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(54) **SUPPORT DEVICE FOR A CHILD ACCESSORY AND ASSOCIATED ACCESSORY**

(57) Support device (1) for a child accessory (100), in particular a child bathtub, the support device comprising:

- a plurality of support legs (2), wherein said plurality of support legs (2) comprises at least one first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one main crosspiece (3) joining, and fixed to, respective upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and extending along a main longitudinal direction between such upper ends, the main crosspiece having at least one first intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction and to a line ideally joining the upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one third leg (2c), movably mounted with respect to the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) fixed to an upper end of the third leg (2c), said first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) at the first intermediate portion (3i); and
- a first coupling pin (5), configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece (3) and the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

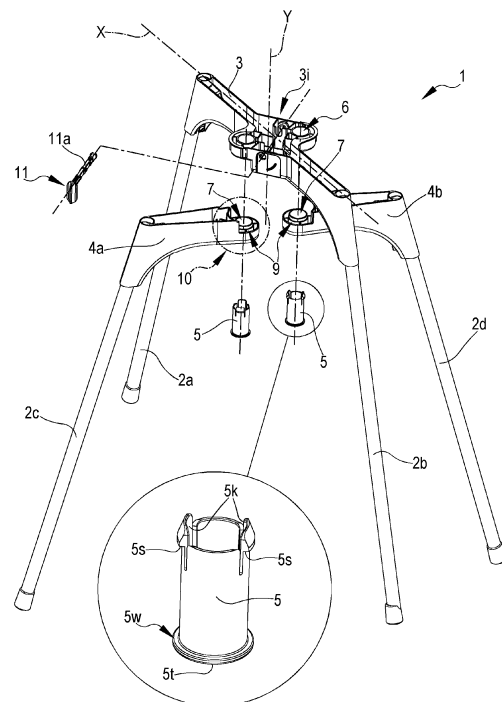


FIG.2

Description

Field of the art

[0001] The present invention refers to the field of child accessories, and in detail it concerns a support device for a child accessory.

[0002] The present invention also refers to the child accessory configured for being engaged on the support device.

Prior art

[0003] Support devices for a child accessory are known, in particular for a child tub, which are characterized by a hinge with central engagement.

[0004] One example of a hinge and related manufacturing process is known from the document EP 3 443 864 A1.

[0005] Such support devices comprise a movable cross comprising two arms that are interconnected with each other substantially at a central portion. Fixed on such arms are support legs, in a number equal to two for each arm.

[0006] Such support devices have several drawbacks: in particular, such support systems have a limited possibility of configuration due to the simple connection device of the two arms. Indeed, the Applicant observes that in the document EP 3 443 864 A1, the arms are substantially rigid, and the four branches of the cross created thereby are rigidly coupled two-by-two.

Objects

[0007] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory, which is capable of solving the abovementioned drawbacks.

[0008] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which is easy to use.

[0009] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which is easy to put back, and when put back, it occupies little space.

[0010] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory, which has an optimal stability and safety of use.

[0011] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which can have three or four support legs.

[0012] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which, when having four support legs, allows an independent movement of a third and a fourth support leg with respect to the first and the second support leg.

[0013] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which can be realized with a production process that is economically

efficient and fast.

[0014] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which allows a quick release of said accessory from the support, and which simultaneously allows a safe constraint of the accessory to the support at least in a specific use configuration.

[0015] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a support device for a child accessory which has limited weight and which, simultaneously, provides a suitable strength and/or durability over time.

[0016] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a child accessory conceived for being removably connected with a support device like the one described.

[0017] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a child accessory which has a surface such to ensure an optimal distribution of weight on the support device.

[0018] One object of the present disclosure is to describe a child accessory which is light to transport, but which can simultaneously provide suitable engagement safety to the support device described herein.

Summary of the invention

[0019] The invention is illustrated hereinbelow in accordance with one or more of the main aspects, listed hereinbelow.

[0020] Such aspects can be combined with each other and/or with portions of the description and/or of the claims.

[0021] In accordance with the present disclosure, a support device (1) for a child accessory (100) is realized, in particular a child bathtub, the support device comprising:

- a plurality of support legs (2), wherein said plurality of support legs (2) comprises at least one first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one main crosspiece (3) joining, and fixed to, respective upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and extending along a main longitudinal direction between such upper ends, the main crosspiece having at least one first intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction and to a line ideally joining the upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one third leg (2c), movably mounted with respect to the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) fixed to an upper end of the third leg (2c), said first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) at the first intermediate portion (3i); and
- a first coupling pin (5), configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece (3) and the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

[0022] In accordance with the present disclosure, a support device (1) is realized for a child accessory (100), in particular a child bathtub, the support device comprising:

- a plurality of support legs (2), wherein said plurality of support legs (2) comprises at least one first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one main crosspiece (3) joining, and fixed to, respective upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and extending along a main longitudinal direction between such upper ends, the main crosspiece having at least one first intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction and to a line ideally joining the upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one third leg (2c), movably mounted with respect to the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) fixed to an upper end of the third leg (2c), said first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) at the first intermediate portion (3i);

and wherein said support device (1) is configured for removably constraining the child accessory (100) substantially at the main crosspiece (3) by means of a locking key (11).

[0023] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first intermediate portion (3i) comprises a first hole (6).

[0024] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises a first auxiliary hole (7) thereof.

[0025] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin (5) is configured for being introduced at least in the first auxiliary hole (7) and/or in the hole (6) of the first intermediate portion (3i) in order to realize said hinge connection.

[0026] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first and the second leg (2a, 2b) have a same length.

[0027] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises a second intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction in a direction substantially opposite with respect to the first intermediate portion (3i).

[0028] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second intermediate portion (3i) comprises a respective hole (6).

[0029] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the support device (1) comprises at least one fourth leg (2d), movably mounted at least with respect to the first pair of legs (2a, 2b).

[0030] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the support device (1) comprises at least one second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) fixed to an upper end of the fourth leg (2d), said second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) being configured for being rotatably connected to a portion of the main crosspiece (3) at the second intermediate portion

(3i) and being provided with a second auxiliary hole (7) thereof.

[0031] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the support device (1) comprises a second coupling pin (5).

[0032] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) is configured for being introduced in the second auxiliary hole (7) and/or in the hole (6) of the second intermediate portion (3i).

[0033] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) is configured for being introduced in the second auxiliary hole (7) and/or in the hole (6) of the second intermediate portion (3i) in order to realize a hinge connection.

[0034] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) is configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) determining a second hinge connection.

[0035] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second hinge connection is distinct with respect to the hinge connection realized by means of the first coupling pin (5).

[0036] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the support device (1) comprises a rest configuration wherein the main crosspiece (3) and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions.

[0037] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the support device (1) comprises a use configuration wherein the main crosspiece (3) and the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are arranged along two oblique or transverse directions, optionally substantially orthogonal, and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and of the third leg (2c) on a substantially triangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device (1).

[0038] According to a further non-limiting aspect, wherein in the rest configuration the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions, and wherein the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are aligned with each other along two substantially parallel directions.

[0039] According to a further non-limiting aspect, in the use configuration the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are arranged along two oblique or transverse directions, optionally substantially orthogonal and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b), of the third leg (2c) and of the fourth leg on a substantially quadrangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device (1).

[0040] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises an end portion (10) provided with a recess substantially identifying a contact surface (9) lying, in use, alternatively at a higher or lower height than the height assumed by the first intermediate portion (3i).

[0041] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the

main crosspiece (3) comprises a central portion (3h) and a locking key (11) for a child accessory (100), said locking key (11) being configured for assuming at least one first use position wherein it is configured for constraining the child accessory (100) at least to the main crosspiece (3) and a second use position wherein it is configured for releasing the child accessory (100) from the main crosspiece (3).

[0042] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the device (1) is configured for allowing a switching between the first use position and the second use position of the locking key (11) by means of a rotation movement and/or an axial movement and/or a combined rotational-translational movement between the locking key (11) and the main crosspiece (3).

[0043] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said locking key (11) is made of plastic material and/or it is at least partially covered in plastic material.

[0044] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are configured for providing a substantially direct support for the child accessory (2), having optionally respective upper surfaces (12) substantially aligned on a same height.

[0045] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) and/or at least the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises at least one upper covering made of soft material and/or of friction material, optionally of rubber and/or of silicone material.

[0046] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises at least one first end stop element (13) placed at the first intermediate portion (3i), and wherein said first end stop element (13) is configured for limiting the rotation of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) relative to the main crosspiece (3), and wherein when the device (1) is in said use configuration, at least one portion of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is substantially in contact with said end stop element (13).

[0047] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises at least one second end stop element (13) placed at the second intermediate portion (3i).

[0048] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said second end stop element (13) is configured for limiting the rotation of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4a) relative to the main crosspiece (3).

[0049] According to a further non-limiting aspect, when the device (1) is in said use configuration, at least one portion of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is substantially in contact with said end stop element (13).

[0050] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary hole (7) and the hole (6) of the first intermediate portion (3i) substantially have a same diameter.

[0051] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the contact surface (9) is a substantially annular surface surrounding the first auxiliary hole (7).

[0052] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary hole (7) and the hole (6) of the second

intermediate portion (3i) substantially have a same diameter.

[0053] According to a further non-limiting aspect, when the support device (1) is in use configuration, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are substantially aligned with the first and with the second auxiliary hole (7) respectively present on the first and on the second intermediate portion (3i) of the main crosspiece (3).

[0054] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin (5) is disconnectable with respect to the first auxiliary crosspiece (4) and/or with respect to the main crosspiece (5), or wherein the first coupling pin (5) is integrally installed on the first auxiliary crosspiece (5) or is integrally installed on the main crosspiece (3).

[0055] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin (5) is integrally installed at one end of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4), optionally being installed at an opposite end with respect to the end on which the third leg (2c) is connected.

[0056] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin extends from a lower surface of said first auxiliary crosspiece (4).

[0057] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) is integrally installed at one end of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4), optionally being installed at an opposite end with respect to the end on which the fourth leg (2d) is connected.

[0058] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin (5) extends from a surface of the first intermediate portion (3i), optionally from an upper surface of the first intermediate portion (3i).

[0059] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) extends from a surface of the second intermediate portion (3i), optionally from an upper surface of the second intermediate portion (3i).

[0060] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first coupling pin (5) is hollow, and/or is provided with a through hole.

[0061] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second coupling pin (5) is hollow, and/or is provided with a through hole.

[0062] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) is made of plastic material, optionally being entirely made of plastic material.

[0063] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) is realized through molding, optionally through injection molding.

[0064] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises reinforcement ribs.

[0065] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is made of plastic material, optionally being fully made of plastic material.

[0066] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is realized through molding, optionally through injection molding.

[0067] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises reinforcement

ribs.

[0068] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) is made of plastic material, optionally being fully made of plastic material.

[0069] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) is realized through molding, optionally through injection molding.

[0070] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) comprises reinforcement ribs.

[0071] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises a first end and a second end, opposite to the first end, and said first pair of legs (2a, 2b) comprises a first leg (2a) fixed, optionally irremovably fixed, to the first end and a second leg (2b) fixed, optionally irremovably fixed, to the second end.

[0072] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first pair of legs extends obliquely with respect to a direction orthogonal to the maximum extension direction of the main crosspiece (3).

[0073] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) has a maximum extension direction (X).

[0074] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the hole (6) of the first intermediate portion (3i) has an axis aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to said maximum extension direction (X).

[0075] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the hole (6) of the second intermediate portion (3i) has an axis aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to said maximum extension direction (X).

[0076] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) has a substantially elongated shape and comprises a first end and a second end that is opposite with respect to the first end; the third leg (2c) being fixed at the first end; the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) substantially at the second end.

[0077] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) has a substantially elongated shape and comprises a first end and a second end opposite with respect to the first end; the fourth leg (2d) being fixed at the first end; the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) substantially at the second end.

[0078] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is configured for being removably connected to the main crosspiece (3).

[0079] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) is configured for being removably connected to the main crosspiece (3).

[0080] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary hole (7) is positioned substantially at the second end of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

[0081] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary hole (7) is positioned substantially at the

second end of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b).

[0082] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the first auxiliary hole (7) has an axis (Y) aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to the maximum extension direction (X) of the main crosspiece (3) and/or aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to a maximum extension direction (X) of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

[0083] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary hole (7) has an axis (Y) aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to the maximum extension direction (X) of the main crosspiece (3) and/or aligned in a direction substantially orthogonal to a maximum extension direction (X) of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b).

[0084] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) is rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) with a rotatably independent connection with respect to the rotatable connection of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) with the main crosspiece (3).

[0085] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said contact surface (9) is a surface on which takes place the sliding with the first intermediate portion (3i) during a rotation of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) with respect to the main crosspiece (3) during the switching between the rest configuration and the use configuration and/or due to the rotatable connection between the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) and the main crosspiece (3).

[0086] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said contact surface (9) is a surface on which takes place the sliding with the second intermediate portion (3i) during a rotation of the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) with respect to the main crosspiece (3) during the switching between the rest configuration and the use configuration and/or due to the rotatable connection between the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) and the main crosspiece (3).

[0087] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the coupling pin (5) comprises a head (5t) comprising an abutment portion (5w) configured for abutting against an edge of the hole (6) and/or of the first and/or of the second auxiliary hole (7).

[0088] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the coupling pin (5) comprises at least one cylindrical portion.

[0089] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the coupling pin (5) comprises at least one pair of tabs (5k) each provided with an undercut (5s) suitable for engaging at an end portion or edge of the hole (6) and/or of the first and/or of the second auxiliary hole (7).

[0090] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said pair of tabs (5k) comprises a first and a second tab. According to a further non-limiting aspect, said pair of tabs (5k) is a pair of flexible tabs.

[0091] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said pair of tabs (5k) comprises a first tab and a second tab positioned in a diametrically opposite position with respect to each other.

[0092] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said

pair of tabs (5k) lies at one end of the coupling pin (5).

[0093] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said pair of tabs (5k) lies at one end of the coupling pin (5) opposite with respect to the end at which there is the head (5t).

[0094] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said pair of tabs (5k) is configured for assuming at least one first rest configuration and a second compressed or bent configuration, said second compressed or bent configuration being unstable.

[0095] In accordance with a further aspect, a kit is described herein, comprising:

- a child accessory (100), in accordance with one or more of the aspects described herein, and
- a support device (1) in accordance with one or more of the aspects described herein.

[0096] In accordance with a further aspect the use of the support device (1) is described herein according to one or more of the aspects described herein as support for a child accessory (100), in particular for a child bathtub.

[0097] In accordance with a further aspect a child accessory (100) is described herein, configured for being coupled with a support device in accordance with one or more of the aspects described herein.

[0098] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the child accessory (100) is a child bathtub.

[0099] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the child accessory (100) is at least partially made, optionally fully made, of plastic material.

[0100] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the child accessory (100) comprises a substantially planar bottom portion.

[0101] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said bottom portion is configured and specifically destined to be directly abutted against an upper surface at least of the main crosspiece (3) and/or of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

[0102] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the child accessory (100) comprises at least one connection element (100c) configured and/or intended to allow a removable constraint with the support device (1).

[0103] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the child accessory (100) comprises at least one connection element (100c) configured and/or intended to allow a removable constraint with the locking key (11).

[0104] According to a further non-limiting aspect the locking key (11) comprises at least one first portion (11a) having a flattened profile.

[0105] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the locking key (11) comprises a second portion (11a) having a flattened profile.

[0106] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the second portion (11a) is substantially axially aligned with the first portion (11a).

[0107] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the

at least one first portion (11a) is configured for removably introducing in a seat (100h) of a connection element (100c) of the child accessory (100).

[0108] According to a further non-limiting aspect, said seat (100h) comprises a hole and/or a recess comprising at least one mouth (103) configured for housing the at least one first portion (11a) when assuming a predetermined spatial orientation of insertion.

[0109] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the mouth (103) has a first transversal size.

[0110] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the seat (100h) comprises a head (104), open on said mouth (103) and defining a cavity having a second transversal size greater than the size of the mouth (103).

[0111] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the head (104) is configured for housing said at least one first portion (11a) in said predetermined spatial orientation of insertion and in a second spatial orientation distinct with respect to said predetermined spatial orientation.

[0112] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the rotation movement and/or the combined roto-translational movement between the locking key (11) and the main crosspiece (3) determining a rotation of at least one first portion (11a), said rotation optionally being a rotation along a main extension axis of the locking key (11).

[0113] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the connection element (100c) is positioned in the bottom portion of the child accessory (100).

[0114] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the connection element (100c) comprises a seat (100h) comprising a hole and/or a recess; said hole or recess comprising a mouth (103) having a first transversal size and a head (104), open on said mouth (103) and defining a cavity having a second transversal size greater than the size of the mouth (103).

[0115] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the connection element (100c) comprises a seat (100h) comprising a hole and/or a recess; said hole or recess comprising a mouth (103) and a head (104), open on said mouth (103), wherein the mouth (103) is configured for allowing the passage of the first portion (11a) and/or of the second portion (11a) when aligned in a predefined passage direction and wherein said head (104) is configured for housing said first portion (11a) and/or the second portion (11a) when oriented in a plurality of directions different with respect to said predefined passage direction.

[0116] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the main crosspiece (3) comprises a central portion (3h) and a locking seat for a child accessory (100), said locking seat being configured for being removably coupled with a connection element, in particular with a locking key (11) of the child accessory.

[0117] According to a further non-limiting aspect, the connection element (100c) comprises a locking key (11), configured for assuming at least one first use position wherein it is configured for constraining the child accessory (100) at least to the main crosspiece (3) and a sec-

ond use position wherein it is configured for releasing the child accessory (100) from the main crosspiece (3), in particular wherein the switching between the first use position and the second use position of the locking key (11) occurs by means of a rotation movement and/or a combined roto-translational movement between the locking key (11) and the locking seat.

Description of the figures

[0118] Some preferred embodiments of the support device (1) and of the child accessory (100) will be described in the following detailed description with reference to the enclosed figures, wherein:

- figure 1 illustrates a perspective view of a child accessory and of the relative support device in accordance with the present disclosure;
- figure 2 illustrates an exploded perspective view of the support device in accordance with the present disclosure, in a use configuration;
- figure 3 illustrates a perspective view of the support device in accordance with the present disclosure, in a rest configuration;
- figure 4 illustrates a perspective view of the support device in accordance with the present disclosure, in a use configuration and when assembled;
- figure 5 illustrates a portion of the child accessory and of the support device, in a first disconnected configuration; and
- figure 6 illustrates a portion of the child accessory and of the support device, in a second connected configuration.

Detailed description

[0119] As illustrated in figure 1, reference number 1 indicates in its entirety a support device for a child accessory 100. In the following description and in the enclosed figures, reference will be made to a child accessory in the form of a bathtub. Clearly, this type of accessory must not be considered limiting.

[0120] The support device 1 for a child accessory 100 first of all comprises a plurality of support legs, in particular at least three support legs 2a, 2b, 2c conceived for the purpose of positioning the child accessory 100 at a height sufficient for allowing a comfortable use thereof, for example without an adult having to bend over excessively.

[0121] The embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures has four support legs 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d. The use of four support legs allows providing a support optimally distributed for the child accessory 100, and contributes to reduce the weight that each support leg must support with respect to a configuration with three support legs.

[0122] The support device 1 comprises at least one main crosspiece 3. Such main crosspiece joins a first pair of legs, identified with reference numbers 2a and 2b and

comprises at least one first intermediate portion 3i non-aligned with respect to a line ideally joining the first pair of legs 2a, 2b. In particular, the main crosspiece 3 is fixed substantially at upper ends of the first pair of legs 2a, 2b.

[0123] Even if many different materials can be used for the main crosspiece 3, preferably the material with which the latter is realized is a plastic material, as a non-limiting example a plastic material. Optionally, the main crosspiece can be realized through injection molding and possibly comprise reinforcement ribs, suitable for providing suitable strength, at the same time limiting the weight.

[0124] As it can be observed from the figures, the main crosspiece 3 has an extension along a main longitudinal direction.

[0125] The main crosspiece 3 has end portions for fixing the legs 2a, 2b, each having a same vertical extension, and this allows having at least two legs 2a, 2b with a same length. Nevertheless, in the embodiment of the present invention, the support device 1 has four legs with a same length; this allows optimizing the production costs of the support device 1.

[0126] Preferably, as shown in the enclosed figures, the first pair of legs 2a, 2b is fixed to the main crosspiece 3 substantially at the ends of the same.

[0127] The Applicant has conceived a first embodiment wherein the first pair of legs 2a, 2b is removably fixed to the main crosspiece 3 and a second embodiment wherein the first pair of legs 2a, 2b is irremovably fixed to the crosspiece. When the legs of the first pair of legs 2a, 2b are removably fixed to the main crosspiece 3, preferably - but in a non-limiting extent - such legs are introduced into a respective recess of the main crosspiece 3 by means of an axial introduction. Optionally, such legs can be fastened to the main crosspiece 3 through of screws.

[0128] As illustrated in the enclosed figures, the first pair of legs is extended obliquely with respect to a direction orthogonal to the maximum extension direction of the main crosspiece 3 itself. This confers an improved stability to the device 1, in particular when significantly loaded with weight.

[0129] In the enclosed figures, the represented embodiment comprises a first and a second intermediate portion 3i, which preferably but in a non-limiting extent are opposite each other. This means that by observing the main crosspiece 3 from above and vertically aligning it, preferably a first intermediate portion 3i extends laterally on the left side with respect to the aforesaid line and a second intermediate portion 3i extends on the right side with respect to the aforesaid line. The intermediate portion 3i therefore extends in a direction transversal with respect to said main longitudinal direction.

[0130] In one embodiment, the intermediate portion 3i, which preferably is positioned at half the length of the main crosspiece 3, has a hole - indicated with the reference number 6 - which has an axis which preferably, although non limiting thereto, is aligned substantially orthogonally with respect to a maximum extension direction

of the main crosspiece 3. Such maximum extension direction is indicated in the enclosed figures with the axis Y.

[0131] The simplest embodiment of the support device 1 disclosed herein has a third leg 2c, movably mounted with respect to the first pair of legs 2a, 2b.

[0132] The support device 1 also comprises a first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, on which said third leg 2c is fixed. In particular, the fixing of the third leg 2c to the first auxiliary crosspiece substantially occurs at the upper end of such third leg. As it can be observed in the enclosed figures, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece 3. In a preferred and non-limiting embodiment, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece through an auxiliary element and in particular by juxtaposition.

[0133] In particular, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is configured for being connected to the main crosspiece 3 substantially at the first intermediate portion 3i.

[0134] Preferably, although non limiting thereto, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a has substantially elongated shape, and has a first end to which said third leg 2c is connected and a second end at which the rotatable connection with the main crosspiece 3 is realized in the modes that will be better described hereinbelow.

[0135] In one embodiment, such rotatable connection is also a movable connection; this means that the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is specifically configured for being able to be connected with the main crosspiece 3 and disconnected from the main crosspiece 3 in a normal switching of use configurations.

[0136] In a particular embodiment, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a comprises a first auxiliary hole 7; such first auxiliary hole 7 is positioned substantially at the second end of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a.

[0137] The first auxiliary hole 7 also has an axis which preferably, although non-limiting thereto, is aligned substantially orthogonally with respect to a maximum extension direction of the main crosspiece 3. Clearly, such alignment refers to a configuration wherein the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is connected to the main crosspiece 3.

[0138] The relative rotation, hence the rotatable connection between the main crosspiece 3 and the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, takes place around the axis of the second auxiliary hole 7 which coincides with the axis of the hole 6 of the first intermediate portion 3i.

[0139] The connection with the main crosspiece 3 is realized removably by means of a coupling pin, indicated with the reference number 5. Such coupling pin 5 is configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece 3 and the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a.

[0140] The Applicant observes that in a particular embodiment of the finding, without the coupling pin 5 it is not possible to keep a connection, in particular a stable connection between the main crosspiece 3 and the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, since the latter lacks engage-

ment elements that can even only partially be introduced or connected with the main crosspiece 3, for example being introduced into the hole 6.

[0141] When the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b is present, preferably such second crosspiece is also substantially similar to the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a. The second auxiliary crosspiece 4b has substantially elongated shape, and has a first end at which said fourth leg 2d is connected and a second end at which the connection with the main crosspiece 3 is realized in the modes that will be better described hereinbelow. The second auxiliary crosspiece 4b is substantially connected at an upper end of the fourth leg 4b.

[0142] In one embodiment, such rotatable connection is also a removable connection; this means that the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b is specifically configured for being able to be connected with the main crosspiece 3 and disconnected from the main crosspiece 3 in a normal switching of use configurations.

[0143] In one embodiment, the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b comprises a second auxiliary hole 7; such first auxiliary hole 7 is positioned substantially at the second end of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0144] The second auxiliary hole 7 also has an axis that preferably, although non-limiting thereto, is positioned aligned substantially orthogonally with respect to a maximum extension direction of the main crosspiece 3. Clearly such alignment refers to a configuration wherein the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b is connected to the main crosspiece 3.

[0145] The relative rotation, hence the rotatable connection between the main crosspiece 3 and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, takes place around the axis of the second auxiliary hole 7 which coincides with the axis of the hole 6 of the second intermediate portion 3i.

[0146] Also in this case, the connection of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b with the main crosspiece 3 is movably realized by means of a coupling pin, indicated with the reference number 5. Such coupling pin 5 is configured for determining an at least temporary keeping of a hinge connection between the main crosspiece 3 and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0147] The third leg 2c can be removably fixed to the respective first auxiliary crosspiece 4a. Alternatively, the third leg 2c can be fixed in an irremovable way to the respective first auxiliary crosspiece 4a. When fixed in a removable way, the third leg 2c can be introduced in a respective recess of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a through an axial insertion.

[0148] The fourth leg 2d can be removably fixed to the respective second auxiliary crosspiece 4b. Alternatively, the fourth leg 2d can be fixed in an irremovable way to the respective second auxiliary crosspiece 4b. When fixed removably, the fourth leg 2d can be introduced in a respective recess of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b through an axial insertion.

[0149] In a particular embodiment, therefore, the support device 1 comprises the main crosspiece 3, the first

auxiliary crosspiece 4a, the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b and a first and a second coupling pin 5 detachable with respect to the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, to the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b and with respect to the main crosspiece 3.

[0150] The second hinge connection is independent from the first hinge connection. This means that the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a can be moved with respect to the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b with a substantially independent movement. Thanks to this aspect, it is possible to have a very high flexibility of use.

[0151] In order to ensure significant strength, the first, the second, the third and, if present, the fourth leg can be made at least partially of metallic material and/or they can be realized with a core of metallic material covered by a film or a layer of polymer material, and/or be made at least partially, and optionally entirely, of plastic material. In such case, conveniently, the legs can integrate reinforcement ribs.

[0152] The support device 1, object of the present disclosure, has a first rest configuration, wherein the main crosspiece 3 and the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions, and has a use configuration wherein the main crosspiece 3 and the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a are arranged along two directions that are considerably oblique, optionally substantially orthogonal, and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs 2a, 2b and of the third leg 2c on a substantially triangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device 1.

[0153] Even if many different materials can be used for the first and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b, in a non-limiting embodiment such auxiliary crosspieces are preferably - although in a non-limiting extent - made of plastic material. Also the first and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b can optionally have reinforcement crosspieces suitable for conferring sufficient strength thereto for the use to which they are destined, at the same time limiting the weight thereof.

[0154] Clearly, when also the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b and the fourth leg 2d are present - as in the case of the enclosed figures - in the rest configuration the main crosspiece 3 and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions and in the use configuration the main crosspiece 3 and the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b are arranged along two directions considerably oblique, optionally substantially orthogonal, and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs 2a, 2b, of the third leg 2c and of the fourth leg on a substantially quadrangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device 1.

[0155] In order to simplify the mounting of the support device described herein, in one embodiment the first and the second auxiliary hole 7 have a same diameter. Thanks to this aspect, the locking pins that are introduced therein can be exchanged without risk of leading to an incorrect configuration of the support device 1.

[0156] A particular embodiment of the support device

1 described herein is characterized by a particular shape of an end portion 10 of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a and, preferably of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0157] In particular, the end portion 10, which was previously indicated as second end, has a recess substantially identifying a contact surface 9. The contact surface 9 is the one on which takes place the sliding with the intermediate portion 3i during the rotation which the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a and/or the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b alternately have during the switching between the rest configuration and the use configuration.

[0158] In a preferred and non-limiting embodiment, such contact surface, which surrounds the first auxiliary hole 7 in the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, and the second auxiliary hole 7 in the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, has a substantially annular shape.

[0159] The contact surface 9 is alternatively at a higher or lower height than the height assumed by the first intermediate portion 3i of the main crosspiece 3.

[0160] As it can be observed from the enclosed figures, the first and/or the second intermediate portion 3i comprise a protuberance 20, preferably substantially aligned with the direction along which the axis of the hole 6 is aligned. Such protuberance 20 is in particular arranged on a lateral wall of the first and/or of the second intermediate portion 3i which is partially circular, or in any case curved.

[0161] The first and/or the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b, preferably but non limiting thereto also comprise a partially circular portion of lateral wall, or in any case curved portion. Due to the coupling that exists between the first and/or the second intermediate portion 3i and the respective first and/or second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b, the partially circular lateral wall portion, or in any case curved portion, of the first and/or of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b identifies a substantially concave profile. Otherwise, the partially circular lateral wall portion, or in any case curved portion of the first and/or second intermediate portion 3i has a substantially convex profile, configured to be coupled with the substantially concave profile.

[0162] On the lateral wall of the first and/or of the second intermediate portion 3i, there is a recess 21 with shape complementary to the protuberance 20. During the rotation of the first and/or of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b relative to the respective first and/or second intermediate portion 3i of the main crosspiece 3, the protuberance 20 engages in the recess 21 with a kind of click that determines the achievement of a specific position. The abovementioned "click" allows the user to obtain a particular sound and/or tactile sensation which allows identifying with greater ease if there is the achievement of the use configuration or in any case of a determined relative position between the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a (optionally also between the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b) and the main crosspiece.

[0163] A preferred embodiment of the support device 1, object of the present invention, is characterized in that

the main crosspiece 3 and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, and optionally also the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, each have a respective upper surface positioned at a same height. Thanks to this aspect, it is possible to have a significant contact area with the child accessory 100, and consequently an optimal distribution of the weight on the crosspieces of the support device 1. This is particularly useful especially when the child accessory 100 is particularly heavy. Such condition occurs for example with the child accessory 100 in bathtub form, in particular when full of water.

[0164] In particular this means that the main crosspiece 3 and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, optionally - as in the case of the embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures - together with the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, are configured for providing a substantially direct support for the child accessory 100. Preferably, although in a non-limiting extent, the upper surface of the main crosspiece 3, of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a and if present of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, can have an antislip section and/or aimed to increase the friction with the child accessory 100, for example and non-limiting thereto, of silicone material and/or of rubber; such material thus facilitates the support and the adherence of the child accessory 100 on the crosspieces.

[0165] Preferably, but non-limiting thereto, the main crosspiece 3 comprises at least one first end stop element 13. Such end stop element 13 is provided at the first intermediate portion 3i. The object of the end stop element 13 is to limit the rotation of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a relative to the main crosspiece 3. In this way, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a can therefore rotate with respect to the main crosspiece 3 between the position wherein it is substantially aligned with the main crosspiece 3 itself, and a position wherein it is oblique with respect to the main crosspiece 3 and, optionally, wherein it assumes a direction that is substantially orthogonal to the main crosspiece 3. This substantially corresponds to the use configuration. It is observed that in this use configuration, preferably there is the engagement of the protuberance 20 in the recess 21.

[0166] In the embodiment provided with four legs, i.e. the embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures, what is above described above for the first auxiliary crosspiece also applies to the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0167] The first coupling pin 5 and/or the second coupling pin 5 can have substantially tubular shape or, as in the case of the embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures, it can have an upper terminal portion provided at least with a pair of tabs 5k, each provided with an undercut 5s.

[0168] In a preferred but non-limiting embodiment, the pair of tabs 5k comprises a first tab and a second tab positioned in diametrically opposite positions on one end of the coupling pin 5.

[0169] The purpose of the undercut 5s is to engage with a portion of the first intermediate portion 3i (or of the second intermediate portion 3i) such that a locking of the

pin is realized in the respective seat. The tabs 5k are flexible, and when introduced in the first (or second) auxiliary hole 7 they are bent, assuming a profile such to identify a sufficiently narrow diameter to pass within the hole before then, having passed beyond the latter, extending again to the original profile, by engaging the undercut 5s at the upper edge of the hole and preventing the extraction of the coupling pin 5.

[0170] In particular the impossibility of extraction of the coupling pin 5 remains until these tabs 5k are manually once again pressed by a user with sufficient force to make them assume a diameter profile that is sufficiently narrow to again allow the introduction of the coupling pin 5 within the upper edge of the hole wherein it is inserted, in order to then be subsequently pushed by a user outside the hole, so to be able to separate the coupling pin 5 from its seat in order to be able to free the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a, or the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b, from the main crosspiece 3.

[0171] In other words, the pair of tabs 5k, due to the flexibility thereof, has a first rest configuration and a second compressed or bent configuration, and such second compressed or bent configuration is unstable and is determined, as a non-limiting example, by the pressure action exerted for example by a user's fingers.

[0172] The coupling pin 5 has a substantially cylindrical portion juxtaposed on said tabs 5k and the axial length between an end portion of the coupling pin and the undercut is equal to the axial length assumed overall by the hole 6 of the first or of the second intermediate portion 3i and by the auxiliary hole 7 of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a or of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0173] In one embodiment the coupling pin 5 has a head 5t comprising an abutment portion 5w. Such head 5t, and in particular such abutment portion 5w is configured for abutting against an edge of the hole 6 or of the first, and/or of the second, auxiliary hole 7. The abutment head 5t can be present both in the variant of the coupling pin 5 that has the abovementioned tabs 5k, and in a further variant lacking the aforesaid tabs 5k.

[0174] Hereinbelow, the mounting of the support device 1 is described. In a first step, the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a is positioned in a position juxtaposed with respect to the main crosspiece 3, in such a way that the hole 6 of the first intermediate portion 3i is aligned with respect to the first auxiliary hole 7, in particular being substantially aligned.

[0175] When the hole 6 and the auxiliary hole 7 are axially aligned, the coupling pin 5 is introduced therein, and if the embodiment of such coupling pin thus allows, the coupling pin 5 is introduced therein by means of a compression of the tabs 5k.

[0176] During the axial introduction of the coupling pin 5 within the abovementioned holes, the tabs 5k remain diametrically compressed until these extend beyond the auxiliary hole 7 and from the hole 6, thus being able to expand. The joining is therefore realized between the main crosspiece 3 and the first (or the second) auxiliary

crosspiece.

[0177] In a further embodiment, such coupling pin 5 can be integral, or equivalently integrally installed, on the main crosspiece 3 or on the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a and/or on the second auxiliary crosspiece 4b.

[0178] The Applicant has in particular conceived an embodiment of the present invention wherein at least the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a comprises said coupling pin 5 fixed thereto, and suitable for introducing in the hole 6 of the first intermediate portion 3i. The Applicant has in particular conceived an embodiment of the present invention wherein also the second crosspiece 4b comprises a coupling pin 5 fixed thereto, and suitable for introducing in the hole 6 of the second intermediate portion.

[0179] The Applicant has also conceived an embodiment of the present invention wherein the main crosspiece 3, which comprises only one (first) intermediate portion 3i, has said coupling pin 5 at such intermediate portion.

[0180] Finally, the Applicant has conceived a further embodiment of the present invention, wherein the main crosspiece 3, which comprises the first intermediate portion 3i and the second intermediate portion 3i, comprises a first coupling pin 5 at the first intermediate portion and a second coupling pin 5 at the second intermediate portion.

[0181] The Applicant observes that the coupling pin 5, when in a single unit, or the first and the second coupling pin 5, can be solid or hollow, and thus determine the presence of a cavity.

[0182] Indeed, when for example the main crosspiece 3 has a first, or a first and a second coupling pin 5, such coupling pin 5 if hollow realizes the first hole 6 or realizes the second hole 6.

[0183] The step of assembly of the support device 1, when the first, or the first and the second coupling pin 5 are integrally fixed to the respective main crosspiece 3 or to the first or second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b, comprises an approaching of the first or of the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b to the main crosspiece and a subsequent joining thereof wherein the coupling pin 5 is introduced in the respective hole. If the coupling pin 5 is positioned on at least one between the first and/or the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b, the introduction occurs in a hole present in the intermediate portion 3i of the main crosspiece 3. If the coupling pin 5 is positioned on the main crosspiece 3, the introduction occurs in a hole present in the first and/or in the second auxiliary crosspiece 4a, 4b.

[0184] Returning again to the main crosspiece 3, a preferred embodiment of the latter comprises a locking key 11 for the child accessory 100, and such locking key 11 is preferably positioned substantially at a central portion 3h of the main crosspiece 3.

[0185] The object of the locking key 11 is to allow rigidly but removably the constraint of the child accessory 100 at least to the main crosspiece 3.

[0186] In particular, the Applicant underlines the exist-

ence of a particular embodiment of the support device 1, which comprises:

- a plurality of support legs 2, comprising at least one first pair of legs 2a, 2b, and more particularly a first leg 2a and a second leg 2b;
- at least one main crosspiece 3 joining the first pair of legs 2a, 2b and having at least one first intermediate portion 3i non-aligned with respect to a line ideally joining the first pair of legs 2a, 2b;
- at least one third leg 2c, movably installed with respect to the first pair of legs 2a, 2b;
- at least one first auxiliary crosspiece 4a on which the third leg (2c) is fixed, said first auxiliary crosspiece 4a being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece 3;

and wherein the support device 1 is configured for removably constraining the child accessory 100 substantially at the main crosspiece 3 by means of a locking key 11.

[0187] As it will be clear from the following description, the locking key 11 can be positioned both on the child accessory 100 and on the support device 1.

[0188] The locking key 11 is configured for assuming at least one first use position wherein it is configured for constraining the child accessory 100 at least to the main crosspiece 3 and a second use position wherein it is configured for releasing the child accessory 100 from the main crosspiece 3.

[0189] The device 1 is configured for allowing a switching between the first use position and the second use position of the locking key 11 by means of a rotation movement and/or a combined roto-translational movement between the locking key 11 and the main crosspiece 3.

[0190] In a further embodiment, not illustrated in the enclosed figures, the locking device 1 can comprise a locking key 11 that can be inserted and extracted from the main crosspiece 3 by means of a purely axial movement. Preferably, although non-limiting thereto, the locking key 11 is made of plastic material or covered in plastic material. This allows preventing corrosion phenomena that could be easily take place over time in relation to the use of the support device 1 described herein in wet environments.

[0191] The present disclosure also illustrates a child accessory, in particular although non-limiting thereto a child bathtub, configured for being coupled with the support device 1 of one of the previously-described embodiments.

[0192] In particular, in one embodiment, the child accessory 100 comprises a connection element suitable for removably engaging at the, and/or on the, locking key 11.

[0193] In particular, the connection element 100c can comprise at least one recess and/or a hole 100h, in order to allow the introduction of the locking key 11.

[0194] Preferably, although non limiting thereto, the child accessory 100 has said connection element 100c positioned at a bottom portion. This is preferable since in use the support device 1 is configured for at least partially lying substantially below the child accessory 100.

[0195] In an alternative embodiment, the locking key 11 can be present on the child accessory; in this case, the support device 1 will comprise, preferably at the central portion 3h of the main crosspiece 3, a locking seat configured for being removably coupled with the locking key 11.

[0196] The locking key 11, when positioned on the child accessory, will be preferably switchable at least between a first use position wherein it is configured for constraining the child accessory 100 at least to the main crosspiece 3 and a second use position wherein it is configured for releasing the child accessory 100 from the main crosspiece 3. The switching between the first use position and the second use position of the locking key 11 takes place by means of a rotation movement and/or a combined roto-translational movement between the locking key 11 and the locking seat.

[0197] As illustrated in the enclosed figures, the locking key 11 comprises a portion, in particular an end portion, configured to be gripped by the user during use, in particular during the switching between the first use position and the second use position.

[0198] In particular the locking key 11 is configured for rotating around an axis coinciding with the maximum extension direction.

[0199] In particular, the locking key 11 in the embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures, has a shaft configured for rotating around a main axis thereof. Such axis is indicated as axis Z. The locking key 11, during the switching between the first use position and the second use position, carries out a pure rotation movement.

[0200] By observing the locking key 11 in perspective and sectional view, it is observed that this comprises a first and a second portion 11a having flattened profile.

[0201] The Applicant observes that it is not strictly necessary that there are a first and a second portion 11a having flattened profile; in particular, in one embodiment, only a first portion 11a having flattened profile may be present, having the characteristics described hereinbelow. Clearly, the presence of two portions having flattened profile contributes to allow the achievement of a removable constraint of the child accessory 100 on the support device 1 that is safer and more stable than what can be achieved with a single portion having flattened profile.

[0202] When the locking key 11 has a first and a second portion 11a as in the case of the embodiment illustrated in the enclosed figures, it is observed that the first and the second portion 11a having flattened profile are arranged along a substantially axial orientation direction, one after the other.

[0203] By observing the locking key 11 in section on a plane orthogonal to the axis Z, as represented in figures

5 and 6, it is observed that each between the first and the second portion 11a having flattened profile has a first extension 21 along the minimum extension direction and a second extension 22 along the maximum extension direction.

[0204] In addition, figures 5 and 6 show that the connection element 100c on the child accessory 100 comprises a seat 100h, comprising a hole and/or a recess, which in turn comprises a mouth 103 having a first transversal size and a head 104 which is open on said mouth 103. In particular, the head 104 has a cavity having a second size greater than the size of the mouth 103.

[0205] The dimensions of the mouth 103 and of the head 104 in relation to the locking key 11 are described herein as follows.

[0206] The mouth 103 is configured for allowing the passage of the first portion 11a and/or of the second portion 11a when aligned in a predefined passage direction (spatial orientation of insertion) and the head 104 is configured for housing said first portion 11a and/or the second portion 11a when oriented in a plurality of directions different with respect to said predefined passage direction, or in any case at least in a second spatial orientation distinct with respect to the spatial orientation for insertion mentioned herein.

[0207] The cavity of the head 104, preferably with substantially circular form, can house the first portion 11a and/or the second portion 11a of the locking key 11 in any orientation around the axis Z. The mouth 103 can house the first portion 11a or the second portion 11a only in a preferred direction, which in the enclosed figures is the one in which the first extension 21 lies along the minimum extension direction is aligned with the first transversal size. Only in this case, the first portion 11a or the second portion 11a can be introduced first in the mouth 103 before then leading into the head 104, where they can rotate.

[0208] Therefore, only when the child accessory 100 has been sufficiently fit on the support device 1 in a way such that the first portion 11a and the second portion 11a of the locking key 11 are in the cavities of the heads 104 of the respective connection element 101, it will be possible to rotate the locking key 11 in order to make the minimum extension direction assume a different direction with respect to the first transversal direction, so as to prevent the extraction of the first portion 11a or of the second portion 11a through the mouth 103.

[0209] In one embodiment, when the child accessory 100 is a child bathtub, such accessory has a substantially planar bottom portion. Such planar configuration facilitates a good contact on the upper surface of the main crosspiece 3 and/or at least of the first auxiliary crosspiece 4a.

[0210] The child accessory 100 and the support device 1 described herein can be realized and/or sold both separately and together, therefore as a kit.

[0211] The invention is not limited to the embodiments illustrated in the figures. For this reason, in the following

claims, the reference numbers and/or signs are introduced with the purpose of increasing the understanding of the claims, and not for a limiting purpose.

[0212] Finally, it is clear that additions, modifications or variations that are obvious for an expert skilled in the art can be applied to the invention described herein, without departing from the scope of protection provided by the enclosed claims.

Claims

1. Support device (1) for a child accessory (100), in particular a child bathtub, the support device comprising:

- a plurality of support legs (2), wherein said plurality of support legs (2) comprises at least one first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one main crosspiece (3) joining, and fixed to, respective upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and extending along a main longitudinal direction between such upper ends, the main crosspiece having at least one first intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction and to a line ideally joining the upper ends of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one third leg (2c), movably mounted with respect to the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);
- at least one first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) fixed to an upper end of the third leg (2c), said first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) being configured for being rotatably connected to the main crosspiece (3) at the first intermediate portion (3i); and
- a first coupling pin (5), configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece (3) and the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a).

2. Support device (1) according to claim 1, wherein the first intermediate portion (3i) comprises a first hole (6), the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises a first auxiliary hole (7) thereof and wherein the first coupling pin (5) is configured for being introduced at least into the first auxiliary hole (7) and/or into the hole (6) of the first intermediate portion (3i) in order to realize said hinge connection.

3. Support device (1) according to claim 2, wherein the main crosspiece (3) comprises a second intermediate portion (3i) extending transversely with respect to the main longitudinal direction in a direction substantially opposite with respect to the first intermediate portion (3i) and comprising a respective hole (6); and wherein the support device (1) comprises:

- at least one fourth leg (2d), movably mounted

with respect to at least the first pair of legs (2a, 2b);

- at least one second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) fixed to an upper end of the fourth leg (2d), said second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) being configured for being rotatably connected to a portion of the main crosspiece (3) at the second intermediate portion (3i) and being provided with a second auxiliary hole (7) thereof;

- a second coupling pin (5), configured for being introduced into the second auxiliary hole (7) and/or into the hole (6) of the second intermediate portion (3i), wherein the second coupling pin (5) is configured for determining and keeping at least temporarily a hinge connection between the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b).

4. Support device (1) according to claim 2 or claim 3, having a rest configuration wherein the main crosspiece (3) and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions, and having a use configuration wherein the main crosspiece (3) and the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are arranged along two oblique or transverse directions, optionally substantially orthogonal, and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b) and of the third leg (2c) on a substantially triangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device (1).

5. Support device (1) according to claim 3 and claim 4, wherein in the rest configuration the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are substantially aligned along two substantially parallel directions, and wherein the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are aligned with each other along two substantially parallel directions and/or wherein in the use configuration wherein the main crosspiece (3) and the second auxiliary crosspiece (4b) are arranged along two oblique or transverse directions, optionally substantially orthogonal and determine a ground support of the first pair of legs (2a, 2b), of the third leg (2c) and of the fourth leg on a substantially quadrangular area containing a projection of the center of gravity of the device (1).

6. Support device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) comprises an end portion (10) provided with a recess substantially identifying a contact surface (9) lying, in use, alternatively at a higher or lower height than the height assumed by the first intermediate portion (3i).

7. Support device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein the main crosspiece (3)

comprises a central portion (3h) and a locking key (11) for a child accessory (100), said locking key (11) being configured for assuming at least one first use position wherein it is configured for constraining the child accessory (100) to at least the main crosspiece (3) and a second use position wherein it is configured for releasing the child accessory (100) from the main crosspiece (3), in particular wherein the device (1) is configured for allowing a switching between the first use position and the second use position of the locking key (11) by means of a rotation movement and/or an axial movement and/or a combined roto-translational movement between the locking key (11) and the main crosspiece (3).

8. Support device (1) according to claim 7, wherein the locking key (11) comprises at least one first portion (11a) having a flattened profile, optionally wherein the locking key (11) comprises a second portion (11a) having a flattened profile, and wherein the second portion (11a) is substantially axially aligned with the first portion (11a); the rotation movement and/or the combined roto-translational movement between the locking key (11) and the main crosspiece (3) determining a rotation of said at least one first portion (11a), said rotation optionally being a rotation along a main extension axis of the locking key (11).
9. Support device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein the main crosspiece (3) and at least the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) are configured for providing a substantially direct support for the child accessory (2), optionally having respective upper surfaces (12) substantially aligned on a same height.
10. Support device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein the main crosspiece (3) comprises at least one first end stop element (13) placed at the first intermediate portion (3i), and wherein said first end stop element (13) is configured for limiting the rotation of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) relative to the main crosspiece (3), and wherein when the device (1) is in said use configuration, at least one portion of the first auxiliary crosspiece (4a) is substantially in contact with said end stop element (13), and/or wherein the coupling pin (5) comprises at least one pair of tabs (5k), each provided with an undercut (5s) suitable for engaging at an end portion or edge of the hole (6) and/or of the first and/or of the second auxiliary hole (7).

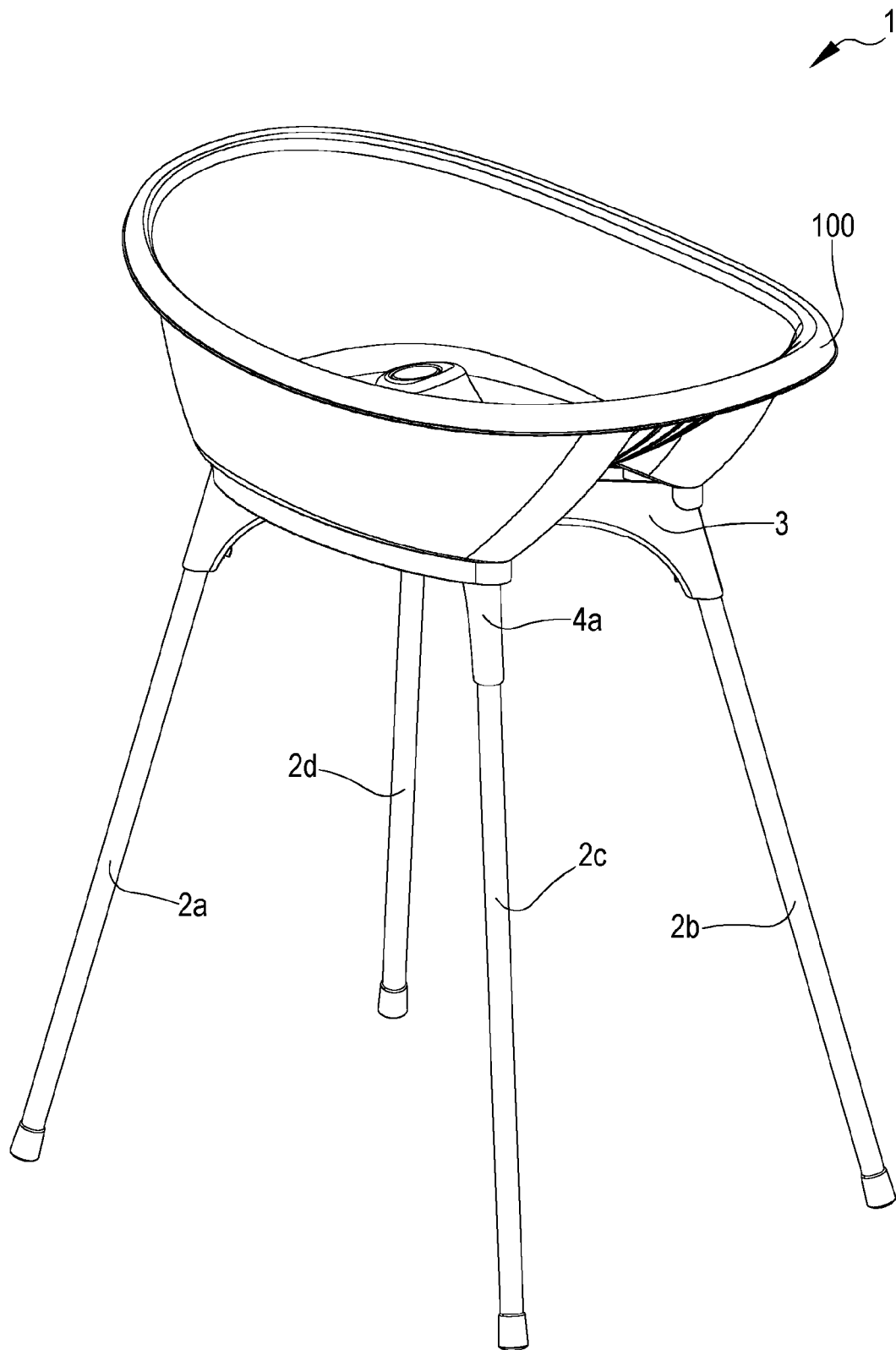


FIG.1

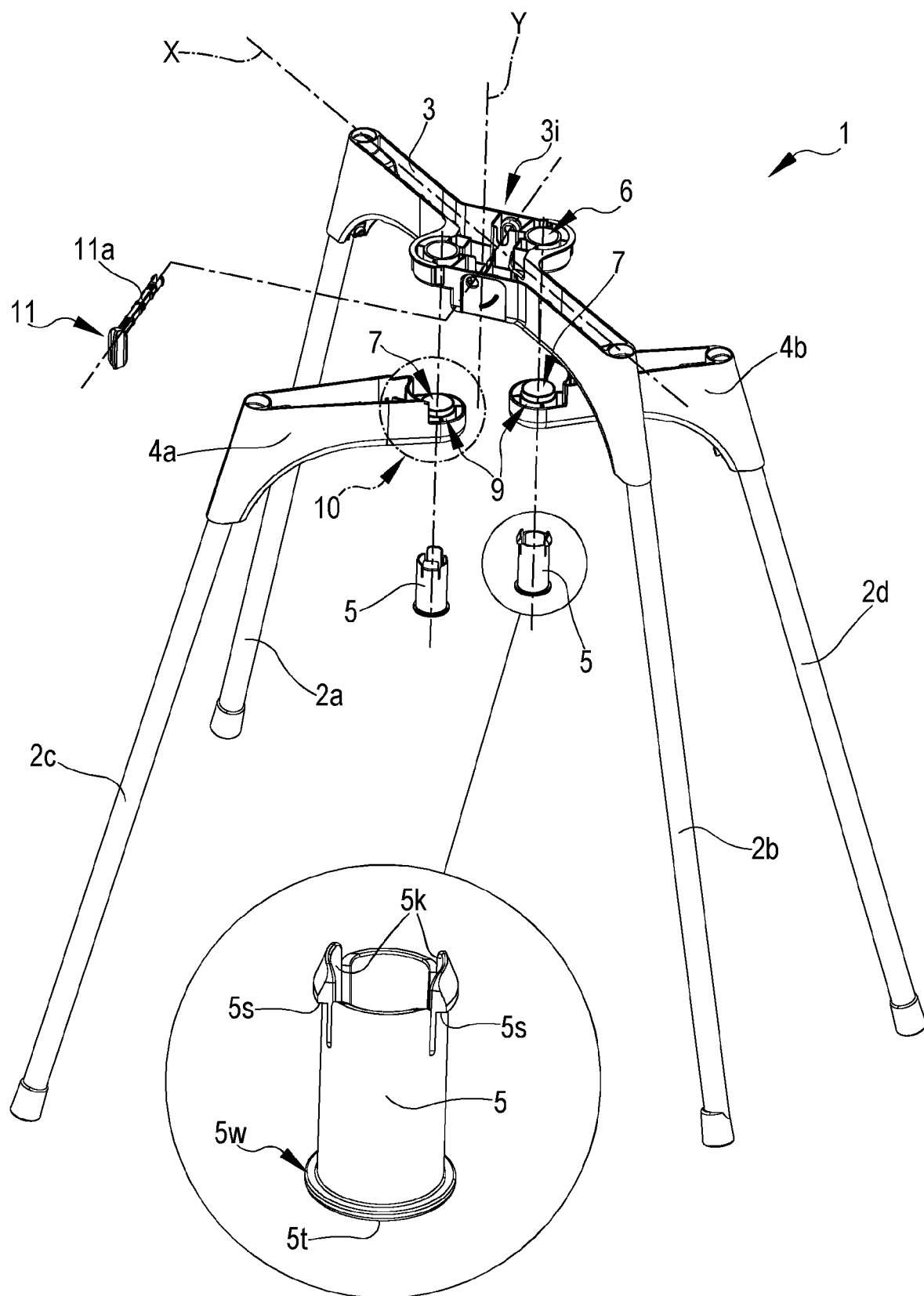
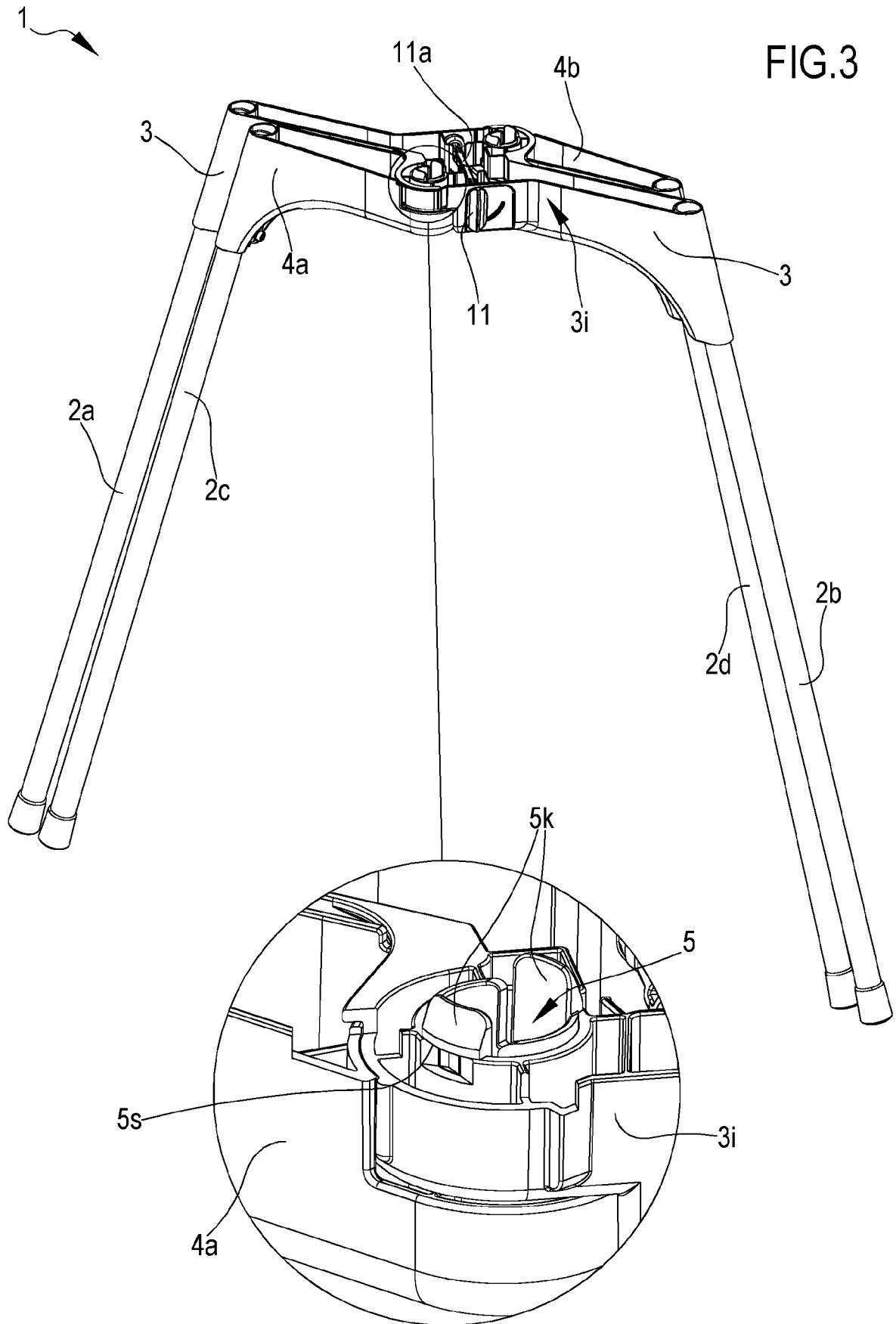


FIG.2



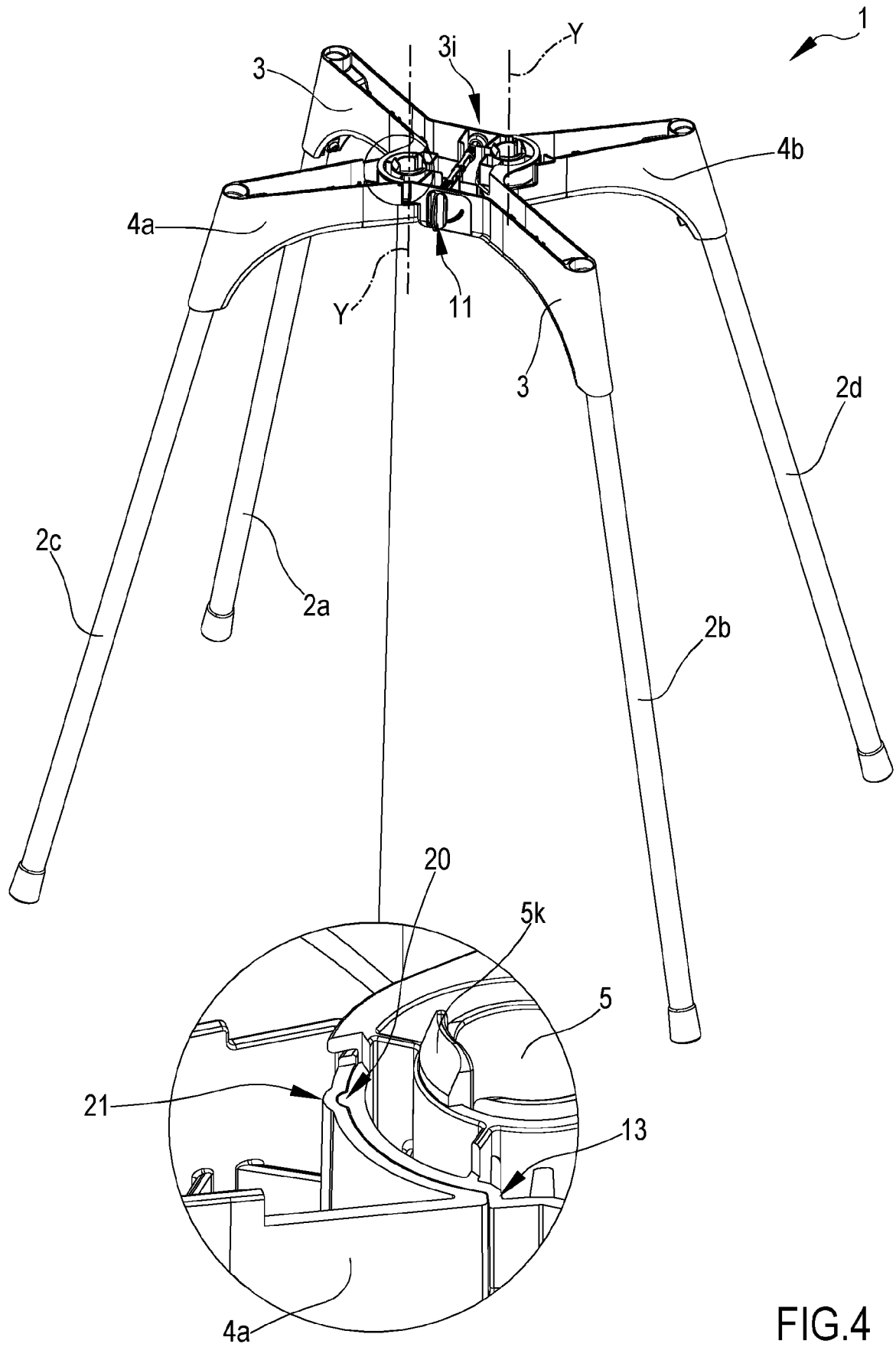


FIG.4

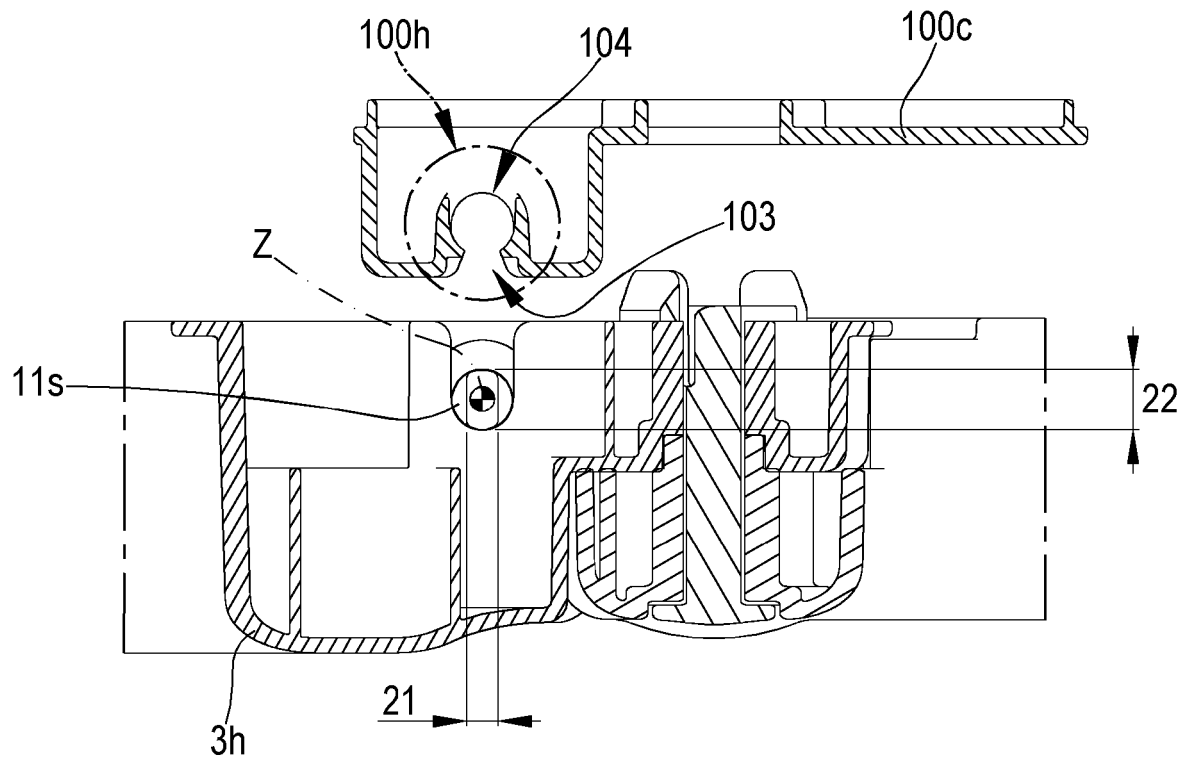


FIG.5

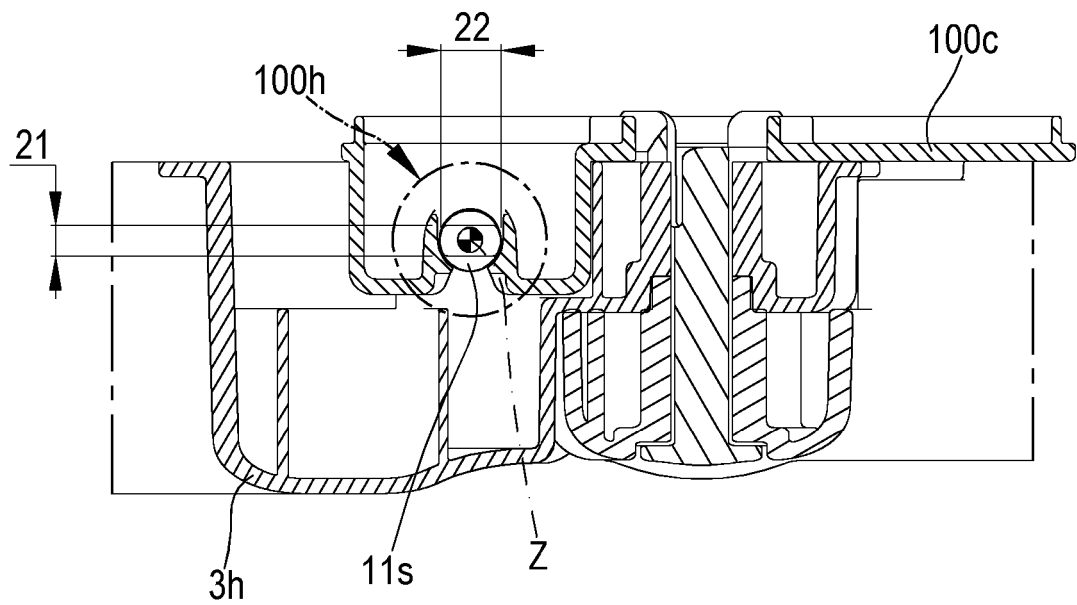


FIG.6



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 21 21 4382

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	CN 204 635 418 U (FUJIAN DIANSHI ARTS AND CRAFTS CO LTD) 16 September 2015 (2015-09-16) * abstract; figures 1-3 * -----	1-10	INV. A47K3/064 A47B3/00 A47B3/02 A47C4/00 A47D5/00 A47K3/164
X	WO 2005/025376 A1 (ALU S P A [IT]; CASALE ALBERTO [IT]) 24 March 2005 (2005-03-24) * page 2, line 19 - page 5, line 22; figures 1-4 * -----	1-6, 9, 10	
X	FR 1 179 981 A (ROBERT MARTI) 29 May 1959 (1959-05-29) * the whole document * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A47K A47D A47B A47C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			

1

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	9 May 2022	Zuurveld, Gerben
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

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EP 21 21 4382

5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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09-05-2022

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
CN 204635418	U	16-09-2015	NONE
WO 2005025376	A1	24-03-2005	NONE
FR 1179981	A	29-05-1959	NONE

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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- EP 3443864 A1 [0004] [0006]