

C. PCT 1313

August 22, 2011

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your office in its capacity as a receiving Office, International Searching Authority, International Preliminary Examining Authority and/or, designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also being sent to interested intergovernmental organizations as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

This Circular concerns proposals for change to the Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications under the PCT (Annex F of the Administrative Instructions).

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES

Proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are set out in the following Proposal for Change (PFC) file (see http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/pfc_files.htm):

- PCT/EF/PFC 11/001 (*Addition of DTDs for RO/ISA/IPEA PCT forms*), proposal by the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office

The proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are to provide specifications designed to support the page current layouts of PCT forms, for the implementation of PCT forms in XML format.

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CONSULTATIONS

Consultations under PCT Rule 89.2 are being conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions.

The International Bureau would appreciate receiving any comments on the proposals by October 16, 2011. Comments should preferably be made via the "Submit comments" facility on the Website (at http://www.wipo.int/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 file. Copies of the proposals on paper are available from the International Bureau on request. Inquiries concerning the proposals should be directed to the International Bureau via a mailbox: pct.efiling@wipo.int.

FURTHER PROCESS

Once the Consultative Group established under Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions has made its recommendations, the International Bureau will promulgate any necessary changes to the PCT Administrative Instructions together with information on entry into force of the changes.

Yours sincerely,



Francis Gurry
Director General