-1) 43
8.13.2.2 Service API invocation request (AEF-1 – AEF-2) 43
8.13.2.3 Service API invocation response (AEF-2 – AEF-1) 43
8.13.2.4 Service API invocation response (AEF-1 – API invoker) 43
8.13.3 Procedure 43
8.14 Authentication between the API invoker and the AEF prior to service API invocation 44
8.14.1 General 44
8.14.2 Information flows 44
8.14.3 Procedure 44
8.15 Authentication between the API invoker and the AEF upon the service API invocation 45
8.15.1 General 45
8.15.2 Information flows 45
8.15.2.1 Service API invocation request with authentication information 45
8.15.2.2 Service API invocation response 46
8.15.3 Procedure 46
8.16 API invoker authorization to access service APIs 47
8.16.1 General 47
8.16.2 Information flows 47
8.16.2.1 Service API invocation request 47
8.16.2.2 Service API invocation response 47
8.16.3 Procedure 47
8.17 CAPIF access control 48
8.17.1 General 48

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8.17.2 Information flows 48
8.17.2.1 Service API invocation request 48
8.17.2.2 Service API invocation response 49
8.17.3 Procedure 49
8.18 CAPIF access control with cascaded AEFs 50
8.18.1 General 50
8.18.2 Information flows 50
8.18.2.1 Service API invocation request 50
8.18.2.2 Service API invocation response 50
8.18.3 Procedure 50
8.19 Logging service API invocations 51
8.19.1 General 51
8.19.2 Information flows 51
8.19.2.1 API invocation log request 51
8.19.2.2 API invocation log response 51
8.19.3 Procedure 52
8.20 Charging the invocation of service APIs 52
8.20.1 General 52
8.20.2 Information flows 52
8.20.3 Procedure 52
8.21 Monitoring service API invocation 53
8.21.1 General 53
8.21.2 Information flows 53
8.21.2.1 Monitoring service API event notification 53
8.21.2.2 Monitoring service API event notification acknowledgement 53
8.21.3 Procedure 53
8.22 Auditing service API invocation 54
8.22.1 General 54
8.22.2 Information flows 54
8.22.2.1 Query service API log request 54
8.22.2.2 Query service API log response 54
8.22.3 Procedure 55
8.23 CAPIF revoking API invoker authorization 55
8.23.1 General 55
8.23.2 Information flows 55
8.23.2.1 Revoke API invoker authorization request 55
8.23.2.2 Revoke API invoker authorization response 56
8.23.2.3 Revoke API invoker authorization notify 56
8.23.3 Procedure for CAPIF revoking API invoker authorization initiated by AEF 56
8.23.4 Procedure for CAPIF revoking API invoker authorization initiated by CAPIF core function 57

9 API consistency guidelines 58
9.1 General 58
9.2 Fundamental API Guidelines 58
9.3 Architecture design considerations 59

10 CAPIF core function APIs 60
10.1 General 60
10.2 CAPIF_Discover_Service_API API 60
10.2.1 General 60
10.2.2 Discover_Service_API operation 61
10.2.3 Subscribe_Event operation 61
10.2.4 Notify_Event operation 61
10.2.5 Unsubscribe_Event operation 61
10.3 CAPIF_Publish_Service_API API 61
10.3.1 General 61
10.3.2 Publish_Service_API operation 62
10.3.3 Unpublish_Service_API operation 62
10.3.4 Update_Service_API operation 62
10.3.5 Get_Service_API operation 62
10.3.6 Subscribe_Event operation 62
10.3.7 Notify_Event operation 63

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10.3.8 Unsubscribe_Event operation 63
10.4 CAPIF_Events API 63
10.4.1 General 63
10.4.2 Subscribe_Event operation 64
10.4.3 Notify_Event operation 64
10.4.4 Unsubscribe_Event operation 64
10.5 CAPIF_API_invoker_management API 64
10.5.1 General 64
10.5.2 Onboard_API_Invoker operation 64
10.5.3 Offboard_API_Invoker operation 64
10.5.4 Subscribe_Event operation 65
10.5.5 Notify_Event operation 65
10.5.6 Unsubscribe_Event operation 65
10.6 CAPIF_Security API 65
10.6.1 General 65
10.6.2 Obtain_Security_Method operation 65
10.6.3 Obtain_Authorization operation 66
10.6.4 Obtain_API_Invoker_Info operation 66
10.6.5 Revoke_Authorization operation 66
10.7 CAPIF_Monitoring API 66
10.7.1 General 66
10.7.2 Subscribe_Event operation 66
10.7.3 Notify_Monitoring_Service_Event operation 67
10.7.4 Unsubscribe_Event operation 67
10.8 CAPIF_Logging_API_Invocation API 67
10.8.1 General 67
10.8.2 Log_API_Invocation operation 67
10.9 CAPIF_Auditing API 68
10.9.1 General 68
10.9.2 Query_ API_Invocation_Log operation 68
10.10 CAPIF_Access_Control_Policy API 68
10.10.1 General 68
10.10.2 Obtain_Access_Control_Policy operation 68

11 API exposing function APIs 68
11.1 General 68
11.2 AEF_Security API 69
11.2.1 General 69
11.2.2 Revoke_Authorization operation 69
11.2.3 Initiate_Authentication operation 69

Annex A (informative): Overview of CAPIF operations 70

Annex B (informative): CAPIF relationship with network exposure aspects of 3GPP systems 72

B.0 CAPIF utilization by service API provider 72

B.1 CAPIF relationship with 3GPP EPS network exposure 73
B.1.1 General 73
B.1.2 Deployment models 73
B.1.2.1 General 73
B.1.2.2 SCEF implements the CAPIF architecture 73
B.1.2.3 SCEF implements the service specific aspect compliant with the CAPIF architecture 74
B.1.2.4 Distributed deployment of the SCEF compliant with the CAPIF architecture 75

B.2 CAPIF relationship with 3GPP 5GS network exposure 76
B.2.1 General 76
B.2.2 Deployment models 77
B.2.2.1 General 77
B.2.2.2 NEF implements the CAPIF architecture 77
B.2.2.3 NEF implements the service specific aspect compliant with the CAPIF architecture 78
B.2.2.4 Distributed deployment of the NEF compliant with the CAPIF architecture 79

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Annex C (informative): CAPIF role in charging 81
C.1 General 81
C.2 CAPIF role in online charging 81
C.3 CAPIF role in offline charging 82
Annex D (informative): CAPIF relationship with external API frameworks 83
Annex E (normative): Configuration data for CAPIF 84
Annex F (informative): Change history 85
History 86

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Introduction

In 3GPP, there are multiple northbound API-related specifications (e.g. APIs for Service Capability Exposure Function (SCEF) functionalities defined in 3GPP TS 23.682 [2], API for the interface between MBMS service provider and BM-SC defined in 3GPP TR 26.981 [5]). To avoid duplication and inconsistency of approach between different API specifications, 3GPP has considered the development of a common API framework (CAPIF) that includes common aspects applicable to any northbound service APIs.

The present document specifies the functional model, procedures and information flows needed to support the CAPIF, and the guidelines for consistent northbound API (service and CAPIF APIs) development in 3GPP.

NOTE: It is possible to use the CAPIF defined common aspects for other APIs as well, apart from northbound APIs.

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1 Scope

The present document specifies the architecture, procedures and information flows necessary for the CAPIF. The aspects of this specification include identifying architecture requirements for the CAPIF (e.g. registration, discovery, identity management) that are applicable to any service APIs when used by northbound entities, as well as any interactions between the CAPIF and the service APIs themselves. The common API framework applies to both EPS and 5GS, and is independent of the underlying 3GPP access (e.g. E-UTRA, NR).

2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
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[1] 3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".

[2] 3GPP TS 23.682: "Architecture enhancements to facilitate communications with packet data networks and applications".

[3] 3GPP TS 23.501: "System Architecture for the 5G System; Stage 2".

[4] 3GPP TS 23.502: "Procedures for the 5G System; Stage 2".

[5] 3GPP TR 26.981: "MBMS Extensions for Provisioning and Content Ingestion".

[6] 3GPP TS 32.240: "Telecommunication management; Charging management; Charging architecture and principles".

[7] ETSI GS MEC 011 (V1.1.1): "Mobile Edge Computing (MEC); Mobile Edge Platform Application Enablement".

[8] ETSI GS MEC 009 (V1.1.1): "Mobile Edge Computing (MEC); General Principles for Mobile Edge Service APIs".

[9] OMA-ER_Autho4API-V1_0-20141209-A: "Authorization Framework for Network APIs".

[10] OMA-TS-REST_NetAPI_Common-V1_0-20180116-A: "Common definitions for RESTful Network APIs".

[11] OMA-TS-NGSI_Registration_and_Discovery-V1_0-20120529-A: "NGSI Registration and Discovery".

[12] 3GPP TS 33.122: "Security Aspects of Common API Framework for 3GPP Northbound APIs".

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3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

API: The means by which an API invoker can access the service.

API invoker: The entity which invokes the CAPIF or service APIs.

API invoker profile: The set of information associated to an API invoker that allows that API invoker to utilize CAPIF APIs and service APIs.

API exposing function: The entity which provides the service communication entry point for the service APIs.

CAPIF administrator: An authorized user with special permissions for CAPIF operations.

Common API framework: A framework comprising common API aspects that are required to support service APIs.

Northbound API: A service API exposed to higher-layer API invokers.

Onboarding: One time registration process that enables the API invoker to subsequently access the CAPIF and the service APIs.

Resource: The object or component of the API on which the operations are acted upon.

Service API: The interface through which a component of the system exposes its services to API invokers by abstracting the services from the underlying mechanisms.

PLMN trust domain: The entities protected by adequate security and controlled by the PLMN operator or a trusted 3rd party.

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions given in 3GPP TS 32.240 [6] apply:

Offline charging
Online charging

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

5GS	5G System
AEF	API Exposing Function
AF	Application Function
API	Application Program Interface
AS	Application Server
BM-SC	Broadcast Multicast Service Centre
CAPIF	Common API Framework
CDR	Charging Data Record
CRUD	Create, Read, Update, Delete
DDoS	Distributed Denial of Service
E-UTRA	Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access
EPS	Evolved Packet System
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
GS	Group Specification
IP	Internet Protocol
MBMS	Multimedia Broadcast and Multicast Service
MEC	Multi-access Edge Computing
NEF	Network Exposure Function
NGSI	Next Generation Service Interfaces
NR	New Radio
OMA	Open Mobile Alliance
OAM	Operations, Administration and Maintenance
OWSER	OMA Web Services
PC	Protocol Converter
PLMN	Public Land Mobile Network
REST	REpresentational State Transfer
RPC	Remote Procedure Call
SCEF	Service Capability Exposure Function

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SCS	Service Capability Server
UDDI	Universal Description, Discovery and Integration
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier
WSDL	Web Services Description Language

4 Architectural requirements

4.1 General

4.1.1 Introduction

This subclause specifies the general requirements for CAPIF architecture.

4.1.2 Requirements

[AR-4.1.2-a] The CAPIF shall provide mechanisms (e.g. publish service APIs, authorization, logging, charging) to support service API operations.

[AR-4.1.2-b] The CAPIF shall enable API invoker(s) to discover and communicate with service APIs from the API providers.

[AR-4.1.2-c] Reference points between CAPIF and external applications shall be provided as APIs.

[AR-4.1.2-d] Reference points internal to CAPIF may be provided as APIs.

4.1.3 Requirements for supporting 3rd party API providers

[AR-4.1.3-a] The CAPIF shall provide mechanisms (e.g. publish service APIs, authorization, logging, charging) to support service API operations from trusted 3rd party API providers.

[AR-4.1.3-b] The CAPIF shall enable API invoker(s) to discover and communicate with service APIs from trusted 3rd party API providers.

NOTE: The solutions to the requirements for 3rd party API providers are not addressed in the current release of this specification.

4.2 Service API publish and discover

4.2.1 Introduction

This subclause specifies the service API publish and discover related requirements.

4.2.2 Requirements

[AR-4.2.2-a] The CAPIF shall provide a mechanism to publish the service API information to be used by the API invokers to discover and subsequently invoke the service API.

[AR-4.2.2-b] The CAPIF shall provide a mechanism for the API invokers to discover the published service API information as specified in [AR-4.2.2-a] according to the API invokers' interest.

[AR-4.2.2-c] The CAPIF shall provide a mechanism to restrict the discovery of the published service API information by the API invokers, based on configured policies.

[AR-4.2.2-d] The CAPIF shall provide a mechanism to configure policies to restrict the discovery of the published service API information.

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https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/4dcca7e4a-c61c-4653-8e14-1878178a0dec/etsi-ts-123-222-v15.3.0-2018-10