

## **PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)**

### **Common Quality Framework for International Search and Preliminary Examination**

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

*prepared by National Board of Patents and Registration of Finland (NBPR)*

This supplemental report relates to the quality management system established by this Office as set forth in our report under PCT/GL/ISPE section 21.29 on 29 OCTOBER 2010.

As a result of our most recent internal review under the International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines paragraphs 21.25-21.28, this Authority has made modifications to its QMS as discussed below.

The modifications are given with reference to the sections of the revised template for responses to PCT/GL/ISPE Chapter 21.29 to which the changes relate.

*The Authority should describe any changes made to its QMS making reference to the specific sections of the previous main report, and/or making reference to any supplemental report(s) under paragraph 21.30 compiled in accordance with this template.*

*If no changes have been made to its QMS since the last report, the Authority should indicate such.*

#### **INTRODUCTION (PARAGRAPHS 21.01 TO 21.03)**

On 10 November 2010, Inspecta Certification, the external auditor of the NBPR, updated the ISO quality certificate of the quality management system of NBPR to confirm that the QMS complies with the requirements of the new version of the standard SFS-EN ISO 9001:2008.

The scope of the certification has been extended to cover also the processing of utility models, in addition to the processing of national patent applications and the processing of international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

**1. LEADERSHIP AND POLICY (PARAGRAPHS 21.04 TO 21.09)**

No changes.

**2. RESOURCES (PARAGRAPHS 21.10 TO 21.14)**

The examiners' tools for the electronic handling of applications have been further improved.

**3. MANAGEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE WORKLOAD (PARAGRAPH 21.15)**

No changes.

**4. QUALITY ASSURANCE (PARAGRAPH 21.16)**

The working group on quality assessment has launched a project of comparison of the search and examination of Finnish national applications and the corresponding PCT applications with a Finnish priority. The working group compares national search reports with corresponding ISA search reports, studies the occurrence of differences and determines the reasons for the eventual differences.

**5. COMMUNICATION (PARAGRAPHS 21.17 TO 21.19)**

The web pages of the NBPR have been developed. The documentation of an application procedure is now publicly available to users.

**6. DOCUMENTATION (PARAGRAPHS 21.20 TO 21.23)**

No changes.

**7. SEARCH PROCESS DOCUMENTATION (PARAGRAPH 21.24)**

No changes.

**8. INTERNAL REVIEW (PARAGRAPHS 21.25 TO 21.28)**

No changes.

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