



C. PCT 959
– 07.2

November 5, 2003

Madam,
Sir,

*Proposed modifications of Annex F
of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT*

*Standard for the electronic filing and processing of international applications:
Proposals for change (files PCT/EF/PFC 03/001 to 005)*

1. This circular concerns proposals for change to the standard for the electronic filing and processing of international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) which will, if adopted, result in modifications of Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT. It is being sent, for the purposes of consultation pursuant to Rule 89.2(b) of the Regulations under the PCT, and under the change procedure provided for in section 2.5.5 of Annex F (expedited consideration of proposals for change), to the national and regional patent Offices of, or acting for, all PCT Contracting States, including all receiving Offices, International Searching Authorities, International Preliminary Examining Authorities, and designated and elected Offices, and to interested intergovernmental organizations, as well as to certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

2. The International Bureau has received and prepared a number of proposals for change to the standard for the electronic filing and processing of international applications relating to corrections and additions to the DTDs in view of the entering into force of a number of changes to the PCT Regulations on January 1, 2004 (see http://www.wipo.int/pct/reform/en/measures_adopted.htm). Those proposals are available on WIPO's Website as annexes to the following proposal for change (PFC) files (see http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en):

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- PCT/EF/PFC 03/001 “Corrections to the DTDs consequential to the modifications of the PCT Regulations which enter into force on January 1, 2004” (Annex F, Appendix I) (proposal by the International Bureau, the European Patent Office, the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Japan Patent Office);
- PCT/EF/PFC 03/002 “Corrections to version 1.1 DTDs” (Annex F, Appendix I) (proposal by the International Bureau);
- PCT/EF/PFC 03/003 “New DTD on priority documents” (Annex F, Appendix I) (proposal by the International Bureau);
- PCT/EF/PFC 03/004 “Corrections and additions to the recommended file naming convention and to Appendix I” (Annex F, section 4.3, and Appendix I) (proposal by the International Bureau);
- PCT/EF/PFC 03/005 “Corrections to version 1.2 DTDs” (Annex F, Appendix I) (proposal by the International Bureau).

3. The International Bureau would appreciate receiving any comments on the proposals by December 15, 2003. Comments should preferably be made via the “Submit comments” facility on the Website (at http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/submit_comment.htm), but may alternatively be made in writing by letter or by fax to 41-22-338 8040. Comments will be included as Annexes to the relevant PFC files. Copies of the proposals on paper are available from the International Bureau on request. Inquiries concerning the proposals should be directed to Mr. Thiam Ming Song (e-mail: thiam ming.song@wipo.int; phone: 41-22-338 9640; fax: 41-22-338 8040). Please note that, in order for the International Bureau to update the electronic filing systems in view of the entry into force of modifications to the PCT Regulations on January, 1, 2004, the Consultative Group has also been asked to make its recommendations on the proposals contained in PCT/EF/PFC 03/001, 002 and 005 files by December 15, 2003.

4. The International Bureau intends to promulgate the proposals contained in the PCT/EF/PFC 03/001, 002 and 005 files, revised if necessary in the light of any comments received, by December 2003, with effect from January 1, 2004. The International Bureau intends to promulgate the proposals contained in PCT/EF/PFC 03/003 and 004 files, revised if necessary in the light of any comments received, by February 2004, with immediate effect.

Sincerely yours,



Francis Gurry
Assistant Director General