

C. PCT 1678

January 7, 2025

Madam,
Sir,

Changes to the publication of bibliographical details on the front page of the publication of international applications

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office (RO), an International Searching Authority (ISA), an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA), an Authority specified for supplementary search, and/or a designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) for the purposes of consultation under Section 406(c) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT. It is also addressed to certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT System.

The purpose of this Circular is to consult on proposed changes to the publication of addresses in non-Latin characters on the front page of the international applications. Under PCT Rule 4.16, applicants, inventors and agents are required to provide a Latin-character transliteration or English translation of names and addresses written in non-Latin characters in the PCT request form. Additionally, any country name written in non-Latin characters must also be provided in English. In addition to the indications in the request form, this requirement also concerns any change requested under PCT Rule 92*bis* to the name and address of applicants, inventors and agents written in non-Latin characters.

Presently, the names of applicants, inventors and agents written in characters other than the Latin alphabet are published on the front page of the international publication also in the Latin alphabet. Moreover, the transliteration or translation of parts of the addresses provided for applicants, inventors and agents in non-Latin characters are also published on the front page. The data concerned is, however, limited to particular elements only, for example:

- in Chinese and Korean language publications, only the name of the province (or the name of the state for addresses in the United States of America or the name of the city for other addresses outside of the People's Republic of China) is also indicated in characters of the Latin alphabet;
- in Japanese language publications, only the name of the prefecture is included in characters of the Latin alphabet;
- in Russian language publications, only the name of the city is included in characters of the Latin alphabet, etc.

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In order to improve the efficiency and automation of the publication of international applications in languages not using the Latin alphabet, pursuant to Section 406(c) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the Director General of WIPO proposes to no longer include any transliteration or translation of the addresses on the front page of the published international application. The names of applicants, inventors and agents will, however, continue to be published also in Latin characters. This procedure already applies to international publications in Arabic.

Nevertheless, the full transliteration or translation of all the bibliographical details will continue to be made available to Offices and the public in the International Application Status Report (IASR) with each international publication. The IASR can be found on PATENTSCOPE as the first item under the document tab concerning a particular publication of an international application. Moreover, the full address in Latin characters will also be made available in the "PCT Bibliographic Data" tab on PATENTSCOPE. Offices and the public will therefore continue to have full access to names and addresses in Latin characters as well as country names in English. An example below illustrates how the data is and would be presented in the various layouts on PATENTSCOPE:

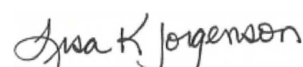
PCT Bibliographic Data Applicants	IASR	Current Pamphlet Front Page	New Pamphlet Front Page
株式会社特許 TOKKYO CORPORATION 東京都千代田区霞が 関五丁目4番3号 4-3, Kasumigaseki 5- chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 1000013 Japan	TOKKYO CORPORATION [JP/JP], 4-3, Kasumigaseki 5- chome, Chiyoda-ku 1000013 Tokyo (JP)	株式会社特 許 (TOKKYO CORPORATION) [JP/JP]; 〒1000013 東 京都千代田区霞が関五 丁目4番3号Tokyo (JP).	株式会社特 許 (TOKKYO CORPORATION) [JP/JP]; 〒 1000013 東京都千代 田区霞が関五丁目4 番3号 (JP).

The International Bureau would plan to implement this change to the publication of international applications during the first quarter of 2025.

Comments on the Proposed Changes to the publication of bibliographical details on the front page of the publication of international applications

You are invited to provide comments or address any questions concerning the above changes by January 31, 2025, by e-mail to: pct.legal@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Jorgenson
Deputy Director General
Patents and Technology Sector