

PCT

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TREATY



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NEWSLETTER

February 2000

No. 02/2000

MEETING OF THE PCT COMMITTEE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL MATTERS

The PCT Committee for Administrative and Legal Matters held its seventh session in Geneva from November 29 to December 3, 1999. The session was attended by representatives from 87 Contracting States of the PCT and the European Patent Office in its capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority. In addition, eight States who are members of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, one intergovernmental organization, three international non-governmental organizations, and three national non-governmental organizations were represented by observers.

The Committee discussed proposed amendments of the PCT Regulations that relate primarily to simplifying the requirements for entry into the national phase. The proposals had been discussed earlier at meetings of an ad hoc Advisory Group. A number of the proposals arose out of discussions at meetings of WIPO's Standing Committee on the Law of Patents relating to the draft Patent Law Treaty (PLT), which has been designed to streamline and harmonize the administrative and procedural aspects of filing and processing national patent applications. Those administrative and procedural aspects include, among other things, the form and content of national patent applications and the evidence which an applicant may be required to provide to an Office in the course of processing an application. Although the draft PLT is applicable primarily to national patent

[continued on page 5]

BUDAPEST TREATY

Declaration of acceptance under Article 9(1)(a) of the Budapest Treaty filed by the Eurasian Patent Organization

On 5 January 2000, the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) filed a declaration of acceptance under Article 9(1)(a) of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

One of the main effects of that declaration is that deposits of microorganisms and other biological material made at any international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty will be recog-

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Tear-out sheets: provisional
sheets for the *PCT Applicant's
Guide*, Vol. I/A, Annex A

Insert: Information note:
"The Patent Cooperation
Treaty (PCT) in 1999"

[continued from cover page]

nized for the purposes of patent procedure before the EAPO. The said declaration will become effective with respect to the EAPO on 5 April 2000.

PCT INFORMATION UPDATE

DE Germany (fees)

There has been a change in the amount of the following fee, payable to the German Patent and Trademark Office as receiving Office:

transmittal fee: see Table I(a)

There have also been changes in the amounts of the following national fees, payable to that Office as designated and elected Office:

for patent:

filing fee:	[No change]
annual fee for	
the third year:	DEM 115

for utility model:

filing fee:	DEM	60
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(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (DE), and Vol. II/A, National Chapter, Summary (DE))

GB United Kingdom (institutions with which deposits of microorganisms and other biological material may be made; time limits for entry into the national phase; special requirements)

The name of the National Collections of Industrial and Marine Bacteria Limited (NCIMB), an international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, has changed, as follows:

National Collections of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria Ltd. (NCIMB)

There has been a change in the time limits applicable for entry into the national phase before the United Kingdom Patent Office as designated and elected Office, as follows:

under PCT Article 22:

21 months from the priority date

under PCT Article 39(1):

31 months from the priority date

There has also been a change in the special requirements of that Office under PCT Rule 51*bis* concerning the translation of the priority document, as follows:

verified translation of priority document into English, or declaration that the international application is a complete translation of the priority document into English

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex L, and Vol. II/A, National Chapter, Summary (GB))

TT Trinidad and Tobago (telephone number)

One of the telephone numbers of the Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago has been discontinued, the number to be used now being as follows:

telephone: (1-868) 625 99 72

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/A, Annex B1 (TT))

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 Antigua and

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

PCT Gazette
 PCT Information Line
PCT Newsletter (Nos. 01/1997-02/2000)
 Practical advice published in the *PCT Newsletter* between March 1994 and December 1996
PCT Applicant's Guide
 PCT-EASY
 PCT press releases/updates
 PCT seminar calendar
Basic Facts about the PCT
 The PCT in 1999
 About the Treaty
 Text of the Patent Cooperation Treaty
 Status of ratifications
 Text of the Regulations under the PCT
 Administrative Instructions under the PCT
 PCT Receiving Office Guidelines
 PCT International Search Guidelines
 PCT International Preliminary Examination Guidelines
 Direct filing of PCT applications with the International Bureau as PCT receiving Office
 PCT forms
 PCT Assembly documents: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
 PCT Committee for Administrative and Legal Matters documents: 1999

* * *

PCT INFORMATION LINE

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Barbuda and the date of entry into force of the PCT in respect of that State (see *PCT Newsletter* No. 01/2000, for details).

PCT STATISTICS — 1 January to 31 December 1999

In 1999, the International Bureau of WIPO received 74,023 international applications filed with PCT receiving Offices worldwide, which is 7,016 (10.5%) more than in 1998. The graph below shows the number of international applications received each year since 1978.

The 74,023 international applications received in 1999 had the effect of 3,158,204 national applications, and of 194,447 regional applications which would be equivalent to 2,671,069 applications for patent protection in the member States of the regional patent systems, that is, a notional equivalent effect, in total, of 5,829,273 national applications.

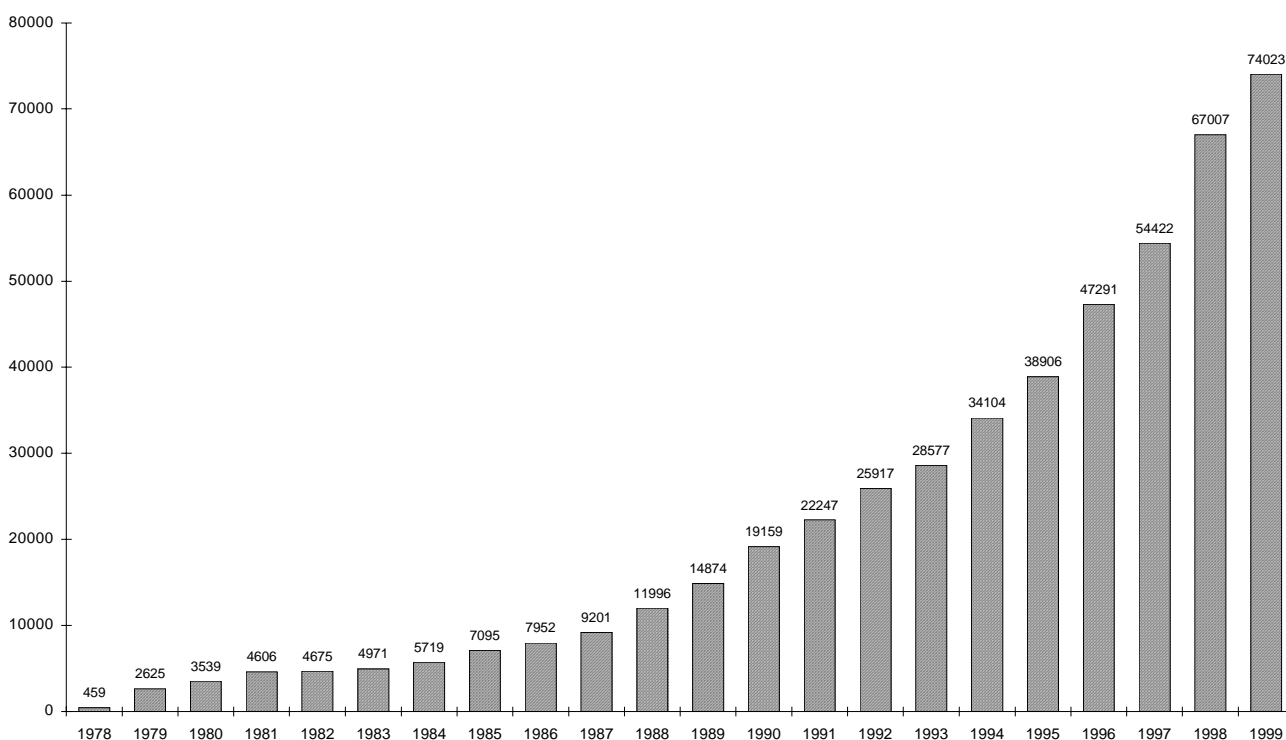
The following table shows the top 10 countries of origin of international applications for that period. (Note that 17% of the applications received were filed with either the European Patent Office or the International Bureau as receiving Offices; those filings, as well as filings received from the other regional patent Offices as receiving Offices, are included in the figures relating to the country of residence of the applicant.)

PCT filings by country of origin (1999)		
Country of origin	Applications received	% of total
US	29,463	39.8
DE	10,897	14.7
JP	7,255	9.8
GB	4,741	6.4
FR	3,633	4.9
SE	2,619	3.5
NL	2,153	2.9
CH (incl. LI)	1,564	2.1
CA	1,398	1.9
FI	1,269	1.7
Other countries	9,031	12.3
	74,023	100.00

Of the 74,023 international applications received, 9,610 (13%) were prepared using the PCT-EASY software. As more and more PCT users became aware of the software and of the benefits of using it, there was an increasing share of filings containing a PCT-EASY request as the year progressed, and in the second half of the year, such filings accounted for 18.8% of all PCT filings.

The number of demands for international preliminary examination also increased in

Number of international applications received since 1978



1999. The total received was 53,284, which represents an increase over 1998 of 10.6%.

Further statistics, as well as information on the main events which occurred in 1999 in relation to the PCT, are contained in the Information Note "The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1999," which is inserted in this issue, and which can also be viewed on the WIPO Internet site.

PCT PUBLICATIONS

PCT Gazette special issue: General information on Contracting States, National and Regional Offices and International Authorities

Consolidated general information relating to PCT Contracting States, national and regional Offices and International Authorities under the PCT was published in a special issue of the *PCT Gazette* on 6 January 2000 (No. S-01/2000 (E) and (F)). It replaces the previous special issue containing consolidated general information, published on 1 July 1999 (No. S-02/1999 (E) and (F)).

Subscribers to the *PCT Gazette* automatically receive special issues. If you are not a subscriber to the *PCT Gazette* but would like to obtain that special issue, you may order it from the Marketing and Distribution Section at WIPO:

fax: (41-22) 740 18 12
 e-mail: publications.mail@wipo.int
 Electronic Bookshop: www.wipo.int/ebookshop
 mailing address: see address on cover page

The price per special issue is 21.60 Swiss francs or 18 US dollars by regular mail, and 25.20 Swiss francs or 21 US dollars by priority mail.

Note that the special issue is also available in PDF format, free of charge, as part of the *PCT Gazette* on WIPO's Internet site.

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Different applicants for different States designated for a regional patent

Q: Two months ago I filed, on behalf of an applicant who is applicant for all designated States, an international application in which all States except US were designated. It is now my client's intention to add a second applicant to the application. Is it possible for the second applicant to be indicated as applicant for the

purposes only of designating Germany for a European patent (EP), leaving the first applicant as applicant for all other States covered by the EP designation, or must the same applicant(s) be indicated in respect of all States which are covered by the designation for the European patent?

A: Different applicants may be indicated for different States included in the same designation for a regional patent (see Section 203(a) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). Therefore, it is possible for you to indicate the second applicant as applicant only for the DE "part" of the EP designation, leaving the first applicant as applicant for all other States covered by that designation.

Note, however, that since DE has also been designated for a national patent, if the second applicant is to be applicant for the DE part of the EP designation, he must also be applicant for the DE designation for a national patent since, according to Section 203(b) of the *Administrative Instructions under the PCT*: "where a particular State has been designated for both a national and a regional patent, the same applicant or applicants shall be indicated for both designations."

When you notify the International Bureau or the receiving Office (which will then, in turn, notify the International Bureau), by way of a request to record a change under PCT Rule 92*bis*, of the addition of the second applicant to the international application, you should specify that that applicant should be indicated as applicant for the DE part of the EP designation and for the DE national designation, and clarify whether or not the first applicant is to remain applicant for those designations.

You are reminded that, along with the request to record a change, you should also furnish a power of attorney signed in your favor by the second applicant, so that you will become the common agent and therefore be entitled to perform any act on behalf of both applicants.

For further details on indicating different applicants for different designated States, see *PCT Newsletter* No. 09/1997. For further details on requesting the addition of new applicants, see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, paras. 427-431, and *PCT Newsletter* No. 10/1997.

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE REGISTER OF EUROPEAN PATENTS CONCERNING EURO-PCT APPLICATIONS

The first Internet version of the Register of European Patents, which contains published

Euro-PCT applications and information on entry into the regional phase before the European Patent Office (EPO), was launched in January. In addition to the previous search criteria (application/publication numbers, applicant, priority application number and International Patent Classification (IPC)) the Internet Register provides six additional search fields:

- publication date
- priority date
- filing date
- inventor
- opponent
- representative

The downloading of data is possible in HTML format for local treatment at the user's end (with the possibility of subsequent conversion into Word or Excel). Previously, users could only retrieve one application number with each search command. The Internet version allows the downloading of large lists of application numbers with one single search command.

The Register will soon provide links to the technical contents of esp@cenet, such as the IPC, Articles and Rules of the European Patent Convention, the *Official Journal of the EPO*, and Guidelines for Examination. It will be possible to retrieve, download and print all documents or communications mentioned in the Register.

An on-line test panel for the new Internet Register is being set up, in which users with good knowledge of the European patent procedure are welcome to participate. Further information, together with examples of the Internet Register, can be obtained from:

www.epoline.org

You can also contact the Epoline helpdesk:

tel: (31-70) 340 45 00
fax: (31-70) 340 46 00
e-mail: epoline@epo.org

Feedback about developments and data quality of the new system should be sent to:

Elena Sereix, Epoline
telephone: (31-70) 340 46 02
e-mail: esereix@epo.org

MEETING OF THE PCT COMMITTEE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL MATTERS [continued from cover page]

applications, it incorporates by reference the standards prescribed by the PCT as to the form and contents of international applications. The basic proposal for the PLT even encompasses the possibility that the request form for

an international application under the PCT could also be used for a national patent application.

In particular, the Committee discussed proposals which would permit applicants to include in an international application declarations, using standardized wording, relating to matters which may be required by designated Offices for the purposes of the national phase. Such matters include, in particular, the identity of the inventor, the applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent, the applicant's entitlement to claim priority of an earlier application, non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty, and allegations as to inventorship.

Such declarations could be filed with the international application or added to the request until the expiration of 16 months from the priority date. Declarations regarding non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty would be published with the international application. Indications would be included on the front page of the published pamphlet regarding any declaration which is contained in the international application. Declarations which are not published would be communicated to designated Offices upon request.

In cases where applicants have furnished such declarations, designated Offices would be precluded from requiring applicants to furnish other documents or evidence regarding the matters covered by the declarations unless there were reasonable doubts as to the veracity of the declarations.

Other matters which were discussed included:

— proposed amendments of Rule 51*bis* relating to the documents and evidence which may be required by designated Offices after entry into the national phase;

— the conditions under which designated Offices may require certified translations of international applications and priority documents;

— provisions requiring designated Offices to invite applicants to comply with national law requirements relating to administrative and procedural matters; and

— certain indications regarding registered applicants and agents.

Proposals for amendments to the PCT Regulations on the matters discussed by the Committee are being prepared for submission to an Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the PCT Union which is scheduled to be held in Geneva from March 13 to 17, 2000.

PCT SEMINAR CALENDAR			
Dates and Location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar; WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
22–23 February 2000 Casablanca (MA)	Arabic, English, French	WIPO Arab Regional Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) WIPO speakers: Mr. Curchod, Ms. Boutillon, Mrs. Daboussi and Mrs. Vianès Other speakers:*	Mococcan Industrial Property Office (Mr. Aziz Bouazzaoui) Tel: (212–2) 33 54 86 Fax: (212–2) 33 53 39
* Mr. Llamas (Spanish Patent and Trademark Office), Miss Gillard (Cabinet Beau de Loménie), Mr. Bouazzaoui, Mrs. Belcaid and Ms. El Ouardi (Moroccan Industrial Property Office)			
24 February 2000 Casablanca (MA)	Arabic, English, French	WIPO National Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) WIPO speakers: Ms. Boutillon, Mrs. Daboussi and Mrs. Vianès Other speakers: see above	Mococcan Industrial Property Office (Mr. Aziz Bouazzaoui) Tel: (212–2) 33 54 86 Fax: (212–2) 33 53 39
29 February– 1 March 2000 Milan (IT)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speakers: Ms. Boutillon and Mrs. Kamm	Ordine dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale (Dr. Francesco Macchetta) Tel: (39–2) 27 78 51 97 Fax: (39–2) 27 78 51 99 E-mail: Francesco.Macchetta@hmrug.com
2–3 March 2000 San Francisco (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Maassel	Intellectual Property International (Ms. Virginia H. Meyer) Tel: (1–415) 289 74 71 Fax: (1–415) 331 60 68 E-mail: IPI@IPISeminars.com Internet: www.ipiseminars.com
6–7 March 2000 Orange County, California (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Maassel	Orange County Patent Law Association (OCPLA) (Mr. Stefan J. Kirchanski) Tel: (1–213) 689 65 78 Fax: (1–213) 486 98 87 E-mail: skirchanski@gj.com
9–10 March 2000 Chicago (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Maassel	The John Marshall Law School Department of Event Management Tel: (1–312) 987 14 20 Fax: (1–312) 427 71 28 E-mail: Events@jmls.edu
27 March 2000 Copenhagen (DK)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Mr. Bryan	Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle (CEIPI) and the Danish Patent Office (Ms. Inge-Lise Høybye) Tel: (45–43) 50 80 00 Fax: (45–43) 50 80 01
22–23 March 2000 Nouakchott (MR)	French	Regional seminar on the PCT WIPO speakers: Mr. Curchod, Ms. Boutillon, Mr. Fall and Mrs. Vianès Other speakers: Mr. Lamoureux (Alcatel), Mr. Rowles (EPIDOS)	Ministry of Mines and Industry (Mrs. Moulaye Idriss) Tel: (222–2) 533 37 Fax: (222–2) 569 37
29 (p.m.)– 30 March 2000 Ecully (FR)	French	PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Centre Paul Roubier (Mrs. Audi) Tel: (33–4) 78 33 07 08 Fax: (33–4) 78 33 58 96
4–5 April 2000 Stockholm (SE)	English	PCT-EASY presentation WIPO speakers: Mr. Roy and Mr. Fitzgerald	Swedish Patent Office (Mr. Christer Eklöf) Tel: (46–8) 782 28 34 E-mail: christer.eklof@prv.se or (Mrs. Ingeborg Giegold) Tel: (46–8) 782 28 84 Fax: (46–8) 783 01 63
6–7 April 2000 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: IPI@IPISeminars.com Internet: www.ipiseminars.com

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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
9–11 April 2000 Naples, Florida (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speakers: Ms. Boutillon, Mr. Bartels and Mr. Maassel	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
13–15 April 2000 Naples, Florida (US)	English	Advanced PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speakers: Ms. Boutillon, Mr. Bartels and Mr. Maassel	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
17–18 April 2000 London (GB)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators and legal assistants “Working with the PCT” WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Kramer	Management Forum Ltd Tel: (44–1483) 57 00 99 Fax: (44–1483) 53 64 24 E-mail: josephine.leak@management-forum.co.uk
19 April 2000 London (GB)	English	PCT-EASY presentation WIPO speakers: Mr. Roy and Mr. Fitzgerald	Management Forum Ltd Tel: (44–1483) 57 00 99 Fax: (44–1483) 53 64 24 E-mail: josephine.leak@management-forum.co.uk
28–29 April 2000 Concord (US) (CANCELLED)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators	Franklin Pierce Law Center (Ms. Carol Ruh) Tel: (1–603) 228 19 63, ext. 1108 Fax: (1–603) 224 33 42 E-mail: cruh@fplc.edu
1–2 May 2000 Minneapolis (US)	English	Advanced PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators	American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) and Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association (MIPLA) (Mr. Brent E. Routman) Tel: (1–612) 336 46 19 Fax: (1–612) 332 90 81 E-mail: broutman@merchant-gould.com
16 May 2000 Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 500 500 Fax: (49–6221) 500 505 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
17–18 May 2000 Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 500 500 Fax: (49–6221) 500 505 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
19 May 2000 Munich (DE)	German	PCT-EASY presentation	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 500 500 Fax: (49–6221) 500 505 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
7–8 June 2000 Paris (FR)	French	Basic seminar on PCT procedures for patent administrators WIPO speaker: Mr. Baron	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
9 June 2000 Paris (FR)	French	PCT presentation for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Fondation Nationale pour le Droit de l'Entreprise (FNDE) and Association Française des Spécialistes en Propriété Industrielle de l'Industrie (ASPI) (Mrs. Heuzé) Tel: (33–1) 42 66 18 19 Fax: (33–1) 42 66 17 37

PCT FEE TABLES

The following Tables show the amounts and currencies 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. The total amount of the basic fee and designation fee may be reduced by CHF 200 under certain circumstances where the request is prepared using the PCT-EASY software; see footnote 2 for details. A 75% reduction in the basic fee, the supplement per sheet over 30, the designation fee and the handling fee, as well as the transmittal fee payable to the International Bureau as receiving Office, is also available to applicants from certain States; see footnote 3 for details. (Note that if both the CHF 200 reduction and the 75% reduction are applicable, the 75% reduction is calculated *after* the CHF 200 reduction.) The key to the abbreviations used and the footnotes to the Fee Tables follow Table II.

Table I(a) – TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES

(as at 1 February 2000, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2,3} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3,4,5} (CHF 140)	PCT-EASY reduction ² (CHF 200)	Competent ISA(s) ⁶
AL	ALL 9,000	CHF 650	15	140	n a	EP
AM	AMD 32,000	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
AP	USD 50 (or eq in local currency)	USD 427	10	92	132	AT EP SE
AT	ATS 700	ATS 5,627.96	123.84	1,210.91	1,733.80	EP
AU	AUD 100	AUD 665	15	144	205	AU
AZ	AZM ⁷ —	USD 427	10	92	n a	EP RU
BA	DEM 50	DEM 799.93	17.60	172.11	246.43	EP
BE	BEF 1,500	BEF 16,499	363	3,550	5,083	EP
BG	BGL 60	BGL eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP RU
BR	BRR 236	BRR eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	AT EP SE US
BY	BYR eq USD 70	USD 427	10	92	n a	EP RU
CA	CAD 200	CAD 630	15	136	194	EP
CH	CHF 100	CHF 650	15	140	200	EP
CN	CNY 500	CNY eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	CN
CR	USD 150	USD 427	10	92	132	EP ES
CU	USD (or CUP eq) 200	USD (or CUP eq) 427	10	92	n a	AT EP ES RU
CY	CYP 75	CYP 235	5	50	n a	EP
CZ	CZK 1,500	CZK eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP
DE	DEM 175	DEM 799.93	17.60	172.11	246.43	EP
DK	DKK 1,500	DKK 3,060	70	660	940	EP SE
EA	RUR eq USD 50	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
EE	EEK 1,800	EEK eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	EP
EP ⁸	EUR 102	EUR 409	9	88	126	EP
ES	ESP 10,040	ESP 68,052	1,497	14,642	20,965	EP ES
FI	FIM 800	FIM 2,431.80	53.51	523.22	749.16	EP SE
FR	FRF 400 or EUR 60.98	FRF 2,682.86 or EUR 409	59.04 9	577.24 88	826.51 126	EP
GB	GBP 55	GBP 264	6	56	81	EP
GE	GEL 10	USD 427	10	92	n a	EP RU
GH	GHC ⁹ 2,500 or 5,000	USD 427	10	92	n a	AT AU CN EP SE
GR	GRD 39,500	GRD 136,000	3,000	29,000	42,000	EP

[continued on next page]

Table I(a) – TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES *[continued]*
(as at 1 February 2000, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2,3} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3,4,5} (CHF 140)	PCT-EASY reduction ² (CHF 200)	Competent ISA(s) ⁶
HR	HRK 200	HRK eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP
HU	HUF ¹⁰ 10,000	HUF eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP RU
IB	CHF ³ 300 or USD ³ 200	CHF 650 or USD 427	15 10	140 92	200 132	See footnote 11
ID	IDR 500,000	IDR eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	AU EP RU
IE	IEP 60 or EUR 76.18	IEP 322.11 or EUR 409	7.09 9	69.31 88	99.23 126	EP
IL	ILS 437	USD 427	10	92	132	EP US
IN	INR 5,000 (filing by individual: 1,500)	USD 427	10	92	132	AT AU CN EP SE US
IS	ISK 5,500	ISK 30,800	700	6,600	n a	EP SE
IT	ITL 60,000	ITL 791,934	17,426	170,392	n a	EP
JP	JPY 18,000	JPY 46,000	1,100	9,900	14,200	EP JP
KE	USD (or KES equiv) ³⁰	USD 427	10	92	n a	AT AU CN EP SE
KG	KGS eq USD 100	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
KP	KPW eq CHF 50	KPW eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	AT RU
KR	KRW 45,000	KRW eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	AT AU KR
KZ	KZT ⁷ –	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
LR	USD 45	USD 427	10	92	n a	AT AU CN EP SE
LS	LSM ⁷ –	LSM eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	AT EP
LT	LTL eq USD 80	USD 427	10	92	n a	EP RU
LU	LUF/BEF 800	LUF/BEF 16,499	363	3,550	n a	EP
LV	LVL 40	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
MA	None	CHF 650	15	140	n a	AT EP RU SE
MC	FRF 320	FRF 2,682.86	59.04	577.24	n a	EP
MD	MDL ⁷ 180	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
MK	MKD 2,750	MKD eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP
MN	None	CHF 650	15	140	200	EP RU
MW	MWK 2,000	MWK 18,400	400	4,000	5,700	EP
MX	MXP ³ eq USD 200	MXP eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	EP ES SE US
NL	NLG 110	NLG 901.32	19.83	193.93	277.67	EP
NO	NOK 500	NOK 3,380	80	730	1,040	EP SE
NZ	NZD 180	NZD 822	19	178	n a	AU EP US
PL	PLZ 280	PLZ eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	EP
PT	PTE 4,650	PTE 81,997.10	1,804.30	17,642.40	25,260.70	EP
RO	ROL 300,000	CHF 650	15	140	200	AT EP RU
RU	RUR 294	USD 427	10	92	132	EP RU
SD	SDP 50	SDP eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	EP

[continued on next page]

Table I(a) – TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES [continued]
(as at 1 February 2000, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹		Basic fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 650)		Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2,3} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3,4,5} (CHF 140)	PCT-EASY reduction ² (CHF 200)	Competent ISA(s) ⁶
SE	SEK	1,000	SEK	3,540	80	760	1,090	EP SE
SG	SGD	135	SGD	727	17	156	224	AT AU EP
SI	SIT	22,000	SIT	eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP
SK	SKK	1,600	SKK	eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	eq CHF 200	EP
TJ	TJR ⁷	–	USD	427	10	92	n a	EP RU
TM	USD ⁷	–	USD	427	10	92	132	EP RU
TR	CHF	100	CHF	650	15	140	200	AT AU CN EP RU
TT	TTD	750	USD	427	10	92	132	AT EP SE US
UA	UAH	255	USD	427	10	92	n a	EP RU
US	USD	240	USD	427	10	92	132	EP US
UZ	USD ⁷	–	USD	427	10	92	132	EP RU
VN	VND	eq USD 150	VND	eq CHF 650	eq CHF 15	eq CHF 140	n a	AT AU EP RU SE
YU	YUD	600	CHF	650	15	140	200	EP
ZA	ZAR	500	ZAR	2,620	60	560	n a	AT AU EP US
ZW	ZWD	550	ZWD	eq USD 427	eq USD 10	eq USD 92	eq USD 132	AT AU CN EP RU

Table I(b) – SEARCH FEES

(as at 1 February 2000, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Search fee ¹											
AT	ATS	2,200	CHF	250	SGD	284	USD	170	ZAR	1,022		
AU	AUD	800	CHF	780	NZD	990	SGD	880	USD	510	ZAR	3,150
CN	CNY	800	CHF	150	USD	100						
EP ¹²	EUR	945	CYP	558	FRF	6,198.79	ITL	1,829,775	NLG	2,082.51	SEK	8,510
	ATS	13,003.48	DEM	1,848.26	GBP	638	JPY	106,200	NOK	7,800	SGD	1,680
	BEF	38,121	DKK	7,090	GRD	314,700	LUF	38,121	NZD	1,900	USD	990
	CAD	1,450	ESP	157,235	IEP	744.25	MWK	42,500	PTE	189,455.50	ZAR	6,040
	CHF	1,530	FIM	5,618.71	ISK	71,200						
ES	ESP	157,235	CHF	1,500	EUR	945	USD	990				
JP	JPY	77,000	CHF	1,087	USD	720						
KR	KRW	150,000	CHF	173	USD	110						
RU ¹³	USD	300	CHF	460								
SE	SEK	8,510	CHF	1,530	DKK	7,090	FIM	5,618	ISK	75,000	NOK	7,900
	USD	990										
US	USD	700	450 ¹⁴	CHF	1,064	684 ¹⁴	NZD	1,350	870 ¹⁴	ZAR	4,209	2,706 ¹⁴

Table II – PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FEES
(as at 1 February 2000, unless otherwise indicated)

IPEA	Preliminary examination fee ¹⁵				Handling fee ^{3,15} (CHF 233)							
AT	ATS 2,200				ATS 2,022.76							
AU	AUD 450				AUD 238							
CN	CNY 800				CNY eq CHF 233							
EP ¹²	EUR 1,533	DKK 11,500	IEP 1,207.34	EUR 147	DKK 1,100	IEP 115.77	EUR 21,094.54	ESP 255,070	ITL 2,968,302	ATS 2,022.76	ESP 24,459	ITL 284,632
	BEF 61,841	FIM 9,114.80	LUF 61,841	BEF 5,930	FIM 874.02	LUF 5,930	CHF 2,480	FRF 10,055.82	NLG 3,378.29	CHF 233	FRF 964.26	NLG 323.95
	CYP 904	GBP 1,035	PTE 307,338.90	CYP 84	GBP 94	PTE 29,470.90	DEM 2,998.29	GRD 510,500	SEK 13,800	DEM 287.51	GRD 49,000	SEK 1,270
JP	JPY 28,000				JPY 16,500							
KR	KRW 150,000				KRW eq CHF 233							
RU ¹³	USD 200 ¹⁶ 300 ¹⁷				USD 153							
SE	SEK 4,200				SEK 1,270							
US	USD 490 750 ¹⁸				USD 153							

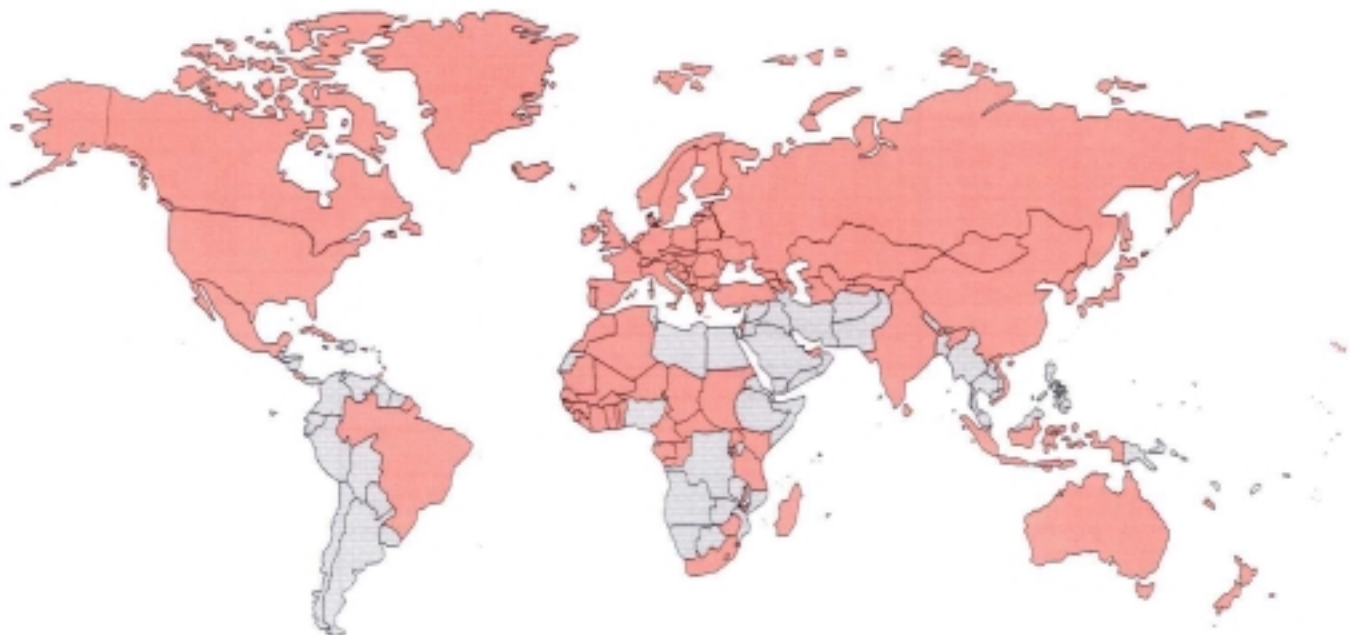
Key to abbreviations used in fee tables:

eq	equivalent of	BRR	Brazilian real	GEL	Georgian lari	KZT	Kazakh tenge	RUR	Russian rouble
IPEA	International Preliminary Examining Authority	BYR	Belarussian rouble	GHC	Ghanaian cedi	LSM	Lesotho loti	SDP	Sudanese pound
ISA	International Searching Authority	CAD	Canadian dollar	GRD	Greek drachma	LTL	Lithuanian litas	SEK	Swedish krona
n a	not applicable	CHF	Swiss franc	HRK	Croatian kuna	LUF	Luxembourg franc	SGD	Singapore dollar
RO	receiving Office	CNY	Yuan renminbi	HUF	Hungarian forint	LVL	Latvian lat	SIT	Slovenian tolar
		CUP	Cuban convertible peso	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	MAD	Moroccan dirham	SKK	Slovak koruna
		CYP	Cyprus pound	IEP	Irish pound	MDL	Moldovan leu	TJR	Tajik rouble
		CZK	Czech koruna	ILS	New Israel shekel	MKD	Macedonian denar	TTD	Trinidad and Tobago dollar
		DEM	Deutsche mark	INR	Indian rupee	MWK	Malawian kwacha	UAH	Ukrainian hryvnia
		ALL	Albanian lek	ISK	Icelandic krona	MXP	Mexican peso	USD	US dollar
		AMD	Armenian dram	ITL	Italian lira	NLG	Netherlands guilder	VND	Vietnamese dong
		ATS	Austrian schilling	JPY	Japanese yen	NOK	Norwegian krone	YUD	Yugoslavian dinar
		AUD	Australian dollar	KES	Kenyan shilling	NZD	New Zealand dollar	PLZ	Polish zloty
		AZM	Azerbaijani manat	KGS	Kyrgyz som	PTE	Portuguese escudo	ZAR	South African rand
		BEF	Belgian franc	KPW	KP won	ROL	Romanian leu	ZWD	Zimbabwe dollar
		BGL	Bulgarian lev	KRW	KR won				

Footnotes to fee tables:

- Payable to the receiving Office in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- The total amount of the basic fee and designation fee is reduced by 200 Swiss francs where: (a) the request is presented as a computer print-out prepared using the PCT-EASY software; (b) the request is filed together with a computer diskette, prepared using that software, containing a copy in electronic form of the data contained in the request and of the abstract; and (c) the international application is filed with a receiving Office which is prepared to accept the filing of international applications containing requests in PCT-EASY format together with PCT-EASY diskettes.
- 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, Algeria (from 8 March 2000), Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, 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.
- The maximum number of designation fees payable is eight.
- The confirmation fee payable under PCT Rules 4.9(c) and 15.5 is 50% of the designation fee due (taking into account any applicable 75% reduction; see footnote 3).
- For the search fee payable to the receiving Office, consult the entry in Table I(b) for the competent International Searching Authority.
- 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.
- The amounts of the transmittal fee in currencies other than EUR are as follows: ATS 1,403.55; BEF 4,115; CHF 170; CYP 60; DEM 199.49; DKK 770; ESP 16,971; FIM 606.46; FRF 669.08; GBP 69; GRD 34,000; IEP 80.33; ITL 197,500; LUF 4,115; NLG 224.78; PTE 20,449.20; SEK 920. 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.
- 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.
- A supplement of HUF 500 is also payable for each claim in excess of 10.
- 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).
- 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 3) may be eligible for reductions in the search and preliminary examination fees. For details, including the amount of the fee reduction and applicable conditions, see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annexes D (EP) and E (EP). The list of countries concerned is indicated in footnote 3.
- 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.
- Payable when a corresponding prior US national application has been filed and the basic filing fee for that US application has been paid.
- Payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- Payable when the international search report was established by the Russian Patent Office.
- In all cases where footnote 16 does not apply.
- 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 (106 on 1 February 2000)



AE United Arab Emirates	CM Cameroon (OA) ²	HU Hungary	MD Republic of Moldova (EA)	SL Sierra Leone (AP)
AL Albania ¹	CN China	ID Indonesia	MG Madagascar	SN Senegal (OA) ²
AG Antigua and Barbuda (from 17 March 2000)	CR Costa Rica	IE Ireland (EP) ²	MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹	SZ Swaziland (AP) ²
AM Armenia (EA)	CU Cuba	IL Israel	ML Mali (OA) ²	TD Chad (OA) ²
AT Austria (EP)	CY Cyprus (EP) ²	IN India	MN Mongolia	TG Togo (OA) ²
AU Australia	CZ Czech Republic	IS Iceland	MR Mauritania (OA) ²	TJ Tajikistan (EA)
AZ Azerbaijan (EA)	DE Germany (EP)	IT Italy (EP) ²	MW Malawi (AP)	TM Turkmenistan (EA)
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina	DK Denmark (EP)	JP Japan	MX Mexico	TR Turkey
BB Barbados	DM Dominica	KE Kenya (AP)	NE Niger (OA) ²	TT Trinidad and Tobago
BE Belgium (EP) ²	DZ Algeria (from 8 March 2000)	KG Kyrgyzstan (EA)	NL Netherlands (EP) ²	TZ United Republic of Tanzania (AP)
BF Burkina Faso (OA) ²	EE Estonia	KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NO Norway	UA Ukraine
BG Bulgaria	ES Spain (EP)	KR Republic of Korea	NZ New Zealand	UG Uganda (AP)
BJ Benin (OA) ²	FI Finland (EP)	KZ Kazakhstan (EA)	PL Poland	US United States of America
BR Brazil	FR France (EP) ²	LC Saint Lucia	PT Portugal (EP)	UZ Uzbekistan
BY Belarus (EA)	GA Gabon (OA) ²	LI Liechtenstein (EP)	RO Romania ¹	VN Viet Nam
CA Canada	GB United Kingdom (EP)	LK Sri Lanka	RU Russian Federation (EA)	YU Yugoslavia
CF Central African Republic (OA) ²	GD Grenada	LR Liberia	SD Sudan (AP)	ZA South Africa
CG Congo (OA) ²	GE Georgia	LS Lesotho (AP)	SE Sweden (EP)	ZW Zimbabwe (AP)
CH Switzerland (EP)	GH Ghana (AP)	LT Lithuania ¹	SG Singapore	
CI Côte d'Ivoire (OA) ²	GM Gambia (AP)	LU Luxembourg (EP)	SI Slovenia ¹	
	GN Guinea (OA) ²	LV Latvia ¹	SK Slovakia	
	GR Greece (EP) ²	MA Morocco		
	GW Guinea-Bissau (OA) ²	MC Monaco (EP) ²		
	HR Croatia			

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. Where any 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. If the applicant wishes to designate, for the purposes of a national patent, 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.

Applicants should always use the latest versions of the request form (PCT/RO/101) and demand form (PCT/IPEA/401), updated versions of which are normally issued twice yearly. The latest versions are dated January 2000. The forms are reproduced in Annexes X and Y, respectively, in Vol. I/B of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* (January 2000 update), and can be printed from the WIPO Internet site, in PDF format, at: <http://www.wipo.int/eng/pct/forms/index.htm>, or obtained from receiving Offices or the International Bureau, or, in the case of the demand form, also from International Preliminary Examining Authorities.

A

PCT Contracting States

A

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	Guinea GN	27 May 1991
Algeria ¹ DZ	(will become bound on 8 March 2000)	Guinea-Bissau GW	12 December 1997
Antigua and Barbuda AG	(will become bound on 17 March 2000)	Hungary ¹ HU	27 June 1980
Armenia ¹ AM	25 December 1991 (17 May 1994 ²)	Iceland IS	23 March 1995
Australia AU	31 March 1980	India ¹ IN	7 December 1998
Austria AT	23 April 1979	Indonesia ¹ ID	5 September 1997
Azerbaijan AZ	25 December 1995	Ireland IE	1 August 1992
Barbados BB	12 March 1985	Israel IL	1 June 1996
Belarus ¹ BY	25 December 1991 (14 April 1993 ²)	Italy IT	28 March 1985
Belgium BE	14 December 1981	Japan JP	1 October 1978
Benin BJ	26 February 1987	Kazakhstan ¹ KZ	25 December 1991 (16 February 1993 ²)
Bosnia and Herzegovina BA	7 September 1996	Kenya KE	8 June 1994
Brazil BR	9 April 1978	Kyrgyzstan ¹ KG	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)
Bulgaria BG	21 May 1984	Latvia LV	7 September 1993
Burkina Faso BF	21 March 1989	Lesotho LS	21 October 1995
Cameroon CM	24 January 1978	Liberia LR	27 August 1994
Canada CA	2 January 1990	Liechtenstein LI	19 March 1980
Central African Republic CF	24 January 1978	Lithuania LT	5 July 1994
Chad TD	24 January 1978	Luxembourg LU	30 April 1978
China CN	1 January 1994	Madagascar MG	24 January 1978
Congo CG	24 January 1978	Malawi MW	24 January 1978
Costa Rica CR	3 August 1999	Mali ML	19 October 1984
Côte d'Ivoire CI	30 April 1991	Mauritania MR	13 April 1983
Croatia HR	1 July 1998	Mexico MX	1 January 1995
Cuba ¹ CU	16 July 1996	Monaco MC	22 June 1979
Cyprus CY	1 April 1998	Mongolia MN	27 May 1991
Czech Republic CZ	1 January 1993 (18 December 1992 ²)	Morocco MA	8 October 1999
Democratic People's Republic of Korea KP	8 July 1980	Netherlands ⁵ NL	10 July 1979
Denmark DK	1 December 1978	New Zealand NZ	1 December 1992
Dominica DM	7 August 1999	Niger NE	21 March 1993
Estonia EE	24 August 1994	Norway ³ NO	1 January 1980
Finland ³ FI	1 October 1980	Poland ³ PL	25 December 1990
France ^{1,4} FR	25 February 1978	Portugal PT	24 November 1992
Gabon GA	24 January 1978	Republic of Korea KR	10 August 1984
Gambia GM	9 December 1997	Republic of Moldova ¹ MD	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)
Georgia ¹ GE	25 December 1991 (18 January 1994 ²)	Romania ¹ RO	23 July 1979
Germany DE	24 January 1978	Russian Federation ¹ RU	29 March 1978
Ghana GH	26 February 1997	Saint Lucia ¹ LC	30 August 1996
Greece GR	9 October 1990	Senegal SN	24 January 1978
Grenada GD	22 September 1998	Sierra Leone SL	17 June 1997
		Singapore SG	23 February 1995
		Slovakia SK	1 January 1993 (30 December 1992 ²)
		Slovenia SI	1 March 1994
		South Africa ¹ ZA	16 March 1999

[Continued on next page]

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
Spain ES	16 November 1989	Uganda UG	9 February 1995
Sri Lanka LK	26 February 1982	Ukraine ¹ UA	25 December 1991 (21 September 1992 ²)
Sudan SD	16 April 1984	United Arab Emirates AE	10 March 1999
Swaziland SZ	20 September 1994	United Kingdom ⁶ GB	24 January 1978
Sweden ³ SE	17 May 1978	United Republic of Tanzania TZ	14 September 1999
Switzerland CH	24 January 1978	United States of America ^{7,8} US	24 January 1978
Tajikistan ¹ TJ	25 December 1991 (14 February 1994 ²)	Uzbekistan ¹ UZ	25 December 1991 (18 August 1993 ²)
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia MK	10 August 1995	Viet Nam VN	10 March 1993
Togo TG	24 January 1978	Yugoslavia YU	1 February 1997
Trinidad and Tobago TT	10 March 1994	Zimbabwe ZW	11 June 1997
Turkey TR	1 January 1996		
Turkmenistan ¹ TM	25 December 1991 (1 March 1995 ²)		

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.



Geneva, February 4, 2000

INFORMATION NOTE

The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1999

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, announces the main events which occurred in 1999 in relation to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and the results of operations under the PCT for that year.

— * —

1. The PCT system offers inventors and industry an advantageous route for obtaining patent protection internationally. By filing one “international” patent application under the PCT, protection for an invention can be sought simultaneously in each of a large number of countries. Both applicants and Contracting States’ patent offices benefit from the uniform formality requirements, the international search and preliminary examination reports, and the centralized international publication which are provided by the PCT system.

2. **Developments in 1999.** The International Bureau of WIPO received 74,023 international applications filed worldwide,¹ which is 7,016 (10.5%) more than in 1998. The 74,023 international applications had the effect of 3,158,204 national applications, and of 194,447 regional applications which would be equivalent to 2,671,069 applications for patent protection in the member States of the regional patent systems, that is, a notional equivalent effect, in total, of 5,829,273 national applications.

1. Figures in this information note for international applications filed in 1999 are based on the number of record copies of international applications received, under PCT Article 12, by the International Bureau in 1999 from PCT receiving Offices (including from the Receiving Office Section of the International Bureau).

3. During 1999, six new Contracting States became bound by the PCT (on the dates shown in parentheses):

United Arab Emirates (March 10, 1999);
South Africa (March 16, 1999);
Costa Rica (August 3, 1999);
Dominica (August 7, 1999);
United Republic of Tanzania (September 14, 1999);
Morocco (October 8, 1999).

The fact that PCT membership had reached 100 States during 1999 was specially commemorated at the time of the thirty-fourth series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO which took place in Geneva in September 1999.

4. Instruments of ratification of and accession to the PCT were deposited on December 8, 1999, by *Algeria* and on December 17, 1999, by *Antigua and Barbuda*, respectively, bringing the number of States which had acceded to the PCT by December 31, 1999, to 106, as follows:

Albania	Democratic People's	Liberia	Spain
Algeria	Republic of Korea	Liechtenstein	Sri Lanka
Antigua and Barbuda	Denmark	Lithuania	Sudan
Armenia	Dominica	Luxembourg	Swaziland
Australia	Estonia	Madagascar	Sweden
Austria	Finland	Malawi	Switzerland
Azerbaijan	France	Mali	Tajikistan
Barbados	Gabon	Mauritania	The former Yugoslav
Belarus	Gambia	Mexico	Republic of
Belgium	Georgia	Monaco	Macedonia
Benin	Germany	Mongolia	Togo
Bosnia and	Ghana	Morocco	Trinidad and Tobago
Herzegovina	Greece	Netherlands	Turkey
Brazil	Grenada	New Zealand	Turkmenistan
Bulgaria	Guinea	Niger	Uganda
Burkina Faso	Guinea-Bissau	Norway	Ukraine
Cameroon	Hungary	Poland	United Arab Emirates
Canada	Iceland	Portugal	United Kingdom
Central African	India	Republic of Korea	United Republic of
Republic	Indonesia	Republic of Moldova	Tanzania
Chad	Ireland	Romania	United States of
China	Israel	Russian Federation	America
Congo	Italy	Saint Lucia	Uzbekistan
Costa Rica	Japan	Senegal	Viet Nam
Côte d'Ivoire	Kazakhstan	Sierra Leone	Yugoslavia
Croatia	Kenya	Singapore	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Kyrgyzstan	Slovakia	
Cyprus	Latvia	Slovenia	
Czech Republic	Lesotho	South Africa	

5. During 1999, two States became bound by the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs within the framework of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO): Sierra Leone, on February 25, 1999, and the United Republic of Tanzania, on August 3, 1999. Consequently, as from February 25, 1999, and September 14, 1999 (the date on which the United Republic of Tanzania became bound by the PCT), respectively, it became possible for PCT applicants to designate those States for an ARIPO patent, as well as for a national patent.

6. On December 1, 1999, the Agreement between the Korean Industrial Property Office and the International Bureau of WIPO in relation to the functioning of the former as International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT entered into force and the Office's appointment as ISA and IPEA took effect.

7. *Meetings.* The Assembly of the PCT Union held its twenty-seventh (12th ordinary) session in Geneva during the period from September 20 to 29, 1999. The Assembly decided to amend the Schedule of Fees to decrease the designation fee, with effect from January 1, 2000, from 150 Swiss francs to 140 Swiss francs, and to decrease the maximum number of designation fees payable, with effect from January 1, 2000, from 10 to 8 (this follows the reduction from 11 to 10, which had already taken effect from January 1, 1999). This means that any designation made under PCT Rule 4.9(a) in excess of 8 does not require the payment of a designation fee. These reductions benefit all applicants since they represent a decrease in the amount of the international fee by up to about 17% (for applications containing eight or more designations).

8. The Assembly also adopted amendments to PCT Rule 4.10 concerning priority claims, in order to bring it into line with Article 2.1 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS Agreement) administered by the World Trade Organization (WTO), with the result that, with effect from January 1, 2000, it became possible, according to amended PCT Rule 4.10(a) and (b), to claim the priority of an application filed in or for any Member of the WTO that is not party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. As provided for in paragraph (d) of Rule 4.10, the European Patent Office and the Japanese Patent Office informed the International Bureau that amended paragraphs (a) and (b) of that Rule were not compatible with the law applied by those Offices, with the result that PCT Rule 4.10, as in force until December 31, 1999, will continue to apply after that date to those Offices for as long as the incompatibility exists.

9. The PCT Committee for Administrative and Legal Matters held its seventh session from November 29 to December 3, 1999. The Committee discussed proposed amendments of the PCT Regulations that relate to simplifying the requirements for entry into the national phase. The proposals had been discussed earlier at meetings of an ad hoc Advisory Group. A number of the proposals arose out of discussions at meetings of WIPO's Standing Committee on the Law of Patents relating to the draft Patent Law Treaty (PLT), which has been designed to streamline and harmonize the administrative and procedural aspects of filing and processing national patent applications. The proposals for amendments to the PCT Regulations are being prepared for submission to an extraordinary session of the Assembly of the PCT Union which is to be held in Geneva from March 13 to 17, 2000.

10. **Seminars.** In 1999, officials of the International Bureau participated in 218 seminars and presentations which dealt with the use and advantages of the PCT and the promotion of accession to it. Those seminars and presentations were held in Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay. They were given to about 8,750 users and potential users of the PCT system in the following languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Korean and Spanish. They included 23 specialized presentations which were given to more than 800 people on the use of the PCT-EASY software. A special training course on the PCT was also given at the headquarters of WIPO for officials of the industrial property offices of those PCT Contracting States which are developing countries.

11. **PCT Information Line.** The PCT Information Line answers general inquiries about the filing of international applications and the procedure during the international phase under the PCT. Where necessary, inquiries are referred to the authorized officer responsible for the particular application, or to the PCT Legal Division. The PCT Information Line can be contacted as follows:

by telephone: (41-22) 338 83 38
by fax: (41-22) 338 83 39
by e-mail: pct.infoline@wipo.int

12. **Developments in PCT Automation.** Following the general approval, in 1998, by the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO of a 40-million Swiss franc project to fully automate the operations of the PCT, the project, known by the acronym IMPACT (Information Management for the Patent Cooperation Treaty), moved forward in 1999. After an extensive international tendering process, the first part of a contract to develop a comprehensive computer system for managing and administering PCT activities was awarded to a consortium of three companies. Work on the analysis and design component of the project began at the end of 1999. The award of the second part of the contract—the implementation phase—will hinge on the successful completion of system benchmarking tests to determine the viability of the design. The main objectives of the IMPACT Project include:

- to offer further improved services to PCT applicants, and prepare the ground for future fee reductions by lowering PCT operating costs at the International Bureau;
- to render PCT work procedures more efficient and cost effective through the implementation of an automated information and document management system;
- to create and make available to PCT applicants and national Offices electronic filing software;
- to establish generalized solutions for electronic data exchange between the International Bureau of WIPO and the national and regional Offices, as well as the PCT International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities, including electronic publishing and the dissemination of PCT information.

The overall project is expected to be completed in three to four years, with the first components of the new system being delivered towards the end of 2000. For further details, see Press Release PR/2000/203.

13. On January 1, 1999, the PCT-EASY software was generally released for the filing of international applications with those receiving Offices that are prepared to accept international applications containing requests in PCT-EASY format together with diskettes, prepared using the PCT-EASY software, containing a copy of the data included in the request in electronic form, and the abstract part of the international application. The PCT-EASY software facilitates the preparation of international applications and other related documents and enables applicants, through the use of about 200 validation checks, to avoid making mistakes at the filing stage. Out of the 80 receiving Offices under the PCT, 54 have so far notified the International Bureau that they are prepared to accept the filing of such international applications. In addition to regular updates of the PCT-EASY software to take into account changes, such as new PCT Contracting States and changes in PCT fees, a PCT-EASY discussion group was created on WIPO's PCT-EASY website during the course of the year, on which users' comments and questions can be posted and subsequently replied to (see <http://pcteasy.wipo.int/discuss.htm>). The software is available, together with supporting documentation, in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish, and can be downloaded from the Internet from the PCT-EASY home page (<http://pcteasy.wipo.int>) or the WIPO home page (<http://www.wipo.int>), or can be obtained from the PCT-EASY Help Desk:

by telephone: (41-22) 338 95 23
by fax: (41-22) 338 80 40
by e-mail: pcteasy.help@wipo.int

For statistics on the filing of international applications using the PCT-EASY software, see paragraph 21.

14. ***Summary of the procedure under the PCT.*** The system of patent cooperation established by the PCT means that, by filing only one international application with one Office, the PCT applicant can obtain the effect of regular national filings in any of the PCT Contracting States being designated without initially having to furnish a translation of the application or pay national fees. The national patent granting procedure and the related high expenses are postponed, in the majority of cases, by up to 18 months (or even longer in the case of some Offices), as compared with the traditional patent system.

15. In addition to designations of PCT Contracting States for the purpose of obtaining national patents, an international application may include designations for regional patents: ARIPO patents having effect in those States party to the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs within the framework of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) which are also Contracting States of the PCT; Eurasian patents having effect in States party to the Eurasian Patent Convention; European patents having effect in States party to the European Patent Convention; and OAPI (African Intellectual Property Organization) patents having effect in States party to the revised Bangui Agreement Relating to the Creation of an African Intellectual Property Organization.

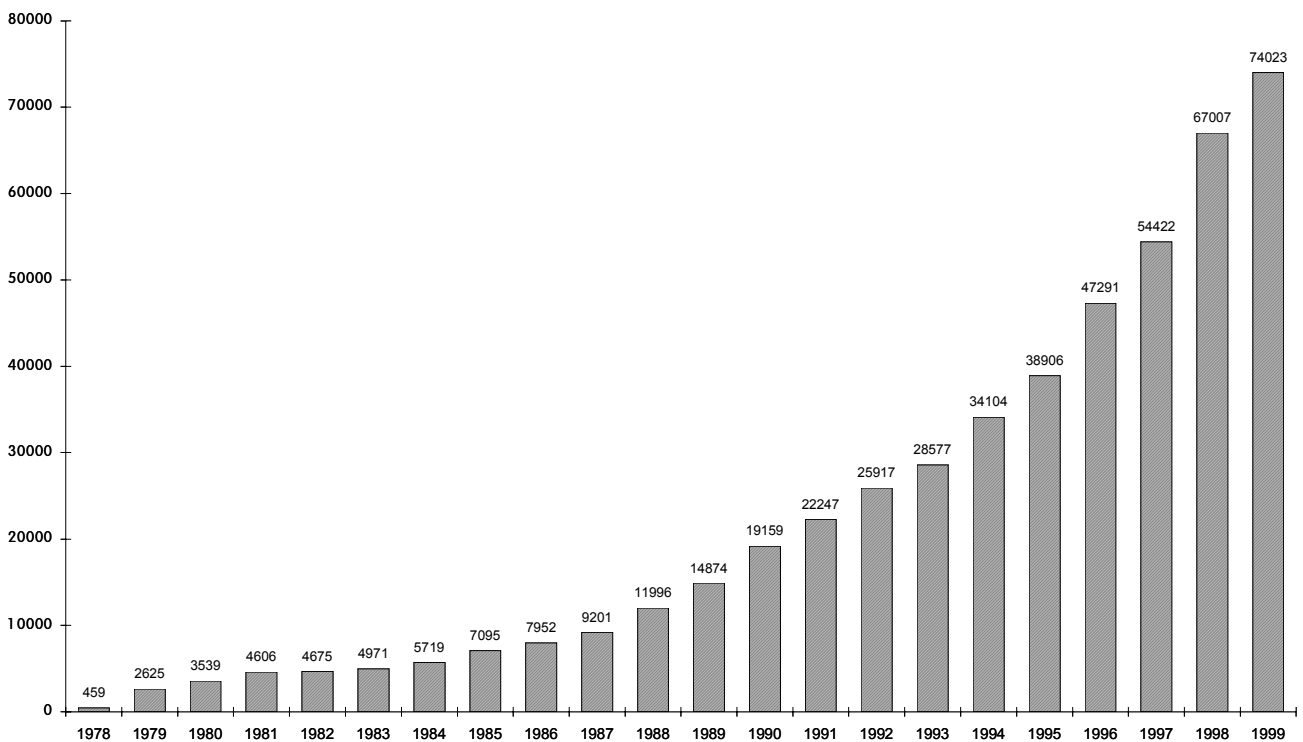
16. Each international application is subjected to an international search carried out by one of the major patent Offices of the world acting as an International Searching Authority under the PCT which establishes a report setting out the relevant prior art. That report is received by the applicant about 16 months after the priority date. The international application is published, together with the international search report, by the International Bureau 18 months after the priority date and is then transmitted to the applicant and the designated Offices.

17. If the applicant requests, and most do so (see paragraph 28), the international application is also subjected later to international preliminary examination under PCT Chapter II, carried out by one of the Offices which act as International Preliminary Examining Authorities, and the entry into the national phase of the procedure is postponed from 20 months after the priority date until 30 months after that date (later time limits apply in some cases). The examination results in a report which includes an opinion as to whether the claimed invention fulfills the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability. The international preliminary examination report is usually received by the applicant about 28 months after the priority date, and is also sent to the designated Offices which were elected under Chapter II.

18. With the international search report and the international preliminary examination report, the applicant is in a much better position to decide whether to proceed with the national patent granting procedure before the various designated patent Offices. If the applicant considers, in the light of those reports, that it is worthwhile to continue seeking patent protection in several countries, he may then decide to pay national fees and professional fees for patent agents abroad, and to incur the cost of preparing translations. This need not be done until 20 months or more after the priority date (that is, eight months later than under the traditional system), or, if the applicant has filed a demand for international preliminary examination in time, until 30 months or more after the priority date (that is, 18 months later than under the traditional patent system). At that later time the applicant is also in a much better position to decide about the need for patent protection having regard to increased knowledge of the technical value and commercial prospects of the invention.

19. **Statistics.** The following graph shows the number of international applications received by the International Bureau in each calendar year since the beginning of PCT operations:

Number of international applications received since 1978



20. The following table shows, by country of origin, the number of international applications filed, and the corresponding percentages of the total, in 1999 as compared with 1998:

<i>Country of origin²</i>		<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
		1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
US	United States of America	29,463	(28,356)	39.8	(42.3)
DE	Germany	10,897	(9,112)	14.7	(13.6)
JP	Japan	7,255	(6,098)	9.8	(9.1)
GB	United Kingdom	4,741	(4,383)	6.4	(6.5)
FR	France	3,633	(3,322)	4.9	(5.0)
SE	Sweden	2,619	(2,554)	3.5	(3.8)
NL	Netherlands	2,153	(2,065)	2.9	(3.1)
CH&LI	Switzerland and Liechtenstein ³	1,564	(1,293)	2.1	(1.9)
CA	Canada	1,398	(1,315)	1.9	(2.0)
FI	Finland	1,269	(1,092)	1.7	(1.6)
AU	Australia	1,154	(1,048)	1.6	(1.6)
IT	Italy	1,130	(925)	1.5	(1.4)
DK	Denmark	792	(624)	1.1	(0.9)
KR	Republic of Korea	790	(485)	1.1	(0.7)
IL	Israel	729	(672)	1.0	(1.0)
RU	Russian Federation	532	(429)	0.7	(0.6)
BE	Belgium	513	(428)	0.7	(0.6)
ES	Spain	457	(378)	0.6	(0.6)
NO	Norway	436	(394)	0.6	(0.6)
AT	Austria	432	(421)	0.6	(0.6)
ZA	South Africa	281	(n.a.)	0.4	(n.a.)
NZ	New Zealand	242	(178)	0.3	(0.3)
CN	China	240	(322)	0.3	(0.5)
IE	Ireland	167	(150)	0.2	(0.2)
SG	Singapore	144	(127)	0.2	(0.2)
BR	Brazil	126	(114)	0.2	(0.2)
HU	Hungary	115	(122)	0.2	(0.2)
LU	Luxembourg	111	(81)	0.2	(0.1)
IN	India	61	(0)	0.1	(0)
TR	Turkey	56	(30)	0.1	(<0.1)
CZ	Czech Republic	55	(55)	0.1	(<0.1)
PL	Poland	52	(48)	0.1	(<0.1)
GR	Greece	51	(41)	0.1	(<0.1)
MX	Mexico	51	(67)	0.1	(0.1)
SI	Slovenia	33	(23)	<0.1	(<0.1)
HR	Croatia	31	(9)	<0.1	(<0.1)
UA	Ukraine	28	(21)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BG	Bulgaria	27	(18)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BB	Barbados	22	(13)	<0.1	(<0.1)
PT	Portugal	20	(8)	<0.1	(<0.1)

[continued on next page]

2. Figures relate to receiving Offices with which international applications were filed, except that applications filed with regional Offices or with the International Bureau as receiving Offices are included under the applicant's country of residence. Of the total, 10,528 (= 14.2%) were filed with the European Patent Office (EPO) as receiving Office and 2,081 (= 2.8%) were filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office.

3. The national Office of Switzerland also acts as receiving Office for nationals and residents of Liechtenstein.

Number of international applications filed in 1999 and 1998 [continued]

<i>Country of origin⁴</i>		<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
		1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
SK	Slovakia	18	(22)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BY	Belarus	16	(16)	<0.1	(<0.1)
IS	Iceland	15	(12)	<0.1	(<0.1)
RO	Romania	14	(22)	<0.1	(<0.1)
YU	Yugoslavia	13	(24)	<0.1	(<0.1)
KZ	Kazakhstan	9	(4)	<0.1	(<0.1)
GE	Georgia	8	(5)	<0.1	(<0.1)
MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	8	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
CU	Cuba	7	(12)	<0.1	(<0.1)
ID	Indonesia	7	(5)	<0.1	(<0.1)
MC	Monaco	7	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
CY	Cyprus	5	(5)	<0.1	(<0.1)
LV	Latvia	5	(6)	<0.1	(<0.1)
UZ	Uzbekistan	5	(4)	<0.1	(<0.1)
ZW	Zimbabwe	5	(25)	<0.1	(<0.1)
SD	Sudan	3	(0)	<0.1	(0)
LT	Lithuania	2	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
AZ	Azerbaijan	1	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
EE	Estonia	1	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
GH	Ghana	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
KE	Kenya	1	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
LK	Sri Lanka	1	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
AM	Armenia	0	(2)	0	(<0.1)
KG	Kyrgyzstan	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
TT	Trinidad and Tobago	0	(3)	0	(<0.1)
VN	Viet Nam	0	(4)	0	(<0.1)
TOTAL		74,023	(67,007)	100.0	(100.00)

21. Of the 74,023 international applications filed, 9,610 (13%) were prepared using the PCT-EASY software. As more and more PCT users became aware of the software, and of the benefits of using it, there was an increasing share of filings containing a PCT-EASY request as the year progressed, and in the second half of the year, such filings accounted for 18.8% of all PCT filings.

22. In 1999, the average number of designations made per international application was 45.3 (1998: 40.5). This figure is much higher than the number of States for which patent protection will eventually be sought, because the applicants in respect of 58.7% of international applications filed in 1999 (1998: 55.5%) used the possibility of paying the

4. Figures relate to receiving Offices with which international applications were filed, except that applications filed with regional Offices or with the International Bureau as receiving Offices are included under the applicant's country of residence. Of the total, 10,528 (= 14.2%) were filed with the European Patent Office (EPO) as receiving Office and 2,081 (= 2.8%) were filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office.

maximum of 10 designation fees⁵ while making as many as all possible designations. Such applicants extend the effects of their international applications to as many States as might later be of interest to them, deferring a decision as to which States they wish to proceed in. Most applicants make designations for regional patents, which designations themselves have effect in a number of States. For example, in 1999, a European patent was sought in 96.6% of all international applications.

23. In 1999, international applications were filed in the following languages:

<i>Language of filing⁶</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
English	47,980	(44,458)	64.8	(66.3)
German	11,891	(10,086)	16.1	(15.1)
Japanese	6,827	(5,689)	9.2	(8.5)
French	3,655	(3,392)	4.9	(5.1)
Swedish	881	(899)	1.2	(1.3)
Russian	517	(434)	0.7	(0.6)
Finnish	506	(523)	0.7	(0.8)
Dutch	471	(478)	0.6	(0.7)
Spanish	463	(422)	0.6	(0.6)
Norwegian	246	(236)	0.3	(0.3)
Chinese	208	(177)	0.3	(0.3)
Danish	184	(178)	0.2	(0.3)
Italian	165	(29)	0.2	(<0.1)
Hungarian	9	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
Croatian	6	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
Slovenian	5	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
Slovakian	4	(0)	<0.1	(0)
Czech	3	(0)	<0.1	(0)
Arabic	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
Turkish	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
TOTAL	74,023	(67,007)	100.0	(100.0)

24. In 1999, the International Bureau as receiving Office received 2,097 international applications from applicants from 53 countries. Those applications included 448, that is, 21.4% of applications received by that Office, which benefited from the safeguard procedure under which international applications are transmitted from another receiving Office to the International Bureau in its capacity as receiving Office while retaining their initial filing date (for example, where they have been filed with a “non-competent” receiving Office, or where they have been filed in a language which is not accepted by the other Office).

25. A copy of the international application is sent to the International Searching Authority competent for carrying out the international search. Where more than one Authority is competent, the applicant chooses the one he would like to carry out the search. The number of international applications which were sent to each International Searching Authority in 1999 is indicated below:

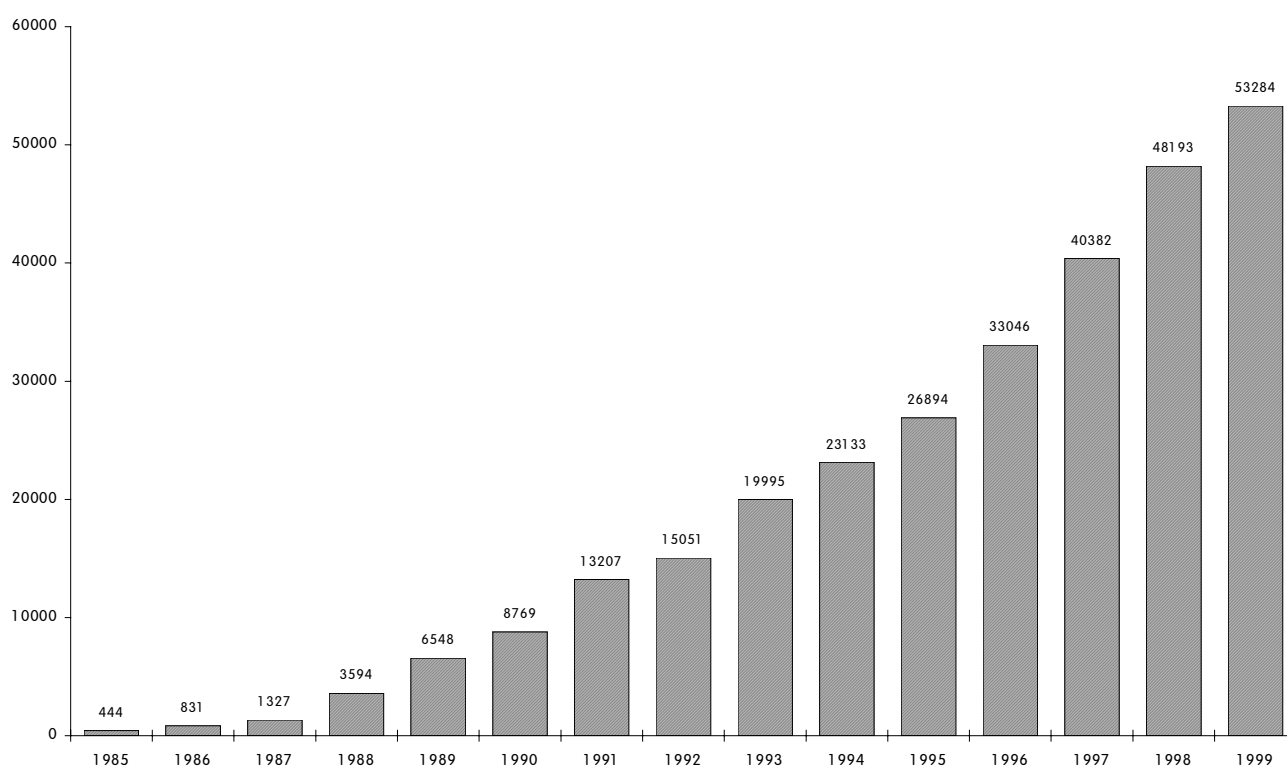
5. With effect from January 1, 2000, the maximum number of designation fees payable is 8.

6. An international application filed in a language other than one of the languages of publication under the PCT will be published as a translation into a language of publication; see paragraph 32.

<i>International Searching Authority</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
European Patent Office	44,713	(39,136)	60.4	(58.4)
United States of America	14,640	(14,597)	19.8	(21.8)
Japan	6,827	(5,690)	9.2	(8.5)
Sweden	4,380	(4,702)	5.9	(7.0)
Australia	1,378	(1,209)	1.9	(1.8)
Austria	965	(591)	1.3	(0.9)
Russian Federation	526	(433)	0.7	(0.6)
Spain	356	(329)	0.5	(0.5)
China	231	(320)	0.3	(0.5)
Republic of Korea ⁷	4	(n.a.)	<0.1	(n.a.)
TOTAL	74,020⁸	(67,007)	100.0	(100.0)

26. The number of demands for international preliminary examination sent to the International Bureau by the International Preliminary Examining Authorities in 1999 amounted to 53,284, which represents an increase over 1998 of 10.6%. The number of demands received in each calendar year since 1985 is indicated below:

Number of demands received since 1985



7. The Korean Industrial Property Office started functioning as an International Searching Authority on December 1, 1999.

8. Three of the 74,023 international applications filed in 1999 are not included in this total because international processing had been discontinued.

27. The number of demands sent to the International Bureau by each International Preliminary Examining Authority is indicated below:

<i>International Preliminary Examining Authority</i>	<i>Number of demands</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
European Patent Office	30,801	26,592	57.8	(55.2)
United States of America	14,218	14,130	26.7	(29.3)
Japan	3,283	2,776	6.2	(5.8)
Sweden	3,007	3,088	5.6	(6.4)
Australia	1,126	1,009	2.1	(2.1)
Austria	418	219	0.8	(0.5)
Russian Federation	244	259	0.5	(0.5)
China	186	120	0.3	(0.2)
Republic of Korea ⁹	1	(n.a.)	<0.1	(n.a.)
TOTAL	53,284	(48,193)	100.0	(100.0)

28. The demands for international preliminary examination received in 1999 relate mainly to international applications filed in 1998. Demands are filed in respect of about 80% of all applications.

29. **Publications under the PCT.** The *PCT Gazette* contains, in English and French, the following sections:

- Section I: Published International Applications (the bibliographic data, the abstract and any drawing, for each international application published)
- Section II: Notices and Information Relating to Published International Applications
- Section III: Weekly Indexes
- Section IV: Notices and Information of a General Character

The Internet version of the *PCT Gazette* is available, free-of-charge, via the WIPO home page (<http://pctgazette.wipo.int>). In this version of the *Gazette*, Section I is fully searchable, with searches possible by single words, symbols or phrases and by a number of fields. During 1999, it became possible for users of the electronic version of the *Gazette* to link to the European Patent Office's esp@cenet service and view images of published PCT applications (that is, the bibliographic data, description, claims, drawings and abstract) and corresponding international search reports.

9. The Korean Industrial Property Office started functioning as an International Preliminary Examining Authority on December 1, 1999.

30. There are two series of CD-ROMs containing information from the *Gazette*, as follows:

- the monthly ESPACE-FIRST CD-ROMs which are produced by the European Patent Office, in cooperation with WIPO (see also paragraphs 36 and 40);
- the CD-ROMs produced by Bundesdruckerei GmbH, in cooperation with WIPO, issued every week on the day on which WIPO publishes the corresponding international applications (see also paragraph 41).

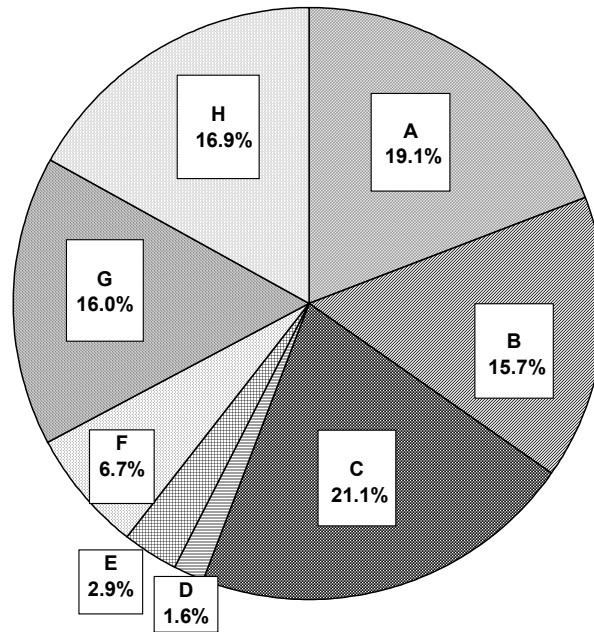
31. In 1999, the *Gazette* included entries relating to the 68,038 international applications (1998: 59,597) which were published in 1999 in the form of PCT pamphlets (in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian or Spanish, depending on the language of filing and/or translation furnished for the purposes of the international search) on the same day as the relevant issue of the *Gazette*. The *Gazette* also included, in Section IV, a substantial volume of information of a general character concerning new Contracting States and the requirements of the various Offices and International Authorities. In August, a bilingual (English/French) index to the 1998 *Gazette issues*, containing over 1,400 pages, was published. In January and July, special issues of the *Gazette* were published (Nos. S-01/1999 (E) and (F) (January) and S-02/1999 (E) and (F) (July)), in separate English and French versions, containing consolidated general information relating to PCT Contracting States, national and regional Offices and International Authorities under the PCT.

32. The number of international applications published in 1999 in each of the languages of publication was as follows:

<i>Language of publication</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1999	(1998)	1999	(1998)
English	47,389	(41,841)	69.6	(70.2)
German	10,565	(9,131)	15.5	(15.3)
Japanese	5,777	(4,879)	8.5	(8.2)
French	3,334	(2,880)	4.9	(4.8)
Russian	406	(394)	0.6	(0.7)
Spanish	389	(350)	0.6	(0.6)
Chinese	178	(122)	0.3	(0.2)
TOTAL	68,038	(59,597)	100.0	(100.0)

33. The main fields of technology to which those published international applications related were chemistry and metallurgy, and human necessities. The chart below shows the breakdown of PCT applications published in 1999 according to the eight main technical fields of the International Patent Classification (IPC) system.

PCT applications published in 1999: breakdown according to the main technical fields under the IPC



Main technical fields (sections) under the IPC:

A	Human necessities	E	Fixed constructions
B	Performing operations; transporting	F	Mechanical engineering; lighting, heating, weapons, blasting
C	Chemistry; metallurgy	G	Physics
D	Textiles; paper	H	Electricity

34. The *PCT Applicant's Guide*, which contains information on the filing of international applications and the procedure during the international phase, as well as information on the national phase and the procedure before the designated (or elected) Offices, was updated twice in 1999 to include the many changes that had occurred during the year. About 560 updating sheets, per language, were sent to each subscriber in 1999.

35. Twelve issues of the *PCT Newsletter* were published in 1999. This monthly publication provides up-to-date news for users of the PCT. It contains information on the essential items included in Section IV of the *PCT Gazette* and supplements the *PCT Applicant's Guide* with practical advice for applicants and agents, lists of forthcoming PCT seminars, consolidated tables of PCT fees in various currencies, and other items of general interest. It also includes tear-out provisional sheets permitting easy inclusion of certain important changes in the *PCT Applicant's Guide* prior to the issuance of six-monthly updates.

36. In 1999, the International Bureau continued, in cooperation with the European Patent Office, the weekly production of ESPACE WORLD CD-ROMs, which contain, in facsimile form, the full text and the drawings of all international applications and international search reports published each week, as well as the corresponding bibliographic data in coded,

searchable form. All international applications published since 1978 are available in CD-ROM format (a total of 960 CD-ROMs had been produced by the end of 1999).

37. In 1999, a new PCT Wheel, covering priority dates from January 1998 to December 1999, was produced and made available to PCT users via the *PCT Newsletter*. The Wheel, which was created by a firm of patent attorneys in Australia (Davies Collison Cave), enables PCT users to quickly calculate the 18-month due date for international publication, as well as the time limits for submitting priority documents, filing a demand for international preliminary examination, and entering the national or regional phase under PCT Chapters I and II.

38. **Ordering of PCT publications.** PCT publications may be ordered from WIPO, Marketing and Distribution Section, P.O. Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, fax: (41-22) 740 18 12 or 733 54 28, e-mail: publications.mail@wipo.int; electronic bookshop: www.wipo.int/ebookshop. Publications of particular interest include:

- the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, a five-binder loose-leaf publication of more than 1,000 pages (available in English and French from WIPO, also available from other sources in Chinese, German and Japanese—contact WIPO for details);
- PCT pamphlets containing published international applications (in various languages—see paragraph 32—and containing the title, the abstract and the corresponding international search reports in both the language of publication and English);
- the *PCT Gazette* (available in bilingual (English and French) format) (for electronic version, see paragraph 29);
- the *PCT Newsletter* (available in English);
- booklets containing the text of the PCT and the PCT Regulations (in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish);
- special issues of the *PCT Gazette* (see paragraph 31) (in English and French);
- PCT Wheel (priority dates January 1998 to December 1999).

39. A leaflet entitled *Basic Facts about the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)* is available free of charge in English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish.

40. The ESPACE WORLD CD-ROMs containing published international applications may be ordered from the European Patent Office, P.O. Box 90, A-1031 Vienna, Austria, e-mail: infowien@epo.org. However, CD-ROMs containing the international applications published between 1978 and 1989 can be obtained only from WIPO, at the address indicated in paragraph 38.

41. CD-ROMs containing information from the *PCT Gazette*, which are produced by Bundesdruckerei GmbH, may be ordered from the following address: Bundesdruckerei GmbH, Sparte Elektronische Publikationen, Oranienstraße 91, D-10958 Berlin, Germany.

42. **Internet.** In 1999, more PCT materials were made available on the Internet. The following may now be viewed, free of charge, on WIPO's Internet site (<http://www.wipo.int>):

- *PCT Gazette*
- Information on PCT Information Line
- *PCT Newsletter* (No. 01/1997 to current issue)

- Practical advice which was published in the *PCT Newsletter* between March 1994 and December 1996
- *PCT Applicant's Guide*
- PCT-EASY (software and supporting documentation)
- PCT-related updates
- PCT seminar calendar
- *Basic Facts about the PCT*
- The PCT in 1999
- About the Treaty
- Status of ratifications
- Text of the Patent Cooperation Treaty
- Text of the Regulations under the PCT
- Administrative Instructions under the PCT
- PCT forms
- PCT Receiving Office Guidelines
- PCT International Search Guidelines
- PCT International Preliminary Examination Guidelines
- Direct filing of PCT applications with the International Bureau as PCT receiving Office
- PCT Assembly, documents: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- PCT Committee for Administrative and Legal Matters, documents: 1999

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