

## **CERTIFICATE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS IN NETWORK FUNCTIONS VIRTUALIZATION ARCHITECTURE**

### **ABSTRACT**

Embodiments of the present invention provide a certificate management method  
5 and apparatus in a network functions virtualization (NFV) architecture. The certificate  
management method includes: determining, by an NFV management and  
orchestration system (MANO), a storage network element, where the storage network  
element is configured to store a certificate of a virtualized network function  
component (VNFC), and the storage network element is different from the VNFC;  
10 creating, by the MANO, storage space in the storage network element, where the  
storage space is used to store the certificate of the VNFC; and sending, by the MANO,  
an address of the storage space to the VNFC, so that the VNFC accesses the address  
of the storage space, obtains the certificate of the VNFC, and directly communicates  
with another network element by using the certificate stored in the storage network  
15 element. The VNFC does not locally store the certificate. According to the  
embodiments of the present invention, a certificate in the NFV architecture can be  
effectively managed.

Fig. 2