

PCT

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NEWSLETTER

April 1998

No. 04/1998

NEW PCT CONTRACTING STATE

Croatia (country code: HR)

On 1 April 1998, Croatia deposited its instrument of accession to the PCT. Croatia will become the 96th Contracting State of the PCT on 1 July 1998. Consequently, in any international application filed on or after 1 July 1998, Croatia may be designated and, because it will be bound by Chapter II of the PCT, may also be elected. Furthermore, nationals and residents of Croatia will be entitled from 1 July 1998 to file international applications under the PCT.

AUTOMATION OF THE PCT SYSTEM

On 27 March 1998, the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO approved the proposed project for the automation of the PCT system and authorized the financing of that project by the Special Reserve Fund for Additional Premises and Computerization. The project had been proposed to cope with the rapid growth in filings of international applications and demands for international preliminary examination, to facilitate communications between PCT Offices and to permit a more effective form of information dissemination to PCT users, while at the same time minimizing the need for growth of staff, office and storage space requirements.

The main features of the project are as follows:

(1) automation of the PCT operations of the International

Bureau with the introduction of an electronic document management system for handling the increasing number of international applications, whether they are received in electronic or in paper form;

(2) the further development of an electronic filing software (PCT-EASY—for further details, see *PCT Newsletter* Nos. 03/1997 and 03/1998) which will enable applicants to more easily file international applications and avoid making mistakes while doing so, and will permit receiving Offices to receive international applications in electronic form, carry out automated formality checks and transmit international applications to the International Bureau and the International Searching Authorities in electronic form;

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(3) the communication between the PCT Offices and the International Bureau of documents, notifications and information (for example, copies of international applications, priority documents, international search and preliminary examination reports) in electronic form;

(4) the development, where necessary, of new standards for electronic filing, coding and transmission of data in order to ensure full compatibility of the system used by the International Bureau with those used by the national and regional Offices.

The following are expected to benefit from the automated PCT system:

(1) applicants—by permitting them to file international applications in electronic form, check data in their application for errors, and pay lower fees (PCT costs should be reduced since PCT operations will, as a result of the automation, be less labor-intensive, less office space will be needed, and publication costs, including paper, printing and mailing costs, will be reduced);

(2) receiving Offices—by permitting them to process incoming international applications

electronically, including automatic formality checks, and to electronically transmit those applications, and other documents, to the International Bureau and to International Searching Authorities;

(3) the International Bureau—by permitting the electronic processing of international applications, including their publication, in an automated fashion, by receiving through electronic means international search and preliminary examination reports, and by allowing the automatic communication to designated and elected Offices of all information and documents needed for the national processing of an international application either in paper or electronic form;

(4) all Offices of or acting for the PCT Contracting States—which will be in a position to better and more economically cope with their workload resulting from the increasing number of applications and to receive, for the national phase, only the information they need when it is needed; and finally,

(5) the general public—for whom access to PCT information in electronic form and in searchable form will be further enhanced.

Plan of action

An international tender will be held to find the appropriate contractor who will carry out the automation. The tender procedure is foreseen to take place this summer, and the development and implementation of the automation of the PCT system is estimated to last three to four years, following the conclusion of the international tender procedure. The International Bureau will engage independent consultants to control the development and implementation of the system, and will consult, whenever appropriate, interested Offices to ensure the interface and interoperability of the operations of the International Bureau with the automated systems of those Offices.

CYPRUS: CLOSING OF THE NATIONAL ROUTE VIA THE PCT

Cyprus, which became bound by the PCT and the European Patent Convention on 1 April 1998, has closed the national route via the PCT as from that date.

PCT MATERIALS ON INTERNET
(<http://www.wipo.int>)

*PCT Gazette**

PCT Information Line

About the Treaty

Basic Facts about the PCT

The PCT in 1997

Text of the PCT

Text of the Regulations under the PCT

PCT Assembly documents (16 September–1 October 1997), including Report containing Rule changes

*PCT Applicant's Guide**

PCT request and demand forms

PCT Newsletter (Nos. 01/1997–04/1998*)

Recent press releases/updates about the PCT

PCT seminar calendar*

*New or revised since last issue of the
PCT Newsletter

Thus, it is possible to designate Cyprus only for a European patent and not for a national patent. Any designation of Cyprus in an international application will have the effect of an indication of the wish to obtain a European patent.

PCT STATISTICS

1 January to 31 March 1998

During the first three months of 1998, the International Bureau of WIPO received 16,428 international applications filed with PCT receiving Offices worldwide, representing an increase of 36.4% over the same period in 1997.

The number of demands for international preliminary examination filed under Chapter II during the same period amounted to 11,722, representing an increase of 17.1% over the same period last year.

Greatest monthly total of international applications received at the International Bureau

During the month of March 1998, the International Bureau of WIPO received 6,178 international applications filed with PCT receiving Offices worldwide, which is by far the largest number of applications received by the International Bureau in any month since PCT operations began.

PCT INFORMATION UPDATE

EP European Patent Office (fees)

The amount of the following fee, payable to the European Patent Office as receiving Office, has been established in Cypriot pounds (CYP):

transmittal fee: see footnote 6 to fee tables

IB International Bureau (competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities)

There has been a change in the list of International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities competent for international applications filed by nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau with the International Bureau as receiving Office, as follows:

competent International Searching Authority:

for nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau: Austrian Patent Office, Russian Patent Office or European Patent Office

competent International Preliminary Examining Authority:

for nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau: Austrian Patent Office, Russian Patent Office or, for international applications for which the Austrian Patent Office or the European Patent Office has established the international search report, European Patent Office

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (IB))

ZW Zimbabwe (competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities)

The Zimbabwe Patent Office, in its capacity as receiving Office, has specified the Chinese Patent Office, in addition to the Australian Patent Office, the Austrian Patent Office, the Russian Patent Office and the European Patent Office as a competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority. (The European Patent Office is a competent International Preliminary Examining Authority only for international applications for which the Austrian Patent Office or the European Patent Office has established the international search report.)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (ZW))

Search fee (Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office)

As from 1 May 1998, there will be a change in the equivalent amount payable in SGD for an international search carried out by the Austrian Patent Office, as indicated in Table I(b).

The equivalent amount in Cypriot pounds (CYP) has been established for an international search carried out by the European Patent Office, as indicated in Table I(b).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex D (AT and EP))

Preliminary examination fee (European Patent Office)

The equivalent amount in Cypriot pounds (CYP) has been established for an international preliminary examination carried out by the European Patent Office, as indicated in Table II.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex E (EP))

List of Contracting States

The pink tear-out provisional sheet for the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/A, Annex A (PCT Contracting States) includes Croatia, and the date of entry into force of the PCT in respect of that State (see cover page for details).

CEASING OF APPLICABILITY OF 75% EPO FEE REDUCTION FOR APPLICANTS FROM CERTAIN "REFORM STATES"

The European Patent Office (EPO) has informed the International Bureau that the Decision of the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation of 15 December 1994 (see *PCT Newsletter* No. 04/1995) concerning the 75% reduction in the international search and preliminary examination fees for nationals of certain "countries in transition" ("reform States"), which entered into force on 1 April 1995 for a period of three years, expired on 31 March 1998.

Therefore, EPO Form 1223/B ("Request for reduction in the EPO fees for the international search and preliminary examination in favour of nationals of 'reform States'") should no longer be used.

It is recalled that, in the meantime, the said Council has, by a Decision of 14 June 1996 (see *PCT Newsletter* No. 08/1996), introduced for an indefinite period a similar fee reduction in favor of nationals of States whose average per capita national income is less than USD 3,000 (as specified in the Schedule of Fees annexed to the PCT Regulations). It is also recalled that the applicants concerned must request the application of the fee reduction.

Henceforth, nationals of those "reform States" fulfilling the requirements for the corresponding reduction of certain PCT fees

as specified in the Schedule of Fees annexed to the PCT Regulations will continue to benefit from the above-mentioned EPO fee reduction (the following States currently fall into that category: Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). In this case, applicants should use EPO Form 1223/A 06.96 ("Request for reduction in the EPO fees for the international search and preliminary examination in favour of nationals of certain States which fulfil the requirements for the corresponding reduction in PCT fees payable to the International Bureau of WIPO"), and not EPO Form 1223/B, to request that reduction.

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Submitting replacement sheets where physical requirements are not complied with

Q: I must submit replacement sheets in relation to certain pages of the description and claims of my international application, following receipt from the receiving Office of an Invitation to correct defects in the international application (Form PCT/RO/106), which indicates that, on certain pages of the description and claims, the minimum margins are not as prescribed under PCT Rule 11.6. What should my response consist of? Do I have to mark the sheets with the international application number and an indication that the sheets are replacement sheets?

*A: Where the physical requirements have not been complied with, your response to an Invitation to correct defects in the international application must include replacement sheets for all sheets which do not meet those physical requirements. **You should not include on the replacement sheets themselves** the international application number and the indication that the sheets are replacement sheets. Rather, the international application number and the purpose of the transmittal should be included in an accompanying letter, which should also draw attention to the difference between the replaced sheets and the replacement sheets.*

It is only the receiving Office which may mark the replacement sheets with the international application number and an indication that the sheets are replacement sheets. Before it does this, however, the receiving Office must verify the identity of the contents of the replacement sheets with that of the replaced sheets. Then it must check that the defects have been corrected, that the replacement sheets comply with all the other physical requirements prescribed in PCT Rule 11, and that the corrections have been received within the time limit specified in the invitation.

When all the above verifications have been made, the receiving Office stamps the sheets according to Section 325 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT—that is, by indelibly marking in the upper

right-hand corner of each replacement sheet the international application number and the date on which that sheet was received, and, in the middle of the bottom margin of each replacement sheet, the words “SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26),” or their equivalent in the language of publication of the international application.

If you do mark the replacement sheets with the words “SUBSTITUTE SHEET,” or any other indication which is not permitted under the PCT, this may create ambiguity for the PCT Offices concerned.

Note that the same procedure applies if the applicant submits to the receiving Office replacement sheets embodying corrections of physical requirements, without having been invited to correct a defect.

PCT SEMINAR CALENDAR			
Dates and Location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
15–17 April 1998 Beijing (CN)	Chinese/ English	International Symposium on the PCT System in the 21st Century WIPO speakers: Mr. Curchod, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wang	WIPO and the Chinese Patent Office (Ms. Zhang Yan) Tel: (86–10) 62 09 32 88 Fax: (86–10) 62 01 96 15 E-mail: cpoicd@public.bta.net.cn
16–17 April 1998 Boston (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speakers: Mr. Maassel	Boston Patent Law Association (Ms. Ingrid Beattie) Tel: (1–617) 542 50 70 E-mail: beattie@fr.com
19–21 April 1998 Naples, Florida (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys “Basic Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice” WIPO speakers: Mr. Bartels and Mr. Maassel Other speaker: Mr. Welch (Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc.)	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
22 April 1998 Tokyo (JP)	Japanese	PCT seminar for PCT users WIPO speakers: Mr. Inoue and Mr. Kato	Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation Tel: (81–3) 35 02 54 39 Fax: (81–3) 35 06 87 88
23–25 April 1998 Naples, Florida (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys “Advanced Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice” WIPO speakers: Mr. Bartels and Mr. Maassel Other speakers: Mr. Welch (Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc.) and Mr. Philpott (European Patent Office)	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
24 April 1998 Osaka (JP)	Japanese	PCT seminar for PCT users WIPO speakers: Mr. Inoue and Mr. Kato	Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation Tel: (81–3) 35 02 54 39 Fax: (81–3) 35 06 87 88
24 April 1998 Dresden (DE)	German	PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speaker: Mr. Matthes	Arzneimittelwerk Dresden GmbH (Mr. Erich Geissler) Tel: (49–351) 834 14 79 Fax: (49–351) 834 19 45
15 May 1998 London (GB)	English	Update on the PCT system for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Mr. Bryan	Management Forum Ltd Tel: (44–1483) 57 00 99 Fax: (44–1483) 53 64 24 E-mail: management_forum@psilink.co.uk
25 May 1998 Stockholm (SE)	English	PCT presentation in the framework of a course entitled “The Patent Cooperation Treaty and the European Patent Convention” WIPO speaker: Mr. Matthes	Swedish Patent and Registration Office (Mr. Bo Hallgren) Tel: (46–8) 782 25 00 Fax: (46–8) 783 01 63 E-mail: bo.hallgren@prv.se
27–28 May 1998 (originally scheduled for 6–7 May 1998) Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mr. Wolff and Mrs. Coeckelbergs	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49–6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de

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PCT SEMINAR CALENDAR [continued]			
Dates and Location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
29 May 1998 (originally scheduled for 8 May 1998) Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speakers: Mr. Wolff and Mrs. Coeckelbergs	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49-6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49-6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
4 June 1998 Paris (FR)	French	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators	Institut national de la propriété industrielle (INPI) (Mrs. Christiane Sadrin) Tel: (33) 1 53 04 55 76 or (Mr. Jean-Pierre Cardon) Tel: (33) 1 53 04 52 70 Fax: (33) 1 42 93 63 52
4 June 1998 Paris (FR)	French	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators	Institut national de la propriété industrielle (INPI) (Mrs. Christiane Sadrin) Tel: (33) 1 53 04 55 76 Fax: (33) 1 42 93 63 52
22-24 June 1998 Williamsburg, Virginia (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys	American Bar Association, Section of Intellectual Property Law (Ms. Kelly Siske) Tel: (1-312) 988 62 38 Fax: (1-312) 988 56 28 E-mail: intelprop@abanet.org
25-26 June 1998 Chiemsee (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators (previously indicated as an advanced PCT seminar)	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49-6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49-6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
3-4 August 1998 Costa Mesa, California (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys	Orange County Patent Law Association (Mr. Stefan Kirchanski) Tel: (1-714) 751 88 00 Fax: (1-714) 751 88 08 E-Mail: skirchanski@gj.com
6-7 August 1998 San Francisco (US)	English	Advanced PCT seminar for patent attorneys	Intellectual Property International (Ms. Virginia H. Meyer) Tel: (1-415) 289 74 71 Fax: (1-415) 331 60 68 E-mail: VHMeyerEsq@aol.com
10-12 August 1998 Washington, D.C. (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys "Basic Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice"	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1-804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1-804) 296 39 99
12-14 August 1998 Washington, D.C. (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys "Advanced Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice"	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1-804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1-804) 296 39 99

PCT FEE TABLES

The following Tables show the amounts (including currencies—see the key to currency abbreviations following Table II) of the main PCT fees which are payable to the receiving Offices (ROs) and the International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs) during the international phase under Chapter I (Tables I(a) and I(b)) and under Chapter II (Table II). Fees which are payable only in particular circumstances are not shown; nor are details of certain reductions and refunds which may be available; such information can be found in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annexes C, D and E. Note that all amounts are subject to change due to variations in the fees themselves or fluctuations in exchange rates. A 75% reduction in the basic fee, the supplement per sheet over 30, the designation and confirmation fees and the handling fee, as well as the transmittal fee payable to the International Bureau as receiving Office, is available to applicants from certain States; see footnote 2 for details. Footnotes to all Tables follow Table II.

Table I(a) — TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES
(as at 1 April 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 150)	Competent ISA(s) ⁴
AL	ALL 9,000	CHF 650	15	150	EP
AM	AMD 32,000	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
AP	USD 70 (or equiv in local currency)	USD 455	10	105	AT EP SE
AT	ATS 700	ATS 5,600	130	1,300	EP
AU	AUD 100	AUD 640	14	150	AU
AZ	AZM ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
BA	DEM 50	DEM 800	19	184	EP
BE	BEF 1,500	BEF 16,500	380	3,800	EP
BG	BGL 60,000	BGL equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP RU
BR	BRR 236	BRR equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT EP SE US
BY	BYR equiv of USD 70	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
CA	CAD 200	CAD 632	15	146	EP
CH	CHF 100	CHF 650	15	150	EP
CN	CNY 500	CNY equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	CN
CU	USD (or CUP equiv) 200	USD (or CUP equiv) 455	10	105	AT EP ES RU
CZ	CZK 1,500	CZK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
DE	DEM 150	DEM 800	19	184	EP
DK	DKK 1,500	DKK 3,050	70	710	EP SE
EA	RUR equiv of USD 100	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
EE	EEK 1,500	EEK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
EP ⁶	DEM 200	DEM 800	19	184	EP
ES	ESP 10,040	ESP 68,000	1,600	16,000	EP ES
FI	FIM 800	FIM 2,400	55	550	EP SE
FR	FRF 400	FRF 2,690	60	620	EP
GB	GBP 55	GBP 285	6	65	EP

[continued on next page]

Table I(a) — TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES [continued]
(as at 1 April 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 150)	Competent ISA(s) ⁴
GE	GEL ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
GH	GHC ⁷ 2,500 or 5,000	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
GR	GRD 39,500	GRD 127,000	3,000	30,000	EP
HU	HUF ⁸ 10,000	HUF equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP RU
IB	CHF ² 300 or USD ² 200	CHF 650 or USD 455	15 10	150 105	See footnote 9
ID	IDR 300,000	IDR equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AU EP RU
IE	IEP 60	IEP 300	7	70	EP
IL	ILS 399	USD 455	10	105	EP US
IS	ISK 5,500	ISK 32,000	700	7,400	EP SE
IT	ITL 60,000	ITL 783,000	18,000	181,000	EP
JP	JPY 18,000	JPY 55,000	1,300	12,700	EP JP
KE	USD (or KES equiv) 30	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
KG	KGS equiv of USD 60	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
KP	KPW equiv of CHF 50	KPW equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT RU
KR	KRW 45,000	KRW equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT AU JP
KZ	KZI ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
LR	USD 45	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
LS	LSM ⁵ —	LSM equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT EP
LT	LTL equiv of USD 80	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
LU	LUF/BEF 800	LUF/BEF 16,500	380	3,800	EP
LV	LVL 40	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
MC	FRF 300	FRF 2,690	60	620	EP
MD	MDL ⁵ 180	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
MK	MKD 2,750	MKD equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
MN	None	CHF 650	15	150	EP RU
MW	MWK 8	MWK 8,100 (from 15.4.98: 10,000)	200 (230)	1,900 (2,310)	EP
MX	MXP ² equiv of USD 200	MXP equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP ES SE US
NL	NLG 110	NLG 900	21	208	EP
NO	NOK 500	NOK 3,300	75	770	EP SE
NZ	NZD 155	NZD 720	16	165	AU EP US

[continued on next page]

Table I(a) — TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES [continued]
(as at 1 April 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 150)	Competent ISA(s) ⁴
PL	PLZ 240	PLZ equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
PT	PTE 3,600	PTE 82,000	1,900	19,000	EP
RO	ROL 10,000	CHF 650	15	150	AT EP RU
RU	RUR 294,000	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
SD	SDP 50	SDP equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
SE	SEK 1,000	SEK 3,500	80	800	EP SE
SG	SGD 135	SGD 690	16	160	AT AU EP
SI	SIT <i>See footnote 10</i>	SIT equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
SK	SKK 1,600	SKK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
TJ	TJR ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
TM	USD ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
TR	CHF 100	CHF 650	15	150	AT AU CN EP RU
TT	TTD 750	USD 455	10	105	AT EP SE US
UA	UAH 255	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
US	USD 240	USD 455	10	105	EP US
UZ	USD ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
VN	VND equiv of USD 150	VND equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT AU EP RU SE
YU	YUD 200	CHF 650	15	150	EP
ZW	ZWD 550	ZWD equiv of USD 455	equiv of USD 10	equiv of USD 105	AT AU EP RU

Table I(b) — SEARCH FEES
(as at 1 April 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Search fee ¹									
AT	ATS 2,200	CHF 250	SGD* 320	USD 180	(*from 1.5.98:SGD 287)					
AU	AUD 800	CHF 820	NZD 910	SGD 875	USD 570					
CN	CNY 800	CHF 140	USD 100							
EP ¹¹	DEM 2,200	CYP 671	FRF 7,590	ISK 87,300	MWK* 22,400	PTE 227,800				
	ATS 15,710	DKK 8,640	GBP 780	IIL 2,222,000	NLG 2,510	SEK 9,950				
	BEF 46,100	ESP 189,700	GRD 358,300	JPY 152,000	NOK 9,200	SGD 1,890				
	CAD 1,740	FIM 6,770	IEP 846	LUF 46,100	NZD 1,980	USD 1,250				
	CHF 1,850	*(from 15.4.98: MWK 27,000)								
ES	ESP 76,520	CHF 724	USD 494							
JP	JPY 77,000	CHF 910	USD 640							
RU ¹²	USD 300	CHF 430								
SE	SEK 6,200 ¹³	6,800 ¹⁴	FIM 4,200 ¹³	4,600 ¹⁴	USD 815 ¹³	895 ¹⁴				
	CHF 1,180 ¹³	1,290 ¹⁴	ISK 58,500 ¹³	64,000 ¹⁴						
	DKK 5,300 ¹³	5,800 ¹⁴	NOK 5,750 ¹³	6,300 ¹⁴						
US	USD 700	450 ¹⁵	CHF 1,000	640 ¹⁵	NZD 1,207	776 ¹⁵				

Table II — PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FEES

(as at 1 April 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

IPEA	Preliminary examination fee¹⁶			Handling fee^{2,16} (CHF 233)				
AT	ATS	2,200		ATS	2,020			
AU	AUD	450		AUD	230			
CN	CNY	800		CNY equiv of CHF 233				
EP¹¹	DEM	3,000	ESP 258,600	ITL	3,030,000	DEM 285	FIM 860	ITL 281,000
	ATS	21,430	FIM 9,230	LUF	62,900	ATS 2,020	FRF 960	LUF 5,900
	BEF	62,900	FRF 10,340	NLG	3,430	BEF 5,900	GBP 100	NLG 320
	CHF	2,520	GBP 1,064	PTE	310,600	CHF 233	GRD 46,000	PTE 29,000
	CYP	915	GRD 488,600	SEK	13,570	DKK 1,000	IEP 110	SEK 1,250
	DKK	11,790	IEP 1,154			ESP 25,000		
JP	JPY	28,000		JPY	19,700			
RU¹²	USD	200 ¹⁷	300 ¹⁸	USD	162			
SE	SEK	4,200		SEK	1,250			
US	USD	490	750 ¹⁹	USD	162			

Key to currency abbreviations for all fee tables:

ALL	Albanian lek	CYP	Cypriot pounds	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	LUF	Luxembourg franc	SDP	Sudanese pound
AMD	Armenian dram	CZK	Czech koruna	IEP	Irish pound	LVL	Latvian lat	SEK	Swedish krona
ATS	Austrian schilling	DEM	Deutsche mark	ILS	New Israel shekel	MDL	Moldovan leu	SGD	Singapore dollar
AUD	Australian dollar	DKK	Danish krone	ISK	Icelandic krona	MKD	Macedonian denar	SIT	Slovenian tolar
AZM	Azerbaijani manat	EEK	Estonian kroon	ITL	Italian lira	MWK	Malawian kwacha	SKK	Slovak koruna
BEF	Belgian franc	ESP	Spanish peseta	JPY	Japanese yen	MXP	Mexican peso	TJR	Tajik rouble
BGL	Bulgarian lev	FIM	Finnish markka	KES	Kenyan shilling	NLG	Netherlands guilder	TTD	Trinidad and Tobago dollar
BRR	Brazilian real	FRF	French franc	KGS	Kyrgyz som	NOK	Norwegian krone		
BYR	Belarussian rouble	GBP	Pound sterling	KPW	KP won	NZD	New Zealand dollar	UAH	Ukrainian hryvnia
CAD	Canadian dollar	GEL	Georgian lari	KRW	KR won	PLZ	Polish zloty	USD	US dollar
CHF	Swiss franc	GHC	Ghanaian cedi	KZT	Kazakh tenge	PTE	Portuguese escudo	VND	Vietnamese dong
CNY	Yuan renminbi	GRD	Greek drachma	LSM	Lesotho loti	ROL	Romanian leu	YUD	Yugoslav dinar
CUP	Cuban convertible peso	HUF	Hungarian forint	LTL	Lithuanian litas	RUR	Russian rouble	ZWD	Zimbabwe dollar

Footnotes for all fee tables:

¹ Payable to the receiving Office in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.

² This fee is reduced by 75% where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person and is a national of and resides in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia (from 1 July 1998), Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Niger, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia or Zimbabwe. For further details, see *PCT Newsletter* No.10/1995, cover page, No.11/1995, page 6, and No.05/1996, cover page.

³ The confirmation fee payable under PCT Rules 4.9(c) and 15.5 is 50% of the designation fee.

⁴ For the search fee payable to the receiving Office, consult the entry in Table I(b) for the competent International Searching Authority.

⁵ The amounts are not yet known or, where known, are subject to periodical revision. The Office or the agent should be consulted for the latest applicable schedule of fees.

⁶ The amounts of the transmittal fee in currencies other than DEM are as follows: ATS 1,430, BEF/LUF 4,200, CHF 170, CYP 61, DKK 790, ESP 17,200, FIM 620, FRF 690, GBP 71, GRD 32,600, IEP 77, ITL 202,000, NLG 230, PTE 20,700, SEK 900. The amounts in those currencies of the basic fee, supplement per sheet over 30 and designation fee are the same as those indicated for the receiving Offices of the respective States, that is RO/AT, BE, CH, etc.

⁷ The first amount of the transmittal fee is applicable to individuals or entities employing less than 25 persons. The second amount is applicable to entities employing 25 persons or more.

⁸ A supplement of HUF 500 is also payable for each claim in excess of 10.

⁹ The competent International Searching Authority(ies) for an international application filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office is (are) the Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the international application had been filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, the Contracting State of which the applicant (or any of the applicants) is a resident or national. See also *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol.I/B, Annex C (IB).

¹⁰ 5% of the total value of the basic fee, supplement per sheet over 30, designation fee and search fee.

¹¹ Nationals (natural or legal persons) of States which fulfill the requirements for the corresponding reduction of certain PCT fees as specified in the Schedule of Fees annexed to the PCT Regulations (see also footnote 2) may be eligible for reductions in the search and preliminary examination fees. For details, including the amount of the fee reduction, the countries concerned and applicable conditions, see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annexes D (EP) and E (EP).

¹² The applicant may, instead of paying the USD amount, pay the equivalent amount in RUR at the exchange rate applicable on the date of payment at the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, provided that, in the case of the search fee, the receiving Office accepts payment in RUR.

¹³ If, on an earlier application, the priority of which is claimed, a search report has been issued by the Swedish Patent Office, the Danish Patent Office, the National Board of Patents and Registration (Finland), the Norwegian Patent Office or the Icelandic Patent Office.

¹⁴ In all cases where footnote 13 does not apply.

¹⁵ Payable when a corresponding prior US national application has been filed and the basic national fee for that US application has been paid.

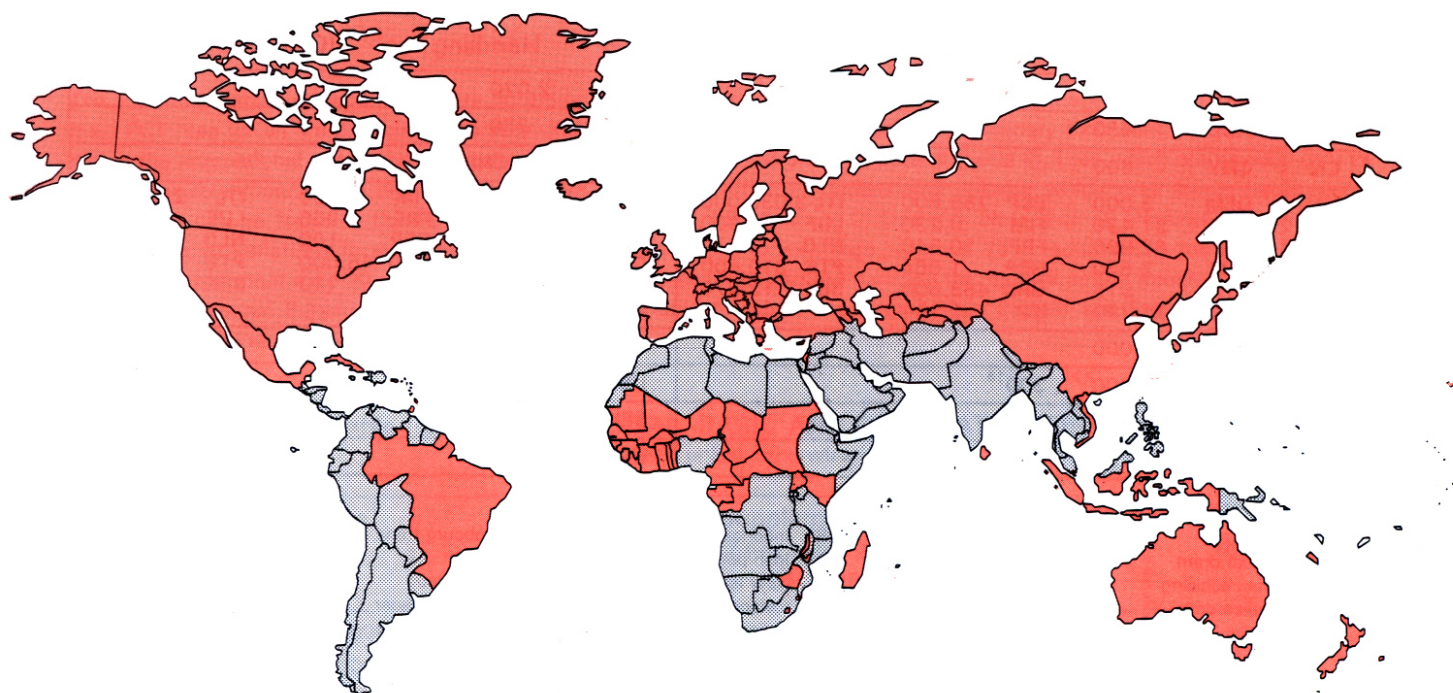
¹⁶ Payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.

¹⁷ Payable when the international search report was established by the Russian Patent Office.

¹⁸ In all cases where footnote 17 does not apply.

¹⁹ Payable when the international search was not carried out by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (provided that the USPTO is a competent International Preliminary Examining Authority in the particular case—see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C.)

PCT CONTRACTING STATES AND TWO-LETTER CODES (96 on 1 April 1998)



AL Albania ¹	CN China	IE Ireland (EP) ²	MD Republic of Moldova (EA)	SG Singapore
AM Armenia (EA)	CU Cuba	IL Israel	MG Madagascar	SI Slovenia ¹
AT Austria (EP)	CY Cyprus (EP) ²	IS Iceland	MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹	SK Slovakia
AU Australia	CZ Czech Republic	IT Italy (EP) ²	ML Mali (OA) ²	SL Sierra Leone
AZ Azerbaijan (EA)	DE Germany (EP)	JP Japan	MN Mongolia	SN Senegal (OA) ²
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina	DK Denmark (EP)	KE Kenya (AP)	MR Mauritania (OA) ²	SZ Swaziland (AP) ²
BB Barbados	EE Estonia	KG Kyrgyzstan (EA)	MW Malawi (AP)	TD Chad (OA) ²
BE Belgium (EP) ²	ES Spain (EP)	KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	MX Mexico	TG Togo (OA) ²
BF Burkina Faso (OA) ²	FI Finland (EP)	KR Republic of Korea	NE Niger (OA) ²	TJ Tajikistan (EA)
BG Bulgaria	FR France (EP) ²	KZ Kazakhstan (EA)	NL Netherlands (EP) ²	TM Turkmenistan (EA)
BJ Benin (OA) ²	GA Gabon (OA) ²	LC Saint Lucia	NO Norway	TR Turkey
BR Brazil	GB United Kingdom (EP)	LI Liechtenstein (EP)	NZ New Zealand	TT Trinidad and Tobago
BY Belarus (EA)	GE Georgia	LK Sri Lanka	PL Poland	UA Ukraine
CA Canada	GH Ghana (AP)	LR Liberia	PT Portugal (EP)	UG Uganda (AP)
CF Central African Republic (OA) ²	GM Gambia (AP)	LS Lesotho (AP)	RO Romania ¹	US United States of America
CG Congo (OA) ²	GN Guinea (OA) ²	LT Lithuania ¹	RU Russian Federation (EA)	UZ Uzbekistan
CH Switzerland (EP)	GR Greece (EP) ²	LU Luxembourg (EP)	SD Sudan (AP)	VN Viet Nam
CI Côte d'Ivoire (OA) ²	GW Guinea-Bissau	LV Latvia ¹	SE Sweden (EP)	YU Yugoslavia
CM Cameroon (OA) ²	HR Croatia (from 1 July 1998)	MC Monaco (EP) ²		ZW Zimbabwe (AP)

¹ Extension of European patent possible.

² May only be designated for a regional patent (the "national route" via the PCT has been closed).

Where a State can be designated for a regional patent, the two-letter code for the regional patent concerned is indicated in parentheses (AP = ARIPO patent, EA = Eurasian patent, EP = European patent, OA = OAPI patent).

Important:

This list includes all States that have adhered to the PCT by the date shown in the heading. Any States indicated in **bold italics** have adhered to the PCT but were not yet bound by the PCT on the date of issue of the latest version of the request form. If the applicant wishes to designate any States which are bound by the PCT on the date on which the international application is filed but which are not listed in the request form, he must add them in Box No. V of the request form and mark the corresponding check-box. Where a State has adhered to but is not yet bound by the PCT, the date on which it will become bound is shown in parentheses; it cannot be designated in international applications filed before that date.

Applicants should always use the latest versions of the request form (PCT/RO/101) and demand form (PCT/IPEA/401), new versions of which are normally issued twice yearly. The latest versions are dated January 1998. The forms are reproduced in Annexes X and Y, respectively, in Vol. I/B of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* (January 1998 update), and can be printed from the WIPO Internet site, in PDF format, at: <http://www.wipo.int/eng/pct/forms/index.htm>. The request form can also be obtained from receiving Offices or the International Bureau. The demand form can also be obtained from receiving Offices, International Preliminary Examining Authorities or the International Bureau.

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PCT Contracting States

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Name of State followed by country code	Date on which State became bound by the PCT	Name of State followed by country code	Date on which State became bound by the PCT
Albania AL	4 October 1995	Indonesia ¹ ID	5 September 1997
Armenia ¹ AM	25 December 1991 (17 May 1994 ²)	Ireland IE	1 August 1992
Australia AU	31 March 1980	Israel IL	1 June 1996
Austria AT	23 April 1979	Italy IT	28 March 1985
Azerbaijan AZ	25 December 1995	Japan JP	1 October 1978
Barbados BB	12 March 1985	Kazakhstan ¹ KZ	25 December 1991 (16 February 1993 ²)
Belarus ¹ BY	25 December 1991 (14 April 1993 ²)	Kenya KE	8 June 1994
Belgium BE	14 December 1981	Kyrgyzstan ¹ KG	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)
Benin BJ	26 February 1987	Latvia LV	7 September 1993
Bosnia and Herzegovina BA	7 September 1996	Lesotho LS	21 October 1995
Brazil BR	9 April 1978	Liberia LR	27 August 1994
Bulgaria BG	21 May 1984	Liechtenstein LI	19 March 1980
Burkina Faso BF	21 March 1989	Lithuania LT	5 July 1994
Cameroon CM	24 January 1978	Luxembourg LU	30 April 1978
Canada CA	2 January 1990	Madagascar MG	24 January 1978
Central African Republic CF	24 January 1978	Malawi MW	24 January 1978
Chad TD	24 January 1978	Mali ML	19 October 1984
China CN	1 January 1994	Mauritania MR	13 April 1983
Congo CG	24 January 1978	Mexico MX	1 January 1995
Côte d'Ivoire CI	30 April 1991	Monaco MC	22 June 1979
Croatia HR	(will become bound on 1 July 1998)	Mongolia ¹ MN	27 May 1991
Cuba ¹ CU	16 July 1996	Netherlands ⁵ NL	10 July 1979
Cyprus CY	1 April 1998	New Zealand NZ	1 December 1992
Czech Republic CZ	1 January 1993 (18 December 1992 ²)	Niger NE	21 March 1993
Democratic People's Republic of Korea KP	8 July 1980	Norway ³ NO	1 January 1980
Denmark DK	1 December 1978	Poland ³ PL	25 December 1990
Estonia EE	24 August 1994	Portugal PT	24 November 1992
Finland ³ FI	1 October 1980	Republic of Korea KR	10 August 1984
France ^{1,4} FR	25 February 1978	Republic of Moldova ¹ MD	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)
Gabon GA	24 January 1978	Romania ¹ RO	23 July 1979
Gambia GM	9 December 1997	Russian Federation ¹ RU	29 March 1978
Georgia ¹ GE	25 December 1991 (18 January 1994 ²)	Saint Lucia ¹ LC	30 August 1996
Germany DE	24 January 1978	Senegal SN	24 January 1978
Ghana GH	26 February 1997	Sierra Leone SL	17 June 1997
Greece GR	9 October 1990	Singapore SG	23 February 1995
Guinea GN	27 May 1991	Slovakia SK	1 January 1993 (30 December 1992 ²)
Guinea-Bissau GW	12 December 1997	Slovenia SI	1 March 1994
Hungary ¹ HU	27 June 1980	Spain ES	16 November 1989
Iceland IS	23 March 1995	Sri Lanka LK	26 February 1982
		Sudan SD	16 April 1984
		Swaziland SZ	20 September 1994

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A**PCT Contracting States****A**

[Continued]

Name of State followed by country code	Date on which State became bound by the PCT	Name of State followed by country code	Date on which State became bound by the PCT
Sweden ³ SE	17 May 1978	Uganda UG	9 February 1995
Switzerland CH	24 January 1978	Ukraine ¹ UA	25 December 1991 (21 September 1992 ²)
Tajikistan ¹ TJ	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)	United Kingdom ⁶ GB	24 January 1978
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia MK	10 August 1995	United States of America ^{7,8} US	24 January 1978
Togo TG	24 January 1978	Uzbekistan ¹ UZ	25 December 1991 (18 August 1993 ²)
Trinidad and Tobago TT	10 March 1994	Viet Nam VN	10 March 1993
Turkey TR	1 January 1996	Yugoslavia YU	1 February 1997
Turkmenistan ¹ TM	25 December 1991 (1 March 1995 ²)	Zimbabwe ZW	11 June 1997

¹ With the declaration provided for in Article 64(5).

² The date in parentheses is the date on which the State deposited a declaration of continued application of the PCT (Rule 32).

³ With the declaration provided for in Article 64(2)(a)(ii).

⁴ Including all Overseas Departments and Territories.

⁵ Ratification for the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

⁶ Extends to the Isle of Man.

⁷ With the declarations provided for in Articles 64(3)(a) and 64(4)(a).

⁸ Extends to all areas for which the United States of America has international responsibility.