

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

9 January 2020

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES
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IL Israel

Agreement between the Government of Israel and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ - Amendment to Annex D

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Part I of Annex D thereof. These amendments will enter into force on 1 March 2020. The amended Annex D will read as follows:

**“Annex D
Fees and Charges**

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (Israel new shekel)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	3,582
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	3,582
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	1,535
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	1,535
Late furnishing fee (Rules 13 ^{ter} .1(c) and 13 ^{ter} .2)	460
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 ^{ter} and 94.2), per document	[No change]

Part II. [No change]”

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_il.pdf

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

BY Belarus

The **National Center of Intellectual Property (Belarus)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its telephone and facsimile numbers, as well as to its e-mail and Internet addresses, which are now as follows:

Telephone:	(375-17) 272 46 96
Facsimile:	(375-17) 272 98 34
E-mail:	icd@ncip.by ncip@ncip.by
Internet:	www.ncip.by

[Updating of Annex B1(BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

CR Costa Rica

The **Registry of Industrial Property (Costa Rica)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it as receiving Office since 18 December 2019, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	USD 212 (online) USD 289 (on paper)
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	USD 29
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	USD 144

[Updating of Annex C(CR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ID Indonesia

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Indonesia)** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount of the fee for the priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)), in **Indonesian rupiah (IDR)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable since 3 May 2019, is IDR 300,000.

[Updating of Annex C(ID) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IL Israel

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, payable to it as International Searching Authority and applicable from 1 March 2020, as follows:

Search fee (PCT Rule 16):	ILS	3,582
Additional search fee (PCT Rule 40.2):	ILS	3,582
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 ^{ter} .1(c)):	ILS	460

[Updating of Annex D(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office also notified new amounts of fees, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, payable to it as International Preliminary Examining Authority and applicable from 1 March 2020, as follows:

Preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 58.1(b)):	ILS	1,535
Additional preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 68.3(a)):	ILS	1,535
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 ^{ter} .2):	ILS	460

[Updating of Annex E(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

ID Indonesia

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Indonesia)** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the number of paper copies of the international application required by it – one copy is now required, instead of two.

[Updating of Annex C(ID) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

UG Uganda

The **Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)** has specified the European Patent Office (EPO), in addition to the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore, as competent International Searching and International Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the URSB by nationals and residents of Uganda, with effect since 27 November 2019.

[Updating of Annex C(UG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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16 January 2020

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FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

EG Egypt

The **Egyptian Patent Office** notified the International Bureau of a new amount, in **Egyptian pounds (EGP)**, of the examination fee component of its national fee, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. This amount, applicable since 7 November 2017, is EGP 17,000. Students are exempt from paying this fee.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (EG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount, in **euros (EUR)**, of the filing fee component of its national fee for non-online filings. This amount, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office and applicable since 1 April 2019, is EUR 250.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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23 January 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

ID Indonesia

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Indonesia)** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) — the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and will no longer accept the filing of documents by fax.

[Updating of Annex B1(ID) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

ID Indonesia

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Indonesia)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several components of the national fee, in **Indonesian rupiah (IDR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, applicable since 3 May 2019, are as follows:

National fee:

Claim fee for each claim in excess of 10:	IDR	75,000
Substantive examination fee:	IDR	3,000,000

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (ID) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IL Israel

In accordance with PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts, in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, **euros (EUR)** and **US dollars (USD)**, have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Israel Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 March 2020, are CHF 1,009, EUR 932 and USD 1,036, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES

IL Israel – Corrigendum

Agreement between the Government of Israel and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ - Amendment to Annex D

The indication of “Late furnishing fee” in Part I of Annex D of the above-mentioned Agreement, as published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 9 January 2020, page 2, was erroneous. The correct indication is: “Late furnishing fee for sequence listings”.

In addition, the translation into French of the indication “Cost of copies” was also erroneous. The corrected French version of Annex D is published in the *Notifications officielles (Gazette du PCT)*² of 30 January 2020, page 10.

As from 1 March 2020, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

“Annex D Fees and Charges

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (Israel new shekel)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	3,582
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	3,582
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	1,535
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	1,535
Late furnishing fee for sequence listings (Rules 13 ^{ter} .1(c) and 13 ^{ter} .2)	460
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 ^{ter} and 94.2), per document	[No change]

Part II. [No change]”

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_il.pdf

² Available on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/fr/official_notices/officialnotices.pdf

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

KG Kyrgyzstan

The **State Service of Intellectual Property and Innovation under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic** has notified the International Bureau of an amount of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14), in **Kyrgyz som (KGS)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable since 3 October 2016, is KGS 4,000. This fee is reduced by 90% if the applicant is an individual.

For non-residents of Kyrgyzstan, the equivalent amount of the fee can be paid in a freely convertible currency, in accordance with the exchange rate of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic applicable on the date of payment.

[Updating of Annex C(KG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(A-BIS)

Corrigendum: The notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 19 December 2019 (pages 199 and 200) concerning incompatibility with the law applied by the European Patent Office (EPO) in its capacity as receiving Office, under new PCT Rule 20.8, contained incorrect references to Rule 20.8(b-bis). The said notification is hereby corrected and republished, as follows:

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5bis³ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(a-bis), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5bis(a)(ii)⁴ and 20.5bis(d)⁵ with the national law applied by receiving Offices. These new Rules, among others, will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

³ The complete text of Rule 20.5bis is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

⁴ New Rule 20.5bis(a)(ii) states: "Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfil the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed ("erroneously filed element or part"), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant's option to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18 and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant."

⁵ New Rule 20.5bis(d) states: "Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions."

New Rule 20.8(a-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the Rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

EP European Patent Organisation

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **European Patent Office (EPO)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) cannot be considered to be compatible with the legal framework of the Convention on the Grant of European Patents (EPC).

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(B-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*⁶ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)⁷ and 20.5*bis*(d)⁸ with the national law applied by designated Offices. These new Rules, among others, will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(b-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the Rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

EP European Patent Organisation

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **European Patent Office (EPO)**, in its capacity as designated Office, has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) cannot be considered to be compatible with the legal framework of the Convention on the Grant of European Patents (EPC).

⁶ See footnote 3.

⁷ See footnote 4.

⁸ See footnote 5.

AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES: NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES

In order to facilitate access to priority documents, the International Bureau established the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), based on a decision taken in 2006 by the Paris Union Assembly, the PLT Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly.

Since April 2009, the International Bureau, and any Office or Authority having the adequate legal and technical requirements in place, is able to participate in DAS, either as an office of first filing (“depositing Office”) or as an office of second filing (“accessing Office”), or both, in order to facilitate access to priority documents (PCT Rule 17) in a wide variety of media and formats.

Notifications made under paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions for the Digital Access for Priority Documents or Section 715(a)(i) or (b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT are published by the International Bureau at: www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html.

NO Norway

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents, the **Norwegian Industrial Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as depositing Office and accessing Office, with effect since 1 January 2020.

[Updating of Annex B1(NO) of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*]

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Patent Office (SPO)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the name of the Office, as well as to its location and mailing address, telephone numbers, facsimile number, and e-mail and Internet addresses, as follows:

Name of Office:	Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)
Location and mailing address:	As Sahafah, Olaya St. 6531, 3059 Riyadh 13321 Saudi Arabia
Telephone:	(966-11) 280 59 76 (966-11) 280 60 09
Facsimile machine:	(966-11) 280 60 02
E-mail:	pct@saip.gov.sa
Internet:	www.saip.gov.sa

[Updating of Annex B1(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

TN Tunisia

The **National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property (INNORPI) (Tunisia)** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14), in **Tunisian dinars (TND)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable since 2 January 2020, is TND 100.

[Updating of Annex C(TN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 April 2020, are NZD 3,135 for an entity other than a small or micro entity, NZD 1,567 for a small entity and NZD 784 for a micro entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

**DEPOSITS OF MICROORGANISMS AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL:
INSTITUTIONS WITH WHICH DEPOSITS MAY BE MADE**

IT Italy

The **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the name of the Advanced Biotechnology Center (ABC), an international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, with which deposits of microorganisms and other biological material may be made. The new name of the authority is ***IRCCS Ospedale Policlinico San Martino***.

[Updating of Annex L of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

CA Canada

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of new components of its national fee, in **Canadian dollars (CAD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, applicable since 30 October 2019, are as follows:

National fee:

Additional fee for reinstatement of rights (late entry into the national phase):	CAD	200
Additional fee for late payment under subsection 154(4) of the Canadian Patent Rules:	CAD	150

Furthermore, the Office notified changes to the relevant provisions of its national law concerning an applicant's entitlement to pay the reduced amount of the basic national fee as a "small entity". In order to be entitled to pay the reduced fee, a signed "small entity" declaration¹ compliant with subsection 44(3) of the Canadian Patent Rules must be made by the applicant or the applicant's agent, within the applicable time limit set out in subsections 154(1)(c)(i), 154(2)(a), 154(3)(a)(iii)(A), 154(3)(b)(i)(A), 154(3)(b)(ii)(A) or 80(1)(a) and 80(2) of Canadian Patent Rules.

In addition, the Office notified a change in the time limits for payment of the maintenance fee in respect of each one-year period, due at the time of entry into the national phase, where that entry is effected on or after the second (or possibly third) anniversary of the international filing date. With effect since 30 October 2019, where PCT Article 22 or 39(1) applies, this fee is due:

- within 24 months from the international filing date, or within 30 months from the priority date if that time limit expires later; or
- within 12 months after the 30-month deadline, provided the applicant pays the additional fee for late entry into the national phase.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ This declaration should preferably follow the form of the declaration set out in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Phase, Annex CA.II.

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

CA Canada

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the requirements for late entry into the national phase. Late entry into the national phase is still possible (up to 12 months after the 30-month deadline (30 months from the priority date)); however, since 30 October 2019, applicants must pay the fee for reinstatement of rights and meet the other requirements outlined in subsection 154(3) of the Canadian Patent Rules for the reinstatement of rights (late entry into the national phase).

Furthermore, the Office notified several changes to its special requirements under PCT Rule 51*bis*. Since 30 October 2019, the complete list of these special requirements is as follows:

- The name and postal address of each inventor.
- A statement that either (i) the applicant/applicants is/are entitled to apply for a patent, or (ii) the applicant is the sole inventor or, if there are joint applicants, that the applicants are all inventors and the sole inventors.
- If the Commissioner reasonably doubts that the person who entered the national phase is the applicant of the international application or the legal representative, the Commissioner will require evidence to establish ownership rights in the international application.

An applicant may provide documentation² with the request to enter the national phase establishing that the person who entered the national phase is the applicant of the international application or the legal representative.

- Appointment of an agent if the applicant is not the inventor.

If the appointed agent does not reside in Canada, the appointment by the agent of an agent who resides in Canada to be the associate agent.

Evidence of the consent of the appointment of the agent when the document appointing that agent is not submitted by the latter.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

² Such documentation may include: Form PCT/IB/306, a document effecting the transfer of rights, or a change of name document.

CR Costa Rica

The **Registry of Industrial Property (Costa Rica)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the conditions for reduction of the filing fee component of the national fee. Since 18 December 2019, the filing fee is reduced by 70% where the international application has been filed by natural persons, micro or small enterprises (as defined in Law No. 8262 of Costa Rica), public institutions of higher education, or public institutes for scientific or technology research.

Together with the request for reduction of the fee, the applicant must provide, in addition to the proof of payment, the following documents:

- a sworn statement in which the applicant declares that he is entitled to the reduction;
- a copy of the identification card (“*cédula de identidad*”) in the case of a natural person; or
- a copy of the corporation card (“*cédula jurídica*”) in the case of a legal person.

To proceed with the registration of the transfer of rights to a third party that is not entitled to the reduction, the latter must pay the remaining 70% of the fee that was not initially paid by the assignor. In addition, as from the date of transfer to a third party, the assignee must pay the total amount of the annual fees due to maintain the validity of the patent.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (CR) of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

UG Uganda

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form with effect from 15 April 2020, as follows:

“As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (256-41) 733 80 00
(256-41) 733 81 00
- by e-mail at: ip@ursb.go.ug

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software.

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.ursb.go.ug).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.”

[Updating of Annex C(UG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

NL Netherlands

The **Netherlands Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning its facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) – since 1 July 2018, the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile machine and, consequently, no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax.

[Updating of Annex B1(NL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AZ Azerbaijan

The **Intellectual Property Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several fees, in **Azerbaijani manat (AZN)**, payable to it as designated (or elected) Office. These fees, applicable since 27 May 2019, are as follows:

For patent or utility model:

Additional fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	AZN	7 ¹	
Additional fee for each dependent claim in excess of ten:	AZN	7 ¹	
Annual fee for the 3 rd year:	AZN	50	(reduced to AZN 10 where all applicants are natural persons)

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (AZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RO Romania

The **State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (Romania)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **new lei (RON)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable since 1 January 2020, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	RON	475	
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	RON	95	plus copying costs

[Updating of Annex C(RO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ This fee is subject to value-added tax (VAT) of 18%.

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27 February 2020

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES

EP European Patent Organisation

Agreement between the European Patent Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex D

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Articles 11(3)(iii) and 11(4)(ii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Parts I and II of Annex D thereof. These amendments consist of changes in the amounts of several fees, the introduction of conditions for reduction of the supplementary international search fee, as well as changes to conditions for reductions of the international search fee and the international preliminary examination fee.

The new conditions for reduction of the international search fee shall apply to all international applications filed on or after 1 April 2020. The new conditions for reduction of the supplementary international search fee and the international preliminary examination fee shall apply in respect of payments made on or after 1 April 2020.

The amendments to Annex D, which will enter into force on 1 April 2020, will read as follows:

“Annex D Fees and Charges

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (Euro)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	[No change] ²
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	[No change] ²
Supplementary search fees (Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .3(a))	[No change] ²
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	[No change] ²
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	[No change] ²
Protest fee (Rules 40.2(e) and 68.3(e))	910
Review fee (Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .6(c))	910
Late furnishing fee (Rules 13 <i>ter</i> .1(c) and 13 <i>ter</i> .2)	240

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_ep.pdf

² This fee is reduced by 75% under certain conditions (see decision of the EPO's Administrative Council of 12 December 2019 (OJ EPO 2020, A4). See Part II, paragraph (4) for further details.

Part II. Conditions for and Extent of Refunds or Reductions of Fees

(1) to (3) [No change]

(4) The amount of the international search fee and the international preliminary examination fee (including any additional fee to be paid), and of the supplementary international search fee, shall be reduced by 75%:

(i) where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person who is a national and resident of a State not party to the European Patent Convention, and which on the date of filing of the application or on the date of payment of the supplementary international search fee or of the international preliminary examination fee, is classified as a low-income or lower-middle-income economy by the World Bank. Where the Authority is informed of a change under Rule 92*bis* before the start of the international search, the supplementary international search or, as the case may be, the start of the international preliminary examination, and the change would modify the applicability of the fee reduction, the Authority may request the applicant to pay the full amount of the international search fee, supplementary international search fee or international preliminary examination fee, as well as the full amount of any additional fees that the applicant may be invited to pay; or

(ii) where the applicant, or if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural or legal person who, within the meaning of Rule 18, is a national and resident of a State in which a validation agreement with the European Patent Organisation is in force.

(5) to (8) [No change]”

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it as International Searching Authority and applicable from 1 April 2020, as follows:

Protest fee (PCT Rule 40.2(e)):	EUR	910
Review fee (PCT Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .6(c)):	EUR	910
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 <i>ter</i> .1(c))	EUR	240

[Updating of Annexes D(EP) and SISA(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it as International Preliminary Examining Authority. These amounts, also applicable from 1 April 2020, are as follows:

Protest fee (PCT Rule 68.3(e)):	EUR	910
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 ^{ter} .2):	EUR	240

[Updating of Annex E(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

In addition, the Office notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several components of its national fee, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These new amounts, applicable from 1 April 2020, are as follows:

National fee:

Filing fee:^{3, 4}

– for online filings	EUR	125
– for non-online filings	EUR	260

Additional fee for pages in excess of 35 (for the 36 th and each subsequent page)	EUR	16
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Designation fee for one or more EPO Contracting States designated ⁵	EUR	610
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Claims fee:³

– for the 16 th and each subsequent claim up to the limit of 50:	EUR	245
– for the 51 st and each subsequent claim:	EUR	610

Search fee:³

– for (international) applications filed before 1 July 2005	EUR	920
– for (international) applications filed on or after 1 July 2005	EUR	1,350

³ Must be paid within 31 months from the priority date. For claims fees see also paragraph EP.08 of National Chapter (EP).

⁴ See the Decisions of the EPO's Administrative Council dated 12 December 2019 (CA/D 12/19), OJ EPO 2020, A3.

⁵ The designation, extension and validation fees are payable within 31 months from the priority date or six months after the date of publication of the international search report, whichever expires later.

Fee for further processing:	
– in the event of late payment of a fee	[No change]
– other cases	EUR 265
Fee for late furnishing of a sequence listing	EUR 240
Examination fee: ⁶	
– for (international) applications filed before 1 July 2005	EUR 1,900
– for (international) applications filed on or after 1 July 2005 for which no supplementary European search report is drawn up	EUR 1,900
– for all other (international) applications filed on or after 1 July 2005	EUR 1,700
Renewal fee for the third year ⁷	EUR 490

Finally, the Office notified a new amount of the reduction of the search fee component of the national fee, in **euros (EUR)**, for international applications for which the international search report or a supplementary international search report has been established by the Austrian Patent Office or, in accordance with the Protocol on Centralisation, by the Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH), the Nordic Patent Institute, the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, the Swedish Patent and Registration Office, the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent) or the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI).

The new amount of this reduction is EUR 1,150.

The reduction shall apply to international applications filed up to and including 31 March 2024 and for which the supplementary search fee is paid on or after 1 April 2020.⁸

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁶ A request for examination must be made and the examination fee must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1) and EPC Rule 159(1) or six months after the date of publication of the international search report, whichever expires later.

⁷ This fee is due before the expiration of the month containing the second anniversary (24 months) of the international filing date; it is due within 31 months from the priority date, if that 31-month time limit expires later.

⁸ See the Decision of the EPO's Administrative Council dated 12 December 2019 (CA/D 12/19), OJ EPO 2020, A3.

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

CN China

In January 2020, the **China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)** announced⁹ that, as from 1 March 2020, it would no longer accept international applications in electronic form filed using the PCT-SAFE software.

On 18 February 2020, pursuant to PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d) and Section 710(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office, notified the International Bureau of this change.

Consequently, with effect from 1 March 2020, the item concerning electronic filing software specified by the Office in the notification published in the Official Notifications (PCT Gazette) of 23 June 2016, pages 133 *et seq.* will be replaced by the following:

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- CEPCT Software

[Updating of Annex C(CN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁹ This announcement is available on the Office's website at:
<http://www.pctonline.cnipa.gov.cn/index.do?type=gengduo&jilulx=1>

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

5 March 2020

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MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION – ASSEMBLY (FIFTY-FIRST (22ND ORDINARY) SESSION)

NOTE PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

At its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, which was held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019 as part of the meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) approved the following changes affecting the PCT System:

- amendments to the PCT Regulations; and
- a revised version of the lists of States meeting the criteria referred to in items 5(a) and 5(b) of the PCT Schedule of Fees, in accordance with the Directives¹ for updating these lists.

Documents prepared for the Assembly, which give detailed background information relating to the decisions taken, as well as the session report, are available on the WIPO website at:

www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=52258

The aforementioned changes are outlined below.

Amendments to the PCT Regulations

The amendments to the PCT Regulations that were approved by the Assembly will enter into force on 1 July 2020 and are as follows:

- Amendments to PCT Rule 82*quater*, regarding safeguards in case of outages affecting Offices, are intended to allow Offices to simplify the process of excusing failures to meet certain time limits due to outages of electronic systems;
- New PCT Rule 26*quater*, concerning correction or addition of indications under PCT Rule 4.11, allows for correction of errors or omissions in indications of the type of protection to be sought in the national phase;
- New PCT Rule 40*bis*, as well as amendments to PCT Rules 4, 12, 20, 48, 51*bis*, 55 and 82*ter*, concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of the international application, are intended to align the practices of receiving Offices and designated (or elected) Offices in the special case where an applicant has erroneously filed a wrong element or part of the international application;

¹ As adopted by the Assembly of the PCT Union at its forty-sixth (27th extraordinary) session and published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 12 February 2015 (page 33).

- Amendments to PCT Rules 15, 16, 57 and 96, concerning the transfer of PCT Fees, are enabling provisions setting out consistent procedures on transferring fees from one Office to another via the International Bureau, with an aim to assist Offices wishing to use the new “netting” arrangement; and
- Amendments to PCT Rules 71 and 94, concerning the availability of the file held by the International Preliminary Examining Authority, allow greater transparency by permitting more documents related to the international preliminary examination procedure to be made available to the public.

Furthermore, the Assembly adopted the following Understandings concerning the provisions relating to erroneously filed elements and parts of the international application:

- “In adopting new Rule 20.5*bis*, the Assembly agreed that Article 15 should be interpreted such that, in the case of incorporation by reference of a correct element or part under Rule 20.5*bis*(d), the International Searching Authority would only be required to carry out the international search on the basis of the international application (‘the claims, with due regard to the description and the drawings, if any’) including the correct element or part incorporated by reference, and would not need to take into account any erroneously filed element or part which, pursuant to Rule 20.5*bis*(d), remained in the application. The Assembly further agreed that Article 15 should be interpreted such that, in the case referred to in Rule 40*bis*.1, where no additional fees were paid within the prescribed time limit, the International Searching Authority would only be required to carry out the international search on the basis of the international application (‘the claims, with due regard to the description and the drawings, if any’) including the erroneously filed element or part, and would not need to take into account any correct element or part included in the application under Rule 20.5*bis*(c) or incorporated by reference under Rule 20.5*bis*(d).”
- In adopting new Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), the Assembly agreed that, where a correct element or part cannot be incorporated by reference under Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) because of the operation of Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), the receiving Office concerned and the International Bureau shall agree, under Rule 19.4(a)(iii), with the authorization of the applicant, that the procedures under Rule 19.4 shall apply, in which case the international application shall, subject to Rule 19.4(b), be considered to have been received by that Office on behalf of the International Bureau as receiving Office under Rule 19.1(a)(iii).”

The text of the new and amended Rules is reproduced hereafter.

AMENDMENTS OF THE REGULATIONS UNDER THE PCT
(to enter into force on 1 July 2020)

Rule 4
The Request (Contents)

4.1 to 4.17 [No change]

4.18 *Statement of Incorporation by Reference*

Where the international application, on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, claims the priority of an earlier application, the request may contain a statement that, where an element of the international application referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e), or a part of the description, claims or drawings referred to in Rule 20.5(a), or an element or part of the description, claims or drawings referred to in Rule 20.5bis(a) is not otherwise contained in the international application but is completely contained in the earlier application, that element or part is, subject to confirmation under Rule 20.6, incorporated by reference in the international application for the purposes of Rule 20.6. Such a statement, if not contained in the request on that date, may be added to the request if, and only if, it was otherwise contained in, or submitted with, the international application on that date.

4.19 [No change]

Rule 12
Language of the International Application
and Translations for the Purposes of International Search
and International Publication

12.1 [No change]

12.1bis *Language of Elements and Parts Furnished under Rule 20.3, 20.5, 20.5bis or 20.6*

An element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) furnished by the applicant under Rule 20.3(b), 20.5bis(b), 20.5bis(c) or 20.6(a) and a part of the description, claims or drawings furnished by the applicant under Rule 20.5(b), 20.5(c), 20.5bis(b), 20.5bis(c) or 20.6(a) shall be in the language of the international application as filed or, where a translation of the application is required under Rule 12.3(a) or 12.4(a), in both the language of the application as filed and the language of that translation.

12.1ter to 12.4 [No change]

Rule 15
The International Filing Fee

15.1 [No change]

15.2 *Amount; Transfer*

(a) and (b) [No change]

(c) Where the prescribed currency is the Swiss franc, the receiving Office shall transfer the said fee to the International Bureau in Swiss francs in accordance with Rule 96.2.

(d) Where the prescribed currency is a currency other than the Swiss franc and that currency:

(i) is freely convertible into Swiss francs, the Director General shall establish, for each receiving Office which prescribes such a currency for the payment of the international filing fee, an equivalent amount of that fee in the prescribed currency according to directives given by the Assembly, and the amount in that currency shall be transferred by the receiving Office to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2;

(ii) is not freely convertible into Swiss francs, the receiving Office shall be responsible for the conversion of the international filing fee from the prescribed currency into Swiss francs and shall transfer that fee in Swiss francs, in the amount set out in the Schedule of Fees, to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2. Alternatively, if the receiving Office so wishes, it may convert the international filing fee from the prescribed currency into euros or US dollars and transfer the equivalent amount of that fee in euros or US dollars, as established by the Director General according to directives given by the Assembly as referred to in item (i), to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2.

15.3 and 15.4 [No change]

Rule 16
The Search Fee

16.1 *Right to Ask for a Fee*

(a) and (b) [No change]

(c) Where the prescribed currency is the currency in which the International Searching Authority has fixed the said fee ("fixed currency"), the receiving Office shall transfer the said fee to that Authority in that currency in accordance with Rule 96.2.

(d) Where the prescribed currency is not the fixed currency and that currency:

(i) is freely convertible into the fixed currency, the Director General shall establish, for each receiving Office which prescribes such a currency for the payment of the search fee, an equivalent amount of that fee in the prescribed currency according to directives given by the Assembly, and the amount in that currency shall be transferred by the receiving Office to the International Searching Authority in accordance with Rule 96.2;

(ii) is not freely convertible into the fixed currency, the receiving Office shall be responsible for the conversion of the search fee from the prescribed currency into the fixed currency and shall transfer that fee in the fixed currency, in the amount fixed by the International Searching Authority, to the International Searching Authority in accordance with Rule 96.2.

(e) and (f) [*No change*]

16.2 and 16.3 [*No change*]

Rule 20 **International Filing Date**

20.1 to 20.4 [*No change*]

20.5 *Missing Parts*

(a) Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfill the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that a part of the description, claims or drawings is or appears to be missing, including the case where all of the drawings are or appear to be missing (“missing part”) but not including the case where an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) is or appears to be missing and not including the case referred to in Rule 20.5*bis*(a), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option:

(i) to complete the purported international application by furnishing the missing part; or

(ii) to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18;

and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.

(b) Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, the applicant furnishes to the receiving Office, on or before the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled but within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7, a missing part referred to in paragraph (a) so as to complete the purported international application, that part shall be included in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c).

(c) to (e) [*No change*]

20.5bis Erroneously Filed Elements and Parts

(a) Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfill the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed element or part”), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option:

(i) to correct the purported international application by furnishing the correct element or part; or

(ii) to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18;

and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.

(b) Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, the applicant furnishes to the receiving Office, on or before the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled but within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7, a correct element or part so as to correct the purported international application, that correct element or part shall be included in the application, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall be removed from the application and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.

(c) Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, the applicant furnishes to the receiving Office, after the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) were fulfilled but within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7, a correct element or part so as to correct the international application, that correct element or part shall be included in the application, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall be removed from the application, and the receiving Office shall correct the international filing date to the date on which the receiving Office received that correct element or part, notify the applicant accordingly and proceed as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.

(d) Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.

(e) Where the international filing date has been corrected under paragraph (c), the applicant may, in a notice submitted to the receiving Office within one month from the date of the notification under paragraph (c), request that the correct element or part be disregarded, in which case the correct element or part shall be considered not to have been furnished, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall be considered not to have been removed from the application and the correction of the international filing date under paragraph (c) shall be considered not to have been made, and the receiving Office shall proceed as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.

20.6 *Confirmation of Incorporation by Reference of Elements and Parts*

(a) and (b) [*No change*]

(c) Where the receiving Office finds that a requirement under Rule 4.18 or paragraph (a) has not been complied with or that the element or part referred to in paragraph (a) is not completely contained in the earlier application concerned, the receiving Office shall proceed as provided for in Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b), 20.5(c), 20.5bis(b) or 20.5bis(c), as the case may be.

20.7 *Time Limit*

(a) The applicable time limit referred to in Rules 20.3(a) and (b), 20.4, 20.5(a), (b) and (c), 20.5bis(a), (b) and (c), and 20.6(a) shall be:

(i) where an invitation under Rule 20.3(a), 20.5(a) or 20.5bis(a), as applicable, was sent to the applicant, two months from the date of the invitation;

(ii) where no such invitation was sent to the applicant, two months from the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office.

(b) [*No change*]

20.8 *Incompatibility with National Laws*

(a) [*No change*]

(a-bis) If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5bis(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the Rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.

(a-ter) Where an element or a part cannot be incorporated by reference in the international application under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 because of the operation of paragraph (a) or paragraph (a-bis) of this Rule, the receiving Office shall proceed as provided for in Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b), 20.5(c), 20.5bis(b) or 20.5bis(c), as the case may be. Where the receiving Office proceeds as provided for in Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c), the applicant may proceed as provided for in Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e), as the case may be.

(b) [*No change*]

(b-*bis*) If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the Rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.

(c) Where an element or part is considered to have been incorporated by reference in the international application by virtue of a finding of the receiving Office under Rule 20.6(b), but that incorporation by reference does not apply to the international application for the purposes of the procedure before a designated Office because of the operation of paragraph (b) or paragraph (b-*bis*) of this Rule, the designated Office may treat the application as if the international filing date had been accorded under Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b) or 20.5*bis*(b), or corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5*bis*(c), as the case may be, provided that Rule 82*ter*.1(c) and (d) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule 26*quater*
Correction or Addition of Indications under Rule 4.11

26quater.1 Correction or Addition of Indications

The applicant may correct or add to the request any indication referred to in Rule 4.11 by a notice submitted to the International Bureau within a time limit of 16 months from the priority date, provided that any notice which is received by the International Bureau after the expiration of that time limit shall be considered to have been received on the last day of that time limit if the notice reaches the International Bureau before the technical preparations for international publication have been completed.

26quater.2 Late Correction or Addition of Indications

Where any correction or addition of an indication referred to in Rule 4.11 is not timely received under Rule 26*quater*.1, the International Bureau shall notify the applicant accordingly and shall proceed as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.

Rule 40*bis*
Additional Fees in Case of Missing Parts or Correct Elements and Parts Included in the International Application or Considered to Have Been Contained in the International Application

40bis.1 Invitation to Pay Additional Fees

The International Searching Authority may invite the applicant to pay additional fees where the fact that a missing part or a correct element or part:

(i) is included in the international application under Rule 20.5(c) or Rule 20.5*bis*(c), respectively; or

(ii) is considered, under Rule 20.5(d) or Rule 20.5*bis*(d), respectively, to have been contained in the international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office;

is notified to that Authority only after it has begun to draw up the international search report. The invitation shall invite the applicant to pay the additional fees within one month from the date of the invitation and indicate the amount of those fees to be paid. The amount of the additional fees shall be determined by the International Searching Authority but shall not exceed the search fee; the additional fees shall be payable directly to that Authority. Provided any such additional fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit, the International Searching Authority shall establish the international search report on the international application including any such missing part or any such correct element or part.

Rule 48 **International Publication**

48.1 [No change]

48.2 *Contents*

(a) [No change]

(b) Subject to paragraph (c), the front page shall include:

(i) to (iv) [No change]

(v) where the international filing date has been accorded by the receiving Office under Rule 20.3(b)(ii), 20.5(d) or 20.5*bis*(d) on the basis of the incorporation by reference under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 of an element or part, an indication to that effect, together with an indication as to whether the applicant, for the purposes of Rule 20.6(a)(ii), relied on compliance with Rule 17.1(a), (b) or (b-*bis*) in relation to the priority document or on a separately submitted copy of the earlier application concerned;

(vi) [No change]

(vii) where applicable, an indication that the published international application contains information concerning a request under Rule 26*bis*.3 for restoration of the right of priority and the decision of the receiving Office upon such request;

(viii) where applicable, an indication that an erroneously filed element or part has been removed from the international application in accordance with Rule 20.5*bis*(b) or (c).

(c) to (n) [No change]

48.3 to 48.6 [No change]

Rule 51bis
Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27

51bis.1 Certain National Requirements Allowed

(a) Subject to Rule 51bis.2, the national law applicable by the designated Office may, in accordance with Article 27, require the applicant to furnish, in particular:

(i) to (vi) [No change]

(vii) any missing indication required under Rule 4.5(a)(ii) and (iii) in respect of any applicant for the designated State;

(viii) in the cases referred to in Rule 82ter.1, a translation of any erroneously filed element or part removed from the international application in accordance with Rule 20.5bis(b) or (c).

(b) to (d) [No change]

(e) The national law applicable by the designated Office may, in accordance with Article 27, require the applicant to furnish a translation of the priority document, provided that such a translation may only be required:

(i) [No change]

(ii) where the international filing date has been accorded by the receiving Office under Rule 20.3(b)(ii), 20.5(d) or 20.5bis(d) on the basis of the incorporation by reference under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 of an element or part, for the purposes of determining under Rule 82ter.1(b) whether that element or part is completely contained in the priority document concerned, in which case the national law applicable by the designated Office may also require the applicant to furnish, in the case of a part of the description, claims or drawings, an indication as to where that part is contained in the translation of the priority document.

51bis.2 and 51bis.3 [No change]

Rule 55
Languages (International Preliminary Examination)

55.1 [No change]

55.2 Translation of International Application

(a) [No change]

(a-bis) A translation of the international application into a language referred to in paragraph (a) shall include any element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) furnished by the applicant under Rule 20.3(b), 20.5bis(b), 20.5bis(c) or 20.6(a) and any part of the description, claims or drawings furnished by the applicant under Rule 20.5(b), 20.5(c), 20.5bis(b), 20.5bis(c) or 20.6(a) which is considered to have been contained in the international application under Rule 20.6(b).

(a-ter) to (d) [No change]

55.3 [No change]

Rule 57
The Handling Fee

57.1 [No change]

57.2 *Amount; Transfer*

(a) and (b) [No change]

(c) Where the prescribed currency is the Swiss franc, the Authority shall transfer the said fee to the International Bureau in Swiss francs in accordance with Rule 96.2.

(d) Where the prescribed currency is a currency other than the Swiss franc and that currency:

(i) is freely convertible into Swiss francs, the Director General shall establish, for each Authority which prescribes such a currency for the payment of the handling fee, an equivalent amount of that fee in the prescribed currency according to directives given by the Assembly, and the amount in that currency shall be transferred by the Authority to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2;

(ii) is not freely convertible into Swiss francs, the Authority shall be responsible for the conversion of the handling fee from the prescribed currency into Swiss francs and shall transfer that fee in Swiss francs, in the amount set out in the Schedule of Fees, to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2. Alternatively, if the Authority so wishes, it may convert the handling fee from the prescribed currency into euros or US dollars and transfer the equivalent amount of that fee in euros or US dollars, as established by the Director General according to directives given by the Assembly as referred to in item (i), to the International Bureau in accordance with Rule 96.2.

57.3 and 57.4 [No change]

Rule 71
Transmittal of the
International Preliminary Examination Report
and Related Documents

71.1 *Recipients*

(a) The International Preliminary Examining Authority shall, on the same day, transmit one copy of the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, to the International Bureau, and one copy to the applicant.

(b) The International Preliminary Examining Authority shall transmit copies of other documents from the file of the international preliminary examination to the International Bureau in accordance with the Administrative Instructions.

71.2 [No change]

Rule 82ter
Rectification of Errors Made
by the Receiving Office or by the International Bureau

82ter.1 Errors Concerning the International Filing Date and the Priority Claim

(a) [No change]

(b) Where the international filing date has been accorded by the receiving Office under Rule 20.3(b)(ii), 20.5(d) or 20.5bis(d) on the basis of the incorporation by reference under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 of an element or part but the designated or elected Office finds that:

(i) the applicant has not complied with Rule 17.1(a), (b) or (b-bis) in relation to the priority document;

(ii) a requirement under Rule 4.18, 20.6(a)(i) or 51bis.1(e)(ii) has not been complied with; or

(iii) the element or part is not completely contained in the priority document concerned;

the designated or elected Office may, subject to paragraph (c), treat the international application as if the international filing date had been accorded under Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b) or 20.5bis(b), or corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c), as applicable, provided that Rule 17.1(c) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(c) The designated or elected Office shall not treat the international application under paragraph (b) as if the international filing date had been accorded under Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b) or 20.5bis(b), or corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c), without giving the applicant the opportunity to make observations on the intended treatment, or to make a request under paragraph (d), within a time limit which shall be reasonable under the circumstances.

(d) Where the designated or elected Office, in accordance with paragraph (c), has notified the applicant that it intends to treat the international application as if the international filing date had been corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c), the applicant may, in a notice submitted to that Office within the time limit referred to in paragraph (c), request that the missing part concerned, or the correct element or part concerned, be disregarded for the purposes of national processing before that Office, in which case that missing part, or that correct element or part, shall be considered not to have been furnished and that Office shall not treat the international application as if the international filing date had been corrected.

Rule 82^{quater}
Excuse of Delay in Meeting Time Limits

82^{quater}.1 [No change]

82^{quater}.2 *Unavailability of Electronic Means of Communication at the Office*

(a) Any national Office or intergovernmental organization may provide that, where a time limit fixed in the Regulations for performing an action before that Office or organization is not met due to the unavailability of any of the permitted electronic means of communication at that Office or organization, delay in meeting that time limit shall be excused, provided that the respective action was performed on the next working day on which the said electronic means of communication were available. The Office or organization concerned shall publish information on any such unavailability including the period of the unavailability, and notify the International Bureau accordingly.

(b) The excuse of a delay in meeting a time limit under paragraph (a) need not be taken into account by any designated or elected Office before which the applicant, at the time the information referred to in paragraph (a) is published, has already performed the acts referred to in Article 22 or Article 39.

Rule 94
Access to Files

94.1 *Access to the File Held by the International Bureau*

(a) and (b) [No change]

(c) The International Bureau shall, if so requested by an elected Office, but not before the international preliminary examination report has been established, furnish on behalf of that Office copies under paragraph (b) of any document transmitted to it under Rule 71.1(a) or (b) by the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The International Bureau shall promptly publish details of any such request in the Gazette.

(d) to (g) [No change]

94.1^{bis} to 94.3 [No change]

Rule 96
The Schedule of Fees; Receipt and Transfer of Fees

96.1 [No change]

96.2 *Notification of Receipt of Fees; Transfer of Fees*

(a) For the purposes of this Rule, “Office” shall mean the receiving Office (including the International Bureau acting as receiving Office), the International Searching Authority, an Authority specified for supplementary international search, the International Preliminary Examining Authority or the International Bureau.

(b) Where, in accordance with these Regulations or the Administrative Instructions, a fee is collected by one Office (“collecting Office”) for the benefit of another Office (“beneficiary Office”), the collecting Office shall promptly notify the receipt of each such fee in accordance with the Administrative Instructions. Upon receipt of the notification, the beneficiary Office shall proceed as if it had received the fee on the date on which the fee was received by the collecting Office.

(c) The collecting Office shall transfer any fees collected for the benefit of a beneficiary Office to that Office in accordance with the Administrative Instructions.

Revised Lists of States Meeting the Criteria referred to in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the PCT Schedule of Fees

Having reviewed the criteria set out in item 5 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, the Assembly decided that those criteria be maintained and that they be reviewed again by the Assembly in five years’ time, as required by that Schedule.

The revised lists of States meeting those criteria, with effect since 1 January 2020, are as follows:

(1) For the purpose of item 5(a) of the PCT Schedule of Fees:

(i) States that are PCT Contracting States:

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

(ii) States that are not PCT Contracting States:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cabo Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Micronesia (Federated States of), Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lebanon, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Paraguay, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

(2) For the purpose of item 5(b) of the PCT Schedule of Fees:

(i) States that are PCT Contracting States:

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

(ii) States that are not PCT Contracting States:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kiribati, Myanmar, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Yemen.

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office and applicable from 1 April 2020, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14)	EUR	135
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b))	EUR	105
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d))	EUR	665

[Updating of Annex C(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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12 March 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its telephone number, which is now as follows:

Telephone: (966-11) 280 59 98

[Updating of Annex B1(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BR Brazil

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** and **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 May 2020, are CHF 375 and USD 376, respectively, when filing online, and CHF 562 and USD 564, respectively, when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Pounds sterling (GBP)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 May 2020, is GBP 1,479.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

MA Morocco

The **Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau of the discontinuation of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14), with effect since 1 October 2017.

The Office further notified that, since 1 January 2018, the fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)) is no longer required.

[Updating of Annex C(MA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

In addition, the Office notified changes to the conditions of eligibility for reduction of the national fee, payable to OMPIC in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office – since 2 September 2019, public establishments, foundations, research centers and associations with a research and development mission, whether foreign or national, have been entitled to pay the reduced amount of the national fee.

Very small enterprises, small or medium enterprises (in accordance with the criteria of the SME charter), natural persons, self-entrepreneurs, craftsmen, universities and educational establishments, whether foreign or national, continue to be eligible for reductions of the national fee.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (MA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ZA South Africa

The **Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) (South Africa)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the national fee, in **South African rand (ZAR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. As from 1 April 2020, the following amounts are payable by all applicants:

National fee:

Filing fee	ZAR	590
First annual fee ¹	ZAR	130

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (ZA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

NZ New Zealand

The **Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its special requirement, under PCT Rule 51*bis*, concerning the address for service.

Applicants must still have an address for service of notices and other communications; however, since 5 April 2018, this address may be in either New Zealand or Australia.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (NZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Due within three years from the international filing date.

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19 March 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

GB United Kingdom

The **Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its address for filings by hand, which is now as follows:

Address (filings by hand):	3 rd Floor 10 Victoria Street London SW1H 0NB United Kingdom
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[Updating of Annex B1(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

GB United Kingdom

The **Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the address from which to obtain a list of registered patent attorneys, as follows:

The Registrar
c/o The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys
2nd Floor Halton House
20-23 Holborn
London EC1N 2JD
United Kingdom

[Updating of Annex C(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(A-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*¹ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)² and 20.5*bis*(d)³ with the national law applied by receiving Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(a-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

CZ Czechia

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **Industrial Property Office (Czechia)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

¹ The complete text of Rule 20.5*bis* is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

² New Rule 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) states: “Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfil the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed element or part”), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18 and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.”

³ New Rule 20.5*bis*(d) states: “Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.”

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(B-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*⁴ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)⁵ and 20.5*bis*(d)⁶ with the national law applied by designated Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(b-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

CZ Czechia

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **Industrial Property Office (Czechia)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as designated Office.

⁴ See footnote 1.

⁵ See footnote 2.

⁶ See footnote 3.

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau that its telephone numbers are as follows:

Telephone:	(966-11) 280 59 98
	(966-11) 280 59 76

[Updating of Annex B1(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

IS Iceland

The **Icelandic Intellectual Property Office (ISIPO)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable from 1 May 2020, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	ISK 17,800
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	ISK 4,800
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	ISK 42,500

[Updating of Annex C(IS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts of several components of the national fee, in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, also applicable from 1 May 2020, are as follows:

National fee:

Application fee ¹	ISK 66,100
Claim fee for each claim in excess of 10 ²	ISK 4,300
Additional fee for late furnishing of translation ³	ISK 17,800
Total annual fees for the first three years ⁴	ISK 33,900

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (IS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

AU Australia

The **Australian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its special requirements under Rule 51*bis*, concerning the address for service and verification of the translation. These changes, applicable since 25 September 2019, are as follows:

- Applicants must still have an address for service of notices and other communications; however, this address may be in either Australia or New Zealand (but no representation by an agent is required).
- Verification of translations will only be required to be furnished to the Office if the Commissioner specifically requires the applicant to do so.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

² If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

³ Where the basic national fee has been paid within the applicable time limit under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the prescribed translation may be filed within a further period of two months, provided that it is accompanied by the additional fee.

⁴ These fees are payable within two months after performing the acts for entering the national phase. Payment can still be made, together with a 20% surcharge for late payment, before the expiration of the sixth month after the month containing the anniversary of the international filing date.

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

BR Brazil

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its telephone numbers, which are now as follows:

Telephone: (55-21) 3037 36 86
(55-21) 3037 37 42

[Updating of Annex B1(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IN India

The **Indian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of a change to the telephone numbers of its New Delhi office, which are now as follows:

Telephone: (91-11) 25 30 02 00
(91-11) 25 30 03 35 (PCT Section)

[Updating of Annex B1(IN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Due to circumstances relating the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Bureau has been notified that a number of PCT Offices are closed to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application is required to reach the Office falls on a day on which such Office is not open to the public for the aforementioned purposes, that period is extended so as to expire **on the next subsequent day on which the respective Office reopens to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business.**

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to an Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning Offices' closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by each respective Office, is available on the WIPO website at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

The International Bureau has been notified that the following Offices are or were not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business, under PCT Rule 80.5(i), due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, as follows:

Office Code and Name	Closed Dates Notified
CO Superintendence of Industry and Commerce (Colombia)	16 to 31 March 2020
IN Indian Patent Office	25 March to 14 April 2020
MD State Agency on Intellectual Property (Republic of Moldova)	30 March to 3 April 2020
PA Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry (DIGERPI) (Panama)	17 March 2020 until further notice
ZA Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) (South Africa)	27 March to 30 April 2020

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BR Brazil

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are EUR 304 when filing online and EUR 455 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IN India

The **Indian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of one of the components of the filing fee, in **Indian rupees (INR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, applicable since 16 May 2016, are as follows:

	<i>Natural person and/or start-up</i>	<i>Small entity, alone or with natural person(s) and/or start-up</i>	<i>Others, alone or with natural person(s) and/or start-up and/or small entity</i>
Filing fee: ¹			
– For each page of sequence listing of nucleotides and/or amino acid sequences:			
– electronic filing	INR 160 ²	INR 400 ²	INR 800 ³
– paper filing	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (IN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), or at the time of any earlier express request by the applicant to proceed earlier with the national phase.

² Subject to a maximum of INR 24,000.

³ Subject to a maximum of INR 120,000.

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(A-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*⁴ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)⁵ and 20.5*bis*(d)⁶ with the national law applied by receiving Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(a-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

CL Chile

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Chile)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

⁴ The complete text of Rule 20.5*bis* is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

⁵ New Rule 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) states: “Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfil the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed element or part”), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18 and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.”

⁶ New Rule 20.5*bis*(d) states: “Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.”

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(B-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*⁷ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)⁸ and 20.5*bis*(d)⁹ with the national law applied by designated Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(b-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

CL Chile

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Chile)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as designated Office.

⁷ See footnote 4.

⁸ See footnote 5.

⁹ See footnote 6.

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9 April 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

RECEIVING OFFICES

DK Denmark

On 9 March 2020, the **Danish Patent and Trademark Office** provided additional information, in its capacity as competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of Denmark, in the event of national security considerations.

International applications for inventions that relate to war material or processes for the manufacture of war material and are owned by a person or enterprise residing in Denmark, or by a Danish institution, must be filed through the Danish Patent and Trademark Office and may only be granted patent protection, as “secret patents”, with authorization from the (Danish) Minister of Defence, in accordance with sections 2 and 2a of the Consolidate Secret Patents Act and section 70 of the (Danish) Patents Act.

[Updating of Annex B1(DK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office provided additional guidance concerning representation before the Office.

In accordance with section 12 of the (Danish) Patents Act, the Danish Patent and Trademark Office may invite the applicant to appoint an agent residing in the European Economic Area (EEA) to represent him in all matters relating to the application.

[Updating of Annex C(DK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(A-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*¹ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)² and 20.5*bis*(d)³ with the national law applied by receiving Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(a-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

DE Germany

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **German Patent and Trade Mark Office** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

FR France

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) cannot be considered to be compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

¹ The complete text of Rule 20.5*bis* is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

² New Rule 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) states: “Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfil the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed element or part”), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18 and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.”

³ New Rule 20.5*bis*(d) states: “Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.”

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(B-BIS)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*⁴ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)⁵ and 20.5*bis*(d)⁶ with the national law applied by designated Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(b-*bis*) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

CN China

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as designated Office.

DE Germany

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-*bis*), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **German Patent and Trade Mark Office** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as designated Office.

⁴ Refer to footnote 1.

⁵ Refer to footnote 2.

⁶ Refer to footnote 3.

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EXCUSE OF DELAY IN MEETING PCT TIME LIMITS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC: APPLICABILITY OF PCT RULE 82QUATER.1 AND ADDITIONAL SPECIAL MEASURES

NOTE PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU: INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

Pursuant to PCT Rule 82*quater*.1, where any interested party offers evidence that a time limit fixed in the Regulations under the PCT (“the Regulations”) for performing an action before an Office, Authority or the International Bureau was not met due to war, revolution, civil disorder, strike, natural calamity, general unavailability of electronic communications services or other like reason, and that the relevant action was taken as soon as reasonably possible, the delay in meeting the relevant time limit may¹ be excused.

In the view of the International Bureau, the current global COVID-19 pandemic should be considered to be a “natural calamity” or “other like reason” under PCT Rule 82*quater*.1(a).

Consequently, the International Bureau, including in its capacity as receiving Office, shall treat favorably any request, under PCT Rule 82*quater*.1(a), which cites reasons relating to the COVID-19 pandemic for the failure to meet a time limit fixed in the Regulations, and shall not require the interested party to provide evidence to it that the COVID-19 pandemic affected the locality in which the interested party resides, has a place of business, or is staying.

Furthermore, the receiving Office of the International Bureau shall delay until 31 May 2020 the issuance of notifications concerning an international application considered to be withdrawn (Form PCT/RO/117).

The International Bureau urges all PCT Offices and Authorities to adopt a similar interpretation and practice. Furthermore, the International Bureau recommends the following:

- for at least one month (with the possibility of further extension), notifications that an international application is considered to be withdrawn only be issued with respect to deadlines that had previously expired for at least two months; and
- receiving Offices waive the charging of late payment fees (under PCT Rule 16*bis*.2).

Please note the “Interpretative statement and Recommended Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Practice Changes in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic” of 9 April 2020, available at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/news/2020/news_0009.html

¹ To benefit from the relief provided for under Rule 82*quater*.1, the interested party would normally be required to address such evidence to the competent Office, Authority or the International Bureau, as the case may be, not later than six months after the expiration of the time limit applicable in the given case, in addition to having taken the relevant action as soon as reasonably possible. If such circumstances are proven to the satisfaction of the addressee, delay in meeting the time limit shall be excused.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

PL Poland

The **Patent Office of the Republic of Poland** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its e-mail address, which is now as follows:

E-mail: plpctteam@uprp.pl

[Updating of Annex B1(PL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is CHF 1,242.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

BR Brazil

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are CHF 374 when filing online, and CHF 470 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CA Canada

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is CHF 1,085.

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IN India

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** and **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Indian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are CHF 128 and EUR 120, or CHF 32 and EUR 30 in the case of filing by an individual.

[Updating of Annex D(IN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Korean Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are CHF 353 for searches carried out in Korean and CHF 941 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** and **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are CHF 104 and EUR 97 for searches carried out in Russian, and CHF 489 and EUR 455 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, pursuant to PCT Rule 45bis.3(b), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the supplementary search fee for a supplementary international search carried out by the Office. These amounts, also applicable from 1 June 2020, are CHF 144 and CHF 231 (the latter amount applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment)).

[Updating of Annex SISA(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SG Singapore

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore**. This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is CHF 1,509.

[Updating of Annex D(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, pursuant to PCT Rule 45bis.3(b), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the supplementary search fee for a supplementary international search carried out by the Office. This amount, also applicable from 1 June 2020, is CHF 1,509.

[Updating of Annex SISA(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

PL Poland

The **Patent Office of the Republic of Poland** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the number of paper copies of the international application required by it – two copies are now required, instead of three.

[Updating of Annex C(PL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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TRANSMITTAL OF PCT-RELATED DOCUMENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

NOTE PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF TRANSMITTAL OF PCT-RELATED DOCUMENTS ON PAPER

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of the International Bureau and postal systems worldwide, the International Bureau, including in its capacity as PCT receiving Office, has suspended the transmittal of PCT-related documents **on paper**, with effect since 30 March 2020.

Consequently, the International Bureau will only transmit PCT-related documents electronically via e-mail, until further notice. It is to be noted that PCT-related documents concerning individual international applications are available via ePCT¹ or, after international publication, on PATENTSCOPE².

Furthermore, due to reduced postal services and scanning operations at the International Bureau, all PCT users are urged to communicate with the International Bureau exclusively via electronic means.

PCT users who have not yet provided the International Bureau with an email address in relation to their international application(s), are encouraged to provide such information as soon as possible by:

- populating the information directly in relation to pending international applications in ePCT for which they have the relevant access rights;
- using the PCT Contingency Upload service;³
- sending an email to one of the following addresses: pct.eservices@wipo.int or pct.infoline@wipo.int; or
- using the *WIPO Contact Us* page⁴ for PCT customers.

For additional information, refer to the *PCT System newsfeed*, dated 30 March 2020, available at:

https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/news/2020/news_0008.html

¹ Available at: <https://pct.wipo.int/ePCT>

² Available at: <https://patentscope.wipo.int>

³ Available at: <https://pct.wipo.int/ePCTExternal/pages/UploadDocument.xhtml>

⁴ Available at: <https://www3.wipo.int/contact/en/area.jsp?area=pct>

**INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES:
NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING
DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

CU Cuba

Due to circumstances relating the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Cuban Industrial Property Office** has notified the International Bureau that it is closed to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 14 April 2020 until further notice.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on or after 14 April 2020, that period is **extended so as to expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office reopens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AT Austria

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount, in **South African rand (ZAR)**, has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Austrian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is ZAR 35,130.

[Updating of Annex D(AT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

AU Australia

New equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, as well as for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These new amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	AUD 2,356
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	AUD 27
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	AUD 354
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	AUD 531
Handling fee	AUD 354

[Updating of Annexes C(AU) and E(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CA Canada

New equivalent amounts in **Canadian dollars (CAD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, as well as for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These new amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	CAD 1,961
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	CAD 22
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	CAD 295
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	CAD 442
Handling fee	CAD 295

[Updating of Annexes C(CA) and E(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **South African rand (ZAR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is ZAR 35,130.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IL Israel

A new equivalent amount in **New Israeli shekels (ILS)** has been established for the handling fee, pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d). This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is ILS 743.

[Updating of Annex E(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IS Iceland

New equivalent amounts in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	ISK 195,100
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	ISK 2,200
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	ISK 29,300
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	ISK 44,000

[Updating of Annex C(IS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

A new equivalent amount in **Korean won (KRW)** has been established for the handling fee, pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d). This amount, applicable from 1 June 2020, is KRW 255,000.

[Updating of Annex E(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

NO Norway

New equivalent amounts in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	NOK 15,300
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	NOK 170
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	NOK 2,300
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	NOK 3,450

[Updating of Annex C(NO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are USD 106 for searches carried out in Russian and USD 501 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SG Singapore

New equivalent amounts in **Singapore dollars (SGD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, as well as for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These new amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	SGD 1,974
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	SGD 22
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	SGD 297
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	SGD 445
Handling fee	SGD 297

[Updating of Annexes C(SG) and E(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ZA South Africa

New equivalent amounts in **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 June 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	ZAR 24,090
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	ZAR 270
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	ZAR 3,620
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	ZAR 5,430

[Updating of Annex C(ZA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES
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EP European Patent Organisation

Agreement between the European Patent Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex D

On 17 April 2020, the **European Patent Office (EPO)** notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Articles 11(3)(iii) and 11(4)(ii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of an amendment to Part I of Annex D thereof. This amendment, which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, consists of a new “Additional fee” payable under new PCT Rule 40*bis* and applicable in conjunction with new PCT Rule 20.5*bis*, which will also enter into force on 1 July 2020.²

The amended Annex D will read as follows:

**“Annex D
Fees and Charges**

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (euro)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	[No change]
Additional fee (Rules 40.2(a) and 40 <i>bis</i> ³)	1,775 ⁴
Supplementary search fees (Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .3(a))	[No change]
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	[No change]
Protest fee (Rules 40.2(e) and 68.3(e))	[No change]
Review fee (Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .6(c))	[No change]
Late furnishing fee for sequence listings (Rules 13 <i>ter</i> .1(c) and 13 <i>ter</i> .2)	[No change]

Part II. [No change]”

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_ep.pdf

² The complete text of new Rules 20.5*bis* and 40*bis* is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

³ This fee is applied in conjunction with PCT Rule 20.5*bis* (see decision of the EPO’s Administrative Council of 27 March 2020 (OJ EPO 2020, A36).

⁴ This fee is reduced by 75% under certain conditions (see decision of the EPO’s Administrative Council of 12 December 2019 (OJ EPO 2020, A4)). See Part II, paragraph (4), for further details.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

IT Italy

The **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that, pursuant to the adoption in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019⁵, PCT Article 45(2)⁶ is no longer applicable to the designation or election of Italy, with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

Consequently, any designation or election of Italy in an international application filed on or after 1 July 2020 shall constitute an indication under PCT Rule 4.9(iii) that the international application is for the grant of a regional (European) patent and also a national patent in Italy.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

MX Mexico

Due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Mexican Institute of Industrial Property** has notified the International Bureau that it is closed to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 27 March to 30 May 2020.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period is **extended so as to expire on 1 June 2020, or on the next subsequent day on which the Office reopens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

⁵ Refer to *Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana* (No. 283) of 3 December 2019.

⁶ PCT Article 45 states: "The national law of the said designated or elected State may provide that any designation or election of such State in the international application shall have the effect of an indication of the wish to obtain a regional patent under the regional patent treaty."

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)**, **Korean won (KRW)**, **Singapore dollars (SGD)**, and **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are EUR 1,241, KRW 1,643,000, SGD 1,920 and USD 1,341, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Office (EPO)**, in its capacity as International Searching Authority, has notified the International Bureau of the establishment of a new additional fee, under new PCT Rule 40*bis* and applicable in conjunction with new PCT Rule 20.5*bis*⁷.

This new fee, which will be applicable from 1 July 2020, is EUR 1,775.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Korean Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are AUD 603 for searches carried out in Korean and AUD 1,607 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** and **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are NZD 3,496 and ZAR 38,860, respectively, for an entity other than a small or micro entity; NZD 1,748 and ZAR 19,430, respectively, for a small entity; and NZD 874 and ZAR 9,710, respectively, for a micro entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁷ The complete text of new Rules 20.5*bis* and 40*bis* is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

IT Italy

Following the adoption in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019 (refer to this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette), page 82), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that the time limits for entry into the national phase under PCT Articles 22(1) and 39(1)(a) are 30 months from the priority date (or where the international application does not contain any priority claim under PCT Article 8, the international filing date of such application).

Furthermore, the Office notified that, under PCT Articles 22(1) and 39(1)(a), for international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020, a translation of the international application into Italian is required.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF ELEMENTS OR PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF COMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS OF PCT RULES 20.3(a)(ii) AND (b)(ii), 20.5(a)(ii) AND (d), AND 20.6

IT Italy

Further to its notification⁸ of the incompatibility of the national law of Italy under PCT Rule 20.8(a) (refer to PCT Gazette No. 26/2006 of 26 June 2006, page 18992), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau that its national law is now compatible with PCT Rules 20.3(a)(ii) and (b)(ii), 20.5(a)(ii) and (d), and 20.6 (concerning defects under PCT Article 11(1), missing parts, and incorporation by reference of elements of parts), which will be applicable with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF ELEMENTS OR PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF COMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS OF PCT RULES 20.3(a)(ii) AND (b)(ii), 20.5(a)(ii) AND (d), AND 20.6

IT Italy

Following the adoption in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019 (refer to this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette), page 82), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as designated Office, has notified the International Bureau that its national law is compatible with PCT Rules 20.3(a)(ii) and (b)(ii), 20.5(a)(ii) and (d), and 20.6 (concerning defects under PCT Article 11(1), missing parts, and incorporation by reference of elements of parts), with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

⁸ The current list of PCT reservations, declarations, notifications and incompatibilities is available on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html

ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(a-bis)

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5bis⁹ of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(a-bis), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5bis(a)(ii)¹⁰ and 20.5bis(d)¹¹ with the national law applied by receiving Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(a-bis) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5bis(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the receiving Office, the rules concerned shall not apply to an international application filed with that receiving Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

ES Spain

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(a-bis), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **Spanish Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5bis(a)(ii) and 20.5bis(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

⁹ The complete text of Rule 20.5bis is reproduced in Annex III of document number PCT/A/51/2, which is available online at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_2.pdf

¹⁰ New Rule 20.5bis(a)(ii) states: “Where, in determining whether the papers purporting to be an international application fulfil the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office finds that an entire element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e) has or appears to have been erroneously filed, or that a part of the description, claims or drawings has or appears to have been erroneously filed, including the case where all drawings have or appear to have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed element or part”), it shall promptly invite the applicant, at the applicant’s option to confirm, in accordance with Rule 20.6(a), that the correct element or part was incorporated by reference under Rule 4.18 and to make observations, if any, within the applicable time limit under Rule 20.7. If that time limit expires after the expiration of 12 months from the filing date of any application whose priority is claimed, the receiving Office shall call that circumstance to the attention of the applicant.”

¹¹ New Rule 20.5bis(d) states: “Where, following an invitation under paragraph (a) or otherwise, a correct element or part is, under Rule 20.6(b), considered to have been contained in the purported international application on the date on which one or more elements referred to in Article 11(1)(iii) were first received by the receiving Office, the erroneously filed element or part concerned shall remain in the application, and the receiving Office shall accord as the international filing date the date on which all of the requirements of Article 11(1) are fulfilled and proceed as provided in Rule 20.2(b) and (c) and as provided for in the Administrative Instructions.”

**ERRONEOUSLY FILED ELEMENTS AND PARTS:
NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH
NATIONAL LAWS UNDER PCT RULE 20.8(b-bis)**

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, new Rule 20.5*bis*¹² of the PCT Regulations concerning erroneously filed elements and parts of international applications, as well as new Rule 20.8(b-bis), concerning incompatibility of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii)¹³ and 20.5*bis*(d)¹⁴ with the national law applied by designated Offices. These new rules will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

New Rule 20.8(b-bis) states: “If, on October 9, 2019, any of Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and (d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the designated Office, the rules concerned shall not apply in respect of that Office in relation to an international application in respect of which the acts referred to in Article 22 have been performed before that Office for as long as they continue not to be compatible with that law, provided that the said Office informs the International Bureau accordingly by April 9, 2020. The information received shall be promptly published by the International Bureau in the Gazette.”

ES Spain

In accordance with new PCT Rule 20.8(b-bis), which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **Spanish Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that new PCT Rules 20.5*bis*(a)(ii) and 20.5*bis*(d) are not compatible with the national law applied by the Office in its capacity as designated Office.

¹² Refer to footnote 8.

¹³ Refer to footnote 9.

¹⁴ Refer to footnote 10.

**RESTORATION OF RIGHT OF PRIORITY:
NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES OF COMPATIBILITY WITH
NATIONAL LAWS OF PCT RULE 26bis.3(a) TO (i)**

IT Italy

Further to its notification¹⁵ of the incompatibility of the national law of Italy under PCT Rule 26bis.3(j) (refer to PCT Gazette No. 26/2006 of 26 June 2006, page 18994), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau that its national law is now compatible with PCT Rule 26bis.3(a) to (i) (concerning restoration of the right of priority by receiving Offices), which will be applicable with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

**EFFECT OF RESTORATION OF RIGHT OF PRIORITY BY RECEIVING OFFICES:
NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF COMPATIBILITY WITH
NATIONAL LAWS OF PCT RULE 49ter.1(a) TO (d)**

IT Italy

Following the adoption of in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019 (refer to this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette), page 82), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that the national law applied by it as designated Office under the PCT is compatible with PCT Rule 49ter.1(a) to (d) (concerning the effect of restoration of right of priority by receiving Offices), with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

**RESTORATION OF RIGHT OF PRIORITY:
NOTIFICATIONS BY DESIGNATED OFFICES OF COMPATIBILITY WITH
NATIONAL LAWS OF PCT RULE 49ter.2(a) TO (g)**

IT Italy

Following the adoption in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019 (refer to this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette), page 82), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as designated Office, has notified the International Bureau that its national law is compatible with PCT Rule 49ter.2(a) to (g) (concerning restoration of the right of priority by designated Offices), with respect to international applications filed **on or after 1 July 2020**.

¹⁵ The current list of PCT reservations, declarations, notifications and incompatibilities is available on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d) and Sections 710(b) and 713 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **European Patent Office (EPO)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau of a change to its notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 3 November 2016, pages 221 *et seq.*

In particular, as from 1 July 2020, the EPO, in its capacity as receiving Office, will no longer accept the filing of international applications in electronic form using the PCT-SAFE software.

Consequently, as of 1 July 2020, the available means for filing international applications in electronic form with the EPO are: EPO Online Filing, EPO web-form filing service, EPO case management system (CMS), and ePCT-Filing.

[Updating of Annex C(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DEPOSITS OF MICROORGANISMS AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL: INSTITUTIONS WITH WHICH DEPOSITS MAY BE MADE

CN China

Pursuant to PCT Rule 13*bis*.7(b), the International Bureau has been notified of a depositary institution having acquired the status of international depositary authority under the *Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure* with which deposits of microorganisms and other biological material may be made, with effect since 1 January 2016, as follows:

Guangdong Microbial Culture Collection Center (GDMCC)
Guangdong Institute of Microbiology
No.59 Building, No.100 Xianliezhong Road
Guangzhou 510075
The People's Republic of China

[Updating of Annex L of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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7 May 2020

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DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

MD Moldova

Further to the notification regarding closure to the public of the **State Agency on Intellectual Property (Republic of Moldova)** due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, as published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 2 April 2020 (pages 58 and 59), the Office has notified the International Bureau that the aforementioned closure has been extended.

Therefore, for the period from 30 March to 30 April 2020, the Office was closed to the public for the transaction of official business on the following days:

- 30 March 2020 to 3 April 2020;
- 7 to 17 April 2020; and
- 21 to 30 April 2020.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period is **extended so as to expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office reopens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BR Brazil – Corrigendum

The information published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 69) contained an error concerning the new equivalent amount, in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, of the search fee when filing online for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**.

As from 1 June 2020, the new equivalent amounts of the search fee are CHF 314 when filing online and CHF 470 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

BR Brazil

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are USD 322 when filing online, and USD 483 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CA Canada

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **US dollars (USD)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 July 2020, is USD 1,132.

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **pounds sterling (GBP)**, **Icelandic kronor (ISK)** and **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are GBP 1,560, ISK 276,000, and NOK 20,010, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

HU Hungary

New equivalent amounts in **Hungarian forints (HUF)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	HUF	458,300
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	HUF	5,200
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	HUF	68,900
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	HUF	103,400

[Updating of Annex C(HU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IN India

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Indian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are USD 131 and USD 33 (in the case of filing by an individual).

[Updating of Annex D(IN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

NZ New Zealand

New equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	NZD	2,288
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	NZD	26
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	NZD	344
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	NZD	516

[Updating of Annex C(NZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are EUR 105 for searches carried out in Russian, and EUR 495 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SE Sweden

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)** and **Norwegian kronor (NOK)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Swedish Patent and Registration Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are ISK 276,000 and NOK 20,010, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(SE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

XN Nordic Patent Institute

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)** and **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Nordic Patent Institute**. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are ISK 276,000 and NOK 20,010, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(XN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF PRIORITY: NOTIFICATIONS UNDER PCT RULES 26bis.3(i) AND 49ter.2(g)

IT Italy

Further to its notifications concerning restoration of the right of priority under PCT Rules 26bis.3 and 49ter.2 (refer to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 30 April 2020, page 87), and pursuant to PCT Rules 26bis.3(i) and 49ter.2(g), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau that it will, in its capacity as receiving Office and designated (or elected) Office, apply both the “unintentional” and “due care” criteria to requests for restoration of the right of priority, with respect to international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020.

In addition, the Office notified that there is no fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority under PCT Rules 26bis.3(d) and 49ter.2(d); however, such requests will be subject to a stamp duty (*imposta di bollo*) of EUR 15.

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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**INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES:
NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING
DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Bureau has been notified that a number of PCT Offices are closed to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office falls on a day on which such Office is not open to the public for the aforementioned purposes, that period **shall expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office opens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to an Office or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 2 April 2020 (pages 58 and 59), the International Bureau has been notified that the following Offices were also not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business, under PCT Rule 80.5(i), due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, as follows:

Office Code and Name	Closed Dates Notified
AG Antigua and Barbuda Intellectual Property and Commerce Office (ABIPCO)	1 to 28 April 2020
RO State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (Romania)	9 to 20 March 2020

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **South African rand (ZAR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 July 2020, is ZAR 26,420.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Hungarian forints (HUF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 July 2020, is HUF 626,100.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

NO Norway

New equivalent amounts in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 July 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee	NOK 14,420
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	NOK 160
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	NOK 2,170
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	NOK 3,250

[Updating of Annex C(NO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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22 May 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

CA Canada

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of an online service for general correspondence, as follows:

Online service
(general correspondence): <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/wr01970.html>

[Updating of Annex B1(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

SV El Salvador

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **National Center of Registries (CNR) (El Salvador)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form with effect from 15 July 2020, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (503) 2593 5718
- by e-mail at: patentes@cnr.gob.sv

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.cnr.gob.sv).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(SV) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

28 May 2020

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**INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES:
NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING
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IN India

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 2 April 2020 (pages 58 and 59), the **Indian Patent Office** notified the International Bureau, on 8 May 2020, that it was additionally closed from 15 to 19 April 2020, due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, in accordance with the aforementioned notifications, the Office was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 25 March to 19 April 2020.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell between 25 March to 19 April 2020 (inclusive), that period **shall expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office opens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by the Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS CONTAINING SEQUENCE LISTINGS: NOTIFICATION BY INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES OF APPLICABLE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

CA Canada

In accordance with Section 513(f) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of an additional means of transmittal of the sequence listing in electronic form accepted by it in its capacity as International Searching Authority.

In addition to a text file on a single diskette, CD-ROM, or DVD, sequence listings may now be submitted electronically, in <.txt> format, via the Office's general correspondence web service, available at:

<https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/wr01970.html>

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

New equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, as well as for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	AUD 2,150
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	AUD 24
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	AUD 323
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	AUD 485
Handling fee	AUD 323

[Updating of Annexes C(AU) and E(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are USD 113 for searches carried out in Russian and USD 532 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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4 June 2020

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FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** and **Korean won (KRW)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are CHF 1,361 and KRW 1,757,000, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

BR Brazil

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)** has notified the International Bureau that since 2 October 2019, the fee for the priority document on paper, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office, is no longer applicable. The fee for the priority document online remains unchanged.

[Updating of Annex C(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Korean Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are AUD 564 for searches carried out in Korean and AUD 1,503 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

BR Brazil

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)** has notified the International Bureau that since 2 October 2019, the priority document may only be requested online.¹

Furthermore, the Office notified that since 19 November 2019, the international application and other PCT-related documents filed **on paper** are received only by mail. For information concerning filing on paper by mail, refer to the Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) N°253 of 13 November 2019.²

[Updating of Annex C(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Refer to *RPI – Revista da Propriedade Industrial* No. 2544 (8 October 2019), available at: <http://revistas.inpi.gov.br/pdf/Comunicados2544.pdf>

² Refer to *RPI – Revista da Propriedade Industrial* No. 2550 (19 November 2019), available at: <http://revistas.inpi.gov.br/pdf/Comunicados2550.pdf>

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

BR Brazil

Agreement between the Brazilian National Institute of Industrial Property and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex D

On 30 April 2020, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)** notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Part I of Annex D thereof. These amendments consist of a change to the reference contained in the footnote of Part I of Annex D, as well as the establishment of a new condition for the filing on paper of PCT-related documents (reflected in a new footnote introduced in Part I of Annex D).

With effect since 19 November 2019, the amended Annex D reads as follows:

**Annex D
Fees and Charges**

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge ²	Amount (Brazilian reals)	
	(online)	(on paper) ³
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	1,685	2,525
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	1,360	2,040
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	630	945
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	365	545
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	amount as set out in Rule 58bis.2	
Protest fee (Rules 40.2(e) and 68.3(e))	1,220	1,830
Late furnishing fee for sequence listings (Rule 13ter.1(c) and 13ter.2)	180	270
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94ter.1 and 94.2), per page	1.5	2

Part II. [No change]

[Updating of Annexes D(BR) and E(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_br.pdf

² These fees are reduced by 60% under certain conditions (refer to Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) No. 251/19 of 2 October 2019).

³ International applications and PCT-related documents filed on paper are received only by mail (refer to Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) No. 253/19 of 13 November 2019).

SG Singapore

Agreement between the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization⁴ – Amendment to Annex A

The **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(i) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of an amendment to Annex A(i) thereof. This amendment, which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, consists of the addition of the **Republic of Korea** to the States indicated in item (i) of the Annex.

As from 1 July 2020, the amended Annex A will read as follows:

Annex A States and Languages

Under Article 3 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies:

- (i) the following States for which it will act:

so far as Article 3(1) is concerned:

Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America, Viet Nam;

so far as Article 3(2) is concerned:

where the Authority has prepared the international search report,

Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America, Viet Nam.

Where a receiving Office specifies the International Authority under Articles 3(1) and (2), the International Authority shall become competent for international applications filed at that receiving Office from a date to be agreed by the receiving Office and International Authority and to be notified to the International Bureau.

- (ii) [No change]

⁴ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_sg.pdf

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Further to the notifications published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 2 April 2020 (page 59), 23 April 2020 (page 74), 30 April 2020 (page 82), 7 May 2020 (page 90), 14 May 2020 (page 96) and 28 May 2020 (page 103), the International Bureau has been notified that due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of additional PCT Offices were closed to the public, or have extended previously notified closures to the public, for the purposes of the transaction of official business, as follows:

Office Code and Name	Closed Dates Notified
BZ Belize Intellectual Property Office	3 April (midday) to 13 April 2020
MX Mexican Institute of Industrial Property	27 March 2020 until further notice ⁵
PH Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines	15 March to 25 May 2020

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application is (was) required to reach an Office falls (fell) on a day on which such Office is (was) not open to the public for the aforementioned purposes, that period **shall expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office opens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to an Office or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by Offices, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by Offices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

⁵ Extended from 30 May 2020 (refer to Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 30 April 2020, page 82).

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

SG Singapore

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), an equivalent amount in **Korean won (KRW)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore**. This amount, applicable from 1 July 2020, is KRW 1,955,000.

[Updating of Annex D(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

KR Republic of Korea

The **Korean Intellectual Property Office** has specified the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore – in addition to the Australian Patent Office, the Austrian Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office (JPO), and the Korean Intellectual Property Office – as competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the Korean Intellectual Property Office by nationals and residents of the Republic of Korea, with effect from 1 July 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

18 June 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

PA Panama

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 2 April 2020 (page 59) concerning the closure of the **Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry (DIGERPI) (Panama)** due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office has notified the International Bureau that it reopened to the public on 8 June 2020 for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

Consequently, as published in the aforementioned notification and in accordance with PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell between 17 March and 7 June 2020 (inclusive), that period **shall expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office opens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning the Office's closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by the Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

GT Guatemala

The **Registry of Intellectual Property (Guatemala)** has notified the International Bureau of changes in its location and mailing address, and its facsimile numbers, which are now as follows:

Location and mailing address:	7a. Avenida 7-61 zona 4 Segundo Nivel Guatemala Ciudad, CP 01004 Guatemala
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Facsimile machine:	(502) 232 470 51 (502) 232 470 52
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[Updating of Annex B1(GT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BR Brazil

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** and **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are CHF 286 and EUR 271, respectively, when filing online; and CHF 429 and EUR 406, respectively, when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 August 2020, are CHF 118 for searches carried out in Russian, and CHF 554 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, pursuant to PCT Rule 45bis.3(b), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the supplementary search fee for a supplementary international search carried out by the Office. These amounts, also applicable from 1 August 2020, are CHF 163 and CHF 261 (the latter amount applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment)).

[Updating of Annex SISA(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

25 June 2020

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MODIFICATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT

NOTE PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

Following consultation with Offices, Authorities, and certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system, pursuant to PCT Rule 89.2(b), modifications to Sections 111, 308*bis*, 309, 310, 310*bis*, 310*ter*, 311, 410, 413, and Annexes C, D and E of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, as well as new Sections 114, 317*bis*, 419*bis*, 420*bis*, 602*bis* and new Annex G, were promulgated with effect from 1 July 2020.

The main purposes of these modifications are:

(i) to increase transparency and legal certainty of the procedure for the excuse of delay in the case of unavailability of electronic means of communication under new PCT Rule 82*quater*.2¹ (Section 111 and Annex E);

(ii) to establish details of the procedures to be followed by Offices collecting fees for the benefit of other Offices, or receiving fees collected by other Offices, and to create a consistent legal basis for the operation of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service (formerly the “netting pilot”) with the long term aim of exchanging high-quality and timely fee information in a consistent format (Section 114 and Annex G);

(iii) to provide guidance in order to align the practices of receiving Offices and designated (or elected) Offices in the special case where an applicant has erroneously filed an incorrect element or part of the international application (Sections 308*bis*, 309, 310, 310*bis*, 310*ter*, 311, 410 and 413, and Annexes C and D);

(iv) to provide a legal basis for treating the date of receipt of a notice under PCT Rule 26*quater*.1 at the receiving Office as the date of receipt at the International Bureau, and a legal basis for the correction or addition of the indications provided for in Rule 4.11 within a period that would ensure their inclusion in the international publication (Sections 317*bis* and 419*bis*); and

(v) to provide a legal basis for requiring an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) to copy certain documents from the file of the international preliminary examination to the International Bureau while allowing some flexibility in the time for effecting such transmittal, and a legal basis for permitting the International Bureau to communicate the documents received from an IPEA to elected Offices (Sections 420*bis* and 602*bis*).

The full text of the Administrative Instructions as in force from 1 July 2020 (PCT/AI/21) is available on the WIPO website at:

www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: <https://www.wipo.int//pct/en/texts/>

TEXT OF MODIFICATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS
(as in force from 1 July 2020)

PART 1
INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO GENERAL MATTERS

Section 111
**Procedure and Considerations in the Case of Excuse of the Delay in Meeting
Certain Time Limits under Rule 82*quater***

(a) Where the receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the Authority specified for supplementary search, the International Preliminary Examining Authority, or the International Bureau receives a request under Rule 82*quater* for the excuse of a delay in meeting a time limit, it shall promptly:

(i) communicate its decision whether or not to excuse such a delay to the interested party; and

(ii) where applicable, transmit a copy of such a request, a copy of any evidence furnished and of its decision to the International Bureau.

(b) An interested party desiring to have delays excused due to general unavailability of electronic communications services under Rule 82*quater*.1 must establish that the outage of electronic communications services affected a widespread geographical area rather than being a localized problem, that it was unexpected or unforeseen, and that there was no alternative communication means available to him.

(c) Where any Office that acts as the receiving Office, the International Searching Authority, the Authority specified for supplementary search, or the International Preliminary Examining Authority provides for the excuse of a delay in meeting time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at that Office under Rule 82*quater*.2, it shall notify the International Bureau accordingly. The International Bureau shall promptly publish this information in the Gazette.

(d) Where the International Bureau provides for the excuse of a delay in meeting time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at the Bureau under Rule 82*quater*.2, it shall publish this information in the Gazette.

(e) The International Bureau shall also promptly publish in the Gazette any notification received by it under Rule 82*quater*.2(a), last sentence.

Section 114
Notification and Transfer of Fees

The notification of the receipt of fees under Rule 96.2(b) and the transfer of fees under Rule 96.2(c) shall be carried out in accordance with Annex G.

PART 3
INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO THE RECEIVING OFFICE

Section 308bis
Marking of Later Submitted Sheets

The receiving Office shall indelibly mark any sheet containing an element referred to in Article 11(1)(iii)(d) or (e), or a part referred to in Rule 20.5(a) or an element or part referred to in Rule 20.5bis(a), received on a date later than the date on which sheets were first received (“later submitted sheet”), in the upper right-hand corner of each sheet, with the international application number referred to in Section 307 and the date of actual receipt of that sheet.

Section 309
Procedure in the Case of Later Submitted Sheets
Furnished for the Purposes of Incorporation by Reference

(a) This Section applies, subject to paragraph (f), to later submitted sheets which accompany a notice confirming under Rule 20.6 that an element or part embodied in those sheets was incorporated by reference.

(b) Where later submitted sheets as referred to in paragraph (a) are received within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7 and the receiving Office makes a finding under Rule 20.6(b), the receiving Office shall:

(i) indelibly mark, in the middle of the bottom margin of each later submitted sheet, the words “INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (RULE 20.6)”, or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application;

(ii) notify the applicant that the element or part contained in the later submitted sheets is considered to have been contained in the international application or purported international application on the date when sheets were first received and that that date has been accorded or retained, as the case may be, as the international filing date;

(iii) keep in its files a copy of the later submitted sheets marked under item (i) and of the notice under Rule 20.6(a);

(iv) where the later submitted sheets are furnished under Rule 20.5bis to correct any sheets that have been erroneously filed (“erroneously filed sheets”), indelibly mark, in the middle of the bottom margin of each erroneously filed sheet, the words “ERRONEOUSLY FILED (RULE 20.5bis)”, or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application, and move the erroneously filed sheets to the end of the corresponding element of the purported international application;

(v) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have already been made, notify the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority accordingly, and transmit the later submitted sheets marked under item (i) and the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the said Bureau and a copy thereof to the said Authority; and

(vi) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have not yet been made, attach the later submitted sheets marked under item (i) and the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the record copy and a copy thereof to the search copy.

(c) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7 and the receiving Office makes a finding under Rule 20.6(c), the receiving Office shall, subject to Section 310*bis*:

(i) effect the required correction of the international filing date or accord as the international filing date the date of receipt of the later submitted sheets;

(ii) notify the applicant that the content of the later submitted sheets is not considered to have been contained in the international application or purported international application on the date when sheets were first received and that the international filing date has been accorded as, or corrected to, as the case may be, the date on which the new sheets were received;

(iii) keep in its files a copy of the later submitted sheets and of the notice under Rule 20.6(a);

(iv) where the later submitted sheets are furnished under Rule 20.5*bis* to correct any erroneously filed sheets, remove the erroneously filed sheets from the international application and notify the applicant accordingly, and keep a copy of the removed sheets in the file;

(v) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have already been made, notify the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority accordingly and transmit a copy of the corrected first and last sheets of the request, the later submitted sheets and the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the said Bureau and a copy thereof to the said Authority; and

(vi) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have not yet been made, attach the later submitted sheets and the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the record copy and a copy thereof to the search copy.

(d) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7 but the purported international application still does not fulfill the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office shall proceed as provided in Rule 20.4, but not before the expiration of the time limit under Rule 20.7.

(e) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received after the expiration of the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7, the receiving Office shall proceed as provided in Section 310*ter*.

(f) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received but a missing element or part contained in those sheets cannot be incorporated by reference in the international application under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 because of the operation of Rule 20.8(a), the receiving Office shall:

(i) inform the applicant that the notice under Rule 20.6(a) confirming the incorporation by reference of the missing element or part has been disregarded;

(ii) proceed in accordance with Section 310(b), which shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, as if the notice under Rule 20.6(a) were a correction furnished under Rule 20.3(b)(i), or a missing part furnished under Rule 20.5(b) or (c), as the case may be; and

(iii) proceed in accordance with Section 310*bis*(b) where the applicant requests, within the time limit under Rule 20.5(e), that the missing part concerned be disregarded.

(g) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are furnished under Rule 20.5*bis* to correct any erroneously filed element or part but the correct element or part embodied in those sheets cannot be incorporated by reference in the international application under Rules 4.18 and 20.6 because of the operation of Rule 20.8(a-*bis*), the receiving Office shall:

(i) subject to subparagraph (ii), transmit the international application to the International Bureau as receiving Office;

(ii) if the applicant does not authorize the transmittal of the international application under Rule 19.4(a)(iii) or does not pay the required fee within the applicable time limit, proceed in accordance with Section 333(c) and apply the procedure provided in paragraph (f) *mutatis mutandis* as if the notice under Rule 20.6(a) were a correction furnished under Rule 20.5*bis*(b) or (c), as the case may be.

Section 310
Procedure in the Case of Later Submitted Sheets
Not Furnished for the Purposes of Incorporation by Reference

(a) This Section applies to later submitted sheets which do not accompany a notice confirming under Rule 20.6 that an element or part embodied in those sheets was incorporated by reference.

(b) Where later submitted sheets as referred to in paragraph (a) are received within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7 and where the international filing date is to be accorded under Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b) or 20.5*bis*(b), or corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5*bis*(c), the receiving Office shall, subject to Section 310*bis*:

(i) accord the international filing date in accordance with Rule 20.3(b)(i), 20.5(b) or 20.5*bis*(b), or effect the required correction of the international filing date in accordance with Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5*bis*(c), as the case may be;

(ii) notify the applicant of the correction or the according of the international filing date effected under item (i);

(iii) keep in its files a copy of the later submitted sheets;

(iv) where the later submitted sheets are furnished under Rule 20.5*bis* to replace any erroneously filed sheets, remove the erroneously filed sheets from the international application and notify the applicant accordingly, and keep a copy of the removed sheets in the file;

(v) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have already been made, notify the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority accordingly and transmit a copy of the corrected first and last sheets of the request and the later submitted sheets to the said Bureau and a copy thereof to the said Authority; and

(vi) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have not yet been made, attach the later submitted sheets to the record copy and a copy thereof to the search copy.

(c) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7 but the purported international application still does not fulfill the requirements of Article 11(1), the receiving Office shall proceed as provided in Rule 20.4.

(d) Where later submitted sheets referred to in paragraph (a) are received after the expiration of the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7, the receiving Office shall proceed as provided in Section 310*ter*.

Section 310bis
Procedure in the Case of Later Submitted Sheets
Resulting in the Correction of the International Filing Date under
Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c)

(a) Where, following the receipt of later submitted sheets referred to in Sections 309(a) or 310(a) within the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7, the international filing date has been corrected under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c), the receiving Office shall, in addition to proceeding under Section 309(c)(i) to (iii), or 310(b)(i) to (iii), as the case may be:

(i) draw the attention of the applicant to the procedure available under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e), as the case may be;

(ii) proceed under Section 309(c)(iv) to (vi), or 310(b)(iv) to (vi), as the case may be, but only after the expiration of the time limit under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e) and only where the applicant has not made a request under that Rule.

(b) Where the applicant requests within the time limit under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e) that the missing part or the correct element or part concerned be disregarded, the receiving Office shall:

(i) restore the international filing date to that which had applied prior to its correction under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c);

(ii) indelibly mark, in the middle of the bottom margin of each sheet containing the missing part concerned, the words “NOT TO BE CONSIDERED (RULE 20.5(e))”, or in the middle of the bottom margin of each sheet embodying the correct element or part concerned, the words “NOT TO BE CONSIDERED (RULE 20.5bis(e))”, as the case may be, or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application;

(iii) notify the applicant that the missing part or the correct element or part is considered not to have been furnished and that the international filing date has been restored to that which had applied prior to its correction under Rule 20.5(c) or 20.5bis(c);

(iv) keep in its files a copy of the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii) and of the request made under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e);

(v) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have already been made, notify the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority accordingly, and transmit the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii), the notice under Rule 20.6(a) and the request made under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e) to the said Bureau and a copy thereof to the said Authority;

(vi) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have not yet been made, notify the International Bureau accordingly and attach the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii), the notice under Rule 20.6(a) and the request under Rule 20.5(e) or 20.5bis(e) to the record copy.

Section 310ter
Procedure in the Case of Later Submitted Sheets
Furnished after the Expiration of the Applicable Time Limit Referred to in
Rule 20.7

Where later submitted sheets referred to in Sections 309(a) or 310(a) are received after the expiration of the applicable time limit referred to in Rule 20.7, the receiving Office shall:

(i) notify the applicant of the fact and of the date of receipt of the later submitted sheets, and of the fact that they will not be considered for the PCT procedure;

(ii) indelibly mark, in the middle of the bottom margin of each sheet containing the missing or correct element or part concerned, the words “NOT TO BE CONSIDERED (RULE 20.7)”, or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application;

(iii) keep in its files a copy of the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii) and, where applicable, of the notice under Rule 20.6(a);

(iv) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have already been made, notify the International Bureau accordingly, and transmit the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii) and, where applicable, the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the said Bureau;

(v) where transmittals under Article 12(1) have not yet been made, notify the International Bureau accordingly, and attach the later submitted sheets marked under item (ii) and, where applicable, the notice under Rule 20.6(a) to the record copy.

Section 311
Renumbering in the Case of Deletion, Substitution or Addition
of Sheets of the International Application and of the Translation Thereof

(a) The receiving Office shall, subject to Section 207, sequentially renumber the sheets of the international application when necessitated by the addition of any new sheet, the deletion of entire sheets, a change in the order of the sheets or any other reason.

(b) The sheets of the international application shall be provisionally renumbered in the following manner:

(i) subject to paragraph (iii), when a sheet is deleted, the receiving Office shall either include a blank sheet with the same number and with the word “DELETED,” or its equivalent in the language of publication of the international application, below the number, or insert, in brackets, below the number of the following sheet, the number of the deleted sheet with the word “DELETED” or its equivalent in the language of publication of the international application;

(ii) when one or more sheets are added, each sheet shall be identified by the number of the preceding sheet followed by a slant and then by another Arabic numeral such that the additional sheets are numbered consecutively, starting always with number one for the first sheet added after an unchanged sheet (e.g., 10/1, 15/1, 15/2, 15/3, etc.); when later additions of sheets to an existing series of added sheets are necessary, an extra numeral shall be used for identifying the further additions (e.g., 15/1, 15/1/1, 15/1/2, 15/2, etc.).

(iii) where a correct element or part furnished under Rule 20.5*bis* to correct an erroneously filed element or part is added to the international application, the sheets of the correct element or part shall be numbered without taking into account the sheets of the erroneously filed element or part, and no action referred to in paragraph (i) need be taken with respect to the sheets of the erroneously filed element or part, either when they are removed from the international application under Section 309(c)(iv) or 310(b)(iv), or when they are moved to the end of the corresponding element of the international application under Section 309(b)(iv).

(c) In the cases mentioned in paragraph (b), it is recommended that the receiving Office should write, below the number of the last sheet, the total number of the sheets of the international application followed by the words "TOTAL OF SHEETS" or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application. It is further recommended that, at the bottom of any last sheet added, the words "LAST ADDED SHEET" or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application should be inserted.

(d) Paragraphs (a) to (c) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any translation of the international application furnished under Rule 12.3 or 12.4.

Section 317*bis*
Transmittal of a Notice of Correction or Addition
of an indication under Rule 26*quater*.1

If a notice under Rule 26*quater*.1 is submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office, that Office shall mark the date of receipt on the notice and transmit it promptly to the International Bureau. The notice shall be considered to have been received by the International Bureau on the date marked.

PART 4
INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

Section 410
Numbering of Sheets for the Purposes of International Publication;
Procedure in Case of Missing or Erroneously Filed Sheets

(a) In the course of preparing the international application for international publication, the International Bureau shall sequentially renumber the sheets to be published only when necessitated by the addition of any new sheet, the deletion of entire sheets or a change in the order of the sheets. Otherwise, the numbering provided under Section 207 shall be maintained.

(b) Where a sheet has not been filed or is not to be taken into consideration for the purposes of international processing under Section 310*bis* or 310*ter*, the International Bureau shall include an indication to that effect in the published international application.

(c) Where the receiving Office fails to correct the numbering of the sheets in accordance with Section 311(b)(iii), the International Bureau shall number the sheets accordingly.

Section 413

Incorporations by Reference under Rule 20.6, Corrections of Defects under Rule 26.4 and Rectifications of Obvious Mistakes under Rule 91

(a) Where the International Bureau receives from the receiving Office a letter containing a correction of any defects under Rule 26.4, or a replacement sheet and the letter accompanying it, the International Bureau shall transfer the correction to the record copy, together with the indication of the date on which the receiving Office received the letter, or shall insert the replacement sheet in the record copy. Any letter and any replaced sheet shall be kept in the file of the international application.

(b) Paragraph (a) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to rectifications of obvious mistakes under Rule 91 authorized by the receiving Office, by the International Searching Authority or, where a demand has been made, by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

(b-bis) Where the International Bureau receives from the receiving Office, under Sections 309(c)(v), 310(b)(v), or 310bis(b)(v), corrected sheets of the request or later submitted sheets, the International Bureau shall transfer any correction to the record copy and insert any later submitted sheets in the record copy.

(c) Where the International Bureau is notified by the International Searching Authority under Rule 43.6bis(b) that the rectification of an obvious mistake authorized under Rule 91 has not been taken into account for the purposes of the international search, the International Bureau shall notify the designated Offices and, where a demand has been made, the International Preliminary Examining Authority accordingly.

(d) Where the International Bureau is notified by the International Preliminary Examining Authority under Rule 70.2(e) that the rectification of an obvious mistake authorized under Rule 91 has not been taken into account for the purposes of the international preliminary examination, the International Bureau shall notify the elected Offices accordingly.

Section 419bis

Processing of Corrections or Additions under Rule 26quater

(a) Where any indication referred to in Rule 4.11, or any correction thereof under Rule 26quater.1, is submitted to the International Bureau within the time limit under Rule 26quater.1, the International Bureau shall enter the correction or addition in the request, draw a line through, while still leaving legible, any indication deleted as a result of the correction, and enter, in the margin, the letters "IB".

(b) The International Bureau shall promptly notify the applicant of any indication corrected or added under Rule 26quater.1.

(c) Where any indication referred to in Rule 4.11, or any correction thereof under Rule 26quater.1, is submitted to the International Bureau after the expiration of the time limit under Rule 26quater.1, the International Bureau shall notify the applicant accordingly and inform the applicant that such an indication or correction should be submitted directly to the designated Office or Offices concerned.

Section 420bis
Communication of Other Documents to Elected Offices

The International Bureau shall communicate the documents received from the International Preliminary Examining Authority under Rule 71.1(b) to each elected Office, at the same time as it effects the communication provided for in Article 36(3)(a) in accordance with Rule 73.2.

PART 6
INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO THE
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

Section 602bis
Transmittal of Other Documents to the International Bureau under Rule 71.1(b)

(a) The International Preliminary Examining Authority shall transmit a copy of the following documents to the International Bureau under Rule 71.1(b):

(i) any written opinion issued by the International Preliminary Examining Authority;

(ii) any replacement sheet containing amendments under Article 34 and any letter accompanying the amendments, including any such amendments and letters that have been superseded;

(iii) any letter containing arguments that the applicant submitted to the International Preliminary Examining Authority under Rule 66.3;

(iv) any invitation to restrict the claims or pay additional fees issued by the International Preliminary Examining Authority; and

(v) any protest against the invitation to restrict the claims or pay additional fees and the decision thereon, regardless of whether or not the applicant has so requested in accordance with Rule 68.3(c).

The International Preliminary Examining Authority may transmit to the International Bureau a copy of any other document in its file.

(b) The International Preliminary Examining Authority may transmit the documents referred to in paragraph (a) to the International Bureau at any time after they have become available, but generally not later than at the time of transmitting a copy of the international preliminary examination report to that Bureau.

(c) Any International Preliminary Examining Authority may decide to postpone the application of paragraphs (a) and (b) until such time as it is technically prepared to do so.

ANNEX C
STANDARD FOR THE PRESENTATION
OF NUCLEOTIDE AND AMINO ACID SEQUENCE LISTINGS
IN INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS UNDER THE PCT

INTRODUCTION

1. This Standard has been elaborated so as to provide standardization of the presentation of nucleotide and amino acid sequence listings in international patent applications. The Standard is intended to allow the applicant to draw up a single sequence listing which is acceptable to all receiving Offices, International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities for the purposes of the international phase, and to all designated and elected Offices for the purposes of the national phase. It is intended to enhance the accuracy and quality of presentations of nucleotide and amino acid sequences given in international applications, to make for easier presentation and dissemination of sequences for the benefit of applicants, the public and examiners, to facilitate searching of sequence data and to allow the exchange of sequence data in electronic form and the introduction of sequence data onto computerized databases.

DEFINITIONS

2. For the purposes of this Standard:

(i) the expression “sequence listing” means a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing which gives a detailed disclosure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences and other available information;

(i-*bis*) the expression “sequence listing forming part of the international application” means a sequence listing contained in the international application as filed (as referred to in paragraph 3), including any sequence listing or part thereof which is included in the international application under Rule 20.5(b) or (c), or 20.5*bis*(b) or (c), which is considered to have been contained in the international application under Rule 20.6(b), or which has been corrected under Rule 26, rectified under Rule 91 or amended under Article 34(2); or a sequence listing included in the international application by way of an amendment under Article 34(2)(b) of the description in relation to sequences contained in the international application as filed (as referred to in paragraphs 3*bis* and 3*ter*);

(i-*ter*) the expression “sequence listing not forming part of the international application” means a sequence listing which does not form part of the international application but is furnished for the purposes of the international search or international preliminary examination (as referred to in paragraphs 4 and 4*bis*);

(ii) sequences which are included are any unbranched sequences of four or more amino acids or unbranched sequences of ten or more nucleotides. Branched sequences, sequences with fewer than four specifically defined nucleotides or amino acids as well as sequences comprising nucleotides or amino acids other than those listed in Appendix 2, Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4, are specifically excluded from this definition;

(iii) “nucleotides” embrace only those nucleotides that can be represented using the symbols set forth in Appendix 2, Table 1. Modifications, for example, methylated bases, may be described as set forth in Appendix 2, Table 2, but shall not be shown explicitly in the nucleotide sequence;

(iv) “amino acids” are those L-amino acids commonly found in naturally occurring proteins and are listed in Appendix 2, Table 3. Those amino acid sequences containing at least one D-amino acid are not intended to be embraced by this definition. Any amino acid sequence that contains post-translationally modified amino acids may be described as the amino acid sequence that is initially translated using the symbols shown in Appendix 2, Table 3, with the modified positions, for example, hydroxylations or glycosylations, being described as set forth in Appendix 2, Table 4, but these modifications shall not be shown explicitly in the amino acid sequence. Any peptide or protein that can be expressed as a sequence using the symbols in Appendix 2, Table 3, in conjunction with a description elsewhere to describe, for example, abnormal linkages, cross-links (for example, disulfide bridge) and end caps, non-peptidyl bonds, etc., is embraced by this definition;

(v) “sequence identifier” is a unique integer that corresponds to the SEQ ID NO assigned to each sequence in the listing;

(vi) “numeric identifier” is a three-digit number which represents a specific data element;

(vii) “language-neutral vocabulary” is a controlled vocabulary used in the sequence listing that represents scientific terms as prescribed by sequence database providers (including scientific names, qualifiers and their controlled-vocabulary values, the symbols appearing in Appendix 2, Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4, and the feature keys appearing in Appendix 2, Tables 5 and 6);

(viii) “competent Authority” is the International Searching Authority that is to carry out the international search and to establish the written opinion of the International Searching Authority on the international application, or the International Preliminary Examining Authority that is to carry out the international preliminary examination on the international application.

3. to 42. [No change]

Appendices 1, 2 and 3 [No change]

ANNEX D
INFORMATION FROM FRONT PAGE OF PUBLISHED INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE GAZETTE UNDER RULE 86.1(i)

The following information shall be extracted from the front page of the publication of the international publication for each published international application and shall, in accordance with Rule 86.1(i), appear in the corresponding entry of the Gazette:

1. as to the international publication:
 - 1.1 the international publication number
 - 1.2 the date of the international publication
 - 1.3 an indication whether the following items were published in the published international application:
 - 1.31 international search report
 - 1.32 declaration under Article 17(2)
 - 1.33 claims amended under Article 19(1)
 - 1.34 statement under Article 19(1)
 - 1.35 information concerning the removal of an erroneously filed element or part under Rule 20.5*bis*(b) or (c)
 - 1.36 request for rectification under the first sentence of Rule 91.3(d)
 - 1.37 information concerning the incorporation by reference of a missing element or part or a correct element or part as referred to in Rule 48.2(b)(v)
 - 1.38 information concerning a priority claim under Rule 26*bis*.2(d)
 - 1.39 information concerning a request under Rule 26*bis*.3 for restoration of the right of priority
 - 1.4 the language in which the international application was filed
 - 1.5 the language of publication of the international application
2. to 8. [No change]

ANNEX E
INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE
UNDER RULE 86.1(v)

1. The time limits applicable under Articles 22 and 39 in respect of each Contracting State.
2. The list of the non-patent literature agreed upon by the International Searching Authorities for inclusion in the minimum documentation.
3. The names of the national Offices which do not wish to receive copies under Article 13(2)(c).
4. The provisions of the national laws of Contracting States concerning international-type search.
5. The text of the agreements entered into between the International Bureau and the International Searching Authorities or the International Preliminary Examining Authorities.
6. The names of the national Offices which entirely or in part waived their rights to any communication under Article 20.
7. The names of the Contracting States which are bound by Chapter II of the PCT.
8. Index of concordance of international application numbers and international publication numbers, listed according to international application numbers.
9. Index of applicants' names giving, for each name, the corresponding international publication number(s).
10. Index of international publication numbers, grouped according to the International Patent Classification symbols.
11. Indication of any subject matter that will not be searched or examined by the various International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities under Rules 39 and 67.
12. Requirements of designated and elected Offices under Rules 49.5 and 76.5 in relation to the furnishing of translations.
13. The dates defining the period referred to in Rule 32.1(b) during which the international application, whose effects may be extended to a successor State under Rule 32.1, must have been filed.
14. The criteria for restoration of the right of priority applied by receiving Offices under Rule 26*bis*.3 or designated Offices under Rule 49*ter*.2, and any subsequent changes in that respect.
15. Information about the receiving Offices, the International Bureau and the International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities which provide for the excuse of delays in meeting time limits under Rule 82*quater*.2.

ANNEX G
NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT AND TRANSFER OF FEES

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Rules 96.2(b) and 96.2(c) and Section 114 of the PCT Administrative Instructions, the notification of receipt of fees and the transfer of fees collected by one Office for the benefit of another Office shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions set out in this Annex.
2. For the purposes of this Annex, the term “Office” has the same definition as in Rule 96.2(a).

II. AGREEMENTS AND TIMETABLES

II.1 AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WIPO FEE TRANSFER SERVICE

3. An Office (“participating Office”) may agree with the International Bureau to participate in the WIPO process for exchanging fees via the International Bureau (“WIPO Fee Transfer Service”) for PCT purposes by:

(a) transferring some or all fees collected by it for the benefit of another participating Office to that other participating Office via the International Bureau in accordance with the provisions set out in this Annex; and

(b) having some or all fees collected by another participating Office for its benefit transferred to it via the International Bureau in accordance with the provisions set out in this Annex.

4. Where a collecting Office and the corresponding beneficiary Office have agreed to participate in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service, the transfer of

(a) international filing fees under Rule 15.2(c) or (d) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of the International Bureau;

(b) search fees under Rule 16.1(c) or (d) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of a participating Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority;

(c) supplementary search fees under Rule 45*bis*.3(b) collected by the International Bureau for the benefit of a participating Office in its capacity as an Authority specified for supplementary search;

(d) handling fees under Rule 57.2(c) or (d) collected by an International Preliminary Examining Authority for the benefit of the International Bureau; and

(e) differences under Rule 16.1(e) relating to search fees received by the Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority in a currency other than its fixed currency;

from the collecting office to the International Bureau for further transfer to the beneficiary Office shall be considered to be the transfer of said fee in accordance with Rule 15.2(c) or (d), Rule 16.1(c) or (d), Rule 45*bis*.3(b), Rule 57.2(c) or (d), or Rule 16.1(e), as applicable and shall not be considered a payment by the collecting office to a third party. The transfer shall be carried out promptly in accordance with a timetable for such transfers agreed between the Offices concerned and/or the International Bureau. The Office carrying out the transfer (including, where applicable, the International Bureau) shall bear all bank charges for the transfer of the fees.

5. A participating Office, in its capacity as an International Searching Authority, may agree with the International Bureau that some or all of the transfers of fees by it under paragraph 3(a) and the transfer of fees to it under paragraph 3(b) shall be subject to netting in accordance with the provisions set out in this Annex (“fee transfer subject to netting”).

6. The agreement shall specify the formats referred to in paragraphs 10 and 14, below, in which notifications of fee payments and lists of fees to be transferred shall be exchanged.

7. The International Bureau shall publish a list of the PCT fee transfers that are part of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service for each participating Office in the PCT Gazette.

II.2 COMMON TIMETABLE FOR FEE LISTS AND FEE TRANSFERS

8. The International Bureau shall, following consultation with participating Offices and taking into account dates when Offices are closed or bank transfers may not be possible, annually establish a timetable (“the common timetable”) specifying the latest dates each month by which lists should be established under paragraphs 13 and 14, below, and transfer of fees made to and from the International Bureau under paragraphs 19 to 23, below. The timetable and any subsequently required modifications shall be transmitted to each participating Office and published in the PCT Gazette.

III. NOTIFICATION AND TRANSFER OF FEES VIA THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

III.1 NOTIFICATION OF THE RECEIPT OF FEES

Notification to the International Bureau by a Collecting Office

9. In accordance with Rule 96.2(b), a collecting Office shall promptly notify the International Bureau of each fee received in full by the Office for the benefit of the International Bureau or to be transferred to a beneficiary Office via the International Bureau. It shall preferably also promptly notify the International Bureau of other fees received, whether for the benefit of itself or of other beneficiary Offices in their role as receiving Office, International Searching Authority, Authority specified for supplementary search or International Preliminary Examining Authority.

10. A notification of a fee received by a collecting Office according to paragraph 9 shall be made to the International Bureau in a format agreed between the collecting Office and the International Bureau. The notification shall contain sufficient information to make clear the relevant international application and the type of fee paid and shall preferably be made using XML conforming to a DTD published for the purpose in Appendix I to Annex F.

11. In the case where an overpayment has been received, the fee shall be promptly notified as having been paid in the proper amount, without waiting for any refunds to be made.

Notification to the Beneficiary Office by the International Bureau

12. Where a notification under Rule 96.2(b) relates to a fee for a beneficiary Office other than the International Bureau, the International Bureau shall promptly inform the Office concerned. Where the search copy is transmitted to the International Searching Authority by the International Bureau on behalf of the receiving Office, information that the search fee has been paid may take the form of the transmission of the search copy and, where necessary, be delayed until the other requirements for such transmission have been met.

III.2 TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU CONCERNING MONTHLY OR OTHER PERIODIC FEE TRANSFERS

Transmission of fee transfer information by the Collecting Office

13. A participating collecting Office shall establish and transmit to the International Bureau, in accordance with the common timetable, a list of:

(a) the fees collected by that Office in the course of the preceding month or other agreed interval, which are to be paid to the International Bureau or to be transferred via the International Bureau for the benefit of another Office; and

(b) corrections and omissions relating to fees transferred, or which should have been transferred, in previous months.

14. The list shall be in a format agreed between the collecting Office and the International Bureau. The list shall contain sufficient information to validate the amounts to be transferred and shall preferably be made using XML conforming to the DTD published for the purpose in Appendix I of Annex F.

Differences in Fees Received by International Searching Authorities from Non-Participating Offices

15. Any participating International Searching Authority that receives search fees directly from receiving Offices in a prescribed currency different from the fixed currency shall, at agreed intervals, establish and transmit to the International Bureau a list of the amounts of fees received in the prescribed and fixed currencies in a format agreed between the Authority and the International Bureau, sufficient to determine the difference due to the International Bureau or to the International Searching Authority in accordance with Rule 16.1(e).

16. The Authority shall also submit documentation agreed with the International Bureau showing the amounts transferred in the prescribed currency, the date, the exchange rate applied and the amount received in the fixed currency.

III.3 CHECKING OF FEE INFORMATION RECEIVED

17. The International Bureau shall check the fee information received in accordance with paragraphs 9, 13 and 15 against the information it holds in its databases with regard to the international applications concerned and confirm to that Office that the information it has received is consistent. In case of differences that require reconciliation, the International Bureau shall contact the participating Office. Where possible, any required corrections shall be made to the relevant notifications and lists in time to be reflected in the transmission of fees in the month following their receipt by the collecting Office.

III.4 CORRECTION OF ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

18. Any errors or omissions discovered in the information transmitted concerning fees collected by one Office for the benefit of another to be transferred through the WIPO Fee Transfer Service shall be notified promptly to the International Bureau. The International Bureau shall promptly inform any other Office to which the erroneous information has been transmitted, including notifying the beneficiary Office of any corrections required to amounts that have already been transferred to that Office. Where the error is discovered too late to correct the lists on which the transfers of fees are based during the same month, the correction shall be included in the lists and transfers to be made the following month.

III.5 CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS TO BE TRANSFERRED VIA THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU; TRANSFER OF FEES VIA THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

III.5.1 Fee Transfers to the International Bureau Not Subject to Netting

19. Where a fee transfer referred to in paragraph 3, above, is not subject to netting, the collecting Office shall transfer the amount indicated in the list transmitted according to paragraph 13, above, no later than the date set in the common timetable for the purpose. The collecting Office shall bear all bank charges, if any, for this transfer.

III.5.2 Fee Transfers from the International Bureau Not Subject to Netting

20. Where a fee transfer referred to in paragraph 3, above, is not subject to netting, the International Bureau shall transmit a list of the fees to be transferred to the beneficiary Office and transfer the total amount indicated in that list no later than the dates set in the common timetable for those purposes. The International Bureau shall bear all bank charges, if any, for this transfer.

III.5.3 Fee Transfers Subject to Netting

21. Where the agreement between a participating Office and the International Bureau has specified under paragraph 5, above, that fee transfer shall be subject to netting, the International Bureau shall establish and transmit each month, to that participating Office (“netting office”), no later than the date set in the common timetable, a netting statement comprising:

- (i) a list of the fees collected by other Offices for the benefit of the netting Office;
- (ii) a list of the fees collected by the netting Office for the benefit of other Offices; and
- (iii) an indication of the net amount in favor of the netting Office or of the International Bureau.

22. Where the net amount indicated on a netting statement is in favor of the participating Office, the International Bureau shall transfer the net amount to the netting Office no later than the date set in the common timetable. The International Bureau shall bear all bank charges, if any, for this transfer.

23. Where the net amount indicated on a netting statement is in favor of the International Bureau, the netting Office shall transfer the net amount to the International Bureau, no later than the date set in the common timetable. The participating Office shall bear all bank charges, if any, for this transfer.

III.5.4 Transfer of Fees Not Included in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service

24. Any fee transfer between a collecting Office and a beneficiary Office that is not included in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service, despite one or other Office being a participating Office, shall be carried out in accordance with paragraph 25, below.

IV. TRANSFER OF FEES BY OR TO OFFICES NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE WIPO FEE TRANSFER SERVICE

25. Where either a collecting Office or the corresponding beneficiary Office has not agreed to participate in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service (“non-participating Office”), the transfer, where applicable, of:

(a) international filing fees under Rule 15.2(c) or (d) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of the International Bureau;

(b) search fees under Rule 16.1(c) or (d) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of a non-participating Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority;

(c) supplementary search fees under Rule 45*bis*.3(b) collected by the International Bureau for the benefit of the non-participating Office in its capacity as an Authority specified for supplementary search;

(d) handling fees under Rule 57.2(c) or (d) collected by the Office in its capacity as an International Preliminary Examining Authority for the benefit of the International Bureau; and

(e) differences under Rule 16.1(e) relating to search fees received by the Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority;

shall be carried out promptly in accordance with Rule 15.2(c) or (d), Rule 16.1(c) or (d), Rule 45*bis*.3(b), Rule 57.2(c) or (d), or Rule 16.1(e), as applicable, preferably in accordance with a monthly time table for such transfers agreed between the Offices concerned and/or the International Bureau. The Office carrying out the transfer shall bear all bank charges, if any, for the transfer of the fees referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) and, where the difference belongs to the International Bureau, paragraph (e), whereas the International Bureau shall bear all bank charges, if any, for the transfer of the fees referred to in paragraph (c) and, where the difference belongs to the Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority, paragraph (e).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES

JP Japan

Agreement between the Japan Patent Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization² – Amendment to Annex A

The **Japan Patent Office (JPO)** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(i) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Annex A(ii) thereof. These amendments, which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, consist of changes concerning the languages it will accept for international applications filed with various receiving Offices, or with an Office or the International Bureau acting for various receiving Offices.

As from 1 July 2020, Annex A will read as follows:

Annex A States and Languages

Under Article 3 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies:

- (i) [No change]
- (ii) the following languages which it will accept:
 - (a) for international applications filed with the receiving Office of Japan:
Japanese, English;
 - (b) for international applications filed with the receiving Office of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam:
English;
 - (c) for international applications filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, the Republic of Korea:
Japanese;
 - (d) for international applications filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office acting for Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam:
Japanese, English.

² Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_jp.pdf.

KR Republic of Korea

Agreement between the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization³ – Amendment to Annexes A and D

The **Korean Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(i) and (iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of an amendment to Annexes A and D thereof. These amendments, which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, consist of the addition of the **Lao People's Democratic Republic** to the States indicated in item (i) of Annex A and in item (4) of Part II of Annex D.

As from 1 July 2020, Annexes A and D will read as follows:

**Annex A
States and Languages**

Under Article 3 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies:

(i) the following States for which it will act:

so far as Article 3(1) is concerned:

Republic of Korea, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United States of America and Viet Nam;

so far as Article 3(2) is concerned:

Republic of Korea, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United States of America and Viet Nam.

Where a receiving Office specifies the International Authority under Articles 3(1) and (2), the International Authority shall become competent for international applications filed at that receiving Office from a date to be agreed by the receiving Office and International Authority and to be notified to the International Bureau.

(ii) [No change]

³ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_kr.pdf.

Annex D Fees and Charges

Part I. Schedule of fees and charges

[No change]

Part II. Conditions for and Extent of Refunds or Reductions of Fees

(1) to (3) [No change]

(4) Where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant, is a national of, and has a residence or business domicile in, one of the following States, the amount of the search fee to be paid is reduced by 75%: Cambodia, Colombia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam.

(5) to (6) [No change]

RECEIVING OFFICES

LA Lao People's Democratic Republic
IB International Bureau of WIPO

The **Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Science and Technology (Lao People's Democratic Republic)** has specified the Korean Intellectual Property Office – in addition to the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), European Patent Office (EPO), and Japan Patent Office (JPO) – as competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the International Bureau of WIPO (in its capacity as receiving Office) by nationals and residents of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, with effect from 1 July 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(IB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater}.2: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES UNDER SECTION 111(c) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, Rule 82^{quater}.2⁴ of the PCT Regulations concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office. This new rule will enter into force on 1 July 2020.

As a result of the adoption of Rule 82^{quater}.2, Section 111 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT is amended, also from 1 July 2020, so as to require any Office providing for the excuse of delays under Rule 82^{quater}.2 to notify the International Bureau of the existence of such provisions, so that the International Bureau can publish the information in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) and make applicants aware of the availability of potential remedies.

SE Sweden

In accordance with Section 111(c) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, which will enter into force on 1 July 2020, the **Swedish Patent and Registration Office** has notified the International Bureau that pursuant to PCT Rule 82^{quater}.2, it will excuse a delay in meeting a time limit fixed in the PCT Regulations for performing an action before it that is caused by the unavailability of permitted electronic means of communications at that Office, provided that the duration of such unavailability is at least 24 hours and that the respective action is performed on the next working day on which the said electronic means of communication became available.

⁴ Available on the WIPO website at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/>

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

2 July 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

AT Austria

The **Austrian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) – since 1 January 2020, the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax.

[Updating of Annex B1(AT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)**, **Singapore dollars (SGD)** and **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are EUR 1,337, SGD 2,102 and USD 1,507, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

NO Norway

New equivalent amounts in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	NOK	13,450
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	NOK	150
Reductions (under PCT Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request in character-coded format):	NOK	2,020
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract in character-coded format):	NOK	3,030

[Updating of Annex C(NO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are ZAR 35,920 for an entity other than a small or micro entity, ZAR 17,960 for a small entity and ZAR 8,980 for a micro entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

IT Italy

Further to the notification by the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** of the adoption in Italy of Ministerial Decree 13/11/2019, pursuant to which any designation of Italy in an international application filed on or after 1 July 2020 shall constitute an indication that the international application is for the grant of a regional (European) patent and also a national patent in Italy, under PCT Rule 4.9(iii) (refer to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 30 April 2020, page 82), information on the requirements of the Office as designated (or elected) Office is provided in the Summary of the National Chapter (IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, as set out at the end of this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette).

SUMMARY

**Designated
(or elected) Office**

SUMMARY

IT ITALIAN PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IT

Summary of requirements for entry into the national phase

Time limits applicable for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22(1): 30 months from the priority date Under PCT Article 39(1)(a): 30 months from the priority date																																								
Translation of international application required into: ¹	Italian																																								
Required contents of the translation for entry into the national phase:	Under PCT Article 22: Description, claims (if amended, both as originally filed and as amended, together with any statement under PCT Article 19), any text matter of drawings, abstract Under PCT Article 39(1): Description, claims, any text matter of drawings, abstract (if any of those parts has been amended, both as originally filed and as amended by the annexes to the international preliminary examination report)																																								
Is a copy of the international application required?	No																																								
National fee:	Currency: Euro (EUR) <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: right;"><i>Online</i></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: right;"><i>On paper</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>For patent:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Filing fee:²</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">— application with up to 10 pages</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">120</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">— application with 11 to 20 pages</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">160</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">— application with 21 to 50 pages</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">400</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">— application more than 50 pages</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">600</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">— for each claim exceeding 10</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For utility model:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Filing fee:</td> <td>EUR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">120</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<i>Online</i>	<i>On paper</i>	For patent:				Filing fee: ²				— application with up to 10 pages	EUR	50	120	— application with 11 to 20 pages	EUR	50	160	— application with 21 to 50 pages	EUR	50	400	— application more than 50 pages	EUR	50	600	— for each claim exceeding 10	EUR	45	45	For utility model:				Filing fee:	EUR	50	120
		<i>Online</i>	<i>On paper</i>																																						
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— for each claim exceeding 10	EUR	45	45																																						
For utility model:																																									
Filing fee:	EUR	50	120																																						
Exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee:	No filing fee is payable if the application is filed by universities, public research institutions, defense or agricultural, food or forestry policies administrations																																								
Special requirements of the Office (PCT Rule 51bis):	Name of the inventor if it has not been furnished in the “Request” part of the international application ³ Instrument of assignment of the priority right where the applicants are not identical ³ Address for service in the European Union or European Economic Area is necessary (but no representation by an agent is required) Furnishing, where applicable, of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in electronic form																																								

[Continued on next page]

¹ Must be furnished within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1) or at the latest within two months from entry into the national phase. This deadline cannot be extended.

² The filing fee for entry into the national phase is calculated on the basis of the number of claims of the international application as amended (Ministerial Decree of 13 November 2019, Art. 2(1)).

³ This requirement may be satisfied if the corresponding declaration has been made in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17.

SUMMARY

**Designated
(or elected) Office**

SUMMARY

IT ITALIAN PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IT

[Continued]

Who can act as agent?⁴

Any patent attorney recorded in the official register established by the Board of the Industrial Property Consultants Institute⁵

Citizens of the European Union qualified to practice as patent attorney in another member State, on a temporary basis, pursuant to the procedure under the legislative Decree No. 206/2007

Any Italian lawyer or attorney-at-law whose name appears in the pertinent professional roll or any law firm employing such a lawyer or attorney-at-law⁶

Does the Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49^{ter}.2)?

Yes, the Office applies the “due care” and “unintentional” criteria to such requests.

⁴ An agent, if any, must be appointed by filing a power of attorney, and payment of a special tax (*imposta di bollo*) is required. For further details, refer to Annex IT.I.

⁵ The list of patent attorneys can be obtained from the Ordine dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale (Board of the Industrial Property Consultants Institute (<https://www.ordine-brevetti.it>)).

⁶ For further details, refer to <https://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it>.

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES

SG Singapore

Agreement between the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex A

The **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(i) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of an amendment to Annex A(i) thereof. This amendment, which entered into force on 7 July 2020, consists of the addition of the **Lao People's Democratic Republic** to the States indicated in item (i) of the Annex.

As from 7 July 2020, the amended Annex A reads as follows:

Annex A States and Languages

Under Article 3 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies:

(i) the following States for which it will act:

so far as Article 3(1) is concerned:

Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America, Viet Nam;

so far as Article 3(2) is concerned:

where the Authority has prepared the international search report,

Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America, Viet Nam.

Where a receiving Office specifies the International Authority under Articles 3(1) and (2), the International Authority shall become competent for international applications filed at that receiving Office from a date to be agreed by the receiving Office and International Authority and to be notified to the International Bureau.

(ii) [No change]

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_sg.pdf

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

IT Italy

The **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of the types of national protection available via the PCT where Italy is designated (or elected) – for international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020, protection by patent and utility model is available (a utility model may be sought instead of a national patent).

Furthermore, the Office specified its requirements concerning provisional protection after international publication, where a designation is made for the purposes of a national patent, as follows:

An international application designating Italy which has been published under PCT Article 21 confers provisional protection, as provided for in Article 55 c.1-*bis* of the Italian Industrial Property Code, as from the date on which the owner of the application made available to the public, through the Italian Patent and Trademark Office, a translation of the application into Italian language, or from the date on which the owner of the application notified the alleged infringer directly of the translation.

Finally, the Office also specified its requirements concerning the time when the name and address of the inventor must be provided if Italy is designated (or elected), as follows:

The name and address of the inventor may be in the request or may be furnished later. If the data concerning the inventor are missing at the expiration of the time limit under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

[Updating of Annex B1(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

HU Hungary

New equivalent amounts in **Hungarian forints (HUF)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	HUF	432,700
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	HUF	4,900
Reductions (under PCT Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	HUF	65,100
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	HUF	97,600

[Updating of Annex C(HU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IT Italy

The **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of the fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)). This amount, a stamp fee (*imposta di bollo*) applicable for international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020, is EUR 15 when filing online and EUR 16 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are USD 123 for searches carried out in Russian, and USD 578 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

IT Italy

The **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the international Bureau of changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before it, which are now as follows:

- Any patent attorney recorded in the official register established by the Board of the Industrial Property Consultants Institute. (The list of patent attorneys can be obtained from the *Ordine dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale* (Board of the Industrial Property Consultants Institute), available at: <https://www.ordine-brevetti.it>);
- Citizens of the European Union qualified to practice as patent attorney in another member State, on a temporary basis, pursuant to the procedure under the legislative Decree No. 206/2007; and
- Any Italian lawyer or attorney-at-law whose name appears in the respective professional roll or any law firm employing such a lawyer or attorney-at-law (for further details, refer to <https://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it>).

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

LA Lao People's Democratic Republic

IB International Bureau of WIPO

The **Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Science and Technology (Lao People's Democratic Republic)** has specified the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore – in addition to the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), European Patent Office (EPO), Japan Patent Office (JPO), and Korean Intellectual Property Office – as competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the International Bureau of WIPO (in its capacity as receiving Office) by nationals and residents of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on or after 7 July 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(IB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

AP African Regional Intellectual Property Organization

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)** in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form with effect from **1 October 2020**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (263-242) 79 40 54
(263-242) 79 40 65
(263-242) 79 40 68
- by e-mail at: registry@aripo.org

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software.

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (<https://www.aripo.org/>).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(AP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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16 July 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

LA Lao People's Democratic Republic

The **Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Science and Technology (Lao People's Democratic Republic)** has notified the International Bureau of its Internet address, and of changes to its telephone number and e-mail addresses, which are now as follows:

Telephone:	(856-21) 213 470 ext. 154
E-mail:	dip.laopdr@gmail.com kkeobounphanh@yahoo.co.uk saybandith30@gmail.com
Internet:	http://dip.gov.la/

[Updating of Annex B1(LA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

New equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, and for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These new amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	AUD	2,043
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	AUD	23
Reductions (under PCT Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	AUD	307
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	AUD	461
Handling fee	AUD	307

[Updating of Annexes C(AU) and E(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, also applicable from 1 September 2020, is CHF 1,432.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 September 2020, are NZD 3,246 for an entity other than a small or micro entity, NZD 1,623 for a small entity, and NZD 811 for a micro entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EXCUSE OF DELAY IN MEETING TIME LIMITS UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater}.2: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU UNDER SECTION 111 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, Rule 82^{quater}.2 of the PCT Regulations concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office or organization. This rule entered into force on 1 July 2020.

As a result of the adoption of Rule 82^{quater}.2, Section 111 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT was also amended, from 1 July 2020, so as to require the International Bureau, where it provides for the excuse of a delay in meeting time limits, due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at the Bureau (including in its capacity as receiving Office) under Rule 82^{quater}.2, to publish such information in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette).

IB International Bureau of WIPO

In accordance with PCT Rule 82^{quater}.2(a) and Sections 111(c) and (d) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the International Bureau makes the following notification concerning excuse of delays in meeting time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication:

1. References to the “International Bureau” shall be construed as including the International Bureau as receiving Office, where applicable.

2. This notification applies to all time limits fixed in the Regulations under the PCT and in the Administrative Instructions under the PCT within which an action is to be performed before the International Bureau. It also applies to time limits fixed in invitations or notifications issued to the applicant by the International Bureau. It does not apply to the priority period.

3. The permitted means of electronic communication at the International Bureau include the ePCT system and the PCT Contingency Upload Service. Any delay in meeting time limits due to the unavailability of either the ePCT system, with or without strong authentication, or the PCT Contingency Upload Service may be excused under PCT Rule 82*quater*.2(a).

4. Delays in meeting time limits may be excused where the ePCT system or the PCT Contingency Upload Service was unavailable for a minimum of a continuous one-hour period on a specific working day at the International Bureau.

5. An interested party who wishes to request excuse of delay in meeting a time limit under PCT Rule 82*quater*.2(a) before the International Bureau should:

(i) submit a request to the International Bureau, indicating that the time limit was not met due to the unavailability of the ePCT system or the PCT Contingency Upload Service on a specific date, and

(ii) perform the relevant action on the next working day at the International Bureau on which the ePCT system or the PCT Contingency Upload Service was again available.

6. The International Bureau will excuse a delay in meeting a time limit referred to in paragraph 2, above, if the conditions set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 are met and if it acknowledges that the ePCT system or the PCT Contingency Upload Service was unavailable for at least a continuous one hour period on the day in question. The International Bureau will communicate its decision to the interested party by way of Form PCT/IB/345, or Form PCT/RO/132 when it acts as receiving Office.

7. The International Bureau will publish information on any unavailability for more than a continuous one-hour period of the ePCT system or the PCT Contingency Upload Service on the WIPO website.

8. This notification is applicable from July 1, 2020.

[Updating of Annex B2(IB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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RECEIVING OFFICES

IT Italy

On 14 July 2020, in accordance with PCT Rule 26*bis*.3(i), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as receiving Office, notified the International Bureau that it applies only the “due care” criterion to requests for restoration of the right of priority, with respect to international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*]

UG Uganda

The **Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)** has specified the Austrian Patent Office—in addition to European Patent Office (EPO) and the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore—as competent International Searching and International Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the URSB by nationals and residents of Uganda, with effect since 7 July 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(UG) of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

IT Italy

On 14 July 2020, in accordance with PCT Rule 49*ter*.2(g), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, notified the International Bureau that it applies only the “due care” criterion to requests for restoration of the right of priority, with respect to international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (IT) of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES

ZM Zambia

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) (Zambia)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form, with effect from **1 October 2020**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (260-211) 25 51 35
(260-211) 25 54 25
(260-211) 25 51 51
- by e-mail at: patents@pacra.org.zm

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software.

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.pacra.org.zm).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(ZM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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30 July 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

MX Mexico

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 11 June 2020 (page 111) concerning the closure of the **Mexican Institute of Industrial Property** due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office has notified the International Bureau that it reopened to the public on **13 July 2020** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by the Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

RU Russian Federation

The **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to one of its Internet addresses, which are now as follows:

Internet: www.rospatent.gov.ru
www1.fips.ru

[Updating of Annex B1(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DEPOSITS OF MICROORGANISMS AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL: INSTITUTIONS WITH WHICH DEPOSITS MAY BE MADE

IN India

Pursuant to PCT Rule 13bis.7(b), the International Bureau has been notified of a depositary institution having acquired the status of international depositary authority under the *Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure* with which deposits of microorganisms and other biological material may be made, with effect since 28 July 2020, as follows:

National Agriculturally Important Microbial Culture Collection (NAIMCC)
ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms
Kushmaur, Maunath Bhanjan PIN 275 103
Uttar Pradesh
India

[Updating of Annex L of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES: NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES

In order to facilitate access to priority documents, the International Bureau established the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), based on a decision taken in 2006 by the Paris Union Assembly, the PLT Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly.

Since April 2009, the International Bureau, and any Office or Authority having the adequate legal and technical requirements in place, is able to participate in DAS, either as an office of first filing (“depositing Office”) or as an office of second filing (“accessing Office”), or both, in order to facilitate access to priority documents (PCT Rule 17) in a wide variety of media and formats.

Notifications made under paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions for the Digital Access for Priority Documents, or in accordance with Sections 715(a)(i) or (b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, are published by the International Bureau at:

www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html

AT Austria

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents, the **Austrian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as depositing Office and accessing Office, with effect from 1 October 2020.

[Updating of Annex B1(AT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

6 August 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

Fee for requesting restoration
of the right of priority
(PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)): BYN 81

The above amounts have been in effect since 1 January 2020, with the exception of the fee for priority document, which has been in effect since 21 January 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified the International Bureau of new amounts of the components of the national fee^{4, 5} in **Belarusian roubles (BYN)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office and applicable since 1 January 2020, as follows:

For patent:

Filing fee:	BYN	94.50
Claim fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	40.50
Examination fee:	BYN	459
Claim examination fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	270
Claim examination fee for each dependent claim in excess of ten:	BYN	40.50
Annual fee for the third year:	BYN	94.50

For utility model:

Filing fee:	BYN	189
Claim fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	94.50
Claim fee for each dependent claim in excess of ten:	BYN	40.50

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁴ For residents of Belarus, the payment of fees shall be effected in Belarusian roubles in accordance with the rate of the base value.

⁵ For non-residents of Belarus the payment of fees shall be effected in US dollars, euros, Swiss francs or Russian roubles, unless otherwise provided for by international agreements with the Republic of Belarus, in accordance with the rate of the base value and the exchange rate established by the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus applicable on the date of payment.

PT Portugal

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (Portugal)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office and applicable since 1 July 2020, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	EUR	10.79	(online)
	EUR	21.58	(on paper)
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	EUR	43.14	
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	EUR	161.79	(request filed online)
	EUR	323.58	(request filed on paper)

[Updating of Annex C(PT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

BY Belarus

The **National Center of Intellectual Property (Belarus)** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the number of paper copies of the international application required by it – two copies are now required, instead of three.

[Updating of Annex C(BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RS Serbia

The **Intellectual Property Office (Serbia)** has specified the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) – in addition to the European Patent Office (EPO) – as competent International Searching and International Preliminary Examining Authority for international applications filed with the Office, or with the International Bureau as receiving Office, by nationals and residents of Serbia, with effect from 1 September 2020.

[Updating of Annex C(RS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 October 2020, is NOK 19,010.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

JP Japan

New equivalent amounts in **Japanese yen (JPY)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for a reduction under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These new amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	JPY	152,100
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	JPY	1,700
Reduction (under PCT Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	JPY	34,300

[Updating of Annex C(JP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

In addition, pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the Office. These amounts, also applicable from 1 October 2020, are CHF 612 for an application in Japanese,¹ and CHF 1,364 for an application in English.²

[Updating of Annex D(JP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ For international applications filed in Japanese or for which a translation into Japanese has been furnished under PCT Rule 12.3. This fee is reduced for applications by applicants who are eligible for fee reductions, such as small or medium-sized enterprises, micro enterprises and academic institutions. For further details on the eligibility, see https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf

² For international applications filed in English or for which a translation into English has been furnished under PCT Rule 12.3.

Furthermore, a new equivalent amount in **Japanese yen (JPY)** has been established for the handling fee, pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d). This amount, also applicable from 1 October 2020, is JPY 22,900.

[Updating of Annex E(JP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

NZ New Zealand

New equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These new amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are as follows:

International filing fee:	NZD	2,162
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	NZD	24
Reductions (under PCT Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	NZD	325
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	NZD	488

[Updating of Annex C(NZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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20 August 2020

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PH Philippines

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 11 June 2020 (page 111) concerning the closure of the **Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines** due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office has notified the International Bureau that it was not open to the public for transaction of official PCT-related business from 20 to 24 July 2020 and from 6 to 18 August 2020.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application is (was) required to reach an Office falls (fell) on a day on which such Office is (was) not open to the public for the aforementioned purposes, that period **shall expire on the next subsequent day on which the Office opens to the public** for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to an Office or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by Offices, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by Offices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

The **Australian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount, in **Australian dollars (AUD)**, of the national filing fee where specific transactions are carried out by means of mail or at a counter. This amount, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office and applicable from 1 October 2020, is AUD 570.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CA Canada

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **euros (EUR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 October 2020, is EUR 1,016.

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CL Chile

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Chile)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are:

- CHF 1,839 (general fee);
- CHF 368 (reduced fee for natural persons and legal entities (where the international application is filed by an applicant, whether a natural person or a legal entity, who is a national of and a resident in any of the States which benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy this criterion));
- CHF 276 (reduced fee for universities (where the international application is filed by an applicant who is (a) a Chilean university, or (b) a foreign university headquartered in any of the States which benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee and authenticated by its legal representative, in a simple declaration signed in the presence of a notary, as constituted as a university in accordance with the law of that State, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criterion set out in either sub-item (a) or (b))).

[Updating of Annex D(CL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

PH Philippines

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines**. These amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are CHF 920 or CHF 368 where the applicant is a small entity.¹

[Updating of Annex D(PH) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ A small entity refers to any natural or juridical person whose assets are worth not more than One Hundred Million Pesos (P100M); or any entity, agency, office, bureau or unit of the Philippine government including government-owned or controlled corporations, state universities and colleges and government-owned or government-run schools.

SE Sweden

The **Swedish Patent and Registration Office** has notified the International Bureau of a new equivalent amount of the search fee (PCT Rule 16) in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** payable to it as International Searching Authority. This amount, applicable from 1 October 2020, is NOK 19,010.

[Updating of Annex D(SE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are CHF 1,913 for an entity other than a small or micro entity, CHF 956 for a small entity, and CHF 478 for a micro entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

XN Nordic Patent Institute

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Nordic Patent Institute**. This amount, applicable from 1 October 2020, is NOK 19,010.

[Updating of Annex D(XN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater.2}: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater.2}(a)

Under PCT Rule 82^{quater.2}(a) concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office or organization, the following period of unavailability is notified:

IB International Bureau of WIPO

The ePCT system was unavailable during the following period of time:

- from 12 July 2020, 7:20 a.m. to 13 July 2020, 7:52 a.m., Central European Summer Time.

Applicants who did not meet a PCT time limit due to this particular unavailability may request excuse of delay in meeting that time limit under PCT Rule 82^{quater.2}, in accordance with the applicable conditions announced in the notification of the International Bureau published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 July 2020 (p.155 *et seq.*).

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27 August 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

US United States of America

Agreement between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex D

The **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(2) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Part I of Annex D thereof. These amendments consist of changes in the amounts of several fees, payable to the USPTO in its capacity as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority, which will take effect on 2 October 2020.

With effect from 2 October 2020, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

**Annex D
Fees and Charges**

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (United States dollars)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	2,180 ²
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	2,180 ²
Preparation of an international type search report on a United States national application	[No change]
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	
– where the international search fee has been paid on the international application to the Authority	640 ²
– where the international search was carried out by another Authority	800 ²
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	640 ²
Late furnishing fee for sequence listings (Rules 13 ^{ter} .1(c) and 13 ^{ter} .2))	320 ²

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_us.pdf

² This fee is reduced by 50% in the case of filing by a “small entity” and by 75% in the case of filing by a “micro entity”. For further details on the entitlement to and the establishment of “small entity” status, see www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/s509.html#d0e30961 and 37 CFR 1.27 at: www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/consolidated_rules.pdf
For further details on the entitlement to and the establishment of “micro entity” status, see www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/s509.html#ch500_d1ff69_210b3_1ca and 37 CFR 1.29 at: www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/consolidated_rules.pdf
These details shall be subject to change by the Authority at its discretion.

Cost of copies (Rules 44.3 and 71.2)³

– US patent, per copy [No change]

Cost of copies (Rules 94.1 *ter* and 94.2)

– US patent, per copy [No change]

– non-US patent document, per copy [No change]

Part II. [No change]

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

SV El Salvador

Due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, **the National Center of Registries (CNR) (El Salvador)** has notified the International Bureau that it was closed to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from **14 March to 15 June 2020** (inclusive).

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell between 14 March and 15 June 2020 (inclusive), that period expired on **16 June 2020**.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to closures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively, and to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 16 April 2020 (page 68).

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by Offices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

³ The applicant receives, together with the international search report, a copy of each cited document that is not a US patent document or a published international application. The applicant receives, together with the international preliminary examination report, a copy of each cited document not cited in the international search report that is not a US patent document or a published international application. Electronic copies of these documents may be viewed at the USPTO's website (www.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/search-patents) and printed for free. Copies can also be purchased online or obtained from the USPTO Office of Public Records.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

DE Germany

The **German Patent and Trade Mark Office** has notified the International Bureau that it does not accept evidence of mailing a document, in case of loss or delay, where a delivery service other than the postal authorities is used (PCT Rule 82.1).

Furthermore, the Office notified that special provisions concerning earlier national applications from which priority is claimed are provided under Article III Section 4(4) of the Act on International Patent Conventions.

[Updating of Annex B1(DE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EE Estonia

The **Estonian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of an additional phone number, as well as a change in its facsimile number, as follows:

Telephone: (372) 627 79 00
(372) 627 79 11 (reception)

Facsimile machine: (372) 645 79 12

[Updating of Annex B1(EE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Due to the designation of a temporary holiday by the government of the Republic of Korea, the **Korean Intellectual Property Office** was not open to the public on Monday 17 August 2020 for the purposes of the transaction of official business.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on the aforementioned day, that period expired on Tuesday 18 August 2020.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the aforementioned closure, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

IB International Bureau of WIPO

For the purposes of the **International Bureau** as receiving Office, new equivalent amounts of fees in **US dollars (USD)** have been established. These amounts, applicable from 1 October 2020, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	USD	109
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	USD	54
	Supplement for airmail:	
	USD	11

[Updating of Annex C(IB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

US United States of America

The **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable from 2 October 2020, are as follows:

			<i>Small entity</i>	<i>Micro entity</i>
Transmittal fee ⁴ (PCT Rule 14):	USD	260	130	65
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	USD	2,100	1,050	525

[Updating of Annex C(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁴ In addition, there is a non-electronic filing fee applicable to international applications filed other than by the Office electronic filing system (EFS) of USD 400, or in the case of filings by small or micro entities, USD 200.

In addition, the Office also notified new amounts of fees, in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it in its capacity as International Searching Authority, from 2 October 2020, as follows:

			<i>Small entity</i>	<i>Micro entity</i>
Search fee ⁵ (PCT Rule 16.1(a)):	USD	2,180	1,090	545
Additional search fee ⁵ (PCT Rule 40.2(a)):	USD	2,180	1,090	545
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 ter .1(c)):	USD	320	160	80

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts of fees in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority and applicable from 2 October 2020, as follows:

			<i>Small entity</i>	<i>Micro entity</i>
Preliminary examination fee ^{5,6} (PCT Rule 58.1(b)):	USD (USD)	640 800	320 400	160 200
Additional preliminary examination fee ⁷ (PCT Rule 40.2(a)):	USD	640	320	160
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 ter .2):	USD	320	160	80

[Updating of Annex E(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Finally, the Office also notified changes to several components of the national fee⁵ in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it as designated (or elected) Office. These changes are also applicable from 2 October 2020. The consolidated list of the said components is as follows:

			<i>Small entity</i>	<i>Micro entity</i>
Basic national fee: ⁸	USD	320	160	80

⁵ The amounts of these fees change periodically. The United States Patent and Trademark Office or the current USPTO Fee Schedule at: www.uspto.gov/about/offices/cfo/finance/fees.jsp should be consulted for the applicable amounts.

⁶ The amount in parentheses is payable when the international search was not carried out by the USPTO.

⁷ This fee is payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority and only in particular circumstances.

⁸ Must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

Search fee:⁹

– IPRP prepared by the IPEA/US or the written opinion was prepared by the ISA/US, all claims presented satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1) to (4):					[No change]
– International search fee paid to the USPTO as ISA:					[No change]
– Search report has been prepared by an ISA other than the US and is provided or has been previously communicated by the IB to the USPTO:	USD	540	270	135	
– All other situations:	USD	700	350	175	

Examination fee:⁹

– IPRP prepared by the IPEA/US or the written opinion was prepared by the ISA/US, all claims presented satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1) to (4):					[No change]
– All other situations:	USD	800	400	200	

For every 50 sheets or fraction thereof of the specification and drawings that exceeds 100 sheets (excluding any sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium): ⁹	USD	420	210	105	
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Additional fee for each claim in independent form in excess of three: ⁹	USD	480	240	120	
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⁹ If not paid with the basic national fee, the USPTO will invite the applicant to pay the fee within a time period fixed in the invitation.

Additional fee for each claim, independent or dependent, in excess of 20: ¹⁰					[No change]
In addition, if the application contains one or more multiple dependent claims, per application: ¹⁰	USD	860	430	215	
Surcharge for paying any of the search fee, the examination fee, or filing the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage: ¹⁰	USD	160	80	40	
Processing fee for filing English-language translation after the expiration of the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1): ¹⁰					[No change]
Mega-Sequence Listing filing fee:					
– submission of sequence listing of 300 MB to 800 MB:	USD	1,060	530	265	
– submission of sequence listing of more than 800 MB:	USD	10,500	5,250	2,625	

[Updating of National Chapter, Summary (US), of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES: NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES

In order to facilitate access to priority documents, the International Bureau established the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), based on a decision taken in 2006 by the Paris Union Assembly, the PLT Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly.

Since April 2009, the International Bureau, and any Office or Authority having the adequate legal and technical requirements in place, is able to participate in DAS, either as an office of first filing (“depositing Office”) or as an office of second filing (“accessing Office”), or both, in order to facilitate access to priority documents (PCT Rule 17) in a wide variety of media and formats.

Notifications made under paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions for the Digital Access for Priority Documents, or in accordance with Sections 715(a)(i) or (b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, are published by the International Bureau at:

www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html

¹⁰ Refer to footnote 9.

CO Colombia

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents, the **Superintendence of Industry and Commerce (Colombia)** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as a depositing Office and accessing Office, with effect from 28 August 2020.¹¹

[Updating of Annex B1(CO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IT Italy

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents, the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as a depositing Office, with effect from 1 October 2020.¹²

[Updating of Annex B1(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹¹ For additional details, refer to: https://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices/details.jsp?id=11586

¹² For additional details, refer to: https://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices/details.jsp?id=11580

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3 September 2020

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FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

PT Portugal

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (Portugal)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of the national fee, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office and applicable since 1 July 2020, as follows:

For patent: ¹	EUR 53.93	(online)
	EUR 107.86	(on paper)

For utility model: ¹	EUR 53.93	(online)
	EUR 107.86	(on paper)

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (PT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ Includes publication and examination.

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

ZM Zambia

The **Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) (Zambia)** has notified the International Bureau of a change in its location, as well as of an additional e-mail address, as follows:

Location:	Pacra House Haile Selassie Avenue Long Acres, Lusaka Zambia
E-mail:	patents@pacra.org.zm pro@pacra.org.zm

The Office also notified a change concerning the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) – the Office now accepts the filing of documents by e-mail, in addition to facsimile.

Furthermore, the Office notified that provisions of the law of Zambia concerning international-type search are provided under Section 52(3) of the Patents Act No. 40 of 2016.

The Office also notified the International Bureau of changes in the relevant provisions of its national law concerning provisional protection after international publication – the relevant provisions are now Sections 62(2), 65(1) and 54 of the Patents Act.

Finally, the Office notified that Sections 21 and 32(2) of the Patents Act provide for the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material with an international depository institution established in accordance with the *Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure*.

[Updating of Annex B1(ZM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BG Bulgaria

The **Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the currency for payment of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30, as well as for the reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, from **Bulgarian leva (BGN)** to **euros (EUR)**, with effect from 1 October 2020.

From 1 October 2020, the consolidated list of currencies accepted by the Office, and of the fees payable to it as receiving Office, will be as follows:

Fees payable to the receiving Office: Currency: Bulgarian lev (BGN), euro (EUR)

Transmittal fee:	BGN	80
International filing fee: ¹	EUR	1,217
Fee per sheet in excess of 30: ¹	EUR	14
Reductions (under Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request in character-coded format):	EUR	183
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract in character-coded format):	EUR	275
Search fee:		Refer to Annex D(EP) or D(RU)
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):		None
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):		None

[Updating of Annex C(BG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ This fee is reduced by 90% if certain conditions apply (see Annex C(IB)).

US United States of America – Corrigendum

Following the notification of a new amount of the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)** on or after 2 October 2020,² the equivalent amounts of this fee in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, as established with effect from 1 October 2020 and published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 20 August 2020 (page 175), are hereby cancelled.

US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, **euros (EUR)**, **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** and **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the search fee² for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)** on or after 2 October 2020. These amounts, also applicable from 2 October 2020, are as follows:

		<i>Small entity</i>	<i>Micro entity</i>
Search fee (PCT Rule 16):	CHF 1,976	988	494
	EUR 1,820	910	455
	NZD 3,220	1,610	805
	ZAR 36,144	18,072	9,036

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater}.2: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES UNDER SECTION 111(c) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, Rule 82^{quater}.2 of the Regulations under PCT (“PCT Regulations”) concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office. This new rule entered into force on 1 July 2020.

As a result of the adoption of Rule 82^{quater}.2, Section 111 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT was amended, also from 1 July 2020, so as to require any Office providing for the excuse of delays under Rule 82^{quater}.2 to notify the International Bureau of the existence of such provisions, so that the International Bureau can publish the information in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette).

² From 2 October 2020, the amount of this fee, in US dollars (USD), is USD 2,180 for an entity other than a small or micro entity; USD 1,090 for a small entity; or USD 545 for a micro entity. For additional information, refer to the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 27 August 2020, page 181.

JP Japan

In accordance with Section 111(c) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **Japan Patent Office (JPO)** has notified the International Bureau that it will excuse a delay in meeting a time limit fixed in the PCT Regulations for performing an action where such delay is caused by the special maintenance or unavailability of permitted electronic means of communication at the Office, provided that the duration of such maintenance or unavailability is at least 24 hours, and that the respective action is performed on the next working day on which the said electronic means of communication became available, in accordance with PCT Rule 82*quater*.2(a).

Information concerning maintenance and unavailability of the JPO online filing software is available at:

http://dl-sv1.pcinfo.jpo.go.jp/docs/error/server_status.html

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

NL Netherlands

The **Netherlands Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its mailing address, which is now as follows:

Mailing address: P.O. Box 93144
2509 AC Den Haag
Netherlands

[Updating of Annex B1(NL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) – the Office no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax; however, documents may now be filed by e-mail.

[Updating of Annex B1(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

ZM Zambia

The **Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) (Zambia)** has notified the International Bureau of an additional type of national protection available via the PCT where Zambia is designated (or elected) – applicants may seek protection by utility model; protection by patent, and/or patent of addition, remains available.

[Updating of Annex B1(ZM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the amount of the fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)), in **US dollars (USD)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. This new amount, applicable from 1 October 2020, is USD 276.

[Updating of Annex C(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the number of paper copies of the international application required by it – one copy is now required, instead of three.

[Updating of Annex C(SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

SA Saudi Arabia

The **Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning its requirements as to whether a copy of the international application is required – the applicant is only required to provide a copy of the international application if the Office has not received a copy from the International Bureau under PCT Article 20. This may be the case where the applicant expressly requests an earlier start of the national phase under PCT Article 23(2) or 40(2).

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (SA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified a fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 49^{ter}.2(d)), in **Saudi riyals (SRI)**, payable to it as designated (or elected) Office. This amount of this fee, payable from 1 October 2020, is SRI 2,000, or SRI 1,000 in the case of filing by an individual.

AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES: NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES

In order to facilitate access to priority documents, the International Bureau established the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), based on a decision taken in 2006 by the Paris Union Assembly, the PLT Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly.

Since April 2009, the International Bureau, and any Office or Authority having the adequate legal and technical requirements in place, is able to participate in DAS, either as an office of first filing (“depositing Office”) or as an office of second filing (“accessing Office”), or both, in order to facilitate access to priority documents (PCT Rule 17) in a wide variety of media and formats.

Notifications made under paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions for the Digital Access for Priority Documents, or in accordance with Sections 715(a)(i) or (b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, are published by the International Bureau at:

www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html

MX Mexico

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents, the **Mexican Institute of Industrial Property** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as a depositing Office and accessing Office, with effect from 3 November 2020.¹

[Updating of Annex B1(MX) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ For additional details, refer to: https://www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices/details.jsp?id=11592

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

HR Croatia

The **State Intellectual Property Office (Croatia)** has notified the International Bureau of an additional type of national protection available via the PCT where Croatia is designated (or elected): with effect since 20 February 2020, applicants may seek protection by utility model. Protection by patent remains available; however, since 20 February 2020, protection by “consensual patent” is no longer available.

In addition, the Office notified changes to the provisions of its national law concerning provisional protection after international publication – the relevant provisions are now under Articles 59 and 95 of the Patent Law 2020.

Furthermore, the Office notified the International Bureau of changes concerning the time limit within which the name and address of the inventor must be provided if Croatia is designated (or elected), which is now as follows:

The name and address of the inventor may be provided in the request, or may be furnished later. If this data is not provided within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within two months of receipt of the invitation, or to furnish, not later than four months from the date of entry into the national phase, a statement that the inventor wishes not to be named.

[Updating of Annex B1(HR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

VN Viet Nam

The **Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its e-mail and Internet addresses, which are now as follows:

E-mail: vietnamipo@ipvietnam.gov.vn

Internet: www.ipvietnam.gov.vn

[Updating of Annex B1(VN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AT Austria

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts, in **Korean won (KRW)**, **Singapore dollars (SGD)**, and **US dollars (USD)**, have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Austrian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are KRW 2,495,000, SGD 2,882, and USD 2,107, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(AT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Korean won (KRW)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 November 2020, is KRW 1,869,000.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CA Canada

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **US dollars (USD)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 November 2020, is USD 1,210.

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CN China

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)**. This amount, applicable from 1 November 2020, is CHF 274.

[Updating of Annex D(CN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts, in **Japanese yen (JPY)**, **Swedish kronor (SEK)**, **Singapore dollars (SGD)** and **US dollars (USD)**, have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are JPY 221,900, SEK 18,250, SGD 2,882, and USD 2,107, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Korean Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are AUD 530 for searches carried out in Korean and AUD 1,413 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts, in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, **euros (EUR)**, and **US dollars (USD)**, have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are CHF 106, EUR 97, and USD 114, respectively, for searches carried out in Russian; and CHF 498, EUR 455, and USD 537, respectively, for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, in accordance with PCT Rule 45bis.3(b), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)** have also been established for the supplementary search fee for a supplementary international search carried out by Rospatent. As from 1 November 2020, these amounts are CHF 147, or CHF 235 where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment).

[Updating of Annex SISA(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

HR Croatia

The **State Intellectual Property Office (Croatia)** has notified the International Bureau of the amount of the national filing fee for a utility model, in **Croatian kuna (HRK)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. This amount, applicable since 20 February 2020, is HRK 760 (for an application up to 30 sheets and 10 claims).

Furthermore, the Office notified a change concerning the conditions for exemption, reduction or refund of the national fee, which are now as follows:

- The filing fees, examination fees, and publication and maintenance fees are reduced by 50% where the applicant is also the inventor.
- The filing fee is reduced by 50% where the application is filed by electronic means; the same reduction applies where the text of the patent application filed on paper has been furnished additionally on an electronic carrier in accordance with the technical specifications published (in Croatian) on the Office's website at:

www.dziv.hr/files/file/obrasci/patent/Tehnicke_specifikacije_prijava_patenta.pdf

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (HR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

8 October 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

CZ Czechia

On 18 September 2020, the **Industrial Property Office (Czechia)** notified the International Bureau of the official name of its Office, as follows:

Name of Office: Industrial Property Office of
the Czech Republic

[Updating of Annex B1(CZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

GB United Kingdom

The **Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)**¹ has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4): with effect since 24 March 2020, the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax; however, since this date, the Office accepts the filing of documents by e-mail, at:

paperformcontingency@ipo.gov.uk

[Updating of Annex B1(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

TJ Tajikistan

The **Tajik Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of the official name of its Office, as well as of changes to its telephone and facsimile numbers, and to its e-mail and Internet addresses, as follows:

Name of Office: National Center for Patents and
Information under the Ministry of
Economic Development and Trade
of the Republic of Tajikistan

Telephone: (992-372) 22 21 53
(992-372) 21 47 60

Facsimile machine: (992-372) 22 21 38

E-mail: izobretenie@ncpi.tj
info@ncpi.tj

Internet: www.ncpi.tj

¹ Intellectual Property Office is an operating name of the Patent Office.

In addition, the Office notified an additional delivery service, other than the postal authorities, from which the Office would accept evidence of mailing a document in case of loss or delay (PCT Rule 82.1): in addition to DHL, Federal Express or UPS, it now accepts evidence of mailing a document where EMS TAJIKPOST is used.

Furthermore, the Office notified the International Bureau of the types of national protection available via the PCT, where Tajikistan is designated (or elected): protection by “petty patent” is available, in addition to protection by patent; protection by utility model is not available.

The Office also notified changes relating to the provisions of the law of Tajikistan concerning international-type search: relevant information is now available under Article 20 (conventional patents) and Article 21 (petty patents) of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on inventions.

Finally, the Office notified the International Bureau of changes concerning provisional protection after international publication, where a designation of Tajikistan is made for the purposes of a national patent, as follows:

After international publication, the furnishing of a translation of the international application into Tajik (Farsi) gives the applicant provisional protection in the sense that he, upon grant of the patent, is entitled to damages. (Refer to Article 24 of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on inventions.)

[Updating of Annex B1(TJ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

UZ Uzbekistan

The **Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Uzbekistan** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the name of the Office, which is now as follows:

Name of Office:	Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan
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[Updating of Annex B1(UZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

TJ Tajikistan

The **National Center for Patents and Information under the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form, with effect from **1 December 2020**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (992-372) 22 21 53
 (992-372) 21 47 60
- by e-mail at: izobretenie@ncpi.tj

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.ncpi.tj).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(TJ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

UZ Uzbekistan

The **Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form, with effect from **1 December 2020**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (998-71) 232 50 50
- by e-mail at: info@ima.uz
i.abdukadirov@ima.uz

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.ima.uz).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)
- Certification Authority (CA) for the European Patent Office (www.epoline.org/security/EPO_PKI_CPS.pdf)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(UZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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15 October 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

NL Netherlands – Corrigendum

The information concerning a change of mailing address published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 24 September 2020 (page 193) was incorrect. The mailing address of the **Netherlands Patent Office** (a department of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency) has not changed, and remains as follows:

Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 10366 2501 HJ Den Haag The Netherlands
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[Updating of Annex B1(NL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

UZ Uzbekistan

The **Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its location and mailing address, which are now as follows:

Location and mailing address:	33, Khadra District 100011, Tashkent Uzbekistan
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[Updating of Annex B1(UZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **US dollars (USD)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 December 2020, is USD 1,587.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

CL Chile

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Chile)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are as follows:

Search fee: EUR 1,685

Reduced search fee for natural persons and legal entities: EUR 337 (applicable where the international application is filed by an applicant, whether a natural person or a legal entity, who is a national of and a resident in any of the States that benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy this criterion.)

Reduced search fee for universities: EUR 253 (applicable where the international application is filed by an applicant who is (a) a Chilean university, or (b) a foreign university headquartered in any of the States which benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee and authenticated by its legal representative, in a simple declaration signed in the presence of a notary, as constituted as a university in accordance with the law of that State, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criterion set out in either sub-item (a) or (b).)

[Updating of Annex D(CL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EG Egypt

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Egyptian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 November 2020, is CHF 228.

[Updating of Annex D(EG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IN India

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Indian Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are EUR 114 or EUR 29 (the latter amount applies in the case of filing by an individual).

[Updating of Annex D(IN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

KR Republic of Korea

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Korean Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are EUR 320 for searches carried out in Korean and EUR 854 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

PH Philippines

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **euros (EUR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are EUR 843 or EUR 337 (the latter applies where the applicant is a small entity).¹

[Updating of Annex D(PH) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SG Singapore

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **euros (EUR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore**. This amount, applicable from 1 November 2020, is EUR 1,380.

[Updating of Annex D(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ A small entity refers to any natural or juridical person whose assets are worth not more than one hundred million pesos (P100M); or any entity, agency, office, bureau or unit of the Philippine government including government-owned or controlled corporations, state universities and colleges and government-owned or government-run schools.

UA Ukraine

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, Department for Intellectual Property**. These amounts, applicable from 1 November 2020, are USD 119 for searches carried out in Russian or Ukrainian, and USD 356 for searches carried out in English, French or German.

Updating of Annex D(UA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

DE Germany

The **German Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the international Bureau of changes concerning its requirements for representation before the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office, as follows:

- An agent is required if the applicant has neither his residence, nor principal place of business, nor an establishment in Germany.
- An agent is not required if the applicant has his residence, principal place of business or an establishment in Germany.

Furthermore, the Office notified changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office. The following persons may act as such:

- If an agent is required: any patent attorney, attorney-at-law, or firm of representatives established in Germany and authorized to represent the applicant in proceedings before the Office; or any patent attorney or attorney-at-law of a member State of the European Union, of a contracting party to the *Agreement on the European Economic Area*, or of Switzerland, entitled to practice in Germany, or to provide temporary services, and authorized to represent the applicant in proceedings before the Office (refer to the *Act on the Activities of European Patent Attorneys in Germany [EuPAG]* and the *Act on the Activities of European Lawyers in Germany [EuRAG]*).²
- If an agent is not required: as mentioned above and any natural person, in accordance with the provisions of the *Legal Services Act [Rechtsdienstleistungsgesetz – RDG]*.

[Updating of Annex C(DE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

² The list of patent attorneys may be obtained from the *Patentanwaltskammer* (Chamber of Patent Attorneys), Postfach 260108, 80058 München, Germany, and the list of attorneys-at-law from the *Bundesrechtsanwaltskammer* (Chamber of Attorneys-at-Law), Littenstrasse 9, 10179 Berlin, Germany.

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

DE Germany

The **German Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the international Bureau of changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. The following persons may now act as such:

- If an agent is required (because the applicant neither has his residence, nor principal place of business, nor an establishment in Germany): any patent attorney, attorney-at-law, or firm of representatives established in Germany and authorized to represent the applicant in proceedings before the Office; or any patent attorney or attorney-at-law of a member State of the European Union, of a contracting party to the *Agreement on the European Economic Area*, or of Switzerland, entitled to practice in Germany, or to provide temporary services, and authorized to represent the applicant in proceedings before the Office (refer to the *Act on the Activities of European Patent Attorneys in Germany [EuPAG]* and the *Act on the Activities of European Lawyers in Germany [EuRAG]*).³
- If an agent is not required: as mentioned above and any natural person, in accordance with the provisions of the *Legal Services Act [Rechtsdienstleistungsgesetz – RDG]*.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (DE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

³ A list of patent attorneys may be obtained from the *Patentanwaltskammer* (Chamber of Patent Attorneys), Postfach 260108, 80058 München, Germany, and a list of attorneys-at-law from the *Bundesrechtsanwaltskammer* (Chamber of Attorneys-at-Law), Littenstrasse 9, 10179 Berlin, Germany.

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

22 October 2020

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ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT: MODIFICATIONS TO APPENDIX I OF ANNEX F (STANDARD FOR THE ELECTRONIC FILING AND PROCESSING OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS)

NOTE PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

Following consultation with interested Offices and Authorities, pursuant to PCT Rule 89.2(b) and in accordance with the procedures set out in the Administrative Instructions under the PCT (Annex F, section 2.5), modifications to Annex F, Appendix I (XML DTDs for the e-PCT Standard), section 5.13 of the Administrative Instructions were promulgated, with effect from **1 January 2021**.

These modifications involve changes to the Document Type Definitions (DTDs) for the written opinion of the International Searching Authority (ISA/237). The purpose of these modifications, which also enable the provision of written opinions in XML, is:

- to allow the structured specification of the claims for which there is non-establishment of the written opinion; and
- to allow the inclusion of the category of the citation and the examiners' opinion regarding the citation.

Due to its highly technical content, the consolidated revised text of Annex F, Appendix I of the Administrative Instructions is not reproduced here, but has been published as document PCT/AI/DTD/14 on the WIPO website at:

https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ai_dtd_14.pdf

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

RO Romania

The **State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (Romania)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **new lei (RON)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable from 1 January 2021, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	RON	487	
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	RON	97	plus copying costs

[Updating of Annex C(RO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES

KG Kyrgyzstan

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **State Service of Intellectual Property and Innovation under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form, with effect from **15 December 2020**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (996-312) 68 08 19
- by fax at: (996-312) 68 17 03
- by e-mail at: info@patent.kg
inter@patent.kg

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (<http://patent.kg>).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(KG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

**AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES:
NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES**

In order to facilitate access to priority documents, the International Bureau established the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), based on a decision taken in 2006 by the Paris Union Assembly, the PLT Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly.

Since April 2009, the International Bureau, and any Office or Authority having the adequate legal and technical requirements in place, is able to participate in DAS, either as an office of first filing (“depositing Office”) or as an office of second filing (“accessing Office”), or both, in order to facilitate access to priority documents (PCT Rule 17) in a wide variety of media and formats.

Notifications made under paragraphs 10 and 12 of the *Framework Provisions for the Digital Access for Priority Documents*, or Section 715(a)(i) or (b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, are published by the International Bureau at:

www.wipo.int/das/en/participating_offices.html

FR France

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the *Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents*, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as a depositing Office, with effect from 1 December 2020, for international applications filed on or after this date.

[Updating of Annex B1(FR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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29 October 2020

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES: NOTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICES CONCERNING EXCEPTIONAL NON-WORKING DAYS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CU Cuba

Further to the notification published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 23 April 2020 (page 74) concerning the closure of the **Cuban Industrial Property Office** due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office has notified the International Bureau that it reopened to the public, for the purposes of the transaction of official business, on **20 October 2020**.

Additional information concerning the Office's closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>

For further information on measures adopted by the Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/covid19-policy-tracker/>

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

BA Bosnia and Herzegovina

The **Institute for Intellectual Property of Bosnia and Herzegovina** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the amount of the fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)), in **Bosnia and Herzegovina convertible marks (BAM)**. This amount, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office, is BAM 30.

[Updating of Annex C(BA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SK Slovakia

The **Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the conditions for reduction of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14) and the fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)), payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office: these fees are now reduced by 50% where the international application is filed by electronic means.

[Updating of Annex C(SK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

CN China

In accordance with PCT Rules 35.2 and 59.1, the **China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)** has specified the European Patent Office (EPO) – in addition to the CNIPA – as competent International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Authority (IPEA) for international applications filed with CNIPA or with the receiving Office of the International Bureau, in English, by nationals and residents of China, with effect from 1 December 2020.

The aforementioned specification of the EPO arises in the framework of a pilot and shall apply for a duration of two years, for a maximum of 2,500 applications in total in the first year, and 3,000 applications in the second year.

During a transitional phase, applicants who file an international application with the CNIPA as receiving Office and select the EPO as ISA will be required to pay the international search fee directly to the EPO, in **euros (EUR)**.¹

In addition, applicants who are nationals or residents of China and whose international search is performed by the EPO as ISA will also be able to file a demand for international preliminary examination with the EPO, in its capacity as IPEA.

For further details, consult the Joint Communiqué of the EPO and CNIPA, available online at:

www.epo.org/news-events/news/2020/20201020.html (in English); and

www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2020/10/20/art_53_153571.html (in Chinese).

[Updating of Annex C(CN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SK Slovakia

The **Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before it, in its capacity as receiving Office: any person appointed by the applicant may now act as such.

[Updating of Annex C(SK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ For a list of fees payable to the EPO as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority, refer to the *Agreement between the European Patent Organisation and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization* (available at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_ep.pdf), and Annexes D(EP), SISA(EP) and E(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

BA Bosnia and Herzegovina

The **Institute for Intellectual Property of Bosnia and Herzegovina** has notified the International Bureau of changes in the amounts of the national fee, in **Bosnia and Herzegovina convertible marks (BAM)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, as follows:

National fee:

Filing and publication fee:	BAM	260
– plus for each page of the application over 30:	BAM	3
– plus for each claim over 10:	BAM	11
Publication fee for granted patent:	BAM	60

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (BA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

SK Slovakia

The **Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic** has notified the International Bureau of changes in the amounts of the national filing fee, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, as follows:

For patent:

Filing fee:²

– where the application is filed by an inventor or co-inventors:	EUR	30
– where the application is filed by an applicant other than the inventor or by applicants other than the co-inventors:	EUR	60

² Must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), or if not paid within that time limit, within 15 days from the receipt of an invitation to pay the filing fee.

For utility model:

Filing fee:³

- where the application is filed
by an inventor or co-inventors: EUR 34
- where the application is filed by
an applicant other than the inventor
or by applicants other than
the co-inventors: EUR 68

The Office also notified changes to the conditions for exemption, reduction or refund of the national fee: the national filing fee is now reduced by 50% where the application is filed by electronic means.

In addition, the Office notified changes to its special requirements under PCT Rule 51 *bis* (Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27), which are now as follows:

- Document(s) relating to the applicant's entitlement to apply for, and be granted, a patent, if the applicant is not an inventor;⁴
- Three copies of the translation of the international application for a patent;
- Three copies of the translation of the international application for a utility model;
- Where the validity of the priority claim is relevant to the determination of whether the invention concerned is patentable, the Office may invite the applicant to furnish a translation of the priority document into the Slovak language, or into one of the official languages of the EPO, at the option of the applicant;
- Applicants who are not citizens of a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the European Economic Area* (EEA), or who do not have a residence or place of business in a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the EEA*, must be represented by an attorney-at-law or a patent attorney registered in the Slovak Republic.

Finally, the Office notified the International Bureau of changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before it, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, as follows:

³ Must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), or if not paid within that time limit, within 15 days from the receipt of an invitation to pay the filing fee.

⁴ This requirement may be satisfied if the corresponding declaration has been made in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17.

- Applicants who are citizens of a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the EEA*, or who have a residence or place of business in a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the EEA*, may appoint any person to act as such.
- Applicants who are neither citizens of a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the EEA*, or who have neither a residence nor a place of business in a Contracting State to the *Agreement on the EEA*, must be represented by an attorney at law or a patent attorney registered in the Slovak Republic.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (SK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES

SD Sudan

Since 7 January 2002, any receiving Office having the adequate technical systems in place is able to accept the filing of international applications in electronic form in accordance with Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT containing, respectively, the legal framework and technical standard necessary to enable the implementation of filing and processing in electronic form of international applications, as provided for under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1.

The **Registrar General of Intellectual Property Department (Sudan)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau, under PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2 and pursuant to Sections 710(a) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that it is prepared to receive and process international applications in electronic form, with effect from **15 January 2021**, as follows:

As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)
- JPEG (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.2)

As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):

- facsimile and text string types of signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the Office will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. It is only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) that no acknowledgement of receipt will be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or certain missing files, are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).

As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):

Online payment is not available.

As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):

The Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: (249-155) 12 68 62
 (249-183) 74 23 58
- by e-mail at: epctiposd@gmail.com

As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):

- international applications
- subsequently filed documents for international applications, to the extent supported by the relevant software

As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):

The Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):

In case of failure of the electronic systems when an international application is filed with it, the Office will use all means available, such as fax or e-mail, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

The Office will provide information concerning the availability of the online filing system on its website (www.ipsudan.gov.sd).

As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):

- WIPO customer CA (www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm)

As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):

Applications filed via ePCT-Filing can be accessed by the applicant using ePCT.

[Updating of Annex C(SD) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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5 November 2020

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

CA Canada

Agreement between the Canadian Commissioner of Patents and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization¹ – Amendment to Annex D

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Part I of Annex D thereof. These amendments, which will take effect on 1 January 2021, consist of changes in the amounts of several fees payable to the Canadian Intellectual Property Office in its capacity as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority.

With effect from 1 January 2021, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

**Annex D
Fees and Charges**

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

Kind of fee or charge	Amount (Canadian dollars)
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	1,632
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	1,632
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	816
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	816
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 <i>ter</i> and 94.2) in electronic form	
(a) for the first 7 megabytes, plus	[no change]
(b) for each additional 10 megabytes or part thereof exceeding the first 7 megabytes	[no change]
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 <i>ter</i> and 94.2), per page (paper)	[no change]

Part II. [No change]

¹ Available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_ca.pdf

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

CA Canada

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14), in **Canadian dollars (CAD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable from 1 January 2021, is CAD 306.

[Updating of Annex C(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts of fees, in **Canadian dollars (CAD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as International Searching Authority. These amounts, also applicable from 1 January 2021 are as follows:

Search fee (PCT Rule 16.1(a)):	CAD 1,632
Additional search fee ² (PCT Rule 40.2(a)):	CAD 1,632

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

In addition, the Office notified new amounts of fees, also in **Canadian dollars (CAD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority, from 1 January 2021, as follows:

Preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 58.1(b)):	CAD 816
Additional Preliminary examination fee ³ (PCT Rule 68.3(a)):	CAD 816

[Updating of Annex E(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

² This fee is payable to the International Searching Authority and only in particular circumstances.

³ This fee is payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority and only in particular circumstances.

PT Portugal

Following the notification concerning new amounts of fees, as published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 6 August 2020 (page 168), the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Portugal)** has further notified the International Bureau of the fee for an electronic copy of a priority document, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office.

With effect since 1 July 2020, the fees for priority documents are the following:

Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	EUR	16.19 (electronic copy)
	EUR	43.14 (paper copy)

[Updating of Annex C(PT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

CA Canada

The **Canadian Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of the components of the national fee, in **Canadian dollars (CAD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, applicable from 1 January 2021 are as follows:

National fee:

Basic national fee: ⁴	CAD	408	(204) ⁵
Additional fee for reinstatement of rights (late entry into the national phase):	CAD	204	

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁴ Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

⁵ The amount in parentheses is applicable only if the applicant is entitled to pay certain fees at the "small entity" level. In order to be entitled to pay the reduced fee, a signed "small entity" declaration compliant with subsection 44(3) of the *Canadian Patent Rules* must, within the applicable time limit set out in subsection 154(1)(c)(i), 154(2)(a), 154(3)(a)(iii)(A), 154(3)(b)(i)(A) or 154(3)(b)(ii)(A) of the *Canadian Patent Rules*, be made by the applicant or the agent on the applicant's behalf (the declaration shall preferably follow the form of the declaration set out in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Phase, Annex CA.II).

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

12 November 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The **Invention Office of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning its location and mailing address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address, which are now as follows:

Location and mailing address:	Kinmaul Dong No. 1, Pipha Street Moranbong District, Pyongyang Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Telephone:	(850-2) 381 85 44
Facsimile machine:	(850-2) 381 44 10
E-mail:	io520@star-co.net.kp

In addition, the Office notified changes concerning the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4): the Office now accepts the filing of documents by e-mail, in addition to facsimile. The Office further notified that, in the case of filing of documents by means of telecommunication, only the original power of attorney document must be furnished, within three months from the filing date of the international application.

[Updating of Annex B1(KP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

CA Canada

In accordance with PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, **euros (EUR)** and **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Canadian Intellectual Property Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 January 2021, are CHF 1,134, EUR 1,060 and USD 1,243, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(CA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

Non-Working Days

For the purposes of computing time limits under PCT Rule 80.5(i), it is to be noted that, for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021, the **International Bureau will not be open** to the public for the transaction of official business on the following days:

all Saturdays and Sundays, and
1 January 2021,
2 and 5 April 2021,
13 and 24 May 2021,
9 September 2021,
24 and 31 December 2021.

It is important to note that the days indicated above concern **only the International Bureau** and **not** national Offices or other intergovernmental organizations.

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

19 November 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

CONTRACTING STATES

States Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) GB United Kingdom

On 1 October 2020, the **Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** deposited a declaration in accordance with Article 62(3) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

As from 1 January 2021, the United Kingdom's ratification of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) shall be extended to the territory of Gibraltar, for the international relations of which the United Kingdom is responsible. For additional information, refer to PCT Notification No. 13, available on the WIPO website at:

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/notifications/pct/treaty_pct_13.html

[Updating of Annexes A and C(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

CR Costa Rica

The **Registry of Industrial Property (Costa Rica)** has notified the International Bureau of the official name of the Office, as well as of changes to its e-mail addresses, which are now as follows:

Name of Office: Registry of Intellectual Property
(Costa Rica)

E-mail: vcohen@rnp.go.cr
jlizano@rnp.go.cr
dmarenco@rnp.go.cr

[Updating of Annex B1(CR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

HN Honduras

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Honduras)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its e-mail and Internet addresses, which are now as follows:

E-mail: patentes@ip.gob.hn
camilo.bendeck@ip.gob.hn

Internet: <https://www.ip.gob.hn/>

[Updating of Annex B1(HN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

PCT Fees – Establishment of New Equivalent Amounts of Fees

Following the consultations undertaken by the Director General of WIPO in October 2020, in accordance with the Directives adopted by the PCT Assembly¹ and pursuant to PCT Rules 15.2(d) and 57.2(d), new equivalent amounts of the **international filing fee** (including the fee per sheet over 30 and fee reductions when an international application is filed partially or entirely in electronic form) and the **handling fee**, respectively, have been established in **various currencies**, with effect from 1 January 2021, as indicated in table 1 published at the end of this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette). This table shows both the current equivalent amounts in the prescribed currencies, and, in bold print, the proposed new equivalent amounts of those fees corresponding to the amounts in Swiss francs (CHF) set out in the current Schedule of Fees.²

Furthermore, pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts of **search fees** have been established in **receiving Offices' currencies** for all International Searching Authorities, also with effect from 1 January 2021, as indicated in table 2 published at the end of this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette). This table shows both the current equivalent amounts (in receiving Offices' currencies) and, in bold print, any new amounts³ of the search fees fixed by the International Searching Authority and the proposed new equivalent amounts of all search fees, in the currencies other than the currency in which the International Searching Authority has fixed its fees.

In addition, pursuant to PCT Rule 45*bis*.3(b), new equivalent amounts of the **supplementary search fees** have been established in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, also with effect from 1 January 2021, for all Authorities specified for supplementary search, as indicated in table 3 published at the end of this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette). This table shows both the current amounts of the supplementary search fees (in the currencies in which the Authority has fixed its fees), and, in bold print, any new amounts⁴ of the supplementary search fees fixed by the Authority, as well as the proposed new equivalent amounts of those fees in Swiss francs (CHF), with effect from 1 January 2021.

¹ The Directives of the PCT Assembly relating to the establishment of equivalent amounts of certain fees are available on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/equivalent_amounts.html

² Available on the WIPO website at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/rules/rtax.html>

³ Applicable only to the search fees fixed by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office.

⁴ Applicable only to the supplementary search fees fixed by the Swedish Patent and Registration Office, the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office and the Nordic Patent Institute.

[Updating of the following Annexes of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*:

Annexes C(AM), (AP), (AT), (AU), (AZ), (BA), (BG), (BH), (BW), (BY), (BZ), (CA), (CL), (CR), (CY), (CZ), (DE), (DJ), (DK), (DO), (EA), (EC), (EE), (EG), (EP), (ES), (FI), (FR), (GB), (GE), (GH), (GR), (GT), (HN), (HU), (IB), (IE), (IL), (IN), (IS), (IT), (JO), (JP), (KE), (KG), (KH), (KZ), (LR), (LT), (LU), (LV), (MD), (ME), (MT), (MW), (MX), (NI), (NL), (NO), (NZ), (OM), (PA), (PE), (PG), (PH), (PT), (QA), (RO), (RS), (RU), (SA), (SC), (SE), (SG), (SI), (SK), (SV), (SY), (TJ), (TM), (TT), (UA), (UG), (US), (UZ), (ZA), (ZM), (ZW),

all Annexes D,

all Annexes SISA,

Annexes E(AT), (AU), (CA), (CL), (EG), (EP), (ES), (FI), (IL), (IN), (JP), (KR), (PH), (RU), (SE), (UA), (US), (XN) and (XV)]

IS Iceland

The **Icelandic Intellectual Property Office (ISIPO)** has notified the International Bureau of changes in the amounts of several fees, in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office from 1 January 2021, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14): ISK 18,200

Fee for priority document
(PCT Rule 17.1(b)): ISK 4,900

Fee for requesting restoration of the
right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)): ISK 43,500

[Updating of Annex C(IS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RECEIVING OFFICES

HN Honduras

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Honduras)** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the number of paper copies of the international application required by the Office – one paper copy is now required, instead of three.

[Updating of Annex C(HN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

HN Honduras

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Honduras)** has notified the International Bureau of the amount of the substantive examination fee, in **Honduran lempiras (HNL)**. This amount, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, is HNL 1,500.

Furthermore, the Office notified the conditions for exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee, as follows:

- The fees are reduced by 90% where the applicant is the inventor, and he (or she) provides a declaration indicating that his (or her) economic situation prevents him (or her) from paying the full amount of the fees.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (HN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IS Iceland

The **Icelandic Intellectual Property Office (ISIPO)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several components of the national fee, in **Icelandic kronor (ISK)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office from 1 January 2021, as follows:

National fee:

Application fee: ⁵	ISK 67,800
Claim fee for each claim in excess of 10: ⁶	ISK 4,400
Additional fee for late furnishing of translation: ⁷	ISK 18,300
Total annual fees for the first three years: ⁸	ISK 34,800

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (IS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁵ Must be paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

⁶ If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

⁷ Where the basic national fee has been paid within the applicable time limit under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the prescribed translation may be filed within a further period of two months, provided that it is accompanied by the additional fee.

⁸ These fees are payable within two months after performing the acts for entering the national phase.

Table 1 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for international filing fee and handling fee (in prescribed currencies) (applicable from January 1, 2021)

Currency	Exchange rate in Swiss franc on 05.10.2020	International filing fee Rule 15.2(a)	Fee per sheet in excess of 30 Rule 15.2(a)	E-filing reductions according to Schedule of Fees			Handling fee Rule 57.2(e) Schedule of fees Item 3
				Item 4(a)	Item 4(b)	Item 4(c)	
Reference currency Swiss franc		1,330	15	100	200	300	200 Current amount
AUD - Australian dollar	0.6574417	2,043 2,023	23 23	n.a. n.a.	307 304	461 456	307 304 Current amount New amount
CAD - Canadian dollar	0.6898827	1,961 1,928	22 22	n.a. n.a.	295 290	442 435	295 290 Current amount New amount
DKK - Danish krone	0.1449941	9,090 9,170	100 100	n.a. n.a.	1,370 1,380	2,050 2,070	1,370 1,380 Current amount New amount
EUR - Euro	1.0788415	1,217 1,233	14 14	92 93	183 185	275 278	183 185 Current amount New amount
GBP - Pound sterling	1.1873716	1,085 1,120	12 13	n.a. n.a.	163 168	245 253	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount
HUF - Hungarian forint	0.0029944	432,700 444,200	4,900 5,000	n.a. n.a.	65,100 66,800	97,600 100,200	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount
ILS - New Israeli sheqel	0.2686275	*	*	n.a.	*	*	743 745 Current amount New amount
ISK - Icelandic krona	0.0066343	195,100 200,500	2,200 2,300	n.a. n.a.	29,300 30,100	44,000 45,200	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount
JPY - Japanese yen	0.0086606	152,100 153,600	1,700 1,700	n.a. n.a.	n.a. n.a.	34,300 34,600	22,900 23,100 Current amount New amount
KRW - Korean won	0.0007907	**	**	n.a.	n.a.	**	255,000 253,000 Current amount New amount
NOK - Norwegian krone	0.0991452	13,450 13,410	150 150	n.a. n.a.	2,020 2,020	3,030 3,030	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount
NZD - New Zealand dollar	0.6079064	2,162 2,188	24 25	n.a. n.a.	325 329	488 493	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount
SEK - Swedish krona	0.1029188	13,240 12,920	150 150	n.a. n.a.	1,990 1,940	2,990 2,910	1,990 1,940 Current amount New amount
SGD - Singapore dollar	0.6728352	1,974 1,977	22 22	n.a. n.a.	297 297	445 446	297 297 Current amount New amount
USD - US dollar	0.9155967	1,446 1,453	16 16	109 109	217 218	326 328	217 218 Current amount New amount
ZAR - South African rand	0.0551488	24,090 24,120	270 270	n.a. n.a.	3,620 3,630	5,430 5,440	n.a. n.a. Current amount New amount

* Those amounts correspond to the exchange value, applicable on the date of payment, in New Israeli sheqels of the amounts in US dollars indicated above.
 ** Those amounts correspond to the exchange value, applicable on the date of payment, in Korean won of the amounts in Swiss francs indicated above.

Table 2 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for search fees (in receiving Offices' currencies)
(applicable as from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority	ISA/AT		ISA/AU		ISA/BR		ISA/CA		
	EUR	1,775	AUD	2,200	BRL	2,525	1,685	CAD	1,600
Reference currency & amount	Exch. Rate		Exch. Rate		Exch. Rate		Exch. Rate		
Exchange rates applicable on 05.10.2020									
CHF - Swiss franc	1,0788415	1,939	0,6574417	1,432	0,1626664	429	286	0,6698827	1,085
USD - US dollar	0,8486851	2,107 ¹	1,392666	1,587 ²	5,6217654	483	322	1,3271774	1,134 ⁴
EUR - Euro		2,091	1,337	1,580	6,0240888	449	300		1,210 ¹
AUD - Australian dollar			1,6409691	1,341		406	271	1,5638043	1,243 ⁵
DKK - Danish krone						381	254		1,016
GBP - Pound sterling									1,060 ⁶
HUF - Hungarian forint									Current amount
ISK - Icelandic krona									New amount
JPY - Japanese yen									Current amount
KRW - Korean won	0,0007329	2,495,000 ¹		1,869,000 ¹					New amount
NOK - Norwegian krone		2,422,000	0,0012027	1,829,000					Current amount
NZD - New Zealand dollar			0,9246545	2,357					New amount
SEK - Swedish krona				2,379					Current amount
SGD - Singapore dollar	0,6226646	2,882 ¹	1,0234142	2,102					New amount
ZAR - South African rand	0,0511185	35,130	0,0638839	26,420					Current amount
		34,720		26,230					New amount

1. Amounts applicable since November 1, 2020.
 2. Amounts applicable as from December 1, 2020.
 3. This new amount of the search fee has been fixed by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
 (Refer to *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* of 5 November 2020, page 230).
 4. New equivalent amount in Swiss francs of the search fee fixed by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
 5. New equivalent amount in US dollars of the search fee fixed by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
 6. New equivalent amount in Euros of the search fee fixed by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office with effect from January 1, 2021.

Table 2 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for search fees (in receiving Offices' currencies)
(applicable as from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority	ISA/CL			ISA/CN		ISA/EG		ISA/EP		
	USD	2,000	400	300	CNY	2,100	EGP	4,000	EUR	1,775
Reference currency & amount	Exch. Rate				Exch. Rate				Exch. Rate	
<i>Exchange rates applicable on 05.10.2020</i>										
CHF - Swiss franc	1,839 0.9155967	368 366	276 275	274 ⁷ 283	0.1348178	294	0.0582031	228 ⁷ 233	1.0788415	1,939 1,915
USD - US dollar				309	6.7913636	254	15.7310642	245	0.8486851	2,107 ⁷ 2,091
EUR - Euro	1,685 ⁷ 1,697	337 ⁷ 339	253 ⁷ 255	267 262	8.0022185	216	18.5358082			Current amount New amount
AUD - Australian dollar										Current amount New amount
DKK - Danish krone										Current amount New amount
GBP - Pound sterling									0.1343980	13,260 13,210
HUF - Hungarian forint									1.1005987	1,560 1,613
ISK - Icelandic krona									0.0027756	626,100 639,500
JPY - Japanese yen									0.0061495	276,000 288,600
KRW - Korean won									0.0080277	221,900 ⁷ 221,100
NOK - Norwegian krone										Current amount New amount
NZD - New Zealand dollar									0.0918997	19,010 19,310
SEK - Swedish krona									0.5634807	3,099 3,150
SGD - Singapore dollar									0.0953975	18,250 ⁷ 18,610
ZAR - South African rand									0.6236646	2,882 ⁷ 2,846
									0.0511185	35,130 34,720

7. Amounts applicable since November 1, 2020.

Table 2 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for search fees (in receiving Offices' currencies)
(applicable as from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority	ISA/JP		ISA/KR		ISA/PH		ISA/RU		
	Reference currency & amount	Exch. Rate	Reference currency	Exch. Rate	Reference currency	Exch. Rate	Reference currency	Exch. Rate	
Reference currency & amount	JPY 156,000		KRW 1,200,000		USD 1,000		RUB 40,000		8,500
Exchange rates applicable on 05.10.2020									
CHF - Swiss franc	1,364 1,351	0.0086606	941 949	0.0007907	920 916	0.9155967	498 ⁹ 467	0.0116828	106 ⁹ 99
USD - US dollar	1,457 1,476	105.7197769	1,003 1,036	1,157.957127	376 389		537 ⁹ 510	78.3713408	114 ⁹ 108
EUR - Euro	1,326 1,252	124.5689098	854 ⁹ 879	1,364.413178	320 ⁹ 330	1.1782933	455 ⁹ 433	92.3444294	97 ⁹ 92
AUD - Australian dollar			1,413 ⁹ 1,443	831.4679398	530 ⁹ 541				
DKK - Danish krone									
GBP - Pound sterling									
HUF - Hungarian forint									
ISK - Icelandic krona									
JPY - Japanese yen									
KRW - Korean won	783,000 767,000	0.0912985							
NOK - Norwegian krone									
NZD - New Zealand dollar			1,594 1,561	768.8205388	598 585				
SEK - Swedish krona									
SGD - Singapore dollar	2,012 2,008	77.6892130	1,385 1,410	850.9361325	519 529				
ZAR - South African rand									

9. Amounts applicable since November 1, 2020.

Table 2 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for search fees (in receiving Offices' currencies)
(applicable as from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority	ISA/SE ¹⁰		ISA/SG		ISA/TR ¹¹		ISA/UA		
	SEK	18,250 ¹²	SGD	2,240	TRY	11,300	EUR	300	100
Reference currency & amount	SEK	18,250 ¹²	SGD	2,240	TRY	11,300	EUR	300	100
Exchange rates applicable on 05.10.2020	SEK	18,610	Exch. Rate		TRY	16,250	Exch. Rate		
CHF - Swiss franc	1,939	1,939	1,509	1,509	1,939	1,939	328	328	109
	1,915	1,915	0.6728352	1,507	1,915	1,915	1.0788415	324	108
USD - US dollar	2,107 ¹²	2,107 ¹²	1,622	1,622	2,107 ¹²	2,107 ¹²	356 ¹²	356 ¹²	119 ¹²
	2,091	2,091	1.3608038	1,646	2,091	2,091	0.8486851	353	118
EUR - Euro	1,775	1,775	1,380 ¹²	1,380 ¹²	1,775	1,775			
	1,775	1,775	1.6034261	1,397	1,775	1,775			
AUD - Australian dollar									
	13,260	13,260							
DKK - Danish krone	13,210	13,210							
GBP - Pound sterling									
HUF - Hungarian forint									
ISK - Icelandic krona	276,000	276,000							
	288,600	288,600							
JPY - Japanese yen				173,600					
				174,000					
KRW - Korean won			0.0128718	1,955,000					
			0.0011752	1,906,000					
NOK - Norwegian krone	19,010	19,010							
	19,310	19,310							
NZD - New Zealand dollar									
SEK - Swedish krona									
SGD - Singapore dollar									
ZAR - South African rand									

10. All amounts appearing in this column, with effect from January 1, 2021, to be fixed by the Swedish Patent Office, are included here for the purposes of completeness only.

11. All amounts appearing in this column, with effect from January 1, 2021, to be fixed by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office, are included here for the purposes of completeness only.

12. Amounts applicable since November 1, 2020.

Table 2 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for search fees (in receiving Offices' currencies)
(applicable as from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority	ISA/US			ISA/XN ¹³		ISA/XV		
	USD	1,090	545	DKK	13,260	EUR	1,775	
Reference currency & amount	USD	2,180	1,090	545	DKK	13,260	EUR	1,775
Exchange rates applicable on 05.10.2020	Exch. Rate				DKK	13,210	Exch. Rate	
CHF - Swiss franc	1,976	988	494	1,939	1,915	1,0788415	1,939	Current amount
	1,996	998	499	1,915	1,915	1.0788415	1,915	New amount
USD - US dollar				2,107 ¹⁴	2,091	0.8486851	2,107 ¹⁴	Current amount
				2,091	2,091	0.8486851	2,091	New amount
EUR - Euro	1,820	910	455	1,775				Current amount
	1,850	925	463	1,775				New amount
AUD - Australian dollar								Current amount
								New amount
DKK - Danish krone								Current amount
								New amount
GBP - Pound sterling								Current amount
								New amount
HUF - Hungarian forint								Current amount
								New amount
ISK - Icelandic krona					276,000		626,100	Current amount
					288,600		639,500	New amount
JPY - Japanese yen								Current amount
								New amount
KRW - Korean won								Current amount
								New amount
NOK - Norwegian krone					19,010			Current amount
					19,310			New amount
NZD - New Zealand dollar	3,220	1,610	805					Current amount
	3,283	1,642	821					New amount
SEK - Swedish krona	0.6639456							Current amount
								New amount
SGD - Singapore dollar					18,250 ¹⁴			Current amount
					18,610			New amount
ZAR - South African rand	36,144	18,072	9,036					Current amount
	36,190	18,100	9,050					New amount
	0.0602326							Current amount
								New amount

13. All amounts appearing in this column, with effect from January 1, 2021, to be fixed by the Nordic Patent Institute, are included here for the purposes of completeness only.

14. Amounts applicable since November 1, 2020.

Table 3 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for the supplementary search fees
(applicable from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority (Supplementary Search)	ISA/AT		ISA/EP		ISA/FI		ISA/RU					
	Reference currency & Amount	EUR	850 ¹	1,190 ²	1,700 ³	EUR	1,775	EUR	1,775	Equivalent in CHF of Russian roubles ⁴	11,800	18,880 ⁵
Exchange rate applicable on 05.10.2020 CHF - Swiss franc	Exch. Rate	1.0788415	917	1,284	1,834	Exch. Rate	1.0788415	1,915	Exch. Rate	0.0116828	138	221

1. For a search of the German-language documentation.
2. For a search of the European or North American documentation.
3. For a search of only the PCT minimum documentation.
4. This amount refers to the equivalent amount in Swiss francs, at the exchange rate of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, applicable on the date of payment.
5. This fee applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment).

Table 3 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for the supplementary search fees
(applicable from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority (Supplementary Search)	ISA/SE		ISA/SG		ISA/TR		ISA/UA	
	Reference currency & Amount	Amount	Reference currency & Amount	Amount	Reference currency & Amount	Amount	Reference currency & Amount	Amount
CHF - Swiss franc	SEK	18,250	SGD	2,240	TRY	500 ⁶ 11,300	EUR	60 ⁷ 70 ⁸ 90 ⁹ 90 ¹⁰
	SEK	18,610 ¹¹			TRY	16,250 ¹²		
<i>Exchange rate applicable on 05.10.2020</i>			<i>Exch. Rate</i>			<i>Exch. Rate</i>		
		1,915 ¹³	<i>0.6728352</i>		59 ¹⁴	1,915 ¹⁴	<i>1.0788415</i>	65 76 97 97

6. For a search of only the documents in Turkish held in the search collection of the Authority.
7. This fee applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment).
8. For a search of only the Russian language documentation of the former USSR and the Ukrainian language documentation.
9. For a search of only the European and North American documentation.
10. For a search of the documents in the search collection of the Authority, including the PCT minimum documentation.
11. This new amount of the supplementary search fee has been fixed by the Swedish Patent and Registration Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
12. This new amount of the supplementary search fee has been fixed by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
13. New equivalent amount in Swiss francs of the supplementary search fee fixed by the Swedish Patent and Registration Office with effect from January 1, 2021.
14. New equivalent amount in Swiss francs of the supplementary search fee fixed by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office with effect from January 1, 2021.

Table 3 - PCT Fees: New equivalent amounts for the supplementary search fees
(applicable from January 1, 2021)

International Searching Authority (Supplementary Search)	ISAXN	ISAXV
Reference currency & Amount	DKK 4,000 ¹⁵ 13,260	EUR 550 ¹⁶ 1,775
Exchange rate applicable on 05.10.2020	DKK 13,210 ¹⁷	Exch. Rate
CHF - Swiss franc	580 ¹⁸ 1,915	1.0788415 593 1,915

15. For a search focusing only on the documents in Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish.

16. For a search of only the documentation in Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Slovak.

17. This new amount of the supplementary search fee has been fixed by the Nordic Patent Institute with effect from January 1, 2021.

18. New equivalent amount in Swiss francs of the supplementary search fee fixed by the Nordic Patent Institute with effect from January 1, 2021.

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

26 November 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

MC Monaco

The **Intellectual Property Division, Department of Economic Expansion (Monaco)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its telephone number, as well as its e-mail and Internet addresses, which are now as follows:

Telephone:	(377) 98 98 98 01
E-mail:	mcipo@gouv.mc
Internet:	https://mcipo.gouv.mc

[Updating of Annex B1(MC) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

SK Slovakia – Corrigendum

The **Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic** has notified the International Bureau that the information published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 29 October 2020 (page 222), concerning the conditions for reduction of the fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)), was erroneous.

The fee for a priority document, payable in **euros (EUR)** to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office, is reduced by 50% where the request for the priority document is filed by electronic means. Consequently, the fee for a priority document, which is prepared and transmitted on paper by the Office, is as follows:

Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	EUR	20	(request filed on paper)
	EUR	10	(request filed by electronic means)

[Updating of Annex C(SK) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater.2}: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES UNDER SECTION 111(c) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT

During its fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 9 October 2019, the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) unanimously adopted, among others, Rule 82^{quater.2} of the Regulations under the PCT ("PCT Regulations") concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office. This new rule entered into force on 1 July 2020.

As a result of the adoption of Rule 82*quater*.2, Section 111 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT was amended, also from 1 July 2020, so as to require any Office providing for the excuse of delays under Rule 82*quater*.2 to notify the International Bureau of the existence of such provisions, so that the International Bureau can publish the information in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette).

EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Organisation (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau in accordance with Section 111(c) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, its intention to apply Rule 82*quater*.2(a) in case of unavailability of its electronic means of communication with a view to excusing delays in meeting time limits fixed in the Regulations under the PCT.

In particular, the EPO intends to apply Rule 82*quater*.2(a) as follows:

1. Delays in meeting time limits could be excused where any of the permitted means of electronic filing at the EPO notified under Rule 89*bis*, or means of online payment¹, was unavailable for a minimum of a continuous four-hour period on a specific working day. Rule 82*quater*.2 will not be applied by the EPO if a means of electronic filing is unavailable for less than four hours and an announcement of the outage has been published at least two working days in advance. In such cases, it is believed that users would have had enough lead time to adapt their working schedule by using the affected means of electronic filing before or after the unavailability. In cases where the advance notice indicated that an outage was to last for less than four hours, but eventually lasted longer, the EPO will consider applying Rule 82*quater*.2. The relevant information will be published by the EPO on its website and notified to the International Bureau. A list of all outages notified by the EPO under Rule 82*quater*.2(a), as well as minor incidents, will also be published by the EPO.

2. An unplanned outage, however, does not necessarily have to last a minimum of four hours to qualify for the application of Rule 82*quater*.2 by the EPO. If the unavailability of a means of electronic communication, or means of online payment, is qualified as an outage by its technical services, the EPO will consider applying Rule 82*quater*.2 and proceed as described above.

3. Following the publication by the International Bureau of a notification by the EPO, an interested party who wishes to be excused of a delay in meeting a time limit before the EPO should: (i) submit a request to the EPO, indicating that the time limit was not met due to the unavailability of any of the permitted means of electronic communication on a specific date, and (ii) perform the relevant action on the next working day at the EPO on which all permitted means of electronic communication or online payment are again available. Users will be informed without delay of the EPO's decision via Form PCT/RO/132.

4. In case of an outage affecting WIPO's ePCT system, the International Bureau will notify the EPO of such outage. The EPO will then determine whether Rule 82*quater*.2 is applicable and will proceed as described above.

¹ The Online Fee Payment tool and the EPO service for making payments via credit card and bank transfers both serve exclusively for making payments. Therefore, outages affecting these two services cannot be invoked for periods relating to the filing of documents.

5. This notification is applicable from November 16, 2020.

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WIPO FEE TRANSFER SERVICE: NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER OF PCT FEES

Since 1 July 2020² any PCT receiving Office (“RO”), International Searching Authority (“ISA”), Authority specified for supplementary international search (“SISA”), or International Preliminary Examining Authority (“IPEA”) may participate, as a “participating Office”, in the exchange of PCT fees from one Office (the “collecting Office”) to another (the “beneficiary Office”) via the International Bureau (“IB”) for PCT purposes (the “WIPO Fee Transfer Service”), pursuant to PCT Rule 96.2 and in accordance with the provisions set out in Annex G of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT.

An Office participating in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service as a collecting Office may transfer the following fees and related differences, in accordance with Annex G of the Administrative Instructions:

- **international filing fee** (Rule 15.2(c) or (d)) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of the International Bureau;
- **search fee** (Rule 16.1(c) or (d)) collected by the Office in its capacity as a receiving Office for the benefit of a participating Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority;
- **supplementary search fee** (Rule 45*bis*.3(b)) collected by the International Bureau for the benefit of a participating Office in its capacity as an Authority specified for supplementary search;
- **handling fee** (Rule 57.2(c) or (d)) collected by an International Preliminary Examining Authority for the benefit of the International Bureau; and
- **differences relating to the search fee** (Rule 16.1(e)) received by an Office in its capacity as International Searching Authority in a currency other than its fixed currency.³

Furthermore, pursuant to Annex G, Part II.1, paragraph 3, the transfer of the above fees and differences, from the collecting Office to the International Bureau for the further transfer to the beneficiary Office, is considered to be the transfer of said fees in accordance with the applicable Rule, and is not considered to be a payment by the collecting Office to a third party.

² For details, refer to the Report of the fifty-first (22nd ordinary) session of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union), available on the WIPO website at:
https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/govbody/en/pct_a_51/pct_a_51_4.pdf

³ Applicable where, in respect of the payment of the search fee in a prescribed currency other than the currency fixed by the International Searching Authority, the amount actually received by the International Searching Authority in the prescribed currency is, when converted by it into the fixed currency, less than that fixed by it.

List of PCT Fee Transfers that are Part of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service

In accordance with Annex G, Part II.1, paragraph 7 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the list of the PCT fee transfers that were part of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service for each participating Office⁴ as of **20 November 2020** (inclusive), is as follows:

PCT Fee Transfers					
International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency	
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
AT Austrian Patent Office	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from</i> RO/BR, CO, GE, IN, JO, KE, KR, MA, MX, OA, OM, PE, SG, UG, VN, ZA	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives EUR transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/AT</i>
AU Australian Patent Office	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/KR</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from</i> RO/IN, JO, KE, KR, MY, NZ, OM, SG, US, VN, ZA	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives AUD transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/AU</i>
BG Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/EP, RU	n/a	n/a	n/a

⁴ Rows relating to participating Offices having an agreement with the International Bureau of WIPO in relation to functioning as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the *Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)* are identified by light grey shading.

PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
BR National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, EP, SE, US</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/CO, PE</i>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives USD transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/BR</i>
CH Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
CL National Institute of Industrial Property (Chile)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, ES, KR, US</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>	n/a	<i>(not yet participating as IPEA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>
CO Superintendence of Industry and Commerce (Colombia)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, BR, EP, ES, KR, RU</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
CR Registry of Intellectual Property (Costa Rica)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, ES</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
CZ Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
DE German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
DK Danish Patent and Trademark Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, SE, XN</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
DO National Office of Industrial Property (Dominican Republic)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, ES, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
EE Estonian Patent Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
EP European Patent Office (EPO)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: (n/a) as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/AT, BG, BR, CH, CL, CO, CR, CZ, DE, DK, DO, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GE, GR, HU, IE, IL, IN, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, LV, MA, MD, MX, MY, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PE, PH, QA, RS, RU, SA, SE, SG, SI, SK, TN, TR, UG, US, VN, ZA</i>	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives EUR transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/EP</i>

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
ES Spanish Patent and Trademark Office	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i> Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/CL, CO, CR, DO, MX, NI, PE</i>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives EUR transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/ES</i>
FI Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, SE</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as SISA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as IPEA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>
FR National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
GB Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
GE National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia (SAKPATENTI)	<i>(fees paid directly by applicants to RO/IB)</i>	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, EP, IL, RU, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
GR Industrial Property Organization (OBI) (Greece)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
HU Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
IE Intellectual Property Office of Ireland	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
IL Israel Patent Office	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, US</i> Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/GE, US</i>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives USD transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/IL</i>
IN Indian Patent Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, SE, US</i> Beneficiary ISA: <i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>	n/a	<i>(not yet participating as IPEA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>
IS Icelandic Intellectual Property Office (ISIPO)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, SE, XN</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
IT Italian Patent and Trademark Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
JO Industrial Property Protection Directorate, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply (Jordan)	<i>(fees paid directly by applicants to RO/IB)</i>	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
JP Japan Patent Office (JPO)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, SG</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/KR, MY, PH, SG, US, VN</i>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives JPY transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/JP</i>
KE Kenya Industrial Property Institute	<i>(fees paid directly by applicants to RO/IB)</i>	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, SE</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
KR Korean Intellectual Property Office	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collects search fees for ISA/AT, AU, JP, SG</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/AU, CL, CO, MX, MY, NZ, PE, PH, SA, SG, US, VN</i>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives KRW transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/KR</i>
LV Latvian Patent Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collects search fees for ISA/EP, RU</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
MA Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/AT, EP, RU, SE	n/a	n/a	n/a
MD State Agency on Intellectual Property (Republic of Moldova)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/EP, RU	n/a	n/a	n/a
MX Mexican Institute of Industrial Property	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees</i> ISA/AT, EP, ES, KR, SE, SG, US	n/a	n/a	n/a
MY Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/AU, EP, JP, KR	n/a	n/a	n/a
NI Registry of Intellectual Property (Nicaragua)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/EP, ES	n/a	n/a	n/a
NO Norwegian Industrial Property Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/EP, SE, XN	n/a	n/a	n/a
NZ Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/AU, EP, KR, US	n/a	n/a	n/a
OA African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for</i> ISA/AT, EP, RU, SE	n/a	n/a	n/a

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Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
OM Intellectual Property Department, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Oman)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
PE National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (Peru)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, BR, EP, ES, KR, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
PH Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AU, EP, JP, KR, US</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>	n/a	<i>(not yet participating as IPEA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>
QA Intellectual Property Department (Qatar)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
RS Intellectual Property Office (Serbia)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
<p>RU Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)</p>	Collecting RO	<p>as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i></p> <p>as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/BG, CO, GE, LV, MA, MD, OA, SA, US, VN</i></p>	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives RUB transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/RU</i>
<p>SA Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)</p>	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, KR, RU</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
<p>SE Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV)</p>	Collecting RO	<p>as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP, XN</i></p> <p>as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/BR, DK, FI, IN, IS, KE, MA, MX, NO, OA, VN</i></p>	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives SEK transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/SE</i>
<p>SG Intellectual Property Office of Singapore</p>	Collecting RO	<p>as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, JP, KR</i></p> <p>as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/JP, KR, MX, UG, US, VN</i></p>	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives SGD transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/SG</i>

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
SI Slovenian Intellectual Property Office	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
SK Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
TN National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property (INNORPI) (Tunisia)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
TR Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent)	Collecting RO	as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/EP</i> as Beneficiary ISA: <i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as SISA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as IPEA)</i>	<i>(not yet participating as ISA)</i>
UG Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, EP, SG</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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PCT Fee Transfers (continued)	International Filing Fee collected by RO for the benefit of the IB	Search Fee collected by RO for the benefit of participating ISA(s)	Supplementary Search Fee collected by the IB for the benefit of participating SISA	Handling Fee collected by IPEA for the benefit of the IB	differences relating to search fees received by ISA in a currency other than fixed currency
Participating Office (ST.3 code and Office name)	Scope of Participation				
<p>US United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)</p>	Collecting RO	<p>as Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AU, EP, IL, JP, KR, RU, SG</i></p> <p>as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/BR, CL, DO, GE, IL, IN, JO, MX, NZ, OM, PE, PH, QA, ZA</i></p>	n/a	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives USD transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/US</i>
<p>VN Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam)</p>	<i>(fees paid directly by applicants to RO/IB)</i>	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, JP, KR, SG, SE, RU</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
<p>XN Nordic Patent Institute</p>	n/a	<p>as Collecting RO: (n/a)</p> <p>as Beneficiary ISA: <i>receiving search fees transferred from RO/DK, IS, NO, SE</i></p>	Beneficiary SISA	Collecting IPEA	Beneficiary ISA: <i>receives DKK transfers for search fees collected from non-participating ROs that have specified ISA/XN</i>
<p>ZA Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) (South Africa)</p>	Collecting RO	Collecting RO: <i>collecting search fees for ISA/AT, AU, EP, US</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a

Common Timetable for Fee Lists and Fee Transfers

Following consultations with participating Offices, in accordance with Annex G, Part II.2, paragraph 8 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, a common timetable has been established for the year 2021, specifying the latest dates, each month, by which a participating Collecting Office shall establish and transmit fee transfer information to the International Bureau; and by which the lists of fees to be transferred, and the amounts of fees indicated in said lists, shall be established and transmitted to, and from, the International Bureau.

The common timetable established for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 is as follows:

Cycle	Calendar month (2021)	PCT Fee Transfer Service Month (Invoice Period)	Fee Transfer Service	Last date for documentation notification to IB (12h00 CET)	Receiving Office payment cut-off value date	PCT Fee Transfer Service Statement Reports	PCT Fee Transfer Service Settlement Date
1	January	Dec. 2020	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 21-Jan-2021	Friday 22-Jan-2021	Tuesday 26-Jan-2021	Friday 29-Jan-2021
2	February	Jan. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 17-Feb-2021	Friday 19-Feb-2021	Tuesday 23-Feb-2021	Friday 26-Feb-2021
3	March	Feb. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 17-Mar-2021	Friday 19-Mar-2021	Tuesday 23-Mar-2021	Friday 26-Mar-2021
4	April	Mar. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 21-Apr-2021	Friday 23-Apr-2021	Tuesday 27-Apr-2021	Friday 30-Apr-2021
5	May	Apr. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 19-May-2021	Friday 21-May-2021	Tuesday 25-May-2021	Friday 28-May-2021
6	June	May 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 16-Jun-2021	Friday 18-Jun-2021	Tuesday 22-Jun-2021	Friday 25-Jun-2021
7	July	June 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 21-Jul-2021	Friday 23-Jul-2021	Tuesday 27-Jul-2021	Friday 30-Jul-2021
8	August	July 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 18-Aug-2021	Friday 20-Aug-2021	Tuesday 24-Aug-2021	Friday 27-Aug-2021
9	September	Aug. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 22-Sep-2021	Friday 24-Sep-2021	Tuesday 28-Sep-2021	Thursday 30-Sep-2021
10	October	Sept. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 20-Oct-2021	Friday 22-Oct-2021	Tuesday 26-Oct-2021	Friday 29-Oct-2021
11	November	Oct. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 17-Nov-2021	Friday 19-Nov-2021	Tuesday 23-Nov-2021	Friday 26-Nov-2021
12	December	Nov. 2021	PCT/ISA fee	Wednesday 15-Dec-2021	Friday 17-Dec-2021	Tuesday 21-Dec-2021	Thursday 23-Dec-2021

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INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The **Invention Office of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea** has notified the International Bureau of the types of protection available via the PCT, where the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is designated (or elected): protection by "petty inventor's certificate" and "petty patent" is available, in addition to protection by patent and inventor's certificate.

Furthermore, the Office specified its requirements concerning provisional protection after international publication, as follows:

- Provisional protection may be available from such time as a translation has been made available to the public, by laying open for public inspection as provided in the *Law on Inventions of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea*.

[Updating of Annex B1(KP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

BG Bulgaria

Pursuant to PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d) and Section 710(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau of a change to its notification as published in the Official Notifications (PCT Gazette) of 21 April 2016, pages 79 *et seq.*

In particular, as from 1 February 2021, the Office will no longer accept international applications in electronic form filed using the EPO online filing software (under Sections 703(b)(iv) and 710(a)(i) of the Administrative Instructions).

Consequently, as from 1 February 2021, the item concerning electronic filing software specified by the Office in its aforementioned notification will be replaced by the following:

As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):

- ePCT-Filing

[Updating of Annex C(BG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

BH Bahrain

The **National Patent Office (Bahrain)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its telephone numbers, which are now as follows:

Telephone: (973-17) 57 48 96
(973-17) 57 49 23
(973-17) 57 47 69

[Updating of Annex B1(BH) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

MN Mongolia

The **Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its location and mailing address, and its Internet address, which are now as follows:

Location and mailing address: 13381 Ulaanbaatar
Bayanzurkh District, 3 Khoroo
Enkhtaivan Avenue 30
Mongolia

Internet: www.ipom.gov.mn

[Updating of Annex B1(MN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

EA Eurasian Patent Organization

The **Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO)** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the currency prescribed by the Office for payment of the international filing fee (PCT Rule 15.2(b)), the fee per sheet in excess of 30, as well as for the reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. In addition to **US dollars (USD)**, the Office now accepts payment of these fees in **euros (EUR)**.

The consolidated list of fees to which this change applies, together with the amount of each fee, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office, is as follows:

International filing fee: ¹	USD 1,446	(1,453) ²
	or EUR 1,217	(1,233) ²
Fee per sheet in excess of 30: ¹	USD 16	
	or EUR 14	
Reductions (under Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request in character-coded format):	USD 217	(218) ²
	or EUR 183	(185) ²
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract in character-coded format):	USD 326	(328) ²
	or EUR 275	(278) ²

[Updating of Annex C(EA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

MG Madagascar

The **Industrial Property Office of Madagascar** has notified the International Bureau that the amount of the national filing fee, payable in **Malagasy ariary (MGA)** to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, includes the fee for granting and publication of a patent.

[Updating of the National Chapter (MG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ This fee is reduced by 90% if certain conditions apply (see Annex C(IB)).

² The amount in parentheses is applicable as from 1 January 2021.

EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater}.2: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU UNDER PCT RULE 82^{quater}.2(a)

Under PCT Rule 82^{quater}.2(a) concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office or organization, the following periods of unavailability are notified:

EP European Patent Organisation

Permitted electronic means of communication at the European Patent Organisation (EPO) were unavailable during the following periods of time:

- CMS: from 26 November 2020, 08:00 a.m. to 27 November 2020, 11:00 a.m., Central European Time.
- All online services: from 26 November 2020, 11:25 p.m. to 27 November 2020, 01:15 a.m., Central European Time.

Applicants who did not meet a PCT time limit due to these particular unavailabilities may request excuse of delay in meeting that time limit under PCT Rule 82^{quater}.2, in accordance with the applicable conditions (published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 26 November 2020 (p.253 *et seq.*)).

OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

17 December 2020

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

GM Gambia

The **Registrar General's Department, Department of State for Justice (Gambia)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the name of the Office, as well as to its telephone numbers, e-mail and Internet addresses, as follows:

Name of Office:	Registrar General's Department, Ministry of Justice (Gambia)
Telephone:	(220) 422 84 50 (220) 422 86 65 (220) 314 10 05
E-mail:	info@moj.gov.gm colleyabdoulie@yahoo.com
Internet:	www.moj.gov.gm

[Updating of Annex B1(GM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

IL Israel

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14) payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable as from 1 January 2021 is ILS 554.

[Updating of Annex C(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

RS Serbia

The **Intellectual Property Office (Serbia)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several fees, in **Serbian dinars (RSD)**, payable to it as receiving Office and applicable since 1 August 2020, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14): ¹	RSD 7,990	
Fee for the priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	RSD 1,920	for the first document up to 10 pages, plus
	RSD 480	for each subsequent document up to 10 pages, plus
	[No change]	per page in excess of 10
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	RSD 3,210	

[Updating of Annex C(RS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

¹ This fee is reduced by 50% where the international application is filed by a natural person.

DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

BH Bahrain

The **National Patent Office (Bahrain)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **Bahraini dinars (BHD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. These amounts, applicable since 13 December 2018, are as follows:

For patent:

Filing fee: ²	BHD	540	(270) ³
Second annual fee:	BHD	200	(100) ³
Publication fee:	BHD	320	(160) ³

For utility model:

Filing fee: ²	BHD	270	(135) ³
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[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (BH) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

IL Israel

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, of the national filing fee payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. This amount, applicable as from 1 January 2021, is ILS 2,030.⁴

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

² Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

³ The amount in parentheses is payable in case of filing by an individual.

⁴ A 40% reduction in the fee will be applicable for applications first filed in Israel for an individual applicant or for a corporate entity with a turnover of less than ILS 10 million in the last calendar year.

RS Serbia

The **Intellectual Property Office (Serbia)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of several components of the national fee,⁵ in **Serbian dinars (RSD)**, payable to it as designated (or elected) Office and applicable since 1 August 2020, as follows:

For a patent:

Filing fee: ⁶	RSD 7,990
Examination fee: ⁶	RSD 7,990
Annual fee for the first three years: ⁶	RSD 11,200

For a petty patent:

Filing fee: ⁶	RSD 7,990
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[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (RS), of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

⁵ Must be furnished or paid within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1).

⁶ This fee is reduced by 50% where the international application is filed by a natural person.