



C. PCT 1125

04

December 7, 2007

Madam,
Sir,

Convening of a Session of the Working Group of the PCT Assembly in 2008

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a national Office of a State party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also addressed to interested intergovernmental organizations, as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

It is recalled that the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union), at its thirty-sixth (16th ordinary) session, held in Geneva from September 24 to October 3, 2007, decided that, should the need arise to consider a matter which required submission to the Assembly, a Working Group of the Assembly should be convened to do preparatory work rather than submitting the matter straight to the Assembly (see the report of the session, document PCT/A/36/13, paragraphs 133 and 134).

In order to determine whether to convene a session of the Working Group prior to the September 2008 session of the Assembly, the International Bureau would appreciate receiving any proposals for matters to be discussed by the Working Group, such as, in particular, proposed amendments to the PCT Regulations, by January 31, 2008.

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In this context, it is recalled that the Assembly, at its thirty-sixth (16th ordinary) session held in September/October 2007, decided that the International Bureau should develop criteria for assessing future requests for the addition of languages of publication under the PCT, for consideration at the next session of the Assembly in September 2008 (see document PCT/A/36/13, paragraph 172(iii)). In addition, it is recalled that, in response to an invitation at the eighth session of the Working Group on Reform of the PCT for submission of proposals related to the physical requirements of international applications, one such proposal has been submitted and has been made available on the PCT reform electronic forum¹ (see document PCT/R/WG/9/8, paragraph 159). Those matters could be considered by the Working Group of the Assembly should it be decided to convene a session of that Working Group prior to the September 2008 session of the Assembly.

Yours sincerely,



Francis Gurry
Deputy Director General

¹ See WIPO's website at <http://www.wipo.int/pct/reform/en>.