



C.PCT 997
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August 13, 2004

Dear Madam/Sir,

This circular announces the publication by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) of a new statistical indicators report on activity in the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) system.

As the PCT system has matured, the International Bureau has received an increasing number of requests for more frequent and more detailed information about the functioning of the PCT system. The requests indicate that Offices and other users of patent information need indicators on a wide range of criteria in order to help them with their own workload planning and analysis.

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The new PCT Statistical Indicators Report, a copy of which is attached to this circular, contains statistics on filing of International Applications, receiving Offices, International Search Authorities, the International Bureau and International Preliminary Examining Authorities. The different sections of the report enable readers to track trends in PCT filings by country of origin, by filing method (paper or electronic), choice of search or examination authority, trends in publication and use of the Chapter II procedure of the PCT. As the data collection and analysis methods are improved, it is intended to add statistics on filings by technical field, applicants and on PCT national phase entries.

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The textual content of the report will initially be available in English only and other languages are planned for the future.

The report is published on WIPO's web site (see: <http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/statistics/index.htm>). Monthly updates will be published and interested parties can subscribe to e-mail notifications of each update through the web site or by sending an e-mail to ipstats.mail@wipo.int.

Sincerely yours,



Francis Gurry
Deputy Director General

Enclosure: PCT Statistical Indicators Report