

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 December 2007 (13.12.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/143738 A1

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
H04L 29/06 (2006.01) *H04Q 7/38* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/US2007/070656
- (22) **International Filing Date:** 7 June 2007 (07.06.2007)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
60/811,875 7 June 2006 (07.06.2006) US
- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** **QUALCOMM Incorporated** [US/US]; Attn: International Ip Administration, 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).
- (72) **Inventors; and**
- (75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only):** **HORN, Gavin Bernard** [CA/US]; 8952 Caminito Fresco, La Jolla, California 92037 (US). **ULUPINAR, Fatih** [US/US]; 17387 Grandee Place, San Diego, California 92128 (US). **BENDER, Paul E.** [US/US]; 2879 Angell Avenue, San Diego, California 92122 (US). **PRAKASH, Rajat** [IN/US]; 8730 Costa Verde Blvd., Apt. 2439, San Diego, California 92122 (US).
- (74) **Agents:** **OGROD, Gregory D.** et al.; ATTN INTERNATIONAL IP ADMINISTRATION, 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).

(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).

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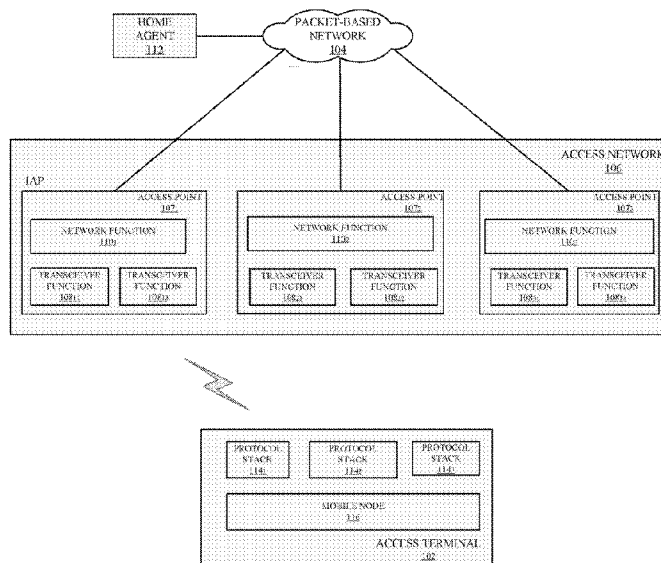
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

- with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** HANDOFF OF AN ACCESS TERMINAL AT THE NETWORK LAYER IN AN ACCESS NETWORK



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for accessing an access network includes a processing system configured to maintain an active set comprising a plurality of network functions, the processing system being further configured to support a handoff of a network layer attachment point from a first one of the network functions to a second one of the network functions by sending a message to each of the network functions which identifies the second one of the network functions as a target of the handoff and performing a binding update for the second one of the network functions with a home agent.

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