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(54) **AUTHENTICATION METHOD AND
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(71) Applicant: **HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO.,
LTD.**, Shenzhen (CN)

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(72) Inventors: **Runze ZHOU**, Shanghai (CN);
Mingyue YANG, Shanghai (CN);
Zhongping CHEN, Shanghai (CN)

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(73) Assignee: **HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO.,
LTD.**, Shenzhen (CN)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Embodiments of this application disclose an authentication method and an apparatus therefor, which may be applied to a relay access scenario. The method includes: A first device receives a first request from a second device, where when the second device is a terminal device, the first request is used by the target remote device to request to access a network; or when the second device is a network element, the first request is for requesting to determine whether the target remote device has permission to access the network; and the first device sends first information to the second device, where the first information indicates whether the target remote device has permission to access the network. According to embodiments of this application, it can be determined whether the target remote device has permission to access the network, and this helps improve network security.

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