

ANNEX H

PROCEDURE FOR THE TREATMENT OF HYBRID SYSTEMS IN THE IPC

I. Separate Indexing Schemes

1. Note the recommendations of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group (see document IPC/WG/6/5, Annex G).
2. Consider any reasons that could contradict the recommendations of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group, for example, a potential high use.
3. If there are such reasons, disclose them in the proposal not to follow the recommendation of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group.
4. If there are no such reasons, follow the recommendations of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group:
 - (a) In case of the recommended abolishment of the indexing scheme, investigate whether it would be appropriate to convert it into a classification scheme, according to the Guidelines for the Conversion of Existing IPC Indexing Schemes into Classification Schemes (see document IPC/REF/6/2, Annex V). If not, propose deletion of respective notes, headings and the indexing scheme. If yes, propose a respective classification scheme;
 - (b) In case of the recommended retaining of the indexing scheme, investigate whether it would be appropriate to convert it into a classification scheme, according to the Guidelines for the Conversion of the Existing IPC Indexing Schemes into Classification Schemes. If yes, propose a respective classification scheme.

II. Double-Purpose Schemes

1. Amend the notes specifying the use of classification symbols as indexing codes to explain how to use classification symbols for indicating additional information.
2. Don't introduce additional rules or classification approaches besides those already existing in the current IPC. This could be done in exceptional cases where absolutely necessary.
3. The new notes should be simple to understand. Additional details could be given in classification definitions.

[Annex I follows]