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Modal verbs terminology

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1 Scope

The present specification describes the protocol for the NEF Northbound interface between the NEF and the AF. The NEF Northbound interface and the related stage 2 functional requirements are defined in 3GPP TS 23.502 [2].

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.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

- [1] 3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".
- [2] 3GPP TS 23.502: "Procedures for the 5G system".
- [3] 3GPP TS 23.501: "System Architecture for the 5G".
- [4] 3GPP TS 29.122: "T8 reference point for northbound Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)".
- [5] Open API Initiative, "OpenAPI 3.0.0 Specification", <https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification/blob/master/versions/3.0.0.md>.
- [6] 3GPP TS 33.501: "Security architecture and procedures for 5G System".
- [7] 3GPP TS 29.514: "5G System; Policy Authorization Service; Stage 3".
- [8] 3GPP TS 29.571: "5G System; Common Data Types for Service Based Interfaces; Stage 3".
- [9] 3GPP TS 29.521: "5G System; Binding Support Management Service; Stage 3".
- [10] Void.
- [11] 3GPP TS 23.222: "Common API Framework for 3GPP Northbound APIs; Stage 2".
- [12] 3GPP TS 29.222: "Common API Framework for 3GPP Northbound APIs; Stage 3".
- [13] IETF RFC 6749: "The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework".
- [14] 3GPP TS 33.122: "Security Aspects of Common API Framework for 3GPP Northbound APIs".
- [15] Void.
- [16] IETF RFC 5246: "The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.2".
- [17] 3GPP TS 29.503: "5G System; Unified Data Management Services; Stage 3".
- [18] 3GPP TS 29.518: "5G System; Access and Mobility Management Services; Stage 3".
- [19] 3GPP TS 29.554: "5G System; Background Data Transfer Policy Control Service; Stage 3".
- [20] 3GPP TS 29.504: "5G System; Unified Data Repository Services; Stage 3".
- [21] 3GPP TR 21.900: "Technical Specification Group working methods".

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].

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].

AF	Application Function
BDT	Background Data Transfer
CAPIF	Common API Framework
CP	Communication Pattern
DN	Data Network
DNAI	DN Access Identifier
DNN	Data Network Name
GPSI	Generic Public Subscription Identifier
NEF	Network Exposure Function
PCF	Policy Control Function
PCRF	Policy and Charging Rule Function
PFD	Packet Flow Description
PFDF	Packet Flow Description Function
REST	Representational State Transfer
SECF	Service Capability Exposure Function
S-NSSAI	Single Network Slice Selection Assistance Information
UDR	Unified Data Repository
UP	User Plane

4 NEF Northbound Interface

4.1 Overview

The NEF Northbound interface is between the NEF and the AF. It specifies RESTful APIs that allow the AF to access the services and capabilities provided by 3GPP network entities and securely exposed by the NEF.

This document also specifies the procedures triggered at the NEF by API requests from the AF and by event notifications received from 3GPP network entities.

The stage 2 level requirements and signalling flows for the NEF Northbound interface are defined in 3GPP TS 23.502 [2].

The NEF Northbound interface supports the following procedures:

- Procedures for Monitoring
- Procedures for Device Triggering
- Procedures for resource management of Background Data Transfer
- Procedures for CP Parameters Provisioning
- Procedures for PFD Management

- Procedures for Traffic Influence
- Procedures for changing the chargeable party at session set up or during the session
- Procedures for setting up an AF session with required QoS

Which correspond to the following services respectively, supported by the NEF as defined in 3GPP TS 23.502 [2]:

- Nnef_EventExposure service
- Nnef_Trigger service
- Nnef_BDTPNegotiation service
- Nnef_ParameterProvision service
- Nnef_PFDManagement service
- Nnef_TrafficInfluence service
- Nnef_ChargeableParty service
- Nnef_AFsessionWithQoS service

NOTE: For Nnef_PFDManagement service, only the Nnef_PFDManagement_Create/Update/Delete service operations are applicable for the NEF Northbound interface.

4.2 Reference model

The NEF Northbound interface resides between the NEF and the AF as depicted in figure 4.2.1. The overall NEF architecture is depicted in 3GPP TS 23.502 [2]. An AF can get services from multiple NEFs, and an NEF can provide service to multiple AFs.

NOTE: The AF can be provided by the third party.
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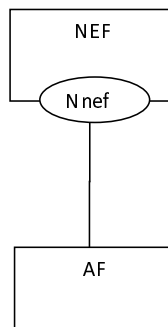


Figure 4.2-1: Reference Architecture for the Nnef Service; SBI representation



Figure 4.2-2: Reference Architecture for the Nnef Service; reference point representation

4.3 Functional elements

4.3.1 NEF

The Network Exposure Function (NEF) is a functional element that supports the following functionalities:

- The NEF shall securely expose network capabilities and events provided by 3GPP NFs to AF.
- The NEF shall provide a means for the AF to securely provide information to 3GPP network and may authenticate, authorize and assist in throttling the AF.
- The NEF shall be able to translate the information received from the AF to the one sent to internal 3GPP NFs, and vice versa.
- The NEF shall support to expose information (collected from other 3GPP NFs) to the AF.
- The NEF may support a PFD Function which allows the AF to provision PFD(s) and may store and retrieve PFD(s) in the UDR. The NEF further provisions PFD(s) to the SMF.

A specific NEF instance may support one or more of the functionalities described above and consequently an individual NEF may support a subset of the APIs specified for capability exposure.

NOTE: The NEF can access the UDR located in the same PLMN as the NEF.

4.3.2 AF

The Application Function (AF) may interact with the 3GPP Core Network via the NEF in order to access network capabilities.

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4.4 Procedures over NEF Northbound Interface

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4.4.1 Introduction [d121d41098b7/etsi-ts-129-522-v15-9-0-2021-09](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/4fa67487-d57d-4c8d-b733-d121d41098b7/etsi-ts-129-522-v15-9-0-2021-09)

All procedures that operate across the NEF Northbound interface, as specified in 3GPP TS 23.502 [2], are specified in the following subclauses.

4.4.2 Procedures for Monitoring

The procedures for monitoring as described in subclause 4.4.2 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] shall be applicable in 5GS with the following differences:

- description of the SCS/AS applies to the AF;
- description of the SCEF applies to the NEF;
- description of the HSS applies to the UDM, and the NEF shall interact with the UDM by using Nudm_EventExposure service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.503 [17];
- description of the MME/SGSN applies to the AMF, and the NEF shall interact with the AMF by using Namf_EventExposure service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.518 [18];
- description about the PCRF is not applicable.
- description about the change of IMSI-IMEI(SV) association monitoring event applies to the change of SUPI-PEI association monitoring event.
- when "monitoringType" sets to "LOCATION_REPORTING" within the MonitoringEventSubscription data type as defined in subclause 5.3.2.1.2 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] during the monitoring event subscription, only "CGI_ECGI", "TA_RA" and "GEO_AREA" within the Accuracy data type as defined in subclause 5.3.2.4.7 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4], are applicable for 5G MonitoringEvent API.

4.4.3 Procedures for Device Triggering

The procedures for device triggering as described in subclause 4.4.6 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] shall be applicable in 5G with the following differences:

- description of the SCS/AS applies to the AF;
- description of the SCEF applies to the NEF;
- description of the HSS applies to the UDM;
- the NEF shall interact with the UDM by using the Nudm_SubscriberDataManagement service and the Nudm_UEContextManagement service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.503 [17]; and
- the NEF acts as MTC-IWF.

4.4.4 Procedures for resource management of Background Data Transfer

The procedures for resource management of Background Data Transfer (BDT) in 5GS are described in subclause 4.4.3 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] with the following differences:

- description of the SCS/AS applies to the AF;
- description of the SCEF applies to the NEF;
- description of the PCRF applies to the PCF; and
- the NEF shall interact with the PCF by using Npcf_BDTPolicyControl service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.554 [19].

4.4.5 Procedures for CP Parameters Provisioning

The procedures for CP parameters provisioning as described in subclause 4.4.9 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] shall be applicable in 5G with the following differences:

- description of the SCS/AS applies to the AF;
- description of the SCEF applies to the NEF;
- description of the HSS applies to the UDM;
- the NEF shall interact with the UDM by using Nudm_ParameterProvision service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.503 [17].

4.4.6 Procedures for PFD Management

The procedures for PFD management as described in subclause 4.4.10 of 3GPP TS 29.122 [4] shall be applicable for 5GS with the following differences:

- description of the SCS/AS applies to the AF;
- description of the SCEF applies to the NEF; and
- the NEF (PFDF) shall interact with the UDR for PFD management by using Nudr_DataRepository service as defined in 3GPP TS 29.504 [20]. The PFDF is functionality within the NEF.

4.4.7 Procedures for Traffic Influence

4.4.7.1 General

In order to create a resource for the Traffic Influence, the AF shall send an HTTP POST message to the NEF to the resource "Traffic Influence Subscription", the body of the HTTP POST message may include the AF Service Identifier,

external Group Identifier, any UE Indication, the UE address, GPSI, DNN, S-NSSAI, Application Identifier or traffic filtering information, Subscribed Event, Notification destination address, a list of geographic zone identifier(s), AF Transaction Identifier, a list of DNAI(s), routing profile ID(s) or N6 traffic routing information, Indication of application relocation possibility, type of notifications, Temporal validity conditions. The Notification destination address shall be included if the Subscribed Event is included in the HTTP request message.

In order to update an existing traffic influence subscription, the AF shall send an HTTP PUT or PATCH message to the resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription" requesting to change the traffic influence parameters.

In order to delete an existing traffic influence subscription, the AF shall send an HTTP DELETE message to the NEF to the resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription".

Upon receipt of the HTTP request from the AF, if the AF is authorized, the NEF shall perform the mapping as described in 3GPP TS 23.501 [3], and then perform as described in subclause 4.4.7.2 if the request is identified by UE address or perform as described in subclause 4.4.7.3 if the request is not identified by UE address.

If the NEF receives a UP management event notification from the SMF indicating the subscribed event is detected, the NEF shall send an HTTP POST message including the notified event (e.g. UP path has changed) to the AF.

The AF shall respond with an HTTP response to confirm the notification destination received during creation of the subscription.

4.4.7.2 AF request identified by UE address

Upon receipt of the above AF request which is for an individual UE identified by IP or Ethernet address, the NEF may interact with the BSF to retrieve the related PCF information by invoking the Nbsf_Management_Discovery service operation as described in 3GPP TS 29.521 [9], if the NEF receives an error code from the BSF, the NEF shall not create, update or delete the resource and shall respond to the AF with a proper error status code.

After receiving a successful response from the BSF, the NEF shall interact with the PCF by invoking the Npcf_PolicyAuthorization service as described in 3GPP TS 29.514 [7]. After receiving a successful response from the PCF, the NEF shall,

- for the HTTP POST request, create a resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription" which represents the traffic influence subscription, addressed by a URI that contains the AF Identifier and an NEF-created subscription identifier, and shall respond to the AF with a 201 Created status code, including a Location header field containing the URI for the created resource. The AF shall use the URI received in the Location header in subsequent requests to the NEF to refer to this traffic influence subscription.
- for the HTTP PUT or PATCH request, update a resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription" which represents the traffic influence subscription, and shall responds to the AF with a 200 OK status code.
- for the HTTP DELETE request, remove all properties of the resource and delete the corresponding active resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription" which represents the traffic influence subscription, then shall responds to the AF with a 204 No Content status code.

If the NEF receives a response with an error code from the PCF, the NEF shall not create, update or delete the resource and shall respond to the AF with a proper error status code.

4.4.7.3 AF request not identified by UE address

For AF request not identified by UE address, it may target an individual UE, a group of UEs or any UE. For an individual UE identified by GPSI, or a group of UEs identified by External Group Identifier, the NEF shall interact with the UDM by invoking the Nudm_SubscriberDataManagement service as described in 3GPP TS 29.503 [17] to retrieve the SUPI or Internal Group Identifier.

The NEF shall interact with the UDR by invoking the Nudr_DataRepository service as described in 3GPP TS 29.504 [20], if the NEF receives an error code from the UDR, the NEF shall not create, update or delete the resource and shall respond to the AF with a proper error status code.

After receiving a successful response from the UDR, the NEF shall,

- for the HTTP POST request, create a resource "Individual Traffic Influence Subscription" which represents the traffic influence subscription, addressed by a URI that contains the AF Identifier and an NEF-created