

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
27 July 2006 (27.07.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/077449 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
H04L 12/28 (2006.01) **H04Q 7/38** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2005/000103

(22) International Filing Date: 24 January 2005 (24.01.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

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

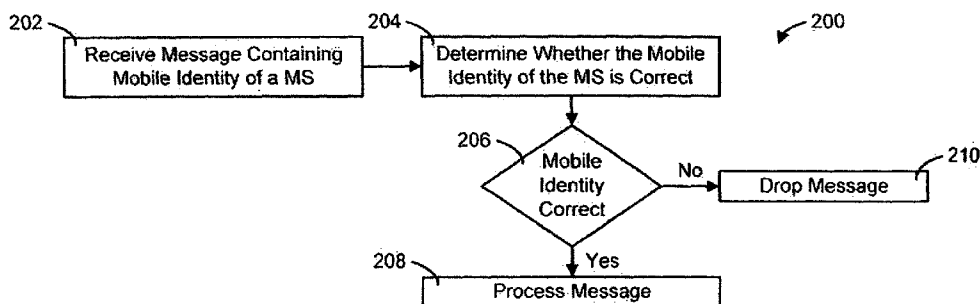
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, 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).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROTECTING A CORE NETWORK



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method and apparatus for protecting a core network (102) by receiving (202) a message (302, 402) containing a mobile identity of a MS (104) and dropping (210) the message (302, 402) whenever the received mobile identity does not match a stored mobile identity associated with the MS (104). The message (302, 402) is processed (208) whenever the received mobile identity matches the stored mobile identity associated with the MS (104). The mobile identity can be an IMSI, a TMSI or a P-TMSI. The message (302, 402) can be an uplink message (302) or a downlink message (402), such as a Mobility Management (MM) message, a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Mobility Management (GMM) message, or a UMA or Unlicensed Radio Resources (URR) message. The present invention can be implemented as a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium wherein the various method steps are implemented by one or more code segments.

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