

C. PCT 1512

June 1, 2017

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office, International Searching Authority, International Preliminary Examining Authority and/or, designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also being sent to interested intergovernmental organizations as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

This Circular concerns the conclusion of consultations, notified in PCT Circular C. PCT 1505, regarding proposals for change to the Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications under the PCT (Annex F of the Administrative Instructions).

Description of changes

Proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are set out in the following Proposal for Change (PFC) files (see http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/pfc_files.htm):

- PCT/EF/PFC 17/001 (Modifications of the DTD for the request to address the requirements for the changes to the request form required for PCT Rule 23*bis*);
- PCT/EF/PFC 17/002 (Modifications of the DTDs for the request and declarations to simplify the correlation of parties in editing declarations and the PCT request);
- PCT/EF/PFC 17/003 (Modifications of the DTDs for the request and application-body to add an indicator of color drawings in the application); and,
- PCT/EF/PFC 17/004 (Modifications of the DTDs for search report and written opinion to make the DTDs currently used in production official).

Conclusion of consultations

Consultations under PCT Rule 89.2 have been conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions.

The International Bureau has reviewed the comments received and has taken note of the comments related to the need for further consultations regarding the implementation of the interim solution for color drawings related to PCT/EF/PFC 17/003 (the modifications of the DTDs for the request and application-body adding an indicator to be used in the case where color drawings are contained in the application).

Furthermore, the International Bureau has made a number of editorial updates to the proposals in light of the comments received, and has concluded that there were no controversial comments regarding the proposals. A consolidated, revised Appendix I to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions can be found on the WIPO website at: http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ai_dtd_12.pdf.

Further process

The modifications to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions are hereby promulgated with effect from July 1, 2017.

Except where special transitional arrangements have been agreed with the International Bureau for individual receiving Offices unable to make the changes in time, the International Bureau advises receiving Offices that the revised DTDs and style sheets must be installed on their e-filing servers prior to July 1, 2017; receiving Offices where the International Bureau hosts the e-filing server should note that the International Bureau will make the necessary updates to their e-filing servers.

Implementation coordination information and any further requests for information should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to Mr. Peter Waring, Head, Technical Cooperation Section, PCT International Cooperation Division, e-mail: pcticd@wipo.int; fax: (+4122) 338 7160.

Yours sincerely,



John Sandage
Deputy Director General