An apparatus and method for obtaining scalability of a video object (VO) whose position and/or size changes with time. The position of an upper layer picture and that of a lower layer picture in an absolute coordinate system are determined so that corresponding pixels in an enlarged picture and in the upper layer picture may be arranged at the same positions in the absolute coordinate system.
**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

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| ZW  | Zimbabwe                 |     |                        |
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 HO4N7/26

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)
IPC 6 HO4N

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

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 December 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

27.03.98

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx: 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer
GIANNOTTI P.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box I  Observations where certain claims were found unsearable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II  Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see continuation sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims. It is covered by claims Nos:

1-22, 35-55

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees
FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM  PCT/ISA/  210

1. Claims 1-22, 35-55:
   scalable encoding/decoding with picture position information

2. Claims 23-34:
   encoding/decoding with skip macroblocks

3. Claims 56-57:
   encoding/decoding with picture size information

4. Claims 58-59:
   encoding/decoding with a pre-set table to take into account whether
   a picture has been used as a reference picture

5. Claims 60-64:
   encoding/decoding with a pre-set quantisation step to take into account
   whether quantised pixel values are not all of the same value
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