

## **Special Union for the International Patent Classification (IPC Union) IPC Revision Working Group**

**Twenty-Eighth Session  
Geneva, October 29 to November 2, 2012**

### **REPORT**

*adopted by the Working Group*

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The IPC Revision Working Group (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) held its twenty-eighth session in Geneva from October 29 to November 2, 2012. The following members of the Working Group were represented at the session: Brazil, Canada, China, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the European Patent Office (EPO) (24). The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.
2. The session was opened by Mr. R. Iasevoli (EPO), Chair of the Working Group.

### **OFFICERS**

3. Mrs. N. Xu (WIPO) acted as Secretary of the session.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

4. The Working Group unanimously adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex II to this report.

## DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

5. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings held from September 24 to October 2, 1979 (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), the report of this session reflects only the conclusions of the Working Group (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participant, except where a reservation in relation to any specific conclusion of the Working Group was expressed or repeated after the conclusion was reached.

## IPC REVISION PROGRAM

6. The Working Group discussed 26 revision projects, namely: [A 037](#), [A 043](#), [A 047](#), [A 048](#), [A 049](#), [A 050](#), [A 052](#), [A 053](#), [A 055](#), [A 056](#), [A 057](#), [A 058](#), [A 059](#), [F 004](#), [F 005](#), [F 007](#), [F 008](#), [F 009](#), [F 010](#), [F 011](#), [F 012](#), [F 013](#), [F 015](#), [F 016](#), [F 017](#), [F 018](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum. The Working Group completed 16 revision projects.

## IPC DEFINITIONS PROGRAM

7. The Working Group discussed 52 definition projects, namely: [D 009](#), [D 126](#), [D 127](#), [D 128](#), [D 129](#), [D 130](#), [D 142](#) (F), [D 152](#) (F), [D 154](#), [D 160](#) (F), [D 221](#) (F), [D 223](#) (F), [D 224](#), [D 228](#), [D 233](#) (F), [D 235](#), [D 248](#), [D 252](#), [D 253](#), [D 254](#), [D 255](#), [D 256](#), [D 257](#), [D 258](#), [D 261](#), [D 263](#), [D 269](#) (F), [D 270](#), [D 271](#), [D 272](#), [D 273](#), [D 274](#), [D 275](#), [D 276](#), [D 277](#), [D 278](#), [D 279](#), [D 280](#), [D 281](#), [D 282](#), [D 283](#), [D 284](#), [D 285](#), [D 287](#), [D 288](#), [D 289](#), [D 290](#), [D 293](#), [D 294](#), [D 295](#), [D 296](#) and [D 297](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" Annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum. The Working Group completed nine definition projects.

8. During the consideration of definitions in some revision and definition projects, in particular, in projects [A 056](#), [D 252](#), [D 274](#) and [D 275](#), it was noted that some of the drawings proposed for many subgroup definitions may be unnecessary as being not informative. The rapporteurs were therefore reminded of the relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for Drafting Classifications Definitions concerning adding drawings to definitions. The Working Group emphasized that drawings may be added in certain parts of definitions only where needed.

9. During the discussions of project [D 272](#), it was noted that the amendments to the scheme were proposed in the framework of the ongoing definition project. According to the working procedure of the IPC Revision Working Group (see Annex VI to document IPC/CE/42/2), the task of corrections of titles or hierarchal structure which do not necessitate reclassification of patent documents should be considered in the framework of maintenance projects.

10. In view of the small amount of remaining definition projects, the Working Group agreed to create new definition projects as follows:

Chemical: C12L ([D 298](#), BR), D21D ([D 299](#), BR);

Electrical: H01Q ([D 300](#), BR), H01T ([D 301](#), EP), H04K ([D 302](#), BR); and

Mechanical: A42C ([D 303](#), BR), A44C ([D 304](#), BR).

## IPC MAINTENANCE

11. The Working Group discussed seven maintenance projects, namely: [M 012](#), [M 013](#), [M 014](#), [M 737](#), [M 739](#), [M 741](#) and [M 742](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" Annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum.

12. The Working Group agreed to create new maintenance projects as follows:

Mechanical: [M 744](#) (D01F, BR), [M 745](#) (B65B, DE), [M 746](#) (F03D, GB),  
[M 747](#) (F23M, SE); and

Electrical: [M 743](#) (G10L, EP).

## UPDATES ON IPC-RELATED IT ISSUES

13. The International Bureau delivered a [presentation](#) on the status of the IPC e-forum and the IPC reclassification system (IPCRECLASS), on IPC validity and definition files issues and web services to support the IPC.

14. It was noted that offices appreciated the IPC e-forum functional evaluations, in particular, the Rapporteur Summary. The suggestions for the enhancements of the IPC e-forum which were posted by offices under project [CE 445](#) would be implemented by the end of 2012.

15. It was also noted that after the move into production of the IPCRECLASS system in April this year, the amount of reclassification with regards to residual working lists for IPC revisions between IPC 2007.01 and 2012.01 has been quite low. Some suggestions posted by offices under project [CE 446](#) would be considered before the end of 2012.

16. At the request of several offices, a new web service for text categorization in the IPC (IPCCAT) was developed and would be made available for public use at the end of November this year. The associated documentation and a prototype were available under the Download and IT support part of the IPC website: <http://www.wipo.int/classifications/ipc/en/ITsupport/links.html>. The IPCCAT retraining with DOCDB XML documents, taking into account the IPC 2012.01 reclassification, was planned for the first quarter of 2013.

## NEXT SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP

17. The Working Group, having assessed the workload expected for its next session, agreed to devote the first two days to the electrical field, the following day to the chemical field and the last two days to the mechanical field. It was also agreed that the third day morning might be shared by both the electrical and the chemical fields depending on the workload at that time.

18. The Working Group noted the following dates for its twenty-ninth session:

May 13 to 17, 2013.

*19. This report was  
unanimously adopted by the  
Working Group by electronic  
means on November 30, 2012.*

[Annexes follow]