

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
ORGANIZATION**

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**ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL  
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**ORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE**

المنظمة العالمية للملكية الفكرية

**ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ  
ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ**

C. PCT 987  
-08.5

April 29, 2004

Re: Extension of the Non-Patent Literature Part of the PCT Minimum  
Documentation to Include Traditional Knowledge Related Periodicals

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Madam,  
Sir,

This circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and Preliminary Examination Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and its membership of the Meeting of the International Authorities under the PCT (PCT/MIA).

It is recalled that the PCT/MIA at its seventh session undertook, at the request of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation (PCT/CTC), to initiate a study of the composition of the PCT minimum documentation and make recommendations concerning the non-patent literature (NPL) part of the PCT minimum documentation, in particular with regard to its possible extension to traditional knowledge documentation (see document PCT/MIA/7/5, paragraphs 8 to 17).

This study has progressed through a number of stages using criteria defined  
./ by PCT/MIA (see Annex I) to result in a short-list of selected periodicals as proposed candidates for inclusion in the NPL list. This short-list is detailed below. In deriving the short-list, a Selection Criteria Analysis was compiled by the International Bureau on the basis of compliance of the periodicals with the various selection criteria and the views expressed by the ISAs. The final version of this  
./ analysis is included as Annex II to the circular for reference purposes. Further background information is available on the PCT Minimum Documentation website (see url [www.wipo.int/pct/mia/en/min\\_doc/index.htm](http://www.wipo.int/pct/mia/en/min_doc/index.htm)).

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The proposed periodicals for inclusion in the NPL list are:

- *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*;
- *Journal of Chinese Medicine*;
- *Economic Botany, Journal of the Society of Economic Botany*;
- *Pharmaceutical Biology*;
- *Acta Pharmaceutica*.

These periodicals have been recommended for inclusion by at least two ISAs and no objection to their inclusion has been received.

Unless objections are raised to the contrary by ISAs, the International Bureau intends to arrange for the update and publication of a new NPL list to include the periodicals listed above with a view to its entry into force from July 1, 2004. It would therefore be appreciated if any reply to this Circular from your Office to this effect, could reach the International Bureau by June 1, 2004.

In conclusion, it should be noted that this action is only the first step towards the inclusion of traditional knowledge documentation in searchable prior art, and the work will continue both to review the possible further extension of the NPL list, where appropriate, and to promulgate an agreed list of recommended traditional knowledge—related databases for use in the search process.

Yours sincerely,



Francis Gurry  
Deputy Director General

Enclosures: Annex I - Criteria for Selection of Traditional Knowledge  
Periodicals  
Annex II - Traditional Knowledge (TK) Periodicals – Selection  
Criteria Analysis

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF  
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE PERIODICALS\*

The PCT/MIA agreed that the criteria shown below should be used in the selection of appropriate periodicals to be added to the PCT minimum documentation list:

- (i) sufficient description of technical content so as to qualify as prior art, including ability to ascertain prior art date;
- (ii) practicable access to periodicals, including their availability in electronic form;
- (iii) availability of an English text of articles or, at least, of English-language abstracts;
- (iv) the range of fields of technology covered by periodicals;
- (v) geographical context of periodicals; and
- (vi) access conditions applicable to periodicals, including cost and text searchability.

[Annex II follows]

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\* See document PCT/MIA/7/5, paragraph 12.

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Periodicals - Selection Criteria Analysis															
Periodical	Internet address	ISA Votes For	ISA Votes Against	Qualify as Prior Art		Electronic Availability			English		Topics Covered	Geographical Coverage	Cost	Text searchability	
				Tech. Content	Public'n date	Online	Offline		Full Articles	Abstract				Full Article	Title, Abstract
<b>recommended periodicals in bold</b>				possible reasons for inclusion						possible reasons for exclusion					
<b>Twenty five previously shortlisted TK Periodicals from Annex 2 of C. PCT 911</b>															
<b>Journal of Ethnopharmacology.</b>	<a href="http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03788741">http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03788741</a>	7	0	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Wide range	International	free	Y	Y
<b>Journal of Chinese Medicine.</b>	<a href="http://www.jcm.co.uk/">http://www.jcm.co.uk/</a>	5	0	Y?	Y	N	Y		N?	Y	Traditional Chinese Medicine	Asia?	from £5.50 per article	Y	Y
MAPA (Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Abstracts).	<a href="http://niscair.res.in/">http://niscair.res.in/</a>	1	2	N?	Y?	N	Y		N?	Y	Plants	International	US\$400 per year	N?	Y
Plant Genetic Resources Abstracts.	<a href="http://www.cabi-publishing.org/JOURNALS/Abstract/PGNRA/index.asp">http://www.cabi-publishing.org/JOURNALS/Abstract/PGNRA/index.asp</a>	2	1	Y	Y	Y	N		N	Y	Wide range	International	from £70 per year (Internet only)	N	Y
Review of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants (RAMP).	<a href="http://www.cabi-publishing.org/JOURNALS/Abstract/RAMP/index.asp">http://www.cabi-publishing.org/JOURNALS/Abstract/RAMP/index.asp</a>	3	1	Y	Y	N?	N		N	Y	Plants	International	from £70 per year (Internet only)	N	Y
The European Phytojournal.	<a href="http://www.ex.ac.uk/phytonet/phytojournal/contents.htm">http://www.ex.ac.uk/phytonet/phytojournal/contents.htm</a>	1	2	Y	N?	Y	N?		Y	N	Phytotherapy	Europe	free	N	N
Biotechnology and Development Monitor.	<a href="http://www.biotech-monitor.nl">www.biotech-monitor.nl</a>	1	2	N?	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Biotech, Agriculture, Food	International	free	N	N
COMPAS Newsletter for Endogenous Development.	<a href="http://www.etcint.org/compas_news.html">http://www.etcint.org/compas_news.html</a>	1	2	N	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Field and Farm methods	International	free	N	N
Anthropology & Medicine.	<a href="http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/13648470.html">http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/13648470.html</a>	0	2	N	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Anthropology and Medicine	International	from £12 - individual article	Y?	Y
<b>Economic Botany, Journal of the Society of Economic Botany.</b>	<a href="http://www.econbot.org/home.html">http://www.econbot.org/home.html</a>	5	0	Y	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Economic Botany	International	free	N	Y
Journal of Ginseng Research.	<a href="http://www.ginsengsociety.org">http://www.ginsengsociety.org</a>	1	2	N?	Y?	Y	N?		N?	Y	Ginseng	Korea?	free?	N?	N?

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Periodicals - Selection Criteria Analysis															
Periodical	Internet address	ISA Votes For	ISA Votes Against	Qualify as Prior Art		Electronic Availability			English		Topics Covered	Geographical Coverage	Cost	Text searchability	
				Tech. Content	Public'n date	Online	Offline		Full Articles	Abstract				Full Article	Title, Abstract
<b>Pharmaceutical Biology.</b>	<a href="http://www.szp.swets.nl/szp/frameset.htm?url=%2Fszip%2Fjournals%2Fpb.htm">http://www.szp.swets.nl/szp/frameset.htm?url=%2Fszip%2Fjournals%2Fpb.htm</a>	2	0	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Traditional Medicine	International?	abstract free, from 504 Euro per year (indiv. sub.)	N	Y
Chinese Journal of Integrated Traditional and Western Medicine.	<a href="http://zxyjh.periodicals.net.cn/default.html">http://zxyjh.periodicals.net.cn/default.html</a>	2	1	Y?	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Traditional Medicine	China?	free	N	N?
Indigenous Knowledge Worldwide (IKWW).	<a href="http://www.nuffic.nl/ik-pages/ikww">http://www.nuffic.nl/ik-pages/ikww</a>	1	2	Y	Y	Y	N?		Y	N	Indigenous Knowledge	International	free	N	N
<b>Acta Pharmaceutica.</b>	<a href="http://public.srce.hr/acphee/index.html">http://public.srce.hr/acphee/index.html</a>	4	0	Y	Y	Y	N		N	Y	Pharmacy and related fields	International	free for abstracts	N	Y
CURARE.	<a href="http://www.ag-ethnomedizin.de/e_curare.html">http://www.ag-ethnomedizin.de/e_curare.html</a> or <a href="http://www.vwb-verlag.com/reihen/Periodika/curare.html">http://www.vwb-verlag.com/reihen/Periodika/curare.html</a>	0	2	Y?	Y	N?	N?		N?	N?	Traditional medicine and health planning	International?	from 25 Euro per year - Student sub.	N	N
Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge.	<a href="http://www.niscair.res.in/ScienceCommunication/sci.asp?a=topframe.htm&amp;b=leftcon.asp&amp;c=ResearchJournals/rejour/rejour1.htm&amp;d=test1">http://www.niscair.res.in/ScienceCommunication/sci.asp?a=topframe.htm&amp;b=leftcon.asp&amp;c=ResearchJournals/rejour/rejour1.htm&amp;d=test1</a>	0	3	Y	Y	Y?	N		Y	Y	Ethno-(-biology, -medicine, -pharmacology)	International	from US\$30 for single copy	N	N
Natural Product Sciences.	<a href="http://www.ksp.seoul.kr">http://www.ksp.seoul.kr</a>	2	1	Y?	Y?	N?	N?		N?	N?	Natural product sciences	International?	from US\$30 per year	N	N
AyurVijnana.	<a href="http://www.ittm.org/">http://www.ittm.org/</a>	2	2	N	Y	N?	N		Y	N	Traditional medical cultures of India and Tibet	International	free	Y	Y
Ethnobotanical Leaflets.	<a href="http://www.siu.edu/~ebl/">http://www.siu.edu/~ebl/</a>	1	2	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Ethnobotany	International	free	N	N
Honeybee.	<a href="http://www.sristi.org/honeybee.html">http://www.sristi.org/honeybee.html</a>	4	2	N?	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Farming, pastures, artisan creativity, horticulture	International	free	N	N

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Periodicals - Selection Criteria Analysis															
Periodical	Internet address	ISA Votes For	ISA Votes Against	Qualify as Prior Art		Electronic Availability			English		Topics Covered	Geographical Coverage	Cost	Text searchability	
				Tech. Content	Public'n date	Online	Offline		Full Articles	Abstract				Full Article	Title, Abstract
ILEIA Newsletter.	<a href="http://www.oneworld.org/ileia/newslett.htm">http://www.oneworld.org/ileia/newslett.htm</a>	1	2	N	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Sustainable Agriculture	International	free	N	N
Indigenous Knowledge Notes.	<a href="http://www.worldbank.org/afrik/iknotes.htm">http://www.worldbank.org/afrik/iknotes.htm</a>	1	2	N	Y	Y	N		Y	N	Indigenous knowledge and practices	International	free	N	Y
Thai Index Medicus.	<a href="http://161.200.96.233/thaiim.html">http://161.200.96.233/thaiim.html</a>	0	2	Y?	Y?	Y	N?		N	N?	Thai Medicines	International?	free	N?	N?
Traditional South Asian Medicine.	<a href="http://www.suedasien.uni-halle.de/tsam/tsam.htm">http://www.suedasien.uni-halle.de/tsam/tsam.htm</a>	0	2	N?	N?	N	N?		N	N	Traditional South Asian medical systems	International?	?	N	N
<b>Six further TK periodical suggestions by the European Patent Office to consider for incorporation into the PCT Minimum Documentation</b>															
further recommendations by the EPO		possible reasons for inclusion													
Planta Medica.	<a href="http://www.thieme.de/plantamedica/">http://www.thieme.de/plantamedica/</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Bioactive natural products and medicinal plants	International	from 624 Euro per year	N	Y
Phytochemistry.	<a href="http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00319422">http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00319422</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Plant (Bio)Chemistry; Molecular Biology	International	from 583 Euro per year	Y	Y
Journal of Nutrition.	<a href="http://www.nutrition.org/">http://www.nutrition.org/</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Nutrition	International	from US\$ 25 per year (institutions)	Y	Y
Journal of Natural Products.	<a href="http://pubs.acs.org/journals/jnprdf/">http://pubs.acs.org/journals/jnprdf/</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	Y?		Y	Y	Natural products	International	US\$ 25 per article / from US\$704 per year	Y	Y
Fitoterapia.	<a href="http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/0367326X">http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/0367326X</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Medicinal plants	International	US\$ 25 per article	N	Y
Phytotherapy Research.	<a href="http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/12567">http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/12567</a>	1	0	Y	Y	Y	N?		Y	Y	Medical plant research	International	US\$ 30 per article	N	Y

[End of Annex II and of circular]