Claims

1. An apparatus for encoding a multi-view image, the apparatus comprising:
a selection unit that selects pictures to be encoded using inter-view prediction and temporal prediction from multi-view image sequences based on temporal levels; and
an encoding unit that encodes the selected pictures using inter-view prediction and temporal prediction, and encoding remaining pictures included in the multi-view image sequences using inter-view prediction or temporal prediction.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the selection unit selects non-anchor pictures in temporal levels that are less than a given value from among all pictures included in the multi-view image sequences.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the selection unit selects the pictures to be encoded using inter-view prediction and temporal prediction for each view of the multi-view image sequences based on the temporal levels.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the encoding unit encodes information about the selected pictures.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the encoding unit encodes a supplemental enhancement information (SEI) message a sequence parameter comprising the information.

Claims

1. An apparatus for encoding a multi-view image, the apparatus comprising:

a selection unit that obtains a picture in one view image sequence to be encoded by using inter-view prediction from multi-view image sequences and information indicating whether the obtained picture in one view image sequence is a reference picture referred to by others in another view image sequence for inter-view prediction to generate a determination result; and

an encoding unit that encodes the obtained pictures by using inter-view prediction and the information

wherein the information is included in a network abstraction layer (NAL) unit header, and

wherein a picture which is a reference picture referred to by others in another view image sequence for inter-view prediction is included in a reference picture list and a picture which is not a reference picture referred to by others in another view image sequence for inter-view prediction is not included in the reference picture list.

2. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the encoding unit encodes a supplemental enhancement information (SEI) message or a sequence parameter comprising the information.