CLAIMS

1. A method of communication, comprising:

receiving a first message from an access terminal at a first access point, wherein the first message includes a first identifier of a second access point;

determining whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point; and

sending a second message, as a result of the determination, to enable the access terminal to temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point to thereby enable the access terminal acquire a second identifier of the second access point.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a request to the access terminal for the second identifier in conjunction with the sending of the second message.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving the second identifier from the access terminal in response to the request; and

using the second identifier to communicate with the second access point to prepare the second access point for handover of the access terminal.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the second message comprises an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

7. The method of claim 4, wherein the time gap is defined to commence upon receipt of the second message by the access terminal.

8. The method of claim 4, wherein the time gap is defined to terminate upon acquisition of the second identifier by the access terminal.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the first identifier comprises a physical cell identifier; and

the second identifier comprises a global cell identifier.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the determination comprises determining that there is confusion associated with the use of the first identifier.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the second identifier is unique within a larger region than the first identifier.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the second identifier is more unique than the first identifier such that the second identifier is less likely to be subject to identifier confusion than the first identifier.

13. An apparatus for communication, comprising:

an identifier controller configured to receive a first message from an access terminal at a first access point, wherein the first message includes a first identifier of a second access point;

a confusion controller configured to determine whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point; and

a time gap controller configured to send a second message, as a result of the determination, to enable the access terminal to temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point to thereby enable the access terminal acquire a second identifier of the second access point.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the second message comprises an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

16. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the time gap is defined to commence upon receipt of the second message by the access terminal.

18. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the time gap is defined to terminate upon acquisition of the second identifier by the access terminal.

19. An apparatus for communication, comprising:

means for receiving a first message from an access terminal at a first access point, wherein the first message includes a first identifier of a second access point;

means for determining whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point; and

means for sending a second message, as a result of the determination, to enable the access terminal to temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point to thereby enable the access terminal acquire a second identifier of the second access point.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the second message comprises an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

23. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the time gap is defined to commence upon receipt of the second message by the access terminal.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the time gap is defined to terminate upon acquisition of the second identifier by the access terminal.

25. A computer-program product, comprising:

computer-readable medium comprising code for causing a computer to:

receive a first message from an access terminal at a first access point, wherein the first message includes a first identifier of a second access point;

determine whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point; and

send a second message, as a result of the determination, to enable the access terminal to temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point to thereby enable the access terminal acquire a second identifier of the second access point.

26. The computer-program product of claim 25, wherein the second message comprises an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

27. The computer-program product of claim 26, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

28. The computer-program product of claim 26, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

29. A method of communication, comprising:

receiving a request from a first access point at an access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of a second access point;

receiving a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point;

monitoring, at the next available time gap, for a transmission from the second access point that comprises the node identifier; and

reporting the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the time gap comprises an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

33. The method of claim 29, wherein the time gap commences upon receipt of the message by the access terminal.

34. The method of claim 29, wherein the time gap terminates upon receipt of the node identifier by the access terminal.

35. The method of claim 29, wherein the request is received with the message.

36. The method of claim 29, wherein:

the request is received in response to a measurement report sent to the first access point by the access terminal; and

the measurement report comprises another node identifier of the second access point.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein:

the node identifier comprises a global cell identifier; and

the another node identifier comprises a physical cell identifier.

38. The method of claim 36, wherein the node identifier is unique within a larger region than the another node identifier.

39. The method of claim 36, wherein the node identifier is more unique than the another identifier such that the node identifier is less likely to be subject to identifier confusion than the another identifier.

40. An apparatus for communication, comprising:

an identifier controller configured to receive a request from a first access point at an access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of a second access point;

a communication controller configured to receive a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point; and

a receiver configured to monitor, at the next available time gap, for a transmission from the second access point that comprises the node identifier,

wherein the identifier controller is further configured to report the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

41. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the time gap comprises an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

42. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

43. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

44. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the time gap commences upon receipt of the message by the access terminal.

45. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the time gap terminates upon receipt of the node identifier by the access terminal.

46. An apparatus for communication, comprising:

means for receiving a request from a first access point at an access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of a second access point;

means for receiving a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point;

means for monitoring, at the next available time gap, for a transmission from the second access point that comprises the node identifier; and

means for reporting the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

47. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the time gap comprises an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

48. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

49. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

50. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the time gap commences upon receipt of the message by the access terminal.

51. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the time gap terminates upon receipt of the node identifier by the access terminal.

52. A computer-program product, comprising:

computer-readable medium comprising code for causing a computer to:

receive a request from a first access point at an access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of a second access point;

receive a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point;

monitor, at the next available time gap, for a transmission from the second access point that comprises the node identifier; and

report the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

53. The computer-program product of claim 52, wherein the time gap comprises an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

54. The computer-program product of claim 52, wherein the time gap does not have a defined duration.

55. The computer-program product of claim 52, wherein the time gap comprises a measurement gap indication or a discontinuous reception indication.

CLAIMS

1. A method of communication, including:

receiving, at a first access point, an indication based on a determination made by an access terminal that the access terminal is in the vicinity of a second access point in a closed subscriber group (CSG) list of the access terminal at which the access terminal may receive service;

receiving a first identifier of the second access point;

determining, by the first access point, whether to initiate handover operations based on the indication of the access terminal;

determining, by the first access point, whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point;

sending, by the first access point, as a result of the determination that the first identifier is used to identify at least one node other than the second access point, a request for the access terminal to acquire a second identifier of the second access point; and

receiving, at the first access point, a second identifier of the second access point from the access terminal in response to the request.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein handover operations are not initiated if it is determined that the access terminal may not receive service from the second access point based on the indication.

3. The method of claim 1, further including:

using the second identifier to communicate with the second access point to prepare the second access point for handover of the access terminal.

4. The method of claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the request to acquire the identifier includes an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein:

the first identifier includes a physical cell identifier; and

the second identifier includes a global cell identifier.

6. The method of claim 1 or 3 to 5, further including initiating a handover of the access terminal to the second access point based on the second identifier.

7. The method of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the second identifier is unique within a larger region than the first identifier.

8. The method of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the second identifier is more unique than the first identifier.

9. An apparatus for communication, including:

means for receiving at a first access point, an indication based on a determination made by an access terminal that the access terminal is in the vicinity of a second access point in a closed subscriber group (CSG) list of the access terminal at which the second access terminal may receive service;

means for receiving a first identifier of the second access point;

means for determining, by the first access point, whether to initiate handover operations based on the indication of the access terminal;

means for determining, by the first access point, whether the first identifier may be used to identify at least one node other than the second access point;

means for sending, by the first access point, as a result of the determination that the first identifier is used to identify at least one node other than the second access point, a request for the access terminal to acquire a second identifier of the second access point; and

means for receiving, at the first access point, the second identifier of the second access point from the access terminal in response to the request.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein handover operations are not initiated if it is determined that the access terminal may not receive service from the second access point based on the indication.

11. The apparatus of claim 9, further including:

means for using the second identifier to communicate with the second access point to prepare the second access point for handover of the access terminal.

12. The apparatus of any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the request to acquire the second identifier includes an indication of an asynchronous time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point.

13. The apparatus of any one of claims 9 to 12, wherein:

the first identifier includes a physical cell identifier; and

the second identifier includes a global cell identifier.

14. The apparatus of claim 9 or 11 to 13, further including means for initiating a handover of the access terminal to the second access point based on the second identifier.

15. The apparatus of any one of claims 9 to 14, wherein the second identifier is unique within a larger region than the first identifier.

16. The apparatus of any one of claims 9 to 15, wherein the second identifier is more unique than the first identifier.

17. A method of communication, including:

performing an autonomous search by an access terminal to detect one or more neighboring access points;

determining an allowed likelihood of receiving service from a second access point based on a result of the autonomous search, wherein the second access point is one of the detected one or more neighboring access points;

transmitting an indication from the access terminal to a first access point when the allowed likelihood is determined such that the access terminal will likely receive service from the second access point in a closed subscriber group (CSG) of the access terminal;

receiving a request from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of the second access point;

monitoring for a transmission from the second access point that includes the node identifier; and

reporting the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

18. The method of claim 17, further including:

receiving a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point;

wherein the monitoring takes place at the next available time gap; and

wherein the time gap includes an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein:

the request is received in response to a measurement report sent to the first access point by the access terminal; and

the measurement report includes another node identifier of the second access point.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein:

the node identifier includes a global cell identifier; and

the another node identifier includes a physical cell identifier.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the node identifier is unique within a larger region than the another node identifier.

22. An apparatus for communication, including:

means for performing an autonomous search, by an access terminal, to detect one or more neighboring access points;

means for determining an allowed likelihood of receiving service from a second access point based on a result of the autonomous search, wherein the second access point is one of the detected one or more neighboring access points;

means for transmitting an indication, from the access terminal when the allowed likelihood is determined such that the access terminal will likely receive service from the access point in a closed subscriber group (CSG) of the access terminal;

means for receiving a request from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the request is for a node identifier of a second access point;

means for monitoring for a transmission from the second access point that includes the node identifier; and

means for reporting the node identifier to the first access point upon receipt of the node identifier from the second access point.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, further including:

means for receiving a message from the first access point at the access terminal, wherein the message indicates a next available time gap during which the access terminal may temporarily cease monitoring transmissions from the first access point;

wherein the means for monitoring takes place at the next available time gap; and

wherein the time gap includes an asynchronous time gap that does not have a synchronized starting time.

24. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein:

the request is received in response to a measurement report sent to the first access point by the access terminal; and

the measurement report includes another node identifier of the second access point.

25. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein:

the node identifier includes a global cell identifier; and

the another node identifier includes a physical cell identifier.

26. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the node identifier is unique within a larger region than the another node identifier.

27. A method of wireless communication, including:

receiving, at a first access point, an allowed likelihood indication based on a determination made by an access terminal that a second access point, which is in a closed subscriber group (CSG) list of the access terminal, is in the vicinity of the access terminal;

receiving a first identifier of the second access point;

determining, by the first access point, whether to initiate handover operations based on the allowed likelihood indication;

sending, by the first access point, a request to the access terminal to acquire a second identifier of the second access point in response to a determination that the first identifier is used to identify at least one node other than the second access point; and

receiving at the first access point, the second identifier from the access terminal.

28. A computer-program product, including:

computer readable medium including code for causing a computer to perform a method according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or 17 to 21.