Liaison Statement to IETF
RADEXT new attributes for global WLAN Roaming

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This document contains a Liaison statement from WLAN Task Force to RADEXT Working Group on IETF.

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CC:
Subject: RADEXT new attributes for global WLAN Roaming
Date: 14-Feb-2004

Response date due by: Latest 8-Mar-2004

Background:
In recent developments of establishing a global SIM based inter-operator WLAN roaming within GSMA WLAN TF, we have faced several challenges with current RADIUS protocol. These challenges are mostly related to global inter-operator location based billing and taxation issues and user billing identities that are suitable for globally well established inter-operator billing systems. After careful studies and live tests we feel that there is room for enhancements in current RADIUS protocol to satisfy our requirements for global inter-operator SIM based WLAN roaming. These are needed to avoid fragmentation in inter-operator billing system interfaces and ease the integration to existing global inter-operator billing systems.

GMSA WLAN Task Force would like to state their interest in the work done in IETF RADEXT Working Group identifying new RADIUS attributes and clarifying the usage of existing RADIUS attributes (such as the User-name attribute) that are usable for global SIM based WLAN roaming purposes. These attributes and clarifications include location information that is accurate enough for global billing and taxation purposes and billable user identities that are also usable for well established global inter-operator billing systems.

We would like to point out few ongoing drafts that deal with the issues of our concern:
draft-adrangi-radiusext-location-information and
draft-adrangi-radius-chargeable-user-identity-attribute

The following drafts have also been identified useful in a global roaming point of view:
draft-adrangi-radius-bandwidth-capability and
draft-lior-radius-redirection

In the near future we also see RADIUS and DIAMETER migration and interworking as a challenge that should be solved in a proper way.

Actions:
GSMA WLAN TF is having their next meeting 11-Mar-2004 and we kindly ask for an input from RADEXT Working Group chairs on how they see the importance of adding attributes to the RADIUS protocol and/or clarifying the use of existing attributes in order to ease the deployment of global SIM based WLAN roaming.