

C. PCT 1312

July 29, 2011

Madam,  
Sir,

Following consultation with your Office, in its capacity as receiving Office (RO) and as International Searching Authority (ISA) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, and also with certain non-governmental organizations, the PCT Receiving Office Guidelines (ROGLs) have been modified and Form PCT/ISA/207 has been established with effect from August 1, 2011.

The modifications are as proposed by Circular PCT 1296 (dated March 10, 2011), except where further changes have been made as a result of consultation, as indicated below (editorial and minor drafting changes are not specifically mentioned).

*Modifications to the ROGLs*

The modifications to paragraphs 27, 34, 50, 101, 102, 183, 240, 241, 253, 259, 268, 272 and 309B are as proposed by Circular PCT 1296.

Following the recommendations of the PCT Working Group (document PCT/WG/4/16) to submit proposed amendments of Rule 17.1 (b-bis) to the PCT Assembly for consideration at its next session in September-October 2011, since it is most likely that the current option for the applicant to request also the RO to obtain a priority document from a digital library and transmit it to the International Bureau will be deleted, the proposed modifications to paragraphs 183A, 183B, 186, 188A 191 and 282 are no longer pursued. It is recalled that currently no RO is offering this option to applicants either.

During consultation, it became apparent that no consensus was yet found on how to best deal with the issue of correction of claim numbering. The proposed new paragraph 209A is therefore not pursued at this stage. Instead, the International Bureau is currently considering whether to propose to clarify this issue through a Rule change.

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Further clarification has been added to the language of new paragraph 339. Following the suggestions by an Office, the words “*at any time*” have been deleted. Even though there was general agreement that the RO would not be precluded from correcting an error it has made at any time, including after the expiration of 30 months from the priority date, in order not to encourage applicants to make requests for corrections at a very late stage, it was felt that the addition of these words in the paragraph was not necessarily needed.

*Availability of modified ROGLs and Modified Form*

The consolidated text of the ROGLs (including the modifications referred to herein) is available on the WIPO's website at [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/gdlines.htm](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/gdlines.htm).

The modified Form PCT/ISA/207 is available from the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/forms/](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/forms/).

Offices which need marked-up copies and/or electronic files of any of the ROGLs or the Form should contact the PCT Legal Division via the following e-mail address: [pct.legal@wipo.int](mailto:pct.legal@wipo.int).

Yours sincerely,



Francis Gurry  
Director General