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Entry into the National Phase

Decisions to be taken by the applicant

- Whether
  - to proceed with or drop the international application ?
- When
  - at the end of 30 months (in some cases 31 months or more)
    - under Chapter I ?*
    - under Chapter II ?
  - early entry ?
- Where (choice limited to designated/elected Offices)
  - which national Offices
  - which regional Offices

* LU, TZ and UG continue to apply a 20-month time limit

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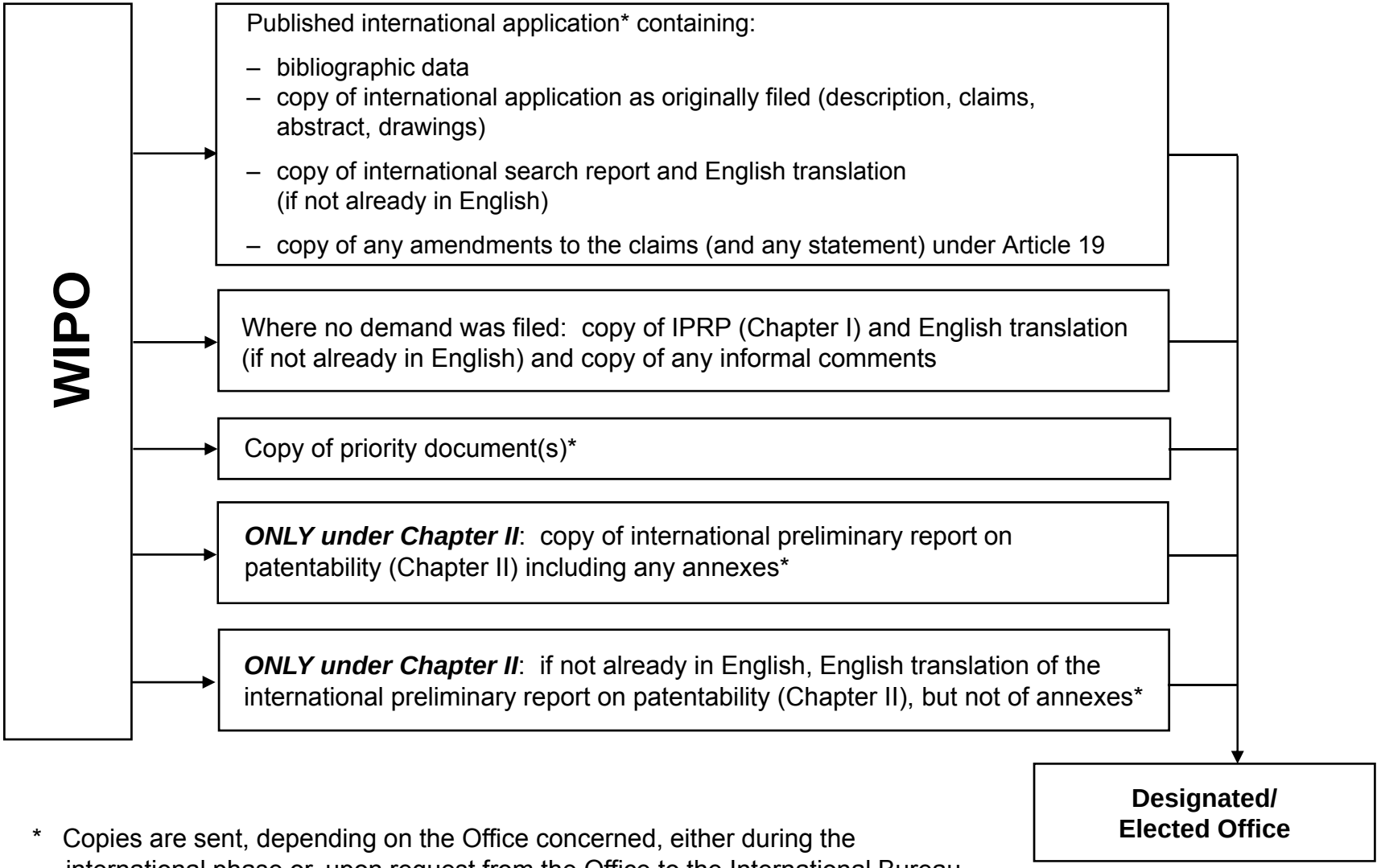
Acts to be performed by the International Bureau



* Copies are sent, depending on the Office concerned, either during the international phase or, upon request from the Office to the International Bureau, after the applicant has entered the national phase

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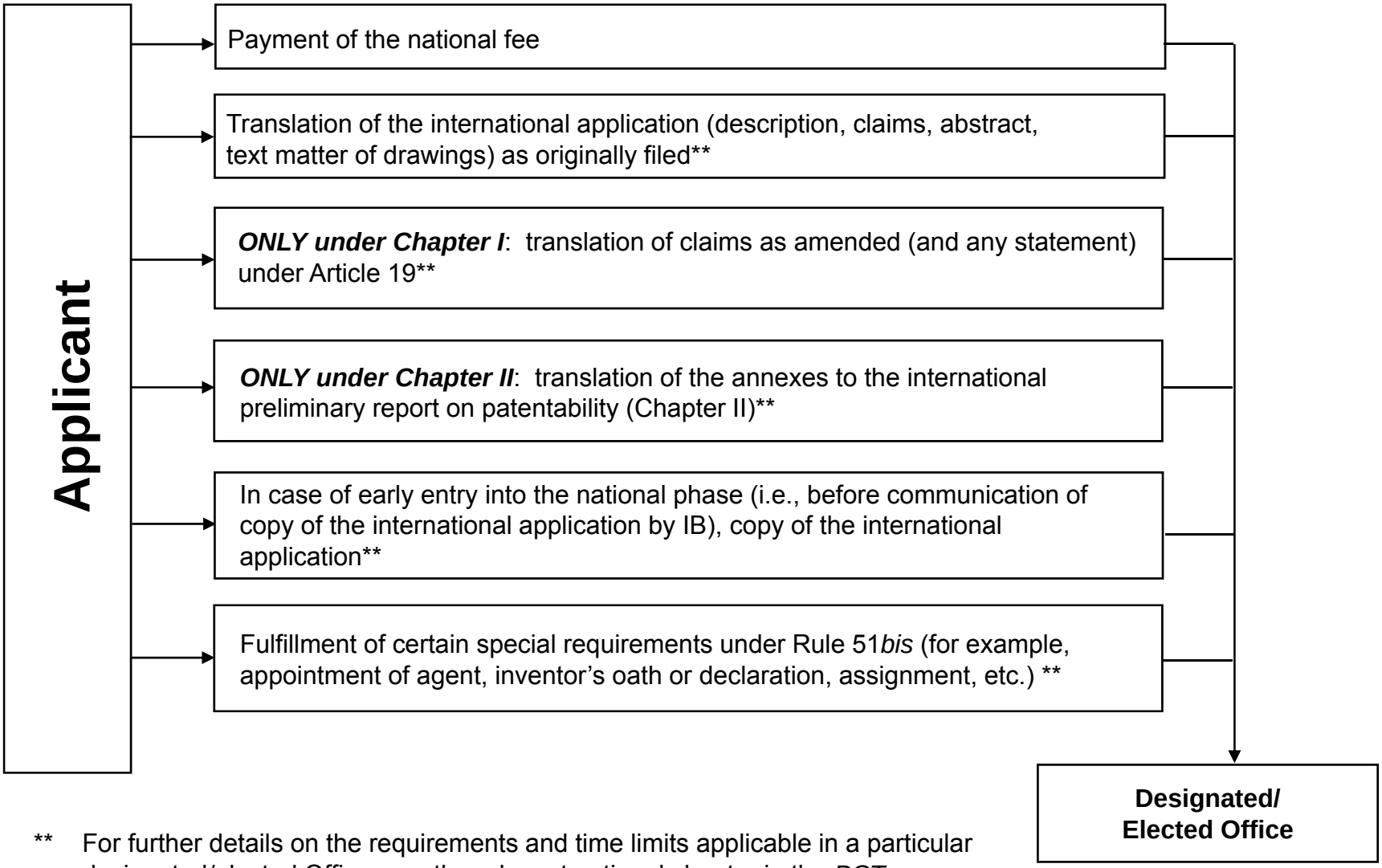
Acts to be performed by the Applicant



** For further details on the requirements and time limits applicable in a particular designated/elected Office, see the relevant national chapter in the *PCT Applicant's Guide,* National Phase

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Time limit for entry in the national phase

The time limit applies irrespective of possible delays in the international phase due to:

- late international search report and written opinion of the ISA
- international preliminary examination delayed
- late international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II)
- late translation of international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II)

General national requirements Art. 22(1) and 39(1)(a)

- Requirements:
  - Translation, if applicable
  - Payment of national fee
  - Copy of international application in particular circumstances only

- Time limit under Art. 22(1): 30 months from the priority date
  - For additional time, see PCT Applicant's Guide, national phase summaries
  - For exceptions, see www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html

- Time limit under Art. 39(1)(a): 30 months from the priority date
  - For additional time, see PCT Applicant's Guide, national phase summaries

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Special national requirements (Art. 27 and Rule 51*bis*.1)

- Time limit under Rule 51*bis*.3:
  - If requirements are not fulfilled within the time limit for entry into national phase under Art. 22 or 39:
    - Invitation by DO
    - At least 2 months from the invitation

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Examples of special requirements under Rule 51*bis*.1 (1)

- Oath or declaration by the inventor (US only):

  Where the corresponding declaration has been furnished during the international phase or directly to the DO/EO, no documents or evidence as to that matter may be required by DO/EO/US unless that Office may reasonably doubt the veracity of the declaration

- Assignment documents (of the priority rights or of the application):

  Where the corresponding declaration has been furnished during the international phase or directly to the DO/EO, no documents or evidence as to that matter may be required by the DO/EO unless that Office may reasonably doubt the veracity of the declaration

Examples of special requirements under Rule 51*bis*.1 (2)

- Translation of the priority document may only be required (Rule 51*bis*.1(e)):
  - where the validity of the priority is relevant to the determination whether the invention is patentable
  - in cases of incorporation by reference
- Appointment of local agent and submission of power of attorney
- Translation or other documents relating to the international application in more than one copy
- Certified translation of the international application (only where the Office may reasonably doubt the accuracy of the translation)

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National requirements simplified for PCT applications (1)

- Priority document
  - The applicant does not need to furnish the priority document since the IB transmits copies to the DO/EOs
  - If the DO/EO did not receive a copy of the priority document from the IB, it must request a copy from the IB (not from the applicant)
- Drawings
  - If the drawings do not contain any text matter to be translated, a simple copy of the drawings as filed is required by a few DOs
  - If the drawings contain text matter to be translated, a set of drawings containing the translated text matter needs to be furnished

National requirements simplified for PCT applications (2)

- No legalized or certified translation of the international application
  - Otherwise, a simple translation is required
  - A few Offices (such as, AU, GB, IN, NZ, SG, ZA) require a "verified" translation
- No special form required (but strongly recommended) for entry into national phase

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Communication with DOs/EOs (Rule 93*bis*)

- Any communication, notification, correspondence or other document relating to an international application will be communicated by the International Bureau to DOs/EOs only upon their request and at the time specified by the Offices
- Most DOs/EOs will receive the majority of documents concerned only after an applicant has entered the national phase before its Office
- Almost all PCT Contracting States now receive the DVD collections containing the full texts of the published international applications

Furnishing by International Bureau of copies of priority documents (Rule 17.2(a))

- The International Bureau provides copies of priority documents to designated Offices:
  - upon request
  - after international publication, unless the applicant made a specific request for early processing under Article 23(2)
- Almost all Offices request a copy of the priority document only after the application entered the national phase
- Only the European Patent Office systematically receives copies of all priority documents

Recommendations for preparing entry into the national phase (1)

- Leave sufficient time, where necessary, to prepare the translation of the international application
- Send your local agent, copies of the (relevant) documents on file: the published international application, the international search report and written opinion by the ISA, the international preliminary examination report, priority documents; note that none of these documents are required to be filed by the local agent at the local patent office

Recommendations for preparing entry into the national phase (2)

- Where you would prefer avoiding paying additional claims fee or other fees that are applicable under any particular national law, prepare the application, and any amendments thereof, according to the national practice
- Even though several designated/elected Offices provide for longer time limits, it is preferable to docket the 30-month time limits for all Offices (See www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html for exceptions under Article 22 (1))

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A few further tips to remember

- Remember to monitor time limits for entering national phase
  - they apply irrespective of delays in the international phase
- Make necessary indications that application is entering the national phase, i.e., that it is not a direct national filing
- Translation of the international application must be correct and complete (no subject matter may be added and/or deleted)
- Pay the required fees (amount may be different from that applicable to direct national filing)

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Reinstatement of rights by DO/EOs (Rule 49.6) (1)

- Available in certain DO/EOs, where the applicant has missed the time limit under Article 22 or 39(1) to enter the national phase:
  - unintentionally

    or - at the option of the Office -

  - in spite of due care required by the circumstances

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Reinstatement of rights by DO/EOs (Rule 49.6) (2)

- Applicants may submit a request for reinstatement and enter the national phase within:
  - 2 months from the date of removal of the cause of the failure to meet the time limit to enter national phase; or
  - 12 months from the date of expiration of the time limit to enter national phase;

  whichever period expires first

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Reinstatement of rights by DO/EOs (Rule 49.6) (3)

- Longer time limits and/or further requirements may apply depending on the applicable national law
- For further details, see for each DO/EO, the relevant National Chapter in the *PCT Applicant's Guide,* National Phase

DO/EOs to which Rule 49.6 does not apply

- Notifications of incompatibility with respective national law were filed in accordance with Rule 49.6(f):

CA	Canada	LV	Latvia
CN	China	MX	Mexico
DE	Germany	NZ	New Zealand
IN	India	PH	Philippines
~~JP~~	~~Japan~~*	PL	Poland
KR	Republic of Korea		

- The national law applicable by some of these Offices may nevertheless provide for other forms of protection against loss of rights - for further details, see for each DO/EO, the relevant National Chapter in the *PCT Applicant's Guide,* National Phase

* Notification withdrawn effective 1 April 2012 (JP)
See the Table of "PCT Reservations, Declarations, Notifications and Incompatibilities"
www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html

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Additional cases of protection against loss of rights

- Other than the (minimum) protection under Rule 49.6: excuse of delays in meeting time limits by designated/elected Offices (Article 48 and Rule 82*bis*)
- Rectification by designated/elected Offices of errors made by RO or IB (Rule 82*ter*)
- Review by and opportunity to correct before the designated/elected Offices (Articles 24(2), 25, 26, 39(3) and 48, Rules 82*bis* and 82*ter*)

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Withdrawals

Withdrawals under Chapter I (1) (Article 24(1)(i) and Rule 90*bis*)

- What?
  - international application, designations (also for certain kinds of protection), priority claim
- When?
  - before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date
- How?
  - by a notice of withdrawal (use of Form PCT/IB/372 recommended) signed by all applicants, their agent or the appointed common representative, and filed with the RO or the IB

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Withdrawals under Chapter I (2) (Article 24(1)(i) and Rule 90*bis*)

- Effect:
  - withdrawal effective upon receipt by the RO or the IB
  - withdrawal has no effect in DOs where national processing or examination has already started
  - withdrawal of international application or designations:
    - effect ceases in each designated State concerned, with same consequences as withdrawal of a national application in that State
    - if notice of withdrawal received by the IB before completion of technical preparations for international publication, there will be no international publication (withdrawal can be made conditional on receipt in time to prevent publication)
  - withdrawal of priority claim: time limits which have not expired are re-computed on the basis of the revised priority date resulting from the withdrawal

Withdrawals under Chapter II (1) (Article 37 and Rule 90*bis*)

- What?
  - international application, designations, demand, elections, priority claim
- When?
  - before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date
- How?
  - by a notice of withdrawal (use of Form PCT/IB/372 recommended) signed by all applicants, their agent or the appointed common representative, and filed with:
    - the RO, the IB or the IPEA, if withdrawing international application or priority claim
    - the IB, if withdrawing demand or elections

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Withdrawals under Chapter II (2) (Article 37 and Rule 90*bis*)

- Effect:
  - withdrawal effective upon receipt by appropriate Authority (see above)
  - withdrawal has no effect in DOs/EOs where national processing or examination has already started
  - withdrawal of demand or elections: withdrawal after expiration of Chapter I time limit for entry into national phase is considered to be withdrawal of the international application in relation to the State(s) concerned
  - withdrawal of priority claim: time limits which have not expired are re-computed on the basis of the revised priority date resulting from the withdrawal

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Requirements concerning references to biological material and sequence listings

Microbiological inventions

- Deposit of a sample in order to meet the requirement of full disclosure:
  - Many national laws require that, where a patent application refers to biological material which has not been made available to the public, a sample thereof be deposited with a recognized culture collection
- The Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (Budapest Treaty)
  - provides for the recognition by its Contracting States of deposits made with any International Depositary Authority (IDA) under the Budapest Treaty
- The IDAs are recognized by all PCT Contracting States, whether they are Contracting States of the Budapest Treaty or not

When must the deposit be made?

- Many Offices require the deposit to be made before the filing date of the PCT application
- A late deposit, however, is no excuse for filing a PCT application claiming priority after the expiration of 12 months from the priority date (restoration of the right of priority may not work)
- Some Offices require that the deposit be made before the filing date of the application of which priority is claimed in the PCT application and that the priority application also makes reference to the deposited biological material, e.g. BY, CN, US

Reference to deposited biological material in a PCT application (Rule 13*bis*)

- Required in a PCT application only where the national law of a designated State provides for it. Usually needed for full disclosure of the invention.
- The *PCT Applicant's Guide,* Deposits of Biological Material (Annex L), contains information on the requirements of the designated States whose national law includes provisions on the deposit of biological material and indicates when and how reference to such deposited biological material should be made.

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Time limit for furnishing references to deposited biological material (Rule 13*bis*.4)

- At the time of filing, as part of the international application (in the description): references in accordance with Rule 13.*bis*.3(a)(i) to (iv)
- Within 16 months from the priority date, or before completion of technical preparations for international publication: any further references related to the deposited biological material not part of the international application
- In case of a request for early publication: before completion of technical preparations for international publication

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Reference to deposited biological material to be made in the description

- In accordance with Rule 13*bis*.3, the reference must include:
  - the name and address of the depositary institution
  - the date of deposit of the biological material with that institution
  - the accession number given to the deposit by that institution
  - any relevant information on the characteristics of the biological material
- Usually included in a paragraph at the beginning of the description
- Alternatively, Form PCT/RO/134 may be used for that purpose and be numbered as a sheet of the description

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Reference to deposited biological material separate from the description

- Statement concerning the “expert solution”
- In the case where the applicant is not the depositor, a statement by the depositor concerning the right of the applicant to make reference to the biological material and to make it available to the public
- Form BP/4: acknowledgement of receipt by the IDA
- Form BP/9: viability statement
- All the above documents will be published by the IB with the international application

The “expert solution” (Rule 13*bis*.6)

- In respect of certain designated Offices, the applicant is entitled to request that a sample be issued only to an expert nominated by the requester
- A space is provided in form PCT/RO/134 to make such indication
- The request must reach the IB before the completion of technical preparations for the international publication of the application
- Some Offices also require the applicant to notify them directly before international publication takes place, e.g. DO/AU, DO/DE, DO/DK

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Applicant and depositor of the sample are not the same person

- In this case, DO/GB and DO/EP require
  - within the time limit of 16 months from the priority date or before technical preparations for international publication have been completed
  - the name and address of the depositor to be included in the reference and
  - a statement specifying that the depositor has authorized the applicant to refer to the deposited biological material in the application and has given his unreserved and irrevocable consent to the deposited material being made available to the public
- Failure to do so may result in the application being refused in the national phase for insufficient disclosure

Which type of reference is covered by Rule 13*bis*?

- Only references to deposits under the Budapest Treaty will be treated as references to biological material under Rule 13*bis*
- Certificates on the Grant of Community Plant Variety Rights issued by the Community Plant Variety Office, a European Union Agency, are not covered by the Budapest Treaty and Rule 13*bis*
- References other than to biological material under Rule 13*bis* will not be published as part of the international application, but will be made available on PATENTSCOPE under “related documents on file at the International Bureau”

Recent changes regarding the filing of sequence listings

What has changed as of 1 July 2009?

- Deletion of Part 8 of the Administrative Instructions
- Modified Administrative Instruction 707(a-*bis*): Calculation of international filing fee and fee reduction
- IB makes sequence listings, filed only for the purposes of international search, publicly available

Filing of sequence listings forming part of the international application

- For international applications filed on or after 1 July 2009:
  - No page fees are payable for sequence listings filed in ST. 25 **text** format as part of an international application filed in electronic form
  - Full page fees are payable for all pages of a sequence listing filed in **image** format as part of an international application in electronic form
  - Full page fees are payable for sequence listings filed on paper
  - ATTENTION: mixed mode filings (former Part 8 of the Administrative Instructions) no longer permissible

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Tables related to sequence listings

- Pages of tables relating to sequence listings count as regular pages of the description
- Full page fees are payable for pages containing tables related to sequence listings, irrespective of whether or not they are submitted in electronic form

Filing of sequence listings not forming part of the international application

- Where a copy of a ST.25-compliant text format sequence listing has been furnished to the ISA under Rule 13*ter*.1 (for the purposes of international search only), the ISA will forward a copy of such a sequence listing to the International Bureau
- The International Bureau will make a copy of all sequence listings in text format received publicly available on PATENTSCOPE

Presentation of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listings (1)

- Relevant provisions:
  - Rules 5.2 and 49.5(a-*bis*)
  - Section 208 and Annex C of the Administrative Instructions
- Where the international application contains disclosure of one or more nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences, the description must contain a sequence listing complying with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions ("PCT Sequence Listing Standard") (that standard has replaced the previously applicable various requirements of the ISAs, IPEAs and designated/elected Offices)

Presentation of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listings (2)

- If so required by the competent ISA, a copy of the sequence listing must also be submitted in electronic form complying with the Standard, in addition to the sequence listing as contained in the application; that copy:
  - must be identical to the written sequence listing
  - must be accompanied by a statement to that effect
- A sequence listing which complies with the Standard must be accepted:
  - by all ROs, ISAs and IPEAs for the purposes of the international phase and
  - by all designated/elected Offices for the purposes of the national phase

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PCT Sequence Listing Standard (1)

- Basis: Section 208 and Annex C of the Administrative Instructions
- Where the sequence listing is filed together with the international application, it:
  - must be presented as a separate “Sequence Listing Part” of the description
  - must be placed at the end of the application
  - must begin on a new page
  - should preferably have independent page numbering

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PCT Sequence Listing Standard (2)

- The Standard provides further details as to:
  - the symbols and the format which must be used for the presentation of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences
  - with regard to other available information to be included in the sequence listing, the mandatory items which must, and the optional item which may, be included, and the order in which those items must appear
  - the presentation of features of sequences
  - the presentation of “free text”

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PCT Sequence Listing Standard: presentation of free text (1)

- The Standard defines “free text” as a wording describing characteristics of the sequence which does not use “language neutral vocabulary”, that is, 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 and the feature keys appearing in the Appendices to the Standard).
- Where the sequence listing part of the international application contains free text, that free text:
  - may, and preferably should, be in English (irrespective of the language of the main part of the description) (Rule 12.1(d))
  - must be repeated in the main part of the description (“Sequence Listing Free Text”) in the language thereof (ISA invites to furnish correction if not contained in main part of description as filed) (Rules 5.2(b) and 13*ter*.1(f))

PCT Sequence Listing Standard: presentation of free text (2)

- For the purposes of the national phase (Rule 49.5(a-*bis*)), no designated Office is entitled to require the applicant to furnish to it a translation of any text matter contained in the sequence listing part of the description if such text matter:
  - is presented in accordance with the Standard
  - is repeated in the main part of the description (and hence in any translation thereof)

Procedure where the sequence listing does not comply with the Standard (1)

- If the international application as filed does not contain:
  - a written sequence listing complying with the Standard; and/or
  - a sequence listing in electronic form complying with the Standard,

  the ISA invites the applicant to furnish to it a listing (in such format) complying with the Standard, unless such a listing is already available to it, and to pay to it, where applicable, a late furnishing fee (Rule 13*ter*.1(a) and (b))

Procedure where the sequence listing does not comply with the Standard (2)

- Any sequence listing which is not contained in the international application as filed but which is furnished subsequently must not go beyond the disclosure in the application as filed and must be accompanied by a statement to that effect (Rule 13*ter*.1(e))
- If the applicant does not comply with the invitation within the time limit fixed in the invitation, the ISA is not required to search the application to the extent that a meaningful search cannot be carried out without the listing (Rule 13*ter*.1(d))

Sequence listing for International Preliminary Examining Authority (Rule 13*ter*.2)

The requirements applicable in respect of the procedure before the ISA apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect of the procedure before the IPEA

Sequence listing for designated/elected Offices (Rule 13*ter*.3)

- Once the processing of the international application has started before a designated/elected Office, the requirements applicable in respect of the procedure before the ISA (and IPEA) apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect of the procedure before that Office
- No designated/elected Office is entitled to require the applicant to furnish to it a sequence listing other than a sequence listing complying with the PCT Sequence Listing Standard

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PatentIn Software

- Windows-based version (available free of charge from the JPO, the USPTO and the EPO) designed to expedite the process of preparing sequence listings in a standardized electronic format complying with the WIPO Sequence Listing Standard
- Helps in creating a database of patent-disclosed sequences
- Supports the exchange of published sequence data between the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office in a Trilateral Sequence Exchange Project

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Procedural Safeguards for International Applications

Procedural safeguards (1)

- Transmittal of international application by a non-competent receiving Office to the International Bureau as receiving Office (Rule 19.4)
- Invitation to correct defects (formal defects, priority claims)
- Extension of time limits by the receiving Office (except for payment of fees, correction and/or addition of priority claims)
- Invitation to pay missing or not fully paid fees (Rules 16*bis* and 58*bis*)
- Incorporation by reference (Rule 20)

Procedural safeguards (2)

- Restoration of the right of priority (Rules 26*bis*.3 and 49*ter*)
- Rectification of obvious mistakes (Rule 91)
- Withdrawal of application in order to prevent its publication
- Withdrawal of priority claim in order to delay publication of application and/or postpone entry into national phase
- Filing by facsimile in order to meet time limits (Rule 92.4)
- Delay in mail sent to applicant: 7-day rule (Rule 80.6)

Procedural safeguards (3)

- Delay or loss in mail sent by applicant: 5-day rule, registered airmail and delivery services (Rule 82.1)
- Reinstatement of rights after failure to enter national phase within applicable time limits (Rule 49.6)
- Excuse of delays in meeting time limits by designated/elected Offices (Article 48 and Rule 82*bis*)
- Rectification by designated/elected Offices of errors made by RO or IB (Rule 82*ter*)
- Review by designated/elected Offices (Articles 24, 25 and 26)

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Procedural safeguards (4)

- Excuse of delay in meeting time limits due to *force majeure* (Rule 82*quater*)
  - RO, ISA, SISA, IPEA or IB will excuse a delay in meeting any time limit provided for in the Regulations, if it is proven to the Office's satisfaction that
    - the time limit could not be met due to war, revolution, civil disorder, strike, natural calamity, or other similar reason, and
    - evidence is offered not later than six months after the expiration of the relevant time limit
  - The Rule does not apply to
    - the 12 month priority period under the Paris Convention
    - the time limit for entry into the national phase
  - The excuse of delay need not be considered by the DOs before which the national phase has already started

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Amendments to the PCT Regulations as from 1 July 2014

Availability of the Written Opinion

- Availability of the written opinion of the ISA as of the date of international publication
  - The written opinion of the ISA and any informal comments submitted by the applicant are available on PATENTSCOPE in their original language as of the publication date
  - The IPRP Chapter I and its translation will continue to be made available at 30 months from the priority date
- Effective as from 1 July 2014 for international applications filed on or after that date

Mandatory Top-up Search during the Chapter II procedure

- The IPEA is required to carry out a top-up search (Rule 66.1*ter*)
  - Aims at uncovering any prior art not available at the time when the ISR was established (patent applications which were published or became available to the IPEA on or after the date of establishment of the ISR but which have an earlier priority date)
  - Exceptions:
    - Only in respect of claims that are the subject of international preliminary examination
    - Where a search would serve no useful purpose, e.g. where the IPEA considers that the documents cited in the ISR are sufficient to demonstrate lack of novelty of the entire subject matter
- Effective as from 1 July 2014 for applications in respect of which a demand for international preliminary examination is made on or after July 1, 2014

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Recent developments

Recent Developments

- America Invents Act (AIA)
- New ISAs/IPEAs
- PCT Brief
- Licensing availability
- Third Party Observations
- PATENTSCOPE
- PCT and PPH
- Arbitration and Mediation Center Fee Reductions

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America Invents Act (AIA) and the PCT

- PCT applications can now be filed in the name of an entity (e.g. corporate applicant, university, NGO) for all States, including the US
- It is recommended to still name the inventors in the request (as applicant/inventor or inventor only) since this information is generally required in the national phase
- If an inventor is indicated as ‘inventor only” in the request at the time of filing, it is important to ensure that at least one of the applicants is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State, and has the right to file with the competent RO
- A declaration of inventorship is still required in the US national phase

New ISAs/IPEAs

- The PCT Assembly appointed the Ukrainian IP Office as an ISA/IPEA at its annual meeting in September/October 2013
  - The appointment will become effective from a future date to be notified by the Office

PCT Brief

- High-level summary of recent and future developments in the PCT, with hyperlinks to more detailed information, databases, videos, etc.
- Targeted, in particular, at managers and attorneys
- Possibility to subscribe to PCT Brief mailing list to be notified about updates
- http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/brief/index.html

Licensing availability (1)

- Applicants interested in concluding license agreements in relation to their international application may request the International Bureau to make this information available in PATENTSCOPE:
  - How? Applicants should submit a “licensing request” (see Form PCT/IB/382) directly to the IB (preferably by means of ePCT)
  - When? At the time of filing or within 30 months from the priority date
  - Free of charge
  - Applicants can file multiple licensing requests or update previously submitted ones (within 30 months from the priority date)

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Licensing availability (2)

- Licensing indications will be made publicly available after international publication of the application
- The licensing indications will be visible on PATENTSCOPE under the "*Bibliographic data*" tab with a link to the submitted licensing request itself
- International applications containing licensing information can be searched for in PATENTSCOPE
- The licensing indication displayed under the "*Bibliographic data*" tab may be revoked by the applicant at any time, that is, also after 30 months from the priority date

Third Party Observations - Main Features

- Allows third parties to submit prior art observations relevant to novelty and inventive step
- Web-based system using ePCT or web-forms in PATENTSCOPE
- Free-of-charge
- Submissions possible until the expiration of 28 months from the priority date
- Applicants may submit comments in response until the expiration of 30 months from the priority date
- Anonymous submission of third party observations possible
- Third-party supplied documents will not be available via PATENTSCOPE, but will be made available to International Authorities and national Offices

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Third Party Observations – Role of the IB

- Check for spam
- Notifies the applicant of submission of observations
- Makes observations available in PATENTSCOPE
- Sends to International Authorities and designated Offices observations, cited documents, and applicant responses
- Available since July 2012

PATENTSCOPE

- Information on national phase entry for more than 40 countries
- Access to more than 30 searchable national and regional patent collections
- Cross-Lingual Information Retrieval (CLIR)
  - Multi language retrieval of patent documents based on a single language query (with Chinese, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish as query language)
- PATENTSCOPE mobile search interface
- Corpus of English/French titles and abstracts (20 years of data) available for purchase, or free for research purposes

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and PCT

- Accelerated examination in the national phase based on a positive work product of an International Authority (written opinion of the ISA or the IPEA, IPRP (Chapter I or II))
- Conditions:
  - At least one claim has been determined to be patentable and
  - ALL the claims must sufficiently correspond to the claims deemed patentable by the ISA or the IPEA (they are of the same or similar scope or they are narrower in scope than the claims in the PCT application)
- Global PPH and PCT:
  - It allows applicants with a positive PCT work product to request accelerated processing of the PCT application during the national phase at any or all of the participating offices, with all of the participating offices evaluating such requests based on the same set of agreed criteria

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Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and PCT

- Bilateral and plurilateral agreements on accelerated national phase processing of PCT applications with positive work products
- Information on the PCT Website: www.wipo.int/pct/en/filing/pct_pph.html
- Information on the PPH Portal: www.jpo.go.jp/cgi/linke.cgi?url=/torikumi_e/t_torikumi_e/patent_highway_e.htm
- Information on procedures and forms can be found on the websites of the participating Offices
- The IB requests feedback on experience with PCT-PPH at pct.legal@wipo.int

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Arbitration and Mediation Center (AMC) (1)

- Independent and impartial body that offers alternative dispute resolution options for the resolution of commercial disputes between private parties (time and cost efficient alternatives to litigation)
- Services:
  - Mediation
  - (Expedited) Arbitration
  - Expert Determination
- IP disputes and other commercial disputes
  - Contractual disputes (patent licenses, software, R&D agreements, patent pools, distribution agreements)
  - Non-contractual disputes (infringement of IP rights)

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Arbitration and Mediation Center (AMC) (2)

- 25% reduction on AMC's registration and administration fees where at least one party to the dispute has been named as an applicant or inventor in a published PCT application
- Fee calculator
  - http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/calculator/adr.jsp