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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Common Quality Framework for
International Search and Preliminary Examination

**Supplemental Report Under Paragraph 21.18 of the
PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines**

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by:	*[JPO]*
on:	*[January 2010]*
Date of main report and any supplemental reports to which this is a supplement:	*[28 December 2006]* *[January 2008, February 2009]*

Documents referred to in this report: None

As a result of our most recent internal review under PCT/GL/ISPE paragraphs 21.10-21.15, this Authority has made modifications to its Quality Management System (QMS) as discussed below.

The modifications are given with reference to the sections of the revised template for responses to PCT/GL/ISPE Paragraph 21.17 to which the changes relate.

The Authority should describe any changes made to its QMS making reference to the specific sections of the earlier report using template T21-17, and / or making reference to any supplemental report(s) established in the meantime using template T21-18.

If no changes have been made to its QMS since the last report, the Authority should indicate such.

Feedback arrangements (Paragraph 21.08)

Give information on arrangements to:

(a)   Provide feedback to staff informing them of results of verification, validation and monitoring carried out in order to assess compliance of S&E work, so that:

(i) deficient S&E work is corrected;

(ii) corrective action, i.e. action necessary to prevent recurrence, is identified and implemented;

(ii) best practice is identified, disseminated and adopted.

(b)   Accommodate prompt feedback from WIPO, designated and elected offices; so that potential systemic issues, e.g. recurring deficiencies of S&E work, as identified by these bodies, are evaluated and addressed.

The Quality Management Office has reported the analysis of the checking of PCT ISRs/IPERs to the MDCDG (Meeting of Deputy Commissioner and Director Generals), and given feedback to each committee, such as the Examination Guideline and Practice Committee, each art unit and examiners. In addition, in 2009, the Quality Management Office started to provide feedback the results of the checks of PCT ISRs/IPERs for each application to a director of each art unit where the examiner who made the checked ISR/IPER belonged. This feedback for each application to the art unit enhances the improvement of the quality of ISRs/IPERs.

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[End of report]

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