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*European Standard (Telecommunications series)*

**Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+);  
Group Call Control (GCC) protocol  
(GSM 04.68 version 8.0.1 Release 1999)**

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**GSM**®

GLOBAL SYSTEM FOR  
MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS



Reference

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## Foreword

This European Standard (Telecommunications series) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Special Mobile Group (SMG).

The present document specifies the Group Call Control (GCC) protocol used by the Voice Group Call Service (VGCS) on the radio interface within the digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+).

The contents of the present document is subject to continuing work within TC-SMG and may change following formal TC-SMG approval. Should TC-SMG modify the contents of the present document, it will be resubmitted for OAP by ETSI with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version 8.x.y

- 8 Indicates GSM Phase 2+ Release 1999;
- x the second digit is incremented for all changes of substance, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.;
- y the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the specification.

<b>National transposition dates</b>	
Date of adoption of this EN:	14 July 2000
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# 1 Scope

The present document specifies the Group Call Control (GCC) protocol used by the Voice Group Call Service (VGCS) on the radio interface.

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# 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.
- A non-specific reference to an ETS shall also be taken to refer to later versions published as an EN with the same number.
- For this Release 1999 document, references to GSM documents are for Release 1999 versions (version 8.x.y).

- [1] GSM 01.04 (ETR 350): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); Abbreviations and acronyms".
- [2] GSM 02.68 (ETS 300 925): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); "Voice Group Call Service (VGCS) - Stage 1".
- [3] GSM 03.03 (ETS 300 927): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); Numbering, addressing and identification".
- [4] GSM 03.67 (ETS 300 932): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); "enhanced Multi-Level Precedence and Pre-emption service (eMLPP) - Stage 2".
- [5] GSM 03.68 (ETS 300 933): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); Voice Group Call Service (VGCS) - Stage 2".
- [6] GSM 04.06 (ETS 300 938): "Digital cellular telecommunication system; Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface Data Link (DL) layer specification".
- [7] GSM 04.07 (ETS 300 939): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface signalling layer 3 General aspects".
- [8] GSM 04.08 (ETS 300 940): "Digital cellular telecommunication system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface layer 3 specification".

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# 3 Definitions and abbreviations

## 3.1 Definitions

Definitions used in the present document are also defined in GSM 02.68.

For the purposes of the present document the following terms and definitions apply:

**attachment of the user connection:** see GSM 04.08, subclause 5.2.

**calling user:** GCC entity in the Mobile Station (MS) initiating or having initiated a group call.

**clearing the context related to the group call establishment:** all running GCC timers in the relevant GCC entity are stopped, all attributes in the relevant GCC entity are deleted.

**downlink:** network to mobile station direction.

**group call:** is used in the same sense as "voice group call".

**group call channel:** combined uplink/downlink to be allocated in each cell of the group call area for a particular group call. The uplink can be used by the presently talking service subscriber only. All MSs of the listening service subscribers in one cell shall listen to the common downlink.

**group receive mode:** see GSM 04.08.

**originating mobile station:** mobile station initiating or having initiated the group call. (Note that, in certain situations, a MS assumes to be the originating MS of a group call without actually being the originating MS of that group call. Note that there may be one or none originating MS for a given group call).

**uplink:** mobile station to network direction.

## 3.2 Abbreviations

Abbreviations used in the present document are also listed in GSM 01.04.

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

GCC	Group Call Control
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## 4 Applicability

Support of the group call protocol is optional in the MS and in the network.

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## 5 Main concepts

The present document describes the group call control (GCC) protocol, which is one of the protocols of the Connection Management (CM) sublayer (see GSM 04.07).

There is in general more than one MS engaged in a group call. Consequently, there is in general more than one MS with a GCC entity engaged in the same group call, and there is one GCC entity in the network engaged in that group call.

Under which conditions a GCC message is passed from lower (sub-)layers to the GCC entity is defined in the specifications of the sub-layers.

The MS shall ignore GCC messages that it receives which were sent in unacknowledged mode and which explicitly specify as destination a mobile identity which is not a mobile identity of the MS.

Higher layers and the MM sub-layer decide when to accept parallel GCC transactions and when/whether to accept GCC transactions in parallel to other CM transactions.

The group call may be initiated by a mobile user or by a dispatcher. Specification of a protocol for dispatchers is out of the scope of the present document. Hence, in the scope of the present document, there are:

- one GCC entity in the network; and
- one or more than one GCC entities in different MSs;

engaged in a group call, and one or none of the MSs is the originator of the group call (called the originating MS in the present document). Note that, in certain situations, a MS assumes to be the originator of a group call without being the originator.

The originator of the GCC transaction chooses the Transaction Identifier (TI). A MS not assuming to be the originator of the transaction will chose the transaction identifier received from the network, setting the TI flag to  $1+x \bmod 2$  where  $x$  is the received TI flag.

The present document describes the group call control protocol only with regard to two peer entities, one in a MS, the other one in the network. The call control entities are described as communicating finite state machines which exchange messages across the radio interface and communicate internally with other protocol (sub)layers. In particular, the GCC protocol uses the MM and RR sublayer specified in GSM 04.08. This description is only normative as far as the consequential externally observable behaviour is concerned. For simplicity, instead of using the terms "GCC entity in the MS" and "GCC entity in the network", the present document often uses the terms "MS" and "network" if no confusion may arise.

Certain sequences of actions of the two peer entities compose "elementary procedures" which are used as a basis for the description in the present document. These elementary procedures are defined in clause 6.

The network should apply supervisory functions to verify that the GCC procedures are progressing and if not, take appropriate means to resolve the problems. This, however, is out of the scope of the present document.

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## 6 Elementary procedures for Group Call Control

### 6.1 Overview

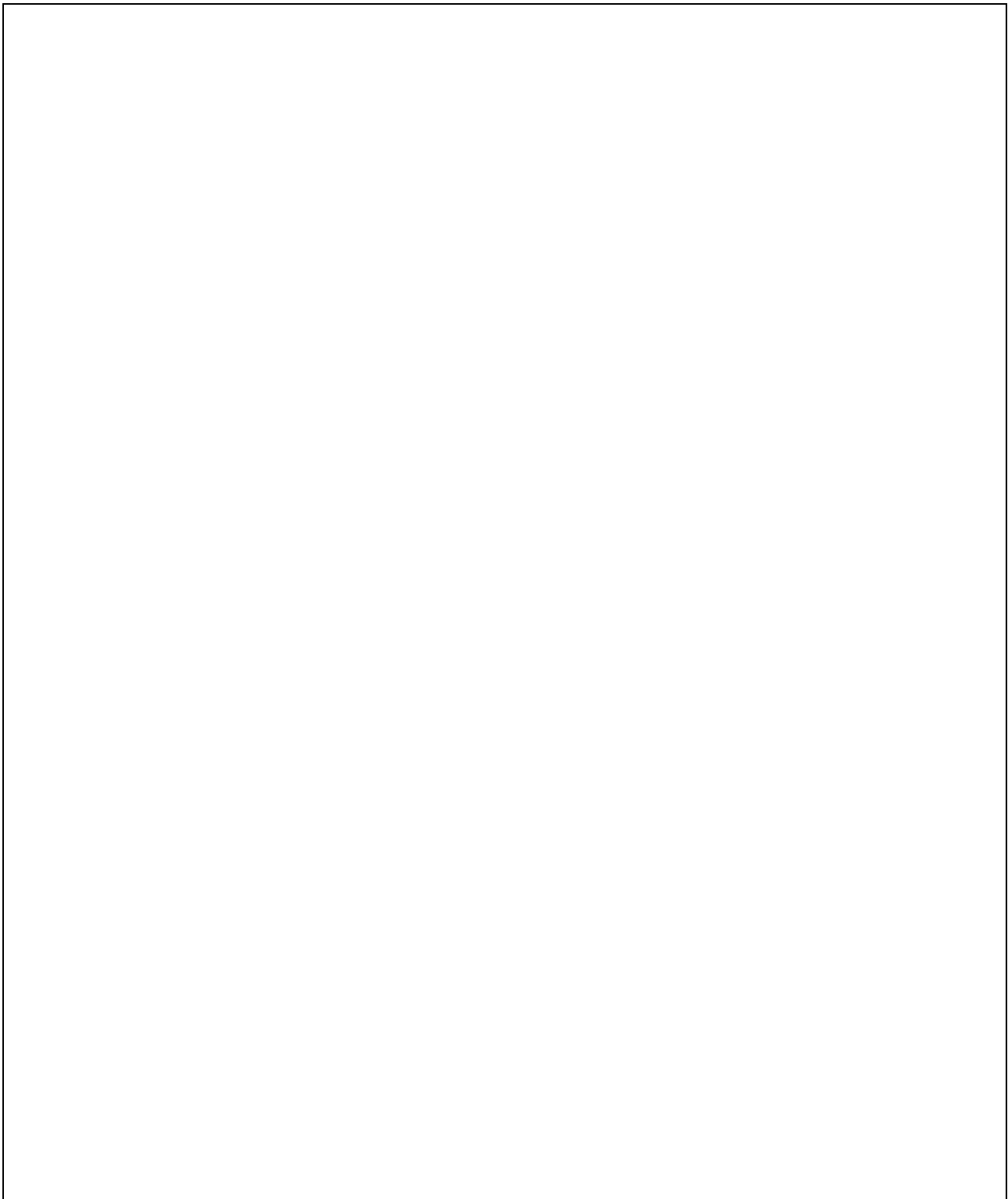
#### 6.1.1 General

The elementary procedures may be grouped into the following classes:

- group call establishment procedures;
- group call termination procedures;
- call information phase procedures;
- miscellaneous procedures.

Figure 6.1 gives an overview of the main states and transitions on the MS side.





\* if MS assumes to be the originator of the group call.  
\*\* if not in RR connected mode.

**Figure 6.1: Overview group call control protocol/MS side**

## 6.1.2 Group call control states

### 6.1.2.1 Group call control states at the MS side of the interface

The GCC entity of the MS is described as an extended finite state machine. It performs transitions between (main) states, and in main state GROUP CALL ACTIVE (U3) it performs transitions between sub-states. It has certain parameters and attributes, e.g. configuration parameters and behaviour parameters, which it sets and changes based on interaction with higher and lower (sub-)layers and on message exchange with its peer entity. If a configuration parameter is set to a certain value, the MS shall also adapt the configuration accordingly. Behaviour parameters decide on (part of) the behaviour of the GCC entity. When the GCC entity in the MS receives a message, it shall first analyse whether it shall ignore the message, see clauses 5 and 7.

#### 6.1.2.1.1 Attributes and parameters of GCC in the MS

For the following behaviour parameters, the description is informative.

Parameter	Description
ORIG	Depending on the context, the MS assumes to be the originator of the call (ORIG = T) or not to be the originator of the call (ORIG = F).
COMM	Depending on the context, the MS assumes that communication with its peer entity is enabled in both directions (COMM = T) or not (COMM = F).

For the following configuration parameters the MS shall adapt its configuration according to the parameter value and parameter definition.

Parameter	Definition
D-ATT	D-ATT = T means that the MS attaches the user connection for the group call in the downlink. D-ATT = F means that the MS does not attach the user connection for the group call in the downlink.
U-ATT	U-ATT = T means that the MS attaches the user connection for the group call in the uplink. U-ATT = F means that the MS does not attach the user connection for the group call in the uplink.

#### 6.1.2.1.2 NULL (U0)

No group call exists for the GCC entity. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = F, COMM = F, D-ATT = F, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.3 MM CONNECTION PENDING (U0.p)

The GCC entity has requested the explicit establishment of an MM connection. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = T, COMM = F, D-ATT = F, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.4 GROUP CALL INITIATED (U1)

The GCC entity has requested the peer entity in the network to establish a group call. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = T, COMM = T, D-ATT = F, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.5 GROUP CALL ACTIVE (U2)

The group call is established at least in one cell; depending on the sub-state, the MS has attached the user connection in the uplink and/or downlink. The following sub-states exist:

- separate link (U2sl);
- wait for receive mode (U2wr);
- receive mode (U2r);
- wait for send and receive mode (U2ws);
- send and receive mode (U2sr);
- no channel (U2nc).

#### 6.1.2.1.6 GROUP CALL PRESENT (U3)

The MS has received a notification about an ongoing group call. Higher layers are requested to accept or reject the call. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = F, COMM = F, D-ATT = F, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.7 GROUP CALL CONNECTION REQUESTED (U4)

The MS has received a notification about an ongoing group call. Higher layers have decided to accept the call. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = F, COMM = F, D-ATT = F, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.8 TERMINATION REQUESTED (U5)

The MS (which assumes to be the originator of the group call) has been in state U1 or U2 and has sent a TERMINATION REQUEST message to the network. When entering the state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: ORIG = T, COMM = T, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = T.

#### 6.1.2.1.9 Sub-states of the Group call active state

NOTE: Control of the user connection attachment is seen as a group call control function. This is a reason why the sub-states are distinguished.

##### 6.1.2.1.9.1 separate link (U2sl)

A dedicated one to one RR connection exists between MS and network. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: COMM = T, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = T.

##### 6.1.2.1.9.2 wait for receive mode (U2wr)

The MS has asked the network to enter receive mode but a dedicated one-to-one channel is still assigned. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: COMM = T, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = F.

##### 6.1.2.1.9.3 receive mode (U2r)

The MS uses a group call channel. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: COMM = F, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = F.

#### 6.1.2.1.9.4 wait for send and receive mode (U2ws)

The MS (which was in U2r or U2wr) has asked for the uplink. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: COMM = F, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = T.

#### 6.1.2.1.9.5 send and receive mode (U2sr)

The MS has been informed by its peer entity that the uplink is granted. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: D-ATT = T, U-ATT = T.

#### 6.1.2.1.9.6 no channel (U2nc)

The GCC entity has been informed that no channel is currently available. Timer  $T_{no\ channel}$  is running. When entering the sub-state, parameters shall be set to the following values, and configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters: COMM = F, D-ATT = T, U-ATT = T.

### 6.1.2.1.10 GCC Timers in the MS

Table 6.1 specifies the timers used in GCC. The denotation of columns is defined as follows:

- timer ::= name of the timer;
- set ::= under which conditions the timer is set (i.e., started);
- stopped ::= under which conditions the timer is stopped;
- running in state(s) ::= in which state(s) the timer may be running;
- action at expiry ::= which actions the GCC entity shall perform at expiry;
- value ::= the duration between setting the timer and expiry of the timer ("s" denotes "second(s)" "xx - yy" means that any value between xx and yy is permitted).

**Table 6.1: Specification of timers used in GCC**

timer	set	stopped	running in state(s)	action at expiry	value
$T_{no\ channel}$	when entering U2nc	when leaving U2nc	U2nc	see subclause 6.3.1	3 s
$T_{MM-est}$	when entering U0.p using the set-up procedure when entering U1 using the immediate set-up procedure	when leaving U0.p or U1	U0.p, U1	see subclause 6.2.1	5 s
$T_{term}$	when sending a TERMINATION REQUEST	when receiving a TERMINATION or TERMINATION REJECT	U5	abort group call	10 s
$T_{conn\ req}$	when entering state U4	when leaving state U4	U4	abort group call	10-30 s

#### 6.1.2.1.11 Consistency of parameters and states

The MS shall consider the following parameter values as inconsistent with the state or sub-state:

ORIG = T is inconsistent with states U3 and U4.

COMM = T is inconsistent with states U0, U3, U4, and with sub-states U2nc and U2r of state U2.

All other values of parameters ORIG, COMM, D-ATT, and U-ATT shall not be considered by the MS as inconsistent with a state or sub-state.

### 6.1.2.2 Group call control states at the network side of the interface

#### 6.1.2.2.1 NULL (State N0)

No group call exists for the GCC entity.

#### 6.1.2.2.2 GROUP CALL INITIATED (N1)

The GCC entity has received the indication that a peer entity in a MS wants to establish a group call for a certain group identity.

#### 6.1.2.2.3 GROUP CALL ACTIVE (N2)

The group call is established in at least one cell; there may be a MS which has seized the uplink or not; there may be talking dispatchers or not.

#### 6.1.2.2.4 GROUP CALL ESTABLISHMENT PROCEEDING (N3)

The GCC entity wants to accept the group call, has initiated establishment of corresponding group call channels, and, if there is a calling user, has sent a CONNECT message to the calling user (if there is a calling user).

#### 6.1.2.2.5 TERMINATION REQUESTED (N4)

The GCC entity has asked lower sub-layers to terminate the group call in all cells and waits for a confirmation that the group call has been terminated in all cells.

## 6.2 Procedures for establishment of a group call

### 6.2.1 Activation of a group call by the network

The GCC entity in the network may initiate the activation of a group call with a certain group call reference and priority in a list of cells by asking lower layers to establish the group call with that group call reference and priority in those cells. It then waits until it is informed by lower (sub-)layers that resource activation was sufficiently successful, and enters state N2, GC ACTIVE.

### 6.2.2 Mobile originated establishment

Higher layers in the MS may ask the GCC entity in state U0, NULL, to establish a group call, either using the immediate set-up procedure or using the set-up procedure. The request contains a group-id and may contain a priority indication.

On request of higher layers to establish a group call using the set-up procedure, the GCC entity of the MS builds an appropriate SETUP message and asks lower (sub-)layers to establish an MM connection explicitly (i.e. by use of a CM SERVICE REQUEST message) and to transmit the SETUP message. It then enters state U0.p, MM CONNECTION PENDING. In state U0.p, when informed by lower sub-layers that an MM connection has been established, the GCC entity in the MS shall stop timer  $T_{MM-est}$  and enter state U1, GC INITIATED.

On request of higher layers to establish a group call using the immediate set-up procedure, the GCC entity of the MS builds an appropriate IMMEDIATE SETUP message and asks lower (sub-)layers to establish an MM connection implicitly (see GSM 04.08) and to transmit the IMMEDIATE SETUP message. It sets timer  $T_{MM-est}$  and then enters state U1, GC INITIATED.

The network GCC entity in state NULL may receive a set-up message from its peer entity in the originating MS. This set-up message is either a SETUP message or an IMMEDIATE SETUP message. The network enters state N1, GC INITIATED.

In state N1, the network decides whether:

- (a) the establishment is accepted; or
- (b) the establishment rejected; or
- (c) the MS is passed to an existing group call.

In case (a), the GCC entity in the network considers the peer entity in the MS having sent the set-up message to be the calling user and asks lower layers to activate the appropriate resources. It then:

- 1) waits until it is informed by lower (sub-)layers that resource activation was sufficiently successful, then sends a CONNECT message to the calling user, and enters state N2, GC ACTIVE; or
- 2) sends a CONNECT message to the calling user and enters N3, GC ESTABLISHMENT PROCEEDING. In state N3, the GCC entity is informed by lower layers whenever the status of resources for the group call is changed. When informed that activation of resources was sufficiently successful, the GCC entity in the network enters state N2, ACTIVE.

The CONNECT message specifies the group call reference of the group call and indicates that the MS is the originator of the group call.

In case b), the further proceeding is as defined in subclause 6.2.2.1.

In case c), the GCC entity in the network considers the peer entity in the MS having sent the SETUP message not to be the calling user; it may ask lower layers about the status of appropriate resources; it may ask lower layers to modify the resources for the group call. It then:

- 1) waits until it is informed by lower (sub-)layers that resource modification was sufficiently successful, then sends a CONNECT message to the calling user, and enters state N2, GC ACTIVE; or
- 2) sends a CONNECT message to the calling user and enters N3, GC ESTABLISHMENT PROCEEDING. In state N3, the GCC entity is informed by lower layers whenever the status of resources for the group call is changed. When informed that activation of resources was sufficiently successful, the GCC entity in the network enters state N2, ACTIVE.

The CONNECT message specifies the group call reference of the group call and indicates that the MS is not the originator of the group call.

In state U0,p or U1, the GCC entity in the MS shall, on receipt of a CONNECT message, establish the conditions defined for state U2, ACTIVE and the suitable sub-state (see subclause 6.1.2.1), stop timer  $T_{MM-est}$  (if running) and enter state U2, ACTIVE. If the immediate set-up procedure has been used, the GCC entity in the MS shall inform lower sub-layers that the MM connection has been implicitly established.

### 6.2.2.1 Termination during mobile originated establishment

At any time during the mobile originated establishment of a group call, the network may decide to terminate the connection between the two peer entities in the network and MS. In this case the network sends a TERMINATION message to the MS specifying the appropriate cause; it may ask lower (sub-)layers to release associated resources. The further actions are specified in subclause 6.4.

During mobile originated establishment of a group call, the MS may abort the group call, see subclause 6.4.

### 6.2.2.2 Abnormal cases

At expiry of  $T_{MM-est}$ , or radio link failure (see GSM 04.08), the GCC entity in the MS requests lower sub-layers to abort the MM connection establishment and returns to state U0, NULL (this includes clearing of the context related to the group call establishment).

On receipt of an indication of lower sub-layers that the MM connection establishment was unsuccessful, the GCC entity in the MS returns to state U0, NULL (this includes clearing of the context related to the group call establishment).

## 6.2.3 Mobile terminating group call establishment in the MS

The GCC entity in the MS, being in state U0, NULL, may receive an indication of lower layers that a group call exists. This indication specifies the group-id and a priority. It shall then inform higher layers and enter state U3, GC present. This state may be supervised by a timer at expiry of which the GCC entity clears the context and returns to state U0, NULL.

In state U3, on request of higher layers to join the group call, the GCC entity in the MS stops any running timer, asks lower sub-layers to join the group call, starts timer  $T_{\text{conn req}}$ , and enters state U4, GC CONNECTION REQUESTED.

In state U4, on indication of lower sub-layers that the group call has been joint (his indication specifies the mode of the RR connection), the GCC entity in the MS stops any running timer, enters state U2, ACTIVE and appropriate sub-state, establishes the appropriate configurations (see subclause 6.1) and informs higher layers (this includes information about the sub-state). The MS assumes not to be the originator of the group call (ORIG = F).

## 6.3 Procedures during the active state of a group call

### 6.3.1 Mobile station procedures in the active state

In the active state, the GCC entity in the MS performs, on receipt of messages from its peer entity, on request of higher layers, and on indication of lower sub-layers, sub-state transitions as defined below together with the necessary related actions.

On request of higher layers, the MS initiates abort or termination of the group call, see subclause 6.4.

If the network initiates group call abortion or termination, the MS reacts as specified in subclause 6.4.

On radio link failure, the MS aborts the group call, see subclause 6.4.

#### 6.3.1.1 Sub-state transitions in the MS

When in sub-state U2sl or U2s of the GC ACTIVE state (U2), the GCC entity in the MS enters on request of higher layers sub-state U2wr and asks RR to enter RR receive mode.

When in sub-state U2r or U2wr of the GC ACTIVE state, the GCC entity in the MS enters on request of higher layers sub-state U2ws and asks RR to enter group transmit mode.

When in the GC ACTIVE state, the GCC entity in the MS may be informed by lower layers that the RR connection mode has changed. It shall then enter the appropriate sub-state and perform appropriate actions as specified below:

- the appropriate sub-state is derived from the RR mode as specified in table 6.2;
- when no RR connection is available, the GCC entity in the MS starts timer  $T_{\text{no channel}}$  and enters sub-state NO CHANNEL. In this sub-state, when  $T_{\text{no channel}}$  expires, the GCC entity in the MS informs higher layers, asks lower sub-layers to abort resources and enters the idle state;
- further actions in the MS are defined in subclause of 6.1.2.1.

**Table 6.2: RR mode**

RR mode	U2 sub-state
Idle	U2nc
Group Receive mode	U2r
Group transmit mode	U2sr
Dedicated mode	U2sl

Having entered sub-state U2ws, the MS not considering itself as the originator of the group call (ORIG = F) shall consider the transaction identifier received in the next GCC message from the network to be the TI of the group call.

## 6.3.2 Network procedures in the active state

In the active state the GCC entity in the network performs supervisory functions, maintenance functions and resource modifications which are not further specified. (This includes through-connection of the application data stream(s), which is defined in GSM 03.68).

The network may initiate abort or termination of the group call, see subclause 6.4.

If the MS initiates group call abortion or termination, the network reacts as specified in subclause 6.4.

The network may send a SET PARAMETER message to the MS in order to ask the MS to set parameters to certain values and take consequential actions.

The GCC entity in the network may be informed by lower (sub-)layers that a MS has requested the uplink. It may accept this request; in this case it should send a SET PARAMETER message to the MS requesting the MS to set parameter COMM to the value T.

## 6.4 Procedures for release, abortion, and termination of a group call

### 6.4.1 Termination procedure

The MS assuming to be the originator of the group call shall, on request of higher layers:

- if COMM = T, initiate the termination procedure by sending a TERMINATION REQUEST message to its peer entity in the network and setting timer  $T_{\text{term}}$ ;
- otherwise, the request is considered to be pending. If the MS is in sub-state U2r, it shall enter sub-state U2ws and ask RR to enter group transmit mode. While the request is pending, the request may be deleted by higher layers. While the request is pending, as soon as COMM = T, the MS shall send a TERMINATION REQUEST message to its peer entity in the network, set timer  $T_{\text{term}}$  and no more consider the request as pending.

The network either accepts the termination by sending a TERMINATION or rejects termination by sending a TERMINATION REJECT. These messages indicate an appropriate cause.

In state U5, on receipt of a TERMINATION REJECT message, the GCC entity in the MS informs higher layers and stops  $T_{\text{term}}$ .

In state U5, on  $T_{\text{term}}$  expiry, the GCC entity in the MS informs higher layers, asks lower sub-layers to abort the group call, clears the context related to the group call, and returns to state U0, NULL.

In any state, on receipt of a TERMINATION message, the GCC entity in the MS informs higher layers, asks lower sub-layers to release the group call, clears the context related to the group call, and returns to state U0, NULL.

At any time during a group call, the network may decide to terminate the connection between the two peer entities in the network and MS. In this case the network sends a TERMINATION message to the MS specifying the appropriate cause; it may ask lower (sub-)layers to release associated resources. The further actions are specified above in this subclause 6.4.

### 6.4.2 Abort and release procedures

The network may ask lower sub-layers to abort or release the group call. The MS will detect abort of the group call by detecting a radio link failure, and a group call release by release of the RR resources. The GCC entity in the MS shall then inform higher layers, ask lower sub-layers to abort the group call, clear the context related to the group call, and return to state U0, NULL.

The MS shall, on request of higher layers, initiate the release procedure by asking lower sub-layers to release the group call, clearing the context related to the group call, and returning to state U0, NULL.



The GCC entity in the MS shall when required by the GCC protocol, abort the group call by requesting lower layers to abort the group call, informing higher layers, clearing the context related to the group call, and returning to state U0, NULL.

## 6.5 Miscellaneous procedures

### 6.5.1 Status procedures

#### 6.5.1.1 Get status procedure

Upon receipt of a GET STATUS message, the MS shall:

- if COMM = T, respond with a STATUS message reporting the current call state, the current values of configuration and behaviour parameters and cause value # 30 "Response to GET STATUS";
- if COMM = F, consider the response to be pending. If the MS is in sub-state U2r, it shall enter sub-state U2ws and ask RR to enter group transmit mode. While the request is pending, as soon as COMM = T, the MS shall send a STATUS message, reporting the current call state, the current values of configuration and behaviour parameters and cause value # 30 "Response to GET STATUS" and no more consider the request as pending.

#### 6.5.1.2 Set parameter procedure

Upon receipt of a SET PARAMETER message the MS shall set the parameters to the indicated values and the configuration shall be adapted to the new values of configuration parameters, if they are consistent with the current GCC state and sub-state (see subclause 6.1.2). If they are not:

- if COMM, before the message was received, is equal to T, it shall send a STATUS message specifying error cause "message incompatible with protocol state", the state and, if applicable, sub-state, and the *state attributes* IE;
- if COMM, before the message was received, is equal to F, it shall ignore the message.

---

## 7 Handling of unknown, unforeseen, and erroneous protocol data

### 7.1 General

This subclause specifies procedures for the handling of unknown, unforeseen, and erroneous protocol data by the receiving GCC protocol entity in the MS. These procedures are called "error handling procedures", but in addition to providing recovery mechanisms for error situations they define a compatibility mechanism for future extensions of the protocols. Error handling procedures in the network are for further study.

Subclauses 7.1 to 7.8 shall be applied in order of precedence.

Most error handling procedures are mandatory for the MS.

In this clause the following terminology is used:

- an IE is defined to be syntactically incorrect in a message if it contains at least one value defined as "reserved" in clause 9, or if its value part violates rules of clause 9. However it is not a syntactical error that a TLV encoded IE specifies in its length indicator a greater length than defined in clause 9;
- a message is defined to have semantically incorrect contents if it contains information which, possibly dependant on the state of the receiver, is in contradiction to the resources of the receiver and/or to the procedural part (i.e. clauses 6 and 7) of the present document.

## 7.2 Message too short

When a message is received that is too short to contain a complete message type information element, that message shall be ignored, cf. GSM 04.07.

## 7.3 Unknown or unforeseen transaction identifier

If COMM = T, the MS shall answer to a message received with TI value "111" by sending a STATUS message with same TI value, cause "invalid transaction identifier value", and including, if possible, as diagnostics the complete message received (this may not be possible, e.g., due to length restrictions). If COMM = F, the MS shall ignore a message received with TI value "111".

For a group call control message received with TI different from "111", the following procedures shall apply:

Whenever a message is received specifying a transaction identifier which is not recognized as relating to an active transaction, if COMM = F, the MS shall ignore the message; if COMM = T, the MS shall send a STATUS message with cause #81 "invalid transaction identifier value" using the received transaction identifier value and including, if possible, as diagnostics the complete message received (this may not be possible, e.g., due to length restrictions). and remain idle.

## 7.4 Unknown or unforeseen message type

If the protocol entity in the MS receives a message with message type not defined for the PD or not implemented by the receiver, it shall ignore the message except for the fact that, if COMM = T, it shall return a STATUS message with cause "message type non-existent or not implemented" and including as diagnostics the message type of the message received.

NOTE: A message type not defined for the PD in the given direction is regarded by the receiver as a message type not defined for the PD, see GSM 04.07.

If the protocol entity in the MS receives a message not compatible with the protocol state, the MS shall ignore the message except for the fact that, if COMM = T, it returns a STATUS message with cause "message type not compatible with protocol state" and including as diagnostics the message type of the message received.

## 7.5 Non-semantical mandatory information element errors

When on receipt of a message;

- an "imperative message part" error; or
- a "missing mandatory IE" error;

is diagnosed or when a message containing;

- a syntactically incorrect mandatory IE; or
- an IE unknown in the message, but encoded as "comprehension required" (see GSM 04.08, subclause 10.5); or
- an out of sequence IE encoded as "comprehension required" (see GSM 04.08, subclause 10.5);

is received;

- the MS shall, if COMM = F, ignore the message. Otherwise it shall proceed as follows:
  - the MS shall ignore the message except for the fact that it shall return a STATUS message with cause "invalid mandatory information" and including, if possible, as diagnostics the complete message received (this may not be possible, e.g., due to length restrictions).

## 7.6 Unknown and unforeseen information elements in the non-imperative message part

### 7.6.1 Information elements unknown in the message

The protocol entity in the MS shall ignore all information elements unknown in a message which are not encoded as "comprehension required".

### 7.6.2 Out of sequence information elements

The MS shall ignore all out of sequence Information elements in a message which are not encoded as "comprehension required".

### 7.6.3 Repeated Information elements

If an information element with format T, TV, or TLV is repeated in a message in which repetition of the information element is not specified in clause 8, only the contents of the information element appearing first shall be handled and all subsequent repetitions of the information element shall be ignored. When repetition of information elements is specified, only the contents of specified repeated information elements shall be handled. If the limit on repetition of information elements is exceeded, the contents of information elements appearing first up to the limit of repetitions shall be handled and all subsequent repetitions of the information element shall be ignored.

## 7.7 Non-imperative message part errors

This category includes:

- syntactically incorrect optional Information elements;
- conditional IE errors.

### 7.7.1 Syntactically incorrect optional Information elements

The protocol entity shall treat all optional Information elements that are syntactically incorrect in a message as not present in the message.

## 7.8 Messages with semantically incorrect contents

When a message with semantically incorrect contents is received, the foreseen reactions of the procedural part (i.e. of clauses 5 and 6) of the present document are performed. If however no such reactions are specified, the MS shall ignore the message except for the fact that, if COMM = T, it returns a STATUS message with cause value "semantically incorrect message" and including, if possible, as diagnostics the complete message received (this may not be possible, e.g., due to length restrictions).

## 8 Message functional definitions and contents

This subclause defines the structure of the messages of those layer 3 protocols defined in the present document, that is the GCC protocol.

All messages are standard L3 messages as defined in GSM 04.07.

Each definition given in the present subclause includes:

- a brief description of the message direction and use;
- a definition in which direction the message is defined;
- a table listing the information elements permitted to be in that message and their order of their appearance in the message. All information elements that may be repeated are explicitly indicated. Neither the network nor the MS is allowed to include information elements in a message which are not specified for the message or to include the information elements in the message in an order different from the specified order. ( V and LV formatted IEs, which compose the imperative part of the message, occur before T, TV, and TLV formatted IEs which compose the non-imperative part of the message, cf. GSM 04.07.) In a (maximal) sequence of consecutive information elements with half octet length, the first information element with half octet length occupies bits 1 to 4 of octet N, the second bits 5 to 8 of octet N, the third bits 1 to 4 of octet N+1 etc. Such a sequence always has an even number of elements.

For each information element the table indicates:

- 1) if the IE has format T, TV, or TLV, the IEI used by the IE at the indicated position in the message, in hexadecimal notation. If the IEI has half octet length, this is specified by a notation representing the IEI as a hexadecimal digit followed by a "-" (example: B-);
- 2) the name of the information element (which may give an idea of the semantics of the element). The name of the information element (usually written in italics) followed by "IE" or "information element" is used in GSM 04.08 as reference to the information element within a message;
- 3) the name of the type of the information element (which indicates the coding of the value part of the IE), and generally, the referenced subclause of clause 9 describing the value part of the information element;
- 4) the presence requirement indication (M or O) for the IE as defined in GSM 04.07 (Presence requirement indication C is not used in the present document);
- 5) the format of the information element (T, V, TV, LV, TLV) as defined in GSM 04.07;
- 6) the length of the information element (or permissible range of lengths), in octets, in the message. This indication is normative. However, further restrictions to the length of an IE may be specified elsewhere.

subclauses specifying, where appropriate;

- the meaning of; and
- conditions for;

absence, repeated occurrence, and/or presence for IEs with presence requirement O in the relevant message which together with other conditions specified in the present document define when the information elements shall be included or not, what presence, repeated occurrence, and absence of such IEs means.

## 8.1 CONNECT

This message is sent by the network to the calling MS in order to indicate establishment of the requested group call.

See table 8.1.

Message type: CONNECT;

Significance: dual;

Direction: network to MS.

**Table 8.1: CONNECT message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	Group Call control protocol discriminator	Protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	Transaction identifier	Transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	Connect message type	Message type 9.3	M	V	1
	Group call reference	Call reference 9.4.1	M	V	4
	Originator indication	Originator indication 9.4.4	M	V	1/2
	Spare half octet	Spare half octet 9.4.6	M	V	1/2

## 8.2 GET STATUS

This message is sent by the network at any time to solicit a STATUS message from the MS in acknowledged or unacknowledged mode.

See table 8.2.

Message type: GET STATUS;

Significance: local;

Direction: network to MS.

**Table 8.2: GET STATUS message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
17	mobile identity	mobile identity GSM 04.08, 10.5.1.4	O	TLV	3-10

### 8.2.1 mobile identity

This IE is included if the network wishes so. If the message is received by the MS in acknowledged mode, it shall be ignored by the MS. If received in unacknowledged mode, it specifies the destination MS, see clause 5.

## 8.3 IMMEDIATE SETUP

This message is sent by the MS to the network in order to set-up a group call immediately, i.e. without previous establishment of an MM connection. See table 8.3.

Message type: IMMEDIATE SETUP;

Significance: dual;

Direction: MS to network.

**Table 8.3: IMMEDIATE SETUP message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	Spare half octet	Spare half octet 9.4.6	M	V	1/2
	Ciphering key sequence number	Ciphering key sequence number GSM 04.08, 10.5.1.2	M	V	1/2
	Mobile station classmark	Mobile station classmark 2 GSM 04.08, 10.5.1.6	M	LV	4
	Mobile identity	Mobile identity GSM 04.08, 10.5.1.4	M	LV	2-9
	Group identity	Call reference 9.4.1	M	V	4

### 8.3.1 Mobile identity

This IE shall specify the TMSI, if available, and the IMSI else.

## 8.4 SET PARAMETER

This message is sent by the network at any time to ask the MS for setting of parameters and consequential actions.

See table 8.4.

Message type: SET PARAMETER;

Significance: local;

Direction: network to MS.

**Table 8.4: SET PARAMETER message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	state attributes	state attributes 9.4.7	M	V	1/2
	spare half octet	spare half octet 9.4.6	M	V	½

## 8.5 SETUP

This message is sent by the MS to the network in order to set-up a group call after establishment of an MM connection.

See table 8.5.

Message type: SETUP;

Significance: dual ;

Direction: MS to network.

**Table 8.5: SETUP message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	Group identity	Call reference 9.4.1	M	V	4

## 8.6 STATUS

This message is sent by the MS to the network at any time during a call to report certain error conditions listed in clause 8. It shall also be sent in response to a GET STATUS message.

See table 8.6.

Message type: STATUS;

Significance: local;

Direction: MS to network.

**Table 8.6: STATUS message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	cause	cause 9.4.3	M	LV	2-248
A-	call state	call state 9.4.2	O	TV	1
B-	state attributes	state attributes 9.4.7	O	TV	1

### 8.6.1 Call state

This IE may always be included in the message. In certain cases identified in the present document, the IE shall be included in the message, e.g.: when used in the get status procedure.

### 8.6.2 State attributes

This IE may always be included in the message. In certain cases identified in the present document, the IE shall be included in the message, e.g.: when used in the get status procedure.

## 8.7 TERMINATION

This message is sent by the network to the MS in order to indicate that the group call has been or will be terminated, e.g. as a response to a termination request.

See table 8.7.

Message type: TERMINATION;

Significance: dual;

Direction: network to MS.

**Table 8.7: TERMINATION message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	cause	cause 9.4.3	M	LV	2-248

## 8.8 TERMINATION REJECT

This message is sent by the network to the MS in order to reject a termination request, for example because the MS is not the originator of the group call.

See table 8.8.

Message type: TERMINATION REJECT;

Significance: dual;

Direction: network to MS.

**Table 8.8: TERMINATION REJECT message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	Reject cause	Cause 9.4.3	M	LV	2-248



## 8.9 TERMINATION REQUEST

This message is sent by the MS to the network in order to request termination of a group call which it had originated.

See table 8.9.

Message type: TERMINATION REQUEST;

Significance: dual;

Direction: MS to network.

**Table 8.9: TERMINATION REQUEST message content**

IEI	Information element	Type / Reference	Presence	Format	Length
	protocol discriminator	protocol discriminator 9.1	M	V	1/2
	transaction identifier	transaction identifier 9.2	M	V	1/2
	message type	message type 9.3	M	V	1
	Group call reference	Call reference 9.4.1	M	V	4

## 9 Contents of information elements value parts

The figures and text in this clause describe the contents of Information Elements (IE) value parts. The structure of an IE as composed of Information Element Identifier (IEI), length, and value part is defined in GSM 04.07.

### 9.1 Protocol Discriminator

The Protocol Discriminator (PD) and its use are defined in GSM 04.07.

### 9.2 Transaction identifier

Bits 5 to 8 of the first octet of every message belonging to the GCC protocol contain the transaction identifier (TI). The transaction identifier and its use are defined in GSM 04.07.

### 9.3 Message Type

The message type IE and its use are defined in GSM 04.07. Table 9.1 defines the value part of the message type IE used in the GCC protocol.

**Table 9.1: Message types for GCC**

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
0	x	1	1	0	0	0	1	IMMEDIATE SETUP
0	x	1	1	0	0	1	0	SETUP
0	x	1	1	0	0	1	1	CONNECT
0	x	1	1	0	1	0	0	TERMINATION
0	x	1	1	0	1	0	1	TERMINATION REQUEST
0	x	1	1	0	1	1	0	TERMINATION REJECT
0	x	1	1	1	0	0	0	STATUS
0	x	1	1	1	0	0	1	GET STATUS
0	x	1	1	1	0	1	0	SET PARAMETER

Bit 8 is reserved for possible future use as an extension bit, see GSM 04.07.

Bit 7 is reserved for the send sequence number in GCC messages sent from the MS. In GCC messages sent from the network an, bit 7 is coded with a "0", see GSM 04.07.

## 9.4 Other information elements

For coding of other IEs, the rules defined in GSM 04.07 annex B apply.

### 9.4.1 Call Reference

The *Call Reference* information element identifies the group call reference or group Id of a group call. It is coded as shown below. It is a type 3 information element.

$\langle \text{call reference} \rangle ::= \text{reference } \{ 0 \text{ spare\_4} / 1 \{ \text{priority spare\_1} \} \}$

#### Attributes

The information element defines a reference which, depending on the situation, is to be interpreted as a group call reference or as a group id. If the **priority** field is present in  $\langle \text{call reference} \rangle$ , the information element also specifies a priority.

#### Field contents

The field of the *call reference* information element are coded as shown in table 9.2.

**Table 9.2: *call reference* information element**

<b>reference</b> (27 bits)	
This field contains the 27 bit binary encoding (with leading zeroes) of the number the decimal encoding of which (with leading zeroes) is the group call reference or the group id (see GSM 03.03).	
<b>priority</b> (3 bits)	
This field encodes the priority level of the call (see GSM 03.67):	
Bits	
0 0 0	reserved
0 0 1	priority level 4
0 1 0	priority level 3
0 1 1	priority level 2
1 0 0	priority level 1
1 0 1	priority level 0
1 1 0	priority level B
1 1 1	priority level A
<b>spare_4</b> (4 bits)	This field shall be ignored
<b>spare_1</b> (1 bit)	This field shall be ignored

## 9.4.2 Call state

The *call state* information element identifies a state, and, if applicable, a sub-state of the group call protocol at the MS side. It is coded as defined below. It is a type 1 information element.

*<call state>* ::= **state**

### Attributes

The **state** field defines an integer N in the range 0..15. The *call state* information element defines a call state or a sub-state of state U2, ACTIVE, of the GCC protocol.

### Field contents

See table 9.3.

### Static conditions

The values 12 to 15 of integer N are reserved.

**Table 9.3: *call state* information element**

<b>state</b> (4 bits)	
This field contains the 4 bit encoding (with leading zeroes) of an integer N = 0, ..., 15. The state or substate associated to integer N is defined below:	
<b>N</b>	<b>state</b>
0	U0
1	U1
2	U2sl
3	U3
4	U4
5	U5
6	U0.p
7	U2wr
8	U2r
9	U2ws
10	U2sr
11	U2nc
All other values are reserved.	

## 9.4.3 Cause

The purpose of the *cause* information element is to describe the reason for generating certain messages and to provide diagnostic information in the event of procedural errors.

The *cause* information element is a type 4 information element. Its value part has a minimal length of 1 octet. The maximum length is given by the maximum number of octets in a L3 message (see GSM 04.06).

The value part is coded as shown below:

*<cause >* ::= **1 cause\_part [ diagnostics ]**  
**/ 0 cause\_part <cause>**

### Attributes

The **cause\_part** field defines a non-negative integer N. If more than one **cause\_part** fields are present in *<cause>*, the information element indicates an unspecific cause; otherwise, it indicates a cause as defined by N.

**Field contents**

The fields of the information element are coded as shown in table 9.4.

**Table 9.4: cause information element**

cause_part (7 bits)	
This field contains the 7 bit encoding (with leading zeroes) of a non-negative integer which specifies a cause as defined below:	
N	cause
3	Illegal MS
5	IMEI not accepted
6	Illegal ME
8	Service not authorized
9	Application not supported on the protocol
10	RR connection aborted
17	Network failure
22	Congestion
30	Response to GET STATUS
32	Service option not supported
33	Requested service option not subscribed
34	Service option temporarily out of order
38	Call cannot be identified
48 - 63	retry upon entry into a new cell
81	Invalid transaction identifier value
95	Semantically incorrect message
96	Invalid mandatory information
97	Message type non-existent or not implemented
98	Message type not compatible with the protocol state
99	Information element non-existent or not implemented
100	Message type not compatible with the protocol state
112	Protocol error, unspecified
Any other value received shall be treated as an unspecific cause.	
<b>Diagnostics</b>	
This field contains a message or information element.	

**9.4.4 Originator indication**

The *originator indication* information element informs the group call control entity in the MS whether it is the calling user. It is a type 1 information element.

The value part is coded as shown below:

*<originator indication>* ::= spare\_3 OI

**Attributes**

The IE defines whether the MS is the originator of the group call.

**Field contents**

The fields of the information element are coded as shown in table 9.5.

**Table 9.5: *originator indication* information element fields**

<b>spare_3</b> (3 bits)	
This field shall be ignored.	
<b>OI</b> (1 bit)	
<b>0</b>	The MS is not the originator of the call
<b>1</b>	The MS is the originator of the call

#### 9.4.5 Not used

#### 9.4.6 Spare Half Octet

This element is used in the description of messages in clause 8 when an odd number of half octet type 1 information elements are used. This element consists of 4 bits set to zero and is placed in bits 5 to 8 of the octet unless otherwise specified. It is a type 1 information element.

#### 9.4.7 State attributes

The *state attributes* information element contains information about parameter values of the MS. It is a type 1 information element.

The value part is coded as shown below:

*<state attributes>* ::= **DA UA COMM OI**

##### Attributes

The IE defines values of parameters D-ATT, U-ATT, ORIG, and COMM.

##### Field contents

The fields of the information element are coded as shown in table 9.7.

**Table 9.7: *state attributes* information element fields**

<b>DA</b> (1 bit)	
<b>0</b>	User connection in the downlink not attached (D-ATT = F)
<b>1</b>	User connection in the downlink attached (D-ATT = T)
<b>UA</b> (1 bit)	
<b>0</b>	User connection in the uplink not attached (U-ATT = F)
<b>1</b>	User connection in the uplink attached (U-ATT = T)
<b>COMM</b> (1 bit)	
<b>0</b>	COMM = F
<b>1</b>	COMM = T
<b>OI</b> (1 bit)	
<b>0</b>	The MS is not the originator of the call (ORIG = F)
<b>1</b>	The MS is the originator of the call (ORIG = T)

## Annex A (informative): Change Request History

SMG#	CR #	TDoc	SPEC	PHASE	VERS	NEW_VERS	SUBJECT
s27		98-0679	04.68	R96	5.0.2	5.1.0	GSM 04.68 Corrections.
s27		98-0679	04.68	R96	5.0.2	5.1.0	Get Status Procedure
s27		98-0679	04.68	R96	5.0.2	5.1.0	Set Status Procedure
s28	A005	P-99-150	04.68	R96	5.1.0	5.2.0	
s28	A006	P-99-150	04.68	R96	5.1.0	5.2.0	
s28	A007	P-99-150	04.68	R96	5.1.0	5.2.0	
s28	A008	P-99-150	04.68	R96	5.1.0	5.2.0	
S29	A009	P-99-451	04.68	R96	5.2.0	5.3.0	Coding of Call Reference IE
						7.0.0	Upgrade to Release 1998
CN#5	A017	N1-99752	04.68	R98	7.0.0	7.1.0	Correction of Reject Cause in Termination Reject message
CN#5	A020	N1-99804	04.68	R98	7.0.0	7.1.0	Message name correction
S31			04.58	R99	7.1.0	8.0.0	Upgrade for release 1999
			04.58		8.0.0	8.0.1	Verison update to 8.0.1 for Publication

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# History

<b>Document history</b>		
V8.0.0	March 2000	One-step Approval Procedure OAP 20000714: 2000-03-15 to 2000-07-14
V8.0.1	August 2000	Publication