(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
4 December 2008 (04.12.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/146077 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06Q 40/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2007/002418

(22) International Filing Date:
22 August 2007 (22.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2007/04447 30 May 2007 (30.05.2007) ZA

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **FUNDAMO (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** [ZA/ZA]; 2 Strand Road, Bellville, Cape Town, 7530 Western Cape Province (ZA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **VAN RENSBURG, Johannes, Janse** [ZA/ZA]; 14 Kaapse Draai, Ridgeworth Drive, Ridgeworth, Bellville, Cape Town, 7550 Western Cape Province (ZA). **FRANZ, Cedric, Ronald** [ZA/ZA]; 4 Saxon Road, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7700 Western Cape Province (ZA).

(74) Agent: **VON SEIDEL, Michael**; Von Seidels Intellectual Property Attorneys, PO Box 440, Century City, 7446 Cape Town (ZA).

(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR CLEARING FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

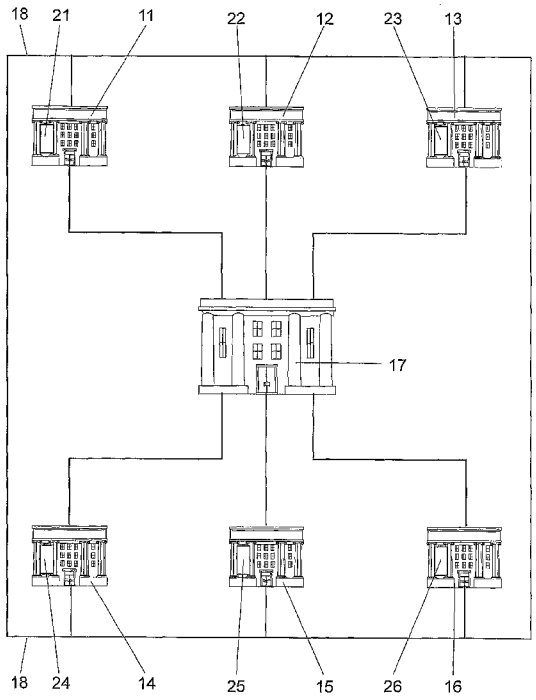


Figure 2

(57) Abstract: A system is provided for clearing financial transactions as between banking institutions optionally by way of one or more clearing houses. A plurality of banking institutions (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16) are each enabled to communicate directly with each other and with at least one clearing house (17). Each banking institution has a computerised server (21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26) programmed to address clearance requests to at least some of the plurality of banking institutions in the system by way of a particular route. The computerised server of at least one banking institution in the system is programmed to route clearance requests selectively and, as may be necessary, sequentially directly to one or more of the other banking institutions and clearing house in the alternative. Selection means associated with the computerised server are provided for selecting a particular one of said at least one other banking institution and clearing house according to a predetermined sequence and typically according to least cost.

WO 2008/146077 A3

— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
11 September 2009