CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for indicating a terminal capability identifier, applied to a third communications device being a first terminal, and comprising:

receiving an identification request from a target side, or receiving terminal capability identification information allocated by a target side for the first terminal;

before the receiving either the identification request from the target side, or the terminal capability identification information allocated by the target side for the first terminal, the method comprises:

transmitting third indication information to the target side, wherein the third indication information is used to indicate whether first capability identification information is present; ~~and~~

wherein the identification request is determined by the target side according to the third indication information, and the identification request is used to request for the first capability identification information;

wherein the terminal capability identification information allocated by the target side for the first terminal is determined according to the third indication information; and

wherein the first capability identification information is terminal capability identification information of the~~a~~ first terminal.

2. The method for indicating a terminal capability identifier according to claim 1, wherein

the third indication information is transmitted to a fourth communications network element.

3. The method for indicating a terminal capability identifier according to claim 1, wherein

the third communications device comprises at least one of the following: a terminal, a core network element, and a radio access network element.

4. A method for obtaining a terminal capability identifier, applied to a fourth communications network element and comprising:

obtaining third indication information, wherein the third indication information is used to indicate whether first capability identification information is present, and the first capability identification information is terminal capability identification information of a first terminal; and

determining, based on the third indication information, whether to obtain the first capability identification information or whether to allocate terminal capability identification information to the first terminal.

5. The method for obtaining a terminal capability identifier according to claim 4, wherein the obtaining third indication information comprises:

obtaining the third indication information from a third communications device.

6. The method for obtaining a terminal capability identifier according to claim 5, wherein the determining, based on the third indication information, whether to obtain the first capability identification information comprises:

obtaining the first capability identification information from the third communications device when a first condition for obtaining a capability identifier is satisfied, wherein

the first condition for obtaining a capability identifier comprises at least one of the following:

the fourth communications network element does not have the first capability identification information; and

the third indication information indicates that the first capability identification information is present.

7. The method for obtaining a terminal capability identifier according to claim 4, wherein the determining, based on the third indication information, whether to allocate terminal capability identification information to the first terminal comprises:

allocating the terminal capability identification information to the first terminal when a first condition for allocating terminal capability identification information is satisfied; wherein

the first condition for allocating terminal capability identification information comprises at least one of the following:

the fourth communications network element does not have the first capability identification information; and

the third indication information indicates that the first capability identification information is absent.

8. The method for obtaining a terminal capability identifier according to claim 4, wherein

the fourth communications network element comprises at least one of the following: a core network element and a radio access network element.

9. A third communications device being a first terminal, comprising:

a receiving module, configured to receive an identification request from a target side, or receive terminal capability identification information allocated by a target side for the first terminal;

a transmitting module, configured to transmit third indication information to the target side before the receiving module receiving either the identification request from the target side, or the terminal capability identification information allocated by the target side for the first terminal, wherein the third indication information is used to indicate whether first capability identification information is present; ~~and~~

wherein the identification request is determined by the target side according to the third indication information, and the identification request is used to request for the first capability identification information;

wherein the terminal capability identification information allocated by the target side for the first terminal is determined according to the third indication information; and

wherein the first capability identification information is terminal capability identification information of thea first terminal.

10. The third communications device according to claim 9, wherein the transmitting module is configured to:

transmit the third indication information to a fourth communications network element.

11. The third communications device according to claim 9, wherein

the third communications device comprises at least one of the following: a terminal, a core network element, and a radio access network element.

12. A fourth communications network element, comprising:

an obtaining module, configured to obtain third indication information, wherein the third indication information is used to indicate whether first capability identification information is present, and the first capability identification information is terminal capability identification information of a first terminal; and

a determining module, configured to determine, based on the third indication information, whether to obtain the first capability identification information or whether to allocate capability identification information to the first terminal.

13. The fourth communications network element according to claim 12, wherein the obtaining module is configured to:

obtain the third indication information from a third communications device.

14. The fourth communications network element according to claim 13, wherein the determining module is configured to:

obtain the first capability identification information from the third communications device when a first condition for obtaining a capability identifier is satisfied, wherein

the first condition for obtaining a capability identifier comprises at least one of the following:

the fourth communications network element does not have the first capability identification information; and

the third indication information indicates that the first capability identification information is present.

15. The fourth communications network element according to claim 12, wherein the determining module is configured to:

allocate the terminal capability identification information to the first terminal when a first condition for allocating terminal capability identification information is satisfied; wherein

the first condition for allocating terminal capability identification information comprises at least one of the following:

the fourth communications network element does not have the first capability identification information; and

the third indication information indicates that the first capability identification information is absent.

16. The fourth communications network element according to claim 12, wherein

the fourth communications network element comprises at least one of the following: a core network element and a radio access network element.