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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- 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))

[Continued on next page]

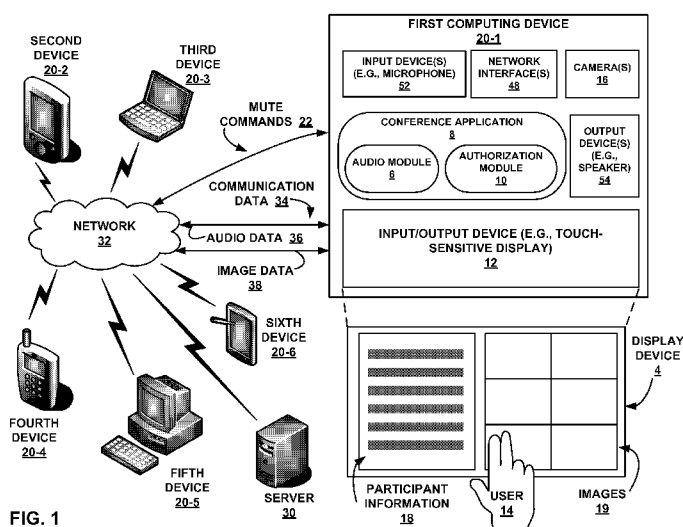
(54) **Title:** MUTING PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATION SESSION

FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** In general, this disclosure describes techniques for muting participants in a communication session. A communication session, such as a teleconference or a video conference, may be established between a plurality of participants using devices. Each participant engaged in the communication session may be authorized to mute or un-mute other participants. Information related to the communication session may be provided to some of the participants, including but are not limited to, indications of when a participant is muted or un-muted, indications of which participant initiated a muting or un-muting, indications of volume of a participant, or indications of types of sounds in a communication session. Social controls, utilized through transparency (e.g., providing identifying indications), may reduce the chance of misuse of the muting functionality.

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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2012/040025**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****H04L 12/18(2006.01)i, H04N 7/15(2006.01)i**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G06F 15/16; H04N 7/14; H04L 12/66; H04 12/16; H04Q 11/00; H04M 3/52;

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & keywords: mute request, un-mute, conference, GUI, session, participants

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	US 2008-0010347 A1 (DAN HOUGHTON et al.) 10 January 2008 See paras. 11-14, 27, 75, 78, 83-84, 87, 130-139; figs. 1-3, 11A-14B; and claim 1.	1-7,9,17-21 8,10-16
Y A	US 7843486 B1 (COLIN BLAIR et al.) 30 November 2010 See col. 5, line 15 - col. 6, line 10; col. 11, line 39 - col. 12, line 3; col. 13, lines 15-28; figs. 1-2; and claim 1.	1-7,9,17-21 8,10-16
A	US 2006-0114884 A1 (PHILLIP A. REMAKER) 1 June 2006 See paras. 32-37; fig. 4; and claim 1.	1-21
A	US 2004-0006595 A1 (CHIANG YEH et al.) 8 January 2004 See paras. 4, 14-18; figs. 1-5; and claims 1, 29, 33.	1-21
A	US 2009-0006555 A1 (DARRAGH CURRAN et al.) 1 January 2009 See paras. 4-11, 20-27, 32-35, 72-78; figs. 6A-6D; and claim 1.	1-21

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/040025

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