

PCT NEWSLETTER

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PCT Filings in 2020

In 2020, use of the PCT continued to grow despite the COVID-19 pandemic, and reached an estimated 275,900 applications¹ – the highest number ever – representing a 4% increase over 2019. China remained the largest user of the PCT, with 68,720 applications filed (+16.1% over 2019), followed by the United States of America (U.S.), with 59,230 applications (+3%). Japan (with 50,520 applications), the Republic of Korea (20,060) and Germany (18,643) held the third, fourth and fifth rankings, respectively. The total for each country in the top 10, followed by that country's percentage share of all filings, were as follows:

1. China	68,720	24.9%
2. United States of America	59,230	21.5%
3. Japan	50,520	18.3%
4. Republic of Korea	20,060	7.3%
5. Germany	18,643	6.8%
6. France	7,904	2.9%
7. United Kingdom	5,912	2.1%
8. Switzerland	4,883	1.8%
9. Sweden	4,356	1.6%
10. Netherlands	4,035	1.5%

Beyond the top 10, certain other countries saw strong growth, including Saudi Arabia (956 applications, +73.2%), Malaysia (255 applications, +26.2%), Chile (262 applications, +17%), Singapore (1,278 applications, +14.9%) and Brazil (697 applications, +8.4%).

For information on the number of filings from all countries, as well as a comparison with filings in 2019, please refer to Annex 1 of WIPO Press Release PR/2021/874 at:

https://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2021/article_0002.html

¹ It is important to note that this total, as well as the filing figures which follow, are provisional because not all PCT applications that were filed with national and regional Offices in 2020 have been received at the International Bureau, and the final figures for filings will only be available later in the year.

Don't miss out on our upcoming PCT Seminars, Webinars, and other PCT-related events – consult the PCT Seminar Calendar in this issue!

Chinese telecommunications company Huawei Technologies was the top PCT applicant for the fourth year running, with 5,464 applications published in 2020. Of the top 10 applicants, LG Electronics recorded the most significant increase (+67.6%) in the number of published applications in 2020, and as a result moved up from 10th position in 2019 to fourth position in 2020. The top ten applicants are listed below, with the number of PCT applications that were published in their names in 2020:

1. Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd (CN)	5,464
2. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd (KR)	3,093
3. Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (JP)	2,810
4. LG Electronics Inc. (KR)	2,759
5. Qualcomm Incorporated (US)	2,173
6. Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson (Publ) (SE)	1,989
7. BOE Technology Group Co., Ltd (CN)	1,892
8. Guang Dong Oppo Mobile Telecommunications Corp., Ltd (CN)	1,801
9. Sony Corporation (Japan)	1,793
10. Panasonic Intellectual Property Management Co., Ltd. (JP)	1,611

A list of the top 50 PCT applicants is available in the press release (Annex 2).

In terms of filings by educational institutions, the University of California maintained its position held since 1993 as the largest user of the PCT System with 559 published applications. The top 10 list consists of five universities from China, four from the U.S. and one from Japan. For more detailed information on PCT filings by educational institutions, please refer to the press release (Annex 3).

Computer technology accounted for the largest share of published PCT applications in 2020 (9.2% of the total), followed by digital communication (8.3%), medical technology (6.6%), electrical machinery (6.6%) and measurement (4.8%). Six of the top 10 technologies recorded double-digit growth in 2020, with audio-visual technology reporting the greatest increase (+29.5%, compared to 8.7% the previous year) followed by digital communication (+15.8%), computer technology (+13.2%), measurement (+10.9%), semiconductors (+10.1%) and pharmaceuticals (+10%). For detailed information regarding the distribution of fields of technology of published applications, please refer to the press release (Annex 4).

The publication of the final figures for 2020 filings (in the form of the *Patent Cooperation Treaty Yearly Review - 2021*) will be announced in the *PCT Newsletter* later in the year.

A video of the virtual “Press Conference on 2020 International Patent, Trademark and Design Filings via WIPO”, featuring WIPO’s Director General, Daren Tang, and Chief Economist, Carsten Fink, is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOakeXRMVLY>

Budapest Treaty

Accession by the United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam

The United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam deposited their instruments of accession to the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure on, respectively, 17 February 2021 and 1 March 2021, bringing the total number of States party to that Treaty to 85. The Budapest Treaty will enter into force with respect to the United Arab Emirates on 17 May 2021, and with respect to Viet Nam on 1 June 2021. For further information, please refer to Budapest Notification Nos. 343 and 344 at, respectively:

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/notifications/budapest/treaty_budapest_343.html

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/notifications/budapest/treaty_budapest_344.html

Information about the Budapest Treaty

A document containing a summary of the Budapest Treaty and Regulations, as well as an explanation of the main advantages of the Treaty (WO/INF/12 Rev.27), is available in English, French and Spanish at, respectively:

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/registration/budapest/pdf/wo_inf_12.pdf

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/fr/registration/budapest/pdf/wo_inf_12.pdf

https://www.wipo.int/treaties/es/registration/budapest/pdf/wo_inf_12.pdf

New Mode of Payment of Fees to the International Bureau

PayPal is now available as an additional method for the payment of fees, in Swiss francs (CHF), Euros (EUR) or US dollars (USD), to the International Bureau as receiving Office (RO/IB). Furthermore, applicants wishing to request supplementary international search can also use PayPal for the payment online of the fee due to the IB for supplementary international search (the supplementary search handling fee). Please be aware that WIPO will confirm PayPal payments by e-mail only and does not issue any other payment receipt or invoice for such payments. If you do not receive an e-mail acknowledgment, please send a message to the "Contact Us" page at:

<https://www3.wipo.int/contact/en/area.jsp?area=pct-payments>

Following the addition of PayPal, this means that the following modes of payment are now available for payments to RO/IB:

- by credit card - at the time of filing if using ePCT, or subsequently after receiving an e-mail from RO/IB with a link to online payment. The following credit cards are accepted for payments in CHF, USD or EUR: Diners, Discover, Mastercard and Visa; American Express credit cards are accepted only for payments in CHF;
- by direct debit from a current account established with WIPO (CHF only);
- by PayPal (CHF, USD or EUR);
- by bank transfer to WIPO's bank account (CHF, USD or EUR); and
- by transfer to WIPO's postal account (CHF only).

Please note that WIPO does not accept payment by cash or check.

For further information on the payment of PCT fees to WIPO, please refer to:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/index.html>

Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications

New web-based filing service at the European Patent Office (Online Filing 2.0)

The European Patent Office (EPO) has notified the International Bureau that, as from 1 April 2021, a new web-based filing service, “Online Filing 2.0”, will be available in full production mode. Online Filing 2.0 enables the filing of European patent applications, PCT applications and other documents relating to such applications or to patents deriving from such applications in PDF format, as well as PCT applications in XML format. WIPO’s ePCT service has been integrated into Online Filing 2.0, allowing users to access directly the live version of ePCT within Online Filing 2.0 for the filing of new PCT applications and also the submission of subsequently filed documents, including the ePCT “Action” for filing demands for international preliminary examination, during the international phase of PCT applications.

Information about the new filing service has been published on the EPO website at:

<https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal.html>

The notification containing the requirements and practices of the Office with regard to the filing of international applications in electronic form has been updated accordingly, and was published in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* on 18 March 2021 at:

https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html

Please note that the following modes of filing continue to be available:

- EPO Online Filing
- EPO Web-Form Filing Service
- EPO Case Management System
- ePCT-Filing

PCT Information Update

AO Angola (location and mailing address; telephone number; e-mail and Internet addresses; means of telecommunication)

The location and mailing address, the telephone number and the e-mail address of the Angolan Institute of Industrial Property have changed, as follows:

Location and
mailing address: Largo 17 de Setembro,
 Edifício Palácio de Vidro, no 7, 4º Andar,
 Ala Esquerda,
 Caixa Postal 3840
 Luanda-Marginal, Angola

Telephone: (244-222) 04 49 91, (244-922) 40 49 36

E-mail: iapi1992@iapi.gov.ao

The Office has also deleted its Internet address.

Furthermore, the Office has notified the International Bureau (IB) that it has discontinued the use of its facsimile machine and no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (AO))

AU Australia (fees; required contents of translation)

With effect from 1 May 2021, there will be a change in the equivalent amounts of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet over 30, payable to the Australian Patent Office in AUD, as well as a change in the equivalent amount in AUD of the applicable filing fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees, as indicated in Fee Table I(a).

There has also been a change in the requirements of the Office concerning the contents of the translation that are required for entry into the national phase before it as designated Office. Under PCT Article 22, the description, claims (if amended, both as originally filed and as amended) and any text matter of drawings are now required (the requirements under PCT Article 39(1) have not changed).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (AU) and National Chapter, Summary (AU))

BG Bulgaria (requirements concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material)

The Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria has notified a change in its requirements concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material. The indications prescribed in PCT Rule 13*bis*.3(a)(i) to (iii) must now be furnished at the time of filing, either in the description or separately, and the following additional indications, if any, must now be furnished at the time of filing, as part of the description: to the extent available to the applicant, relevant information on the characteristics of the microorganism.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex L)

EP European Patent Office (special requirements for entry into the national phase)

As from 1 April 2021, inventors will no longer need to indicate their full address but only the country and place of residence (please refer to the *Official Journal of the EPO*, 2021 A3 at: <https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal/2021/01/a3.html>). This information will update the list of special requirements under PCT Rule 51*bis* of the EPO as designated (or elected) Office (the other requirements have not changed).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Chapter, Summary (EP))

FR France (telephone numbers)

The telephone number for national calls to the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France) has changed. The numbers to be used are now as follows:

Telephone: 01 56 65 89 98 (national calls)
 (33) 1 71 08 71 63 (international calls)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (FR))

LU Luxembourg (fax number; Internet address)

The Intellectual Property Office (Luxembourg) has deleted one of its fax numbers and has notified its Internet address for patents. The fax number and Internet addresses to be used are now as follows:

Fax: (352) 247 94113
Internet: www.eco.public.lu
 https://patent.public.lu

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (LU))

NG Nigeria (name of Office; telephone numbers; location and mailing address; e-mail address; means of telecommunication)

The name, location and mailing address and telephone numbers of the Commercial Law Department (Trademarks, Patents and Designs) (Nigeria) have changed, and the Office now has a second e-mail address, as follows:

Name of Office: Patents and Designs Registry, Commercial Law Department
 (Nigeria)

Location and
mailing address: Registrar, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment
 Block D, Old Secretariat
 Area 1 Garki
 Abuja, Nigeria

Telephone: (234) 803 334 8806, 803 677 7183, 703 165 1652

E-mail: iponigeria@yahoo.com
 patentsanddesigns@gmail.com

The Office has also notified the IB that it has discontinued the use of its facsimile machine and no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (NG))

NZ New Zealand (fees)

As from 1 May 2021, there will be a change in the equivalent amounts of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet over 30, payable to the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand in

NZD, as well as a change in the equivalent amount in NZD of the applicable filing fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees, as indicated in Fee Table I(a).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (NZ))

RU Russian Federation (telephone and fax numbers; notifications by e-mail, evidence of mailing a document; provisions concerning international-type search)

One of the telephone numbers of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation) has changed, and one of the fax numbers is no longer in use. The numbers to be used are now as follows:

Telephone: 7-499) 240 60 15 (general)
 (7-499) 240 58 88, (7-499) 240 25 91 (application processing)

Fax: (7-495) 531 63 18

In addition, the Office now sends notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications.

The Office has notified the IB of additional delivery services, other than postal authorities, from which it would accept evidence of mailing a document in case of loss or delay under PCT Rule 82.1: in addition to DHL and Federal Express, it now also accepts such evidence from any other service that is recognized worldwide and is available in the Russian Federation.

Furthermore, there has been a change concerning the provisions of the law of the Russian Federation concerning international-type search – Article 1386(4) of the *Civil Code of the Russian Federation* is no longer valid; consequently, there are now no provisions of the law of the Russian Federation concerning international-type search.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (RU))

SG Singapore (e-mail addresses; means of telecommunication)

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore has notified the IB of an additional e-mail address. The e-mail addresses to be used are now as follows:

E-mail: ipos_enquiry@ipos.gov.sg (for general enquiries)
 pct@ipos.gov.sg (for enquiries on specific PCT applications filed
 with RO/SG, ISA/SG or IPEA/SG)

Furthermore, the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile machine with effect from 5 June 2020, and no longer accepts the filing of documents by fax since that date.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (SG))

UZ Uzbekistan (location and mailing address; fees)

The location and mailing address of the Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan have changed, as follows:

Location and
mailing address: 33, Khadra Street
 Tashkent, 100017
 Uzbekistan

In addition, the following fees, payable to the Office as receiving Office, have changed with effect from 1 February 2021:

Transmittal fee:.....	UZS	245,000 ²
Fee for priority document:.....	UZS	245,000

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (UZ) and Annex C (UZ))

WS Samoa (general information; fees)

General information about Samoa as a PCT Contracting State has been published in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (WS)) at:

https://www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/gdvol1/annexes/annexb1/ax_b_ws.pdf

In addition, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL) (Samoa) has notified the IB of the following fees in Samoan talas (SAT), payable to it as receiving Office:

Transmittal fee:.....	SAT	200
Fee for priority document:.....	SAT	100
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority:.....	SAT	200

The amounts of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet over 30 are payable to the Office as receiving Office in USD, as indicated in Fee Table I(a).

Search fee and fees relating to the international search (Australian Patent Office, European Patent Office, Korean Intellectual Property Office, Swedish Intellectual Property Office)

On 9 November 2020, there was a change in the amounts of the following fee, payable in SEK to the Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV) as International Searching Authority (ISA):

Fee for copies of documents cited in the international search report:

Less than 10 pages:.....	[None]	
For 10 pages:.....	SEK	50
For each page over 10:.....	SEK	2

As from 1 May 2021, there will be changes in the equivalent amounts payable in CHF and EUR for an international search carried out by the Australian Patent Office, and there will be a change in the equivalent amount payable in NZD for an international search carried out by the European Patent Office, as indicated in Fee Table I(b).

The Korean Intellectual Property Office has notified the IB of new amounts, in KRW, of the additional search fee (under PCT Rule 40.2(a)), as well as the introduction of an additional search fee (under PCT Rule 40bis) in the case of missing parts, or correct elements or parts, included or considered to have been contained in the international application. These fees, payable to the Office in its capacity as ISA with effect from 16 May 2021, are as follows:

² Reductions may apply. For further details, refer to the Office's website at: <http://ima.uz/ru/regulatory/tarify-i-poshliny/>

Additional search fee (PCT Rules 40.2(a) and 40bis):

for searches carried out in English	KRW	1,200,000
for searches carried out in Korean	KRW	450,000

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex D (AU, EP, KR and SE))

Fees relating to the supplementary international search (Swedish Intellectual Property Office)

On 9 November 2020, there was a change in the amounts of the following fee, payable in SEK to the PRV as Authority specified for supplementary international search:

Fee for copies of documents cited in the supplementary international search report:

Less than 10 pages:.....	[None]	
For 10 pages:.....	SEK	50
For each page over 10:	SEK	2

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex SISA (SE))

International preliminary examination fee and other fees relating to the international preliminary examination (Australian Patent Office, Korean Intellectual Property Office, Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (*corrigendum*), Swedish Intellectual Property Office)

On 9 November 2020, there was a change in the amounts of the following fee, payable in SEK to the PRV as International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA):

Fee for copies of documents cited in the international preliminary examination report:

Less than 10 pages:.....	[None]	
For 10 pages:.....	SEK	50
For each page over 10:	SEK	2

The Spanish Patent and Trademark Office has notified the IB that there has been a change in the date of effect of the new amount of the international preliminary examination fee payable to the Office as IPEA. The date of effect of the new amount of EUR 589.48 is now 12 March 2021, and not 1 January 2021.

On 1 May 2021, there will be a change in the equivalent amount of the handling fee, payable in AUD to the Australian Patent Office as IPEA. The new amount will be AUD 280.

The Korean Intellectual Property Office has notified a new amount, in KRW, of the additional preliminary examination fee, payable to it in its capacity as IPEA with effect from 16 May 2021, as follows:

Additional preliminary examination fee:	KRW	450,000
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(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex E (AU, ES, KR and SE))

United States Patent and Trademark Office: Not Open for Business on 18 February 2021

Because of inclement weather, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business on 18 February 2021, which was considered to be a Federal holiday. Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on that day, that period was extended so as to expire on the next succeeding business day, which was 19 February 2021. A notice concerning the Office closure has been published on the USPTO website at:

<https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/uspto-closed-feb182021-20210304.pdf>

Mexican Institute of Industrial Property: Not Open for Business on 22 February 2021

Due to the unavailability of its electronic systems, the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business on 22 February 2021. Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on that day, that period was extended so as to expire on the next succeeding business day, which was 23 February 2021. A notice concerning the Office closure has been published on the Office's website at:

https://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5612925&fecha=05/03/2021

New/Updated PCT Resources

PCT Overview Video

Further to the announcement in *PCT Newsletter* No. 12/2020 about a new PCT overview video entitled "The PCT: Seeking Patent Protection Beyond Borders", which is available in the 10 PCT publication languages on the PCT website (<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/>), please note that the video is now also available in all 10 languages on YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsm_LOEppJawXrfXbofUlp5ucpYCSAcr4

The links to the video are also available on LinkedIn and Twitter at, respectively:

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6760176839785779200/>

<https://twitter.com/WIPO/status/1352013339703078912>

It is recalled that the video is intended for business owners, individual inventors and students who already have a basic understanding of patents but want to learn more about how the PCT can help innovators seek patent protection beyond their borders. Patent attorneys may likewise use the video to help inform clients about their choices for seeking patent protection in foreign countries. It is also intended to raise awareness about the PCT system in countries not yet party to the PCT.

Meeting of International Authorities documents

Documents that have been prepared for the upcoming twenty-eighth session of the Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT, to be held in Geneva from 24 to 26 March 2021, in the form of a virtual meeting, are available at:

https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=61368

PATENTSCOPE News

Non-patent literature now available in PATENTSCOPE

Non-patent literature (NPL) is now being integrated into PATENTSCOPE, with the open access (OA) content at: <https://www.nature.com>, a part of publisher Springer Nature, which includes content from some of the world's leading multidisciplinary science journals. Over 54,000 documents (bibliographic data and full-text) are now searchable in PATENTSCOPE.

For information on how to include NPL in your search result list, please refer to:

https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/news/pctdb/2021/news_0001.html

Further sources of OA content will be made available in PATENTSCOPE in the future.

Extended patent family information now available in PATENTSCOPE

It is recalled that in 2020, PCT family information became available in PATENTSCOPE for families containing at least one PCT member (please refer to *PCT Newsletter* No. 02/2020). PATENTSCOPE now includes patent families with information about patent documents via both the PCT and Paris routes.

For further information on how to view this new feature, please refer to:

https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/news/pctdb/2021/news_0002.html

Upcoming PATENTSCOPE webinars

For further information about patent families in PATENTSCOPE, as well as information on the latest developments in PATENTSCOPE, please register to attend one of the webinars scheduled on 23 and 25 March 2021 at:

<https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/webinar/>

The webinars are free of charge and will last for about 35 minutes, followed by a live Question and Answer session.

European Patent Office – Updated Guidelines for Search and Examination

The European Patent Office (EPO) has announced that the *Guidelines for Search and Examination at the EPO as PCT Authority* (PCT-EPO Guidelines), which give instructions on the practice and procedure to be followed in various aspects of the handling of international applications before the EPO as ISA and IPEA, have been amended with effect from 1 March 2021, and published as a complete March 2021 edition that supersedes the November 2019 edition.

Amendments have been made to all parts of the Guidelines, however the major change is the expansion of Part A, which includes:

- a chapter on the examination of formal requirements (Chapter VI); and
- a new section (in Chapter II) on the correction of erroneously filed elements or parts.

For further information, please refer to:

<https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal/2021/01/a7/2021-a7.pdf>

The Guidelines are available in English, French and German at:

<https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/guidelines-pct.html>

World Intellectual Property Day, 26 April 2021: Reminder

As we already mentioned in *PCT Newsletter* No. 01/2021, the World Intellectual Property Day (World IP Day) will be held, as usual, on 26 April. This year's theme, "IP & SMEs: Taking your ideas to market", shines a light on the critical role of SMEs in the economy and how they can use IP rights to build stronger, more competitive and resilient businesses.

For further information on World IP Day, please visit the WIPO website at:

www.wipo.int/ip-outreach/en/ipday/

Practical Advice

The possible consequences of entering the national phase early before a particular designated Office, and subsequently withdrawing the priority claim in order to delay national phase entry in respect of other Offices

Q: On 9 November 2020, I filed an international application on behalf of a corporate applicant, which claimed priority of a national application filed on 9 December 2019. Unfortunately, due to financial difficulties, there is concern that the applicant may not be in a position to pay many of the national fees before the Offices where we plan to enter the national phase. There is one particular designated State where the applicant considers it particularly important to enter the national phase as soon as possible, and to retain the right of priority to the earlier application. However, for a number of other States where protection is sought, the applicant would like to postpone entry into the national/regional phase (and all the necessary fee payments) by withdrawing the priority claim. Can the applicant do this, and if so, would the priority claim still be valid in the Office where the national phase had been entered early? Are there any potential risks in taking such action?

A: While the PCT does not provide for the possibility of withdrawing a priority claim only for selected designated States during the international phase, you could request early national phase processing or examination in a selected State (or selected States) as set out in PCT Article 23(2), and afterwards, withdraw the priority claim under PCT Rule 90*bis*.3(a), within the time limit of 30 months from the priority date. This would normally have the effect that the withdrawal of the priority claim would not be effective in the State in which you have already entered the national phase. The relevant legal provision is PCT Rule 90*bis*.6(a), which states:

"Withdrawal under Rule 90*bis* of the international application, any designation, any priority claim, ... shall have no effect in any designated or elected Office where the processing or

national examination of the international application has already started under Article 23(2) or Article 40(2).”

This means that if you have already entered the national phase before the designated (or elected) Office concerned, and the Office has started processing or examining the international application before you submit a notice of withdrawal of the priority claim, that designated Office will take the priority claim into account. If you decide to proceed in this way, however, you are advised to specifically request the Office to start processing or national examination of the application as soon as possible, and subsequently check with it whether it has already started the processing or national examination of the application before proceeding with the withdrawal of the priority claim.

Please be aware that, upon receipt of a notice of withdrawal of the priority claim from the applicant, the International Bureau (IB) issues a notice of withdrawal (Form PCT/IB/317), which is systematically sent as a batch to **all** designated Offices, including the Office where you will have requested early entry into the national phase – the IB does not know and will not check with each individual Office whether national phase processing or examination has already started. Notwithstanding, any withdrawal effected after the national phase processing or examination has started at the designated Office concerned will not have effect in that State.

By withdrawing the only priority claim in an international application, the international filing date (in your case, 9 November 2020) would become the new “priority date” and, in accordance with PCT Rule 90*bis*.3(d), any time limit calculated on the basis of the original priority date that has not already expired would be calculated from the new priority date. This would have the desired effect that the time limit for national phase entry before the other offices would be recalculated from the new priority date, and you would gain a further 11 months. As the time limit for entry into the national phase is at least 30 months from the priority date for the majority of States³, you would therefore have at least until 9 May 2023 by which to pay the national fees for entry into the national phase before the other Offices (instead of 9 June 2022). Note also that, in your case, the withdrawal of the priority claim would also delay the publication of the international application if the notice of withdrawal reaches the IB before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication⁴.

While withdrawing the priority claim would allow the applicant to delay payment to other Offices of the national fees and other fees payable upon entry into the national (or regional) phase, thus leaving the applicant’s options open as to whether to pursue the application elsewhere later on, this strategy does not come without potential dangers. It is very important to be aware that before withdrawing any priority claim, you must consider the consequences that such withdrawal would have on the assessment of novelty and inventive step in light of the relevant prior art, and be particularly mindful of prior art which dates between the original priority date and the new priority date. Withdrawing the priority claim would therefore increase the risk that intervening prior art, or a prior disclosure by the applicant, might jeopardize the chances of obtaining patent protection in those countries in which the international application proceeds

³ As the designated Offices of Luxembourg and the United Republic of Tanzania have notified the International Bureau of the non-applicability of the 30-month time limit under PCT Article 22(1), as modified with effect from 1 April 2002, the applicable time limits for entry into the national phase are, respectively, 20 and 21 months from the priority date. However, a 31-month time limit applies if a European patent or ARIPO patent, respectively, is being sought in those States.

⁴ Technical preparations are generally completed 15 days before the publication date (which is scheduled to take place as soon as possible after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date).

without the priority claim. You may also wish to consult local agents in the countries of interest on what constitutes prior art under the relevant national laws.

In conclusion, even though it would be procedurally relatively easy to withdraw a priority claim, and by doing so obtain more time before having to pay the national fees, it could have serious consequences and you should not take that decision lightly.

Note that some designated Offices do allow applicants to delay entry into the national phase under certain conditions, but this is usually upon payment of a fee. For further information, please refer to the corresponding National Chapter (Summary) pages of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* (<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/guide/index.html>).

Please refer to the resources indicated below for further information on the following topics of relevance to this Practical Advice:

- the withdrawal of priority claims: the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, International Phase, paragraphs 11.056 at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/gdvol1/pdf/gdvol1.pdf>

- how to withdraw priority claims using the dedicated ePCT Action:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/epct/learnmore.html?N=870>

- early entry into the national phase: the “Practical Advice” in *PCT Newsletter* No. 10/2011, page 15, at:

https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pctndocs/en/2011/pct_news_2011_10.pdf

PCT Seminar Calendar (www.wipo.int/pct/en/seminar/seminar.pdf) (situation on 19 March 2021)			
Dates and location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar; WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
22 March 2021 Online seminar	Arabic	WIPO webinar on the PCT for the University of M'Sila and the Research Center on Semiconductor Technology for Energetics (CRTSE), Algeria WIPO speaker: Mr. Jazairy	Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI) (Mr. Youcef Ziane) E-mail: y.ziane@inapi.org
23 March 2021 Online seminar	English	National seminar on patents and the PCT WIPO speakers: Mr. Moody, Ms. Pii, Mr. Roy Other speaker: Ms. Usen (Patents and Designs Registry, Commercial Law Department (Nigeria))	Patents and Designs Registry, Commercial Law Department (Nigeria) in cooperation with the WIPO Nigeria Office (Mr. Moody, WIPO Nigeria Office) E-mail: oluwatobiloba.moody@wipo.int Seminar link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570359241?pwd=dU91bnlqaXBqbWJmTkZBN0xORHZ1dz09
18-19 May 2021 Stockholm (SE)	English	Advanced PCT seminar WIPO speakers: Mr. Reischle-Park and Ms. Mohri	IP-Akademien, Trona Patentrådgivning AB (Ms. Rut Herbjørnsen) Tel: (46-708) 808 342 E-mail: info@ipakademien.se Internet: www.ipakademien.se
27 September 2021 Zurich (CH)	German	Seminar on the latest developments concerning the PCT within the framework of the CEIPI basic course WIPO speaker: Mr. Henninger	Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle (CEIPI), International Section (Ms. Lea Pessina, Schaad Balass Menzl & Partner AG) Tel: (41-44) 387 53 55 Fax: (41-44) 387 53 54 E-mail: lea.pessina@sbmp.ch
30 September 2021 Virtual lecture	English	Lecture on the PCT within the framework of the IP Paralegal Conference 2021 WIPO speaker: to be announced	Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) E-mail: CPD@cipa.org.uk
6 October 2021 Online seminar	German	Update lecture on the PCT within the framework of an IP Seminar WIPO speaker: Mr. Reischle-Park	Kuhnen & Wacker IP Law Firm PartG mbB (Ms. Ingrid Jahr) E-mail: Ingrid.jahr@kuhnen-wacker.com
7 October 2021 Ecully (FR) <i>(previously scheduled for 8 April 2021)</i>	French	PCT seminar WIPO speaker: Ms. Schumm	Centre Paul Roubier Tel: (33-4) 78 33 07 08 Fax: (33-4) 78 33 58 96
24-26 November 2021 Bad Nauheim (DE)	German	PCT presentation on the latest developments in the PCT within the framework of the 11th PAFA-Tagung conference WIPO speaker: Mr. Reischle-Park Other WIPO speakers on other IP topics: Ms. Silke Weiss and other speaker to be announced	Intellectual Property for Intellectual People (IP for IP) GmbH (Ms. Monika Huppertz) Tel: (49-0) 6201 844 37 30 Fax: (49-0) 6201 98 62 10 E-mail: info@ipforip.de Internet: www.ipforip.de
30 November 2021 Brussels (BE) <i>(note that only a limited number of places are available)</i>	French	PCT seminar within the framework of the basic CEIPI course WIPO speaker: to be announced	Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle (CEIPI), International Section (Mr. Thierry Debled) E-mail: thierry-debled@ceipi.edu

PCT Webinars (www.wipo.int/pct/en/seminar/webinars/index.html)			
Date and time	Language of webinar	Nature of webinar; WIPO speakers	Registration
24 March 2021 16:30 – 19:30 CET	Spanish	Webinar with DIGERPI (Panama) on the PCT and ePCT WIPO speakers: Mr. Hernández Vigaud, Ms. Mena Valencia, Mr. Perez Gomes Other speaker: Mr. Uribe (DIGERPI)	Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry (DIGERPI) (Panama) Meeting link: https://wipo.webex.com/wipo/j.php?MTID=m6913c833d77ca5be5fbb0d8ec6834160
25 March 2021 16:30 – 19:30 CET	Spanish	Webinar with DIGERPI (Panama) on the PCT and ePCT WIPO speakers: Mr. Hernández Vigaud, Ms. Mena Valencia, Mr. Perez Gomes Other speaker: Mr. Uribe (DIGERPI)	Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry (DIGERPI) (Panama) Meeting link: https://wipo.webex.com/wipo/j.php?MTID=meba733ce4788d8a7614e043ac63167a6
8 April 2021 11:00 – 12:00 Moscow time (10:00 – 11:00 CET)	Russian	PCT System: Most Frequently Asked Questions WIPO speakers: Ms. Krysanova, Ms. Morgulova	https://global.gotowebinar.com/pjoin/316742225377606156/3133881231251323660

PATENTSCOPE Webinars (www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/webinar/)			
Date and time	Language of webinar	Nature of webinar; WIPO speakers	Registration
23 March 2021 17:30-18:15 CET or 25 March 2021 8:30-9:15 CET	English	Flash webinar: patent families and more in PATENTSCOPE WIPO speaker: Ms. Ammann	https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/7097778979340864523

Other IP events
<p>World IP Day, 26 April 2021</p> <p>In view of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, World IP Day 2021 is being promoted as a virtual campaign. Further information is available at:</p> <p>www.wipo.int/ip-outreach/en/ipday/</p>

PCT Fee Tables

(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

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*, 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 international filing fee may be reduced by CHF 100, 200 or 300 where the international application, or part of the international application, is filed in electronic form, as prescribed under Item 4(a), (b) and (c) of the Schedule of Fees (annexed to the Regulations under the PCT) and the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, paragraph 5.189. A 90% reduction in the international filing fee (including the fee per sheet over 30), the supplementary search handling fee and the handling fee, as well as an exemption from the transmittal fee payable to the International Bureau as receiving Office, is also available to applicants from certain States—see footnotes 2 and 13. (Note that if the CHF 100, 200 or 300 reduction, as the case may be, and the 90% reduction are applicable, the 90% reduction is calculated **after** the CHF 100, 200 or 300 reduction.) The footnotes to the Fee Tables follow Table II.

Key to abbreviations used in fee tables:

eq	equivalent of –	BND	Brunei dollar	GTQ	Quetzal	MWK	Malawian kwacha	TJS	Tajik somoni
IA	international application	BRL	Brazilian real	HRK	Croatian kuna	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	TND	Tunisian dinar
IPEA	International Preliminary Examining Authority	BYN	Belarusian rouble	HUF	Hungarian forint	NOK	Norwegian krone	TRY	Turkish lira
ISA	International Searching Authority	BZD	Belize dollar	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	NZD	New Zealand dollar	TTD	Trinidad and Tobago dollar
ISR	international search report	CAD	Canadian dollar	ILS	New Israeli sheqel	OMR	Omani rial	UAH	Ukrainian hryvnia
RO	receiving Office	CHF	Swiss franc	INR	Indian rupee	PEN	Nuevo sol	UGX	Uganda shilling
		CLP	Chilean peso	IRR	Iranian rial	PGK	Kina	USD	US dollar
		CNY	Yuan renminbi	ISK	Icelandic krona	PHP	Philippine peso	UZS	Uzbek sum
		COP	Colombian peso	JOD	Jordanian dinar	PLN	Polish zloty	VND	Vietnamese dong
		CUP	Cuban peso	JPY	Japanese yen	QAR	Qatari riyal	XAF	CFA franc BEAC
		CZK	Czech koruna	KES	Kenyan shilling	RON	New leu	XCD	East Caribbean dollar
ALL	Albanian lek	DJF	Djibouti franc	KPW	Won (KP)	RSD	Serbian dinar	ZAR	South African rand
AMD	Armenian dram	DKK	Danish krone	KRW	Won (KR)	RUB	Russian rouble	ZWD	Zimbabwe dollar
AUD	Australian dollar	DZD	Algerian dinar	KZT	Kazakh tenge	SAT	Samoan tala		
AZN	Azerbaijani manat	EGP	Egyptian pound	LSL	Lesotho loti	SDG	Sudanese pound		
BAM	Convertible mark	EUR	Euro	LYD	Libyan dinar	SEK	Swedish krona		
BGN	Bulgarian lev	GBP	Pound sterling	MAD	Moroccan dirham	SGD	Singapore dollar		
BHD	Bahraini dinar	GHS	Ghanaian cedi	MKD	Macedonian denar	THB	Baht		

Table I(a) — Transmittal and international filing fees
(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	International filing fee ^{1, 2} (CHF 1,330)	Fee per sheet over 30 ^{1, 2, 3} (CHF 15)	E-filing reductions according to Schedule of Fees:			Competent ISA(s) ⁴
				Item 4(a) ⁵ (CHF 100)	Item 4(b) ⁶ (CHF 200)	Item 4(c) ⁷ (CHF 300)	
AL	ALL 9,000	CHF 1,330	15	–	–	–	EP
AM	AMD 32,000	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	EP RU
AP	USD 50 (or eq in local currency)	USD 1,453	16	–	218	328	AT EP SE
AT	EUR 52	EUR 1,233	14	–	185	278	EP
AU	AUD 200	AUD 2,023 (from 1.5.21: 1,860)	23 (21)	– (–)	304 (280)	456 (420)	AU KR
AZ	AZN 30	USD 1,453	16	–	218	328	EP RU
BA	BAM 50	EUR 1,233	14	–	–	–	EP
BG	BGN 80	EUR 1,233	14	–	185	278	EP RU
BH	BHD 70	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	AT EP US
BN	BND 150	BND eq CHF 1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	AU EP JP KR SG
BR	BRL ⁸ online: 175 on paper: 260	BRL eq CHF 1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	AT BR EP SE US
BW	USD 32	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	EP
BY	BYN 71.05	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	EP RU
BZ	BZD 300	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	CA EP
CA	CAD 306	CAD 1,928	22	–	290	435	CA
CH	CHF 100	CHF 1,330	15	–	200	300	EP
CL	CLP eq USD ⁹ 130	CLP eq USD ⁹ 1,453	eq USD ⁹ 16	–	eq USD 218	eq USD 328	CL EP ES KR US
CN	CNY none	CNY eq CHF 1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	CN EP ¹⁰
CO	COP online: 400,000 on paper: 480,000	COP eq CHF 1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	AT BR CL EP ES KR RU
CR	USD online: 212 on paper: 289	USD 1,453	16	–	218	328	CL EP ES

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Table I(a) — Transmittal and international filing fees [continued]

(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹		International filing fee ^{1, 2}		Fee per sheet over 30 ^{1, 2, 3}			E-filing reductions according to Schedule of Fees:			Competent ISA(s) ⁴		
					Item 4(a) ⁵	Item 4(b) ⁶	Item 4(c) ⁷						
CU	CUP	2,400	CUP eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	eq CHF	200	eq CHF	300	AT BR CL EP ES RU	
CY	EUR	191	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	–	–	–	EP	
CZ	CZK	1,500	EUR	1,233		14	–	185	–	278	–	EP XV	
DE	EUR	90	EUR	1,233		14	–	185	–	278	–	EP	
DJ	USD	100	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	AT EG EP	
	or eq DJF												
DK	DKK	1,500	DKK	9,170		100	–	1,380	–	2,070	–	EP SE XN	
DM	Information not yet available												
DO	USD	316	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	CL EP ES US	
DZ	DZD	None	CHF	1,330		15	–	–	200	–	300	AT EP	
EA	RUB	1,600	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	EP RU	
			or EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278		
EC	USD	300	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	CL EP ES	
EE	EUR	120	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP	
EG	USD	142	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	AT EG EP US	
EP	EUR	135	EUR	1,233		14	93	–	185	–	278	EP	
ES	EUR	75	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP ES	
FI	EUR	135	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP FI SE	
FR	EUR	62	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP	
GB	GBP	75	GBP	1,120		13	–	–	168	–	253	EP	
GD	Information not yet available												
GE	USD ¹¹	100	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	AT EP IL RU US	
GH	GHS ¹²	500 or 5,000	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	AT AU CN EP SE	
GR	EUR	115	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	–	–	–	EP	
GT	GTQ eq USD	250	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	AT BR CL EP ES US	
HN	USD	200	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	EP ES	
HR	HRK	200	HRK eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	eq CHF	200	eq CHF	300	EP	
HU	HUF	11,800	HUF	444,200		5,000	–	–	66,800	–	100,200	EP XV	
IB	CHF ¹³	100	CHF	1,330		15	100	–	200	–	300	See footnote 14	
	or EUR ¹³	93	or EUR	1,233		14	93	–	185	–	278		
	or USD ¹³	109	or USD	1,453		16	109	–	218	–	328		
ID	IDR	1,000,000	IDR eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	–	eq CHF	200	eq CHF	300	AU EP JP KR RU SG
IE	EUR	76	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP	
IL	ILS	554	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	EP IL US	
IN	INR	17,600 (paper filing) ¹⁵	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	AT AU CN EP IN SE US	
	No fee for e-filings												
IR	IRR	50,000 (natural persons)	IRR eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	–	eq CHF	200	eq CHF	300	CN EP IN RU
	IRR	500,000 (legal persons)											
IS	ISK	18,200	ISK	200,500		2,300	–	–	30,100	–	45,200	EP SE XN	
IT	EUR	30.99	EUR	1,233		14	–	–	185	–	278	EP	
JO	JOD	100	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	AT AU EP US	
JP	JPY	10,000 ¹⁶	JPY	153,600		1,700	–	–	–	–	34,600	EP JP SG	
KE	USD 250 or KES 5,000 plus cost of mailing		USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	AT AU CN EP SE	
KG	KGS	4,000 ¹⁷	USD	1,453		16	–	–	218	–	328	EP RU	
KH	USD	100	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	CN EP JP KR SG	
KN	XCD	50	XCD eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	–	–	–	–	EP US	
KP	KPW eq CHF	50	KPW eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	–	–	–	–	AT CN RU	
KR	KRW	45,000	CHF	1,330		15	–	–	–	–	300	AT AU JP ¹⁸ KR SG	
KZ	KZT	10,264.80	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	EP RU	
LR	USD	45	USD	1,453		16	–	–	–	–	–	AT AU CN EP SE	
LS	LSL	– ¹⁹	LSL eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF	15	–	–	–	–	–	AT EP	

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Table I(a) — Transmittal and international filing fees [continued]

(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹		International filing fee ^{1, 2}		Fee per sheet over 30 ^{1, 2, 3}	E-filing reductions according to Schedule of Fees:			Competent ISA(s) ⁴
						Item 4(a) ⁵	Item 4(b) ⁶	Item 4(c) ⁷	
LT	EUR	92	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP RU XV
LU	EUR	19	EUR	1,233	14	–	–	–	EP
LV	EUR	70	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP RU
LY	LYD	– ¹⁹	CHF	1,330	15	–	–	–	AT EP
MA	MAD	None	CHF	1,330	15	–	200	300	AT EP RU SE
MD	EUR	100	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	EP RU
ME	EUR	15	EUR	1,233	14	–	–	–	EP
MK	MKD	2,700	MKD eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	–	–	EP
MN		None	CHF	1,330	15	–	–	–	EP KR RU
MT	EUR	55	EUR	1,233	14	–	–	–	EP
MW	MWK	6,000	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	EP
MX	USD	323.70 ²⁰	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	AT CLEPESKRSESG US
MY	MYR	500 (e-filing) ²¹ 550 (paper filing) ²¹	MYR eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	AU EP JP KR
NI	USD	200	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	EP ES
NL	EUR	50	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP
NO	NOK	800	NOK	13,410 (from 1.4.21: 12,750)	150 (140)	– (–)	2,020 (1,920)	3,030 (2,880)	EP SE XN
NZ	NZD	207	NZD	2,188 (from 1.5.21: 2,025)	25 (23)	– (–)	329 (305)	493 (457)	AU EP KR US
OA	XAF	– ¹⁹	XAF eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	–	–	AT EP RU SE
OM	OMR	40	OMR eq USD	1,453	eq USD 16	–	eq USD 218	eq USD 328	AT AU EGPUS
PA	USD	240	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	BR CL EP ES US
PE	PEN	233.35	PEN eq USD	1,453	eq USD 16	–	eq USD 218	eq USD 328	AT BR CLEPESKRUS
PG	PGK	250	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	AU
PH	PHP	4,200	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	AU EP JP KR PH US
PL	PLN	300	PLN eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	EP XV
PT	EUR	10.79 (online filing) EUR 21.58 (paper filing)	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP
QA	QAR	400	QAR eq USD	1,453	eq USD 16	–	eq USD 218	eq USD 328	EG EP US
RO	RON	487	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP RU
RS	RSD	7,990 ²²	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP XV
RU	RUB	1,700	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	EP RU
RW	Information not yet available								
SA	USD	100	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	CA EG EP KR RU
SC	USD	– ¹⁹	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	EP
SD	SDG	50	SDG eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	eq CHF 200	eq CHF 300	EG EP
SE	SEK	1,200	SEK	12,920	150	–	1,940	2,910	EP SE XN
SG	SGD	150	SGD	1,977	22	–	297	446	AT AU EP JP KR SG
SI	EUR	91	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP
SK	EUR	(paper filings) ⁶⁶ ²³	EUR	1,233	14	–	185	278	EP XV
SV		None ²⁴	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	CL EP ES
SY	USD	– ¹⁹	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	AT EG EP RU
TH	THB	3,000	THB eq CHF	1,330	eq CHF 15	–	–	–	AU CN EP JP KR SG US
TJ	TJS	– ¹⁹	USD	1,453	16	–	218	328	EP RU
TM	USD	– ¹⁹	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	EP RU
TN	TND	100	CHF	1,330	15	–	200	300	EP
TR		None	CHF	1,330	15	–	200	300	EP TR
TT	TTD	750	USD	1,453	16	–	–	–	AT CL EP SE US

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Table I(a) — Transmittal and international filing fees [continued]

(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	International filing fee ^{1, 2}	Fee per sheet over 30 ^{1, 2, 3}	E-filing reductions according to Schedule of Fees:			Competent ISA(s) ⁴
				Item 4(a) ⁵	Item 4(b) ⁶	Item 4(c) ⁷	
UA	UAH (or eq EUR or USD) ²⁵ 2,600	USD (or eq UAH or EUR) 1,453	16	–	–	–	EP RU UA
UG	UGX –	UGX eq USD 1,453	eq USD 16	–	eq USD 218	eq USD 328	AT EP SG
US	USD 260 ²⁶ small entity ²⁷ : 130 ²⁶ micro entity ²⁷ : 65 ²⁶	USD 1,453	16	109	218	–	AU EP IL JP KR RU SG US
UZ	UZS 245,000 ²⁸	USD 1,453	16	–	218	328	EP RU
VN	VND 300,000	CHF 1,330	15	–	200	300	AT AU EP JP KR RU SE SG
WS	SAT 200	USD 1,453	16	–	–	–	<i>Information not yet available</i>
ZA	ZAR 525	ZAR 22,660	260	–	3,410	5,110	AT AU EP US
ZM	USD 50	USD 1,453	16	–	218	328	AT SE
ZW	ZWD 6,000	ZWD eq USD 1,453	eq USD 16	–	–	–	AT AU CN EP RU

Table I(b) — Search fees

(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Search fee ¹									
AT ²⁹	EUR 1,775	CHF 1,915	KRW 2,422,000	SGD 2,846	USD 2,091	ZAR 32,730				
AU	AUD 2,200	CHF* 1,446	EUR* 1,341	KRW 1,829,000	NZD 2,379	SGD 2,150				
	USD 1,697	ZAR 24,970	*(from 1.5.21:)	CHF 1,573	EUR 1,429)					
BR ⁸	Online:	BRL 1,685	CHF 274	EUR 254	USD 318					
	On paper:	BRL 2,525	CHF 411	EUR 381	USD 476					
CA	CAD 1,632	CHF 1,134	EUR 1,060	USD 1,243						
CL	USD 2,000	CHF 1,831	EUR 1,697							
	In case of filing by a natural person or a legal entity ² :		USD 400	CHF 366	EUR 339					
	In case of filing by a university ³⁰ :		USD 300	CHF 275	EUR 255					
CN	CNY 2,100	CHF 283	EUR 262	USD 309						
EG ³¹	EGP 4,000	CHF 233	EUR 216	USD 254						
EP ³²	EUR 1,775	CHF 1,915	DKK 13,210	GBP 1,613	HUF 639,500	ISK 288,600				
	JPY 221,100	NOK 19,310	NZD* 3,150	SEK 18,610	SGD 2,846	USD 2,091				
	ZAR 32,730	*(from 1.5.21:)	NZD 2,942)							
ES ³²	EUR 1,775	CHF 1,915	USD 2,091							
FI	EUR 1,775	CHF 1,915	USD 2,091							
IL	ILS 3,553	CHF 976	EUR 903	USD 1,107						
IN	INR 10,000	CHF 125	EUR 116	USD 137						
	In case of filing by an individual:									
	INR 2,500	CHF 31	EUR 29	USD 34						
JP ³³	For IAs in Japanese:									
	JPY 70,000	CHF 606	EUR 562	KRW 767,000	USD 662					
	For IAs in English:									
	JPY 156,000	CHF 1,351	EUR 1,252	SGD 2,008	USD 1,476					
KR ³⁴	For IAs in Korean:	KRW 450,000	AUD 541	CHF 356	EUR 330	NZD 585				
	SGD 529	USD 389								
	For IAs in English:	KRW 1,200,000	AUD 1,443	CHF 949	EUR 879	NZD 1,561				
	SGD 1,410	USD 1,036								
PH	USD 1,000	CHF 916	EUR 849							
	Small entity or government ³⁵ :	USD 400	CHF 366	EUR 339						

[continued on next page]

Table I(b) — Search fees [continued]
(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Search fee ¹											
RU	For IAs in Russian:	RUB	8,500	CHF	99	EUR	92	USD	115			
	For IAs in English:	RUB	40,000	CHF	467	EUR	433	USD	543			
SE	SEK	18,610	CHF	1,915	DKK	13,210	EUR	1,775	ISK	288,600	NOK	19,310
	USD	2,091										
SG	SGD	2,240	CHF	1,507	EUR	1,397	JPY	174,000	KRW	1,906,000	USD	1,646
TR	TRY	16,250	CHF	1,915	EUR	1,775	USD	2,091				
UA	For IAs in Ukrainian or Russian:				EUR	100	CHF	108	USD	118		
	For IAs in English, French or German:				EUR	300	CHF	324	USD	353		
US	USD	2,180	CHF	1,996	EUR	1,850	NZD	3,076	ZAR	33,650		
	For small entity ²⁷ :	USD	1,090	CHF	998	EUR	925	NZD	1,538	ZAR	16,830	
	For micro entity ²⁷ :	USD	545	CHF	499	EUR	463	NZD	769	ZAR	8,410	
XN	DKK	13,210	CHF	1,915	EUR	1,775	ISK	288,600	NOK	19,310	SEK	18,610
	USD	2,091										
XV	EUR	1,775	CHF	1,915	HUF	639,500	USD	2,091				

Table I(c) — Supplementary search fees
(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Supplementary search fee	Supplementary search handling fee ^{2, 36}
AT	– for a search of German-language documentation:	CHF 200
		CHF 917
	– for a search of European and North American documentation:	CHF 1,284
	– for a search of PCT minimum documentation:	CHF 1,834
EP	CHF 1,915 ³²	CHF 200
FI	CHF 1,915	CHF 200
RU	CHF 138	CHF 200
	CHF 221 ³⁷	
SE	CHF 1,915	CHF 200
SG	CHF 1,507	CHF 200
TR	– for a full search:	CHF 1,915
	– for a search only of documents in Turkish held in the search collection of the Authority	CHF 59
		CHF 200
UA	– for a search of the documents in the search collection of the Authority, including the PCT minimum documentation:	CHF 97
	– for a search of only the European and North American documentation:	CHF 97
	– for a search of only the Russian language documentation of the former USSR and the Ukrainian language documentation:	CHF 76
	– for a search where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv):	CHF 65
		CHF 200
XN	– for a full search:	CHF 1,915
	– for searches only of documentation in Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish:	CHF 580
		CHF 200
XV	– for a full search:	CHF 1,915
	– for searches only of documentation in Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Slovak:	CHF 593
		CHF 200

Table II — Preliminary examination fees
(amounts on 17 March 2021, unless otherwise indicated)

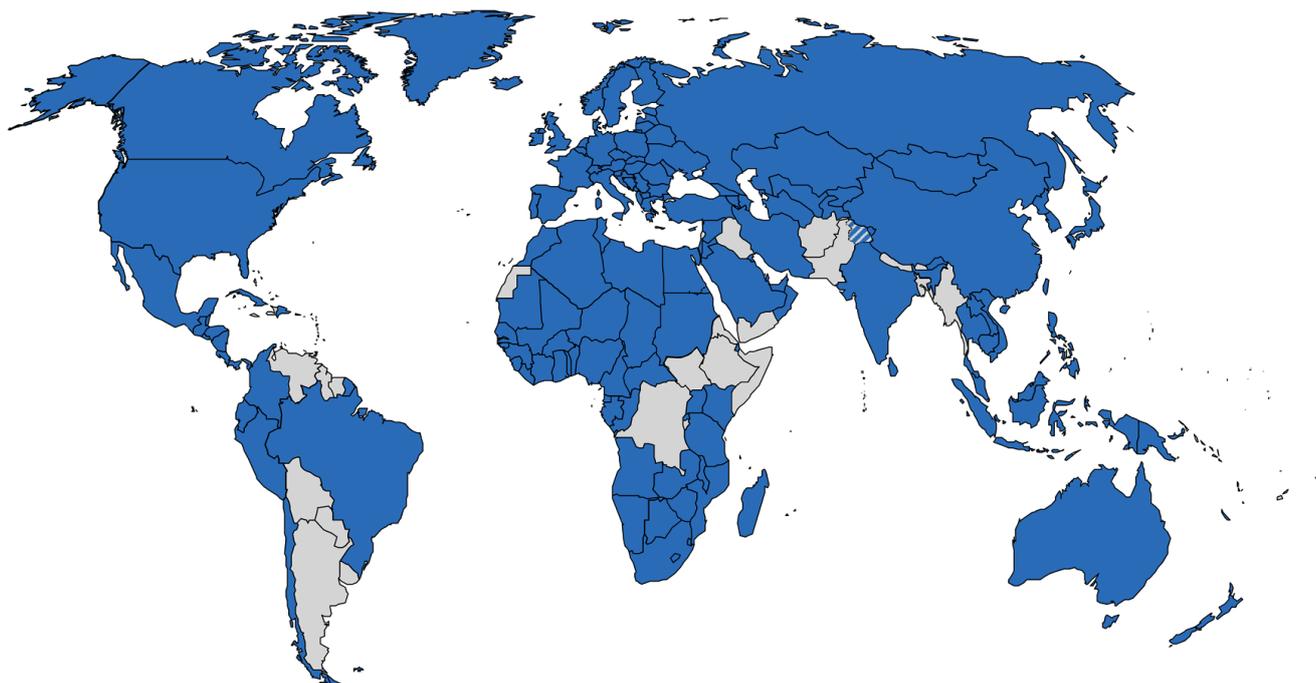
IPEA	Preliminary examination fee ³⁸	Handling fee ^{2,38} (CHF 200)
AT	EUR 1,749 ²⁹	EUR 185
AU	AUD 590 820 ³⁹	AUD 304 (from 1.5.21: 280)
BR	Online: BRL 630 ⁸ On paper: BRL 945 ⁸	BRL eq CHF 200
CA	CAD 816	CAD 290
CL	USD 1,500 in case of filing by a natural person or a legal entity ² : USD 400 in case of filing by a university ³⁰ : USD 300	USD 218
CN	CNY 1,500	CNY eq CHF 200
EG	EGP 3,000	USD 218
EP	EUR 1,830 ³²	EUR 185
ES	EUR 589,48 ³²	EUR 185
FI	EUR 600	EUR 185
IL	ILS 1,523	ILS 745
IN	if ISR prepared by ISA/IN: INR 10,000; in case of filing by individual: INR 2,500 if ISR not prepared by ISA/IN: INR 12,000; in case of filing by individual: INR 3,000	USD 218
JP ³³	For IAs in Japanese: JPY 26,000 For IAs in English: JPY 58,000	JPY 23,100
KR	KRW 450,000	KRW 253,000
PH	USD 500 Small entity or government: ³⁵ USD 200	USD 218
RU	For IAs in Russian: RUB 4,500 ⁴⁰ 6,750 ⁴¹ For IAs in English: RUB 16,000 ⁴⁰ 24,000 ⁴¹	USD 218
SE	SEK 5,000	SEK 1,940
SG	SGD 830	SGD 297
TR	TRY 1,000	CHF 200
UA	If the ISR has been prepared by ISA/UA: – for IAs in English, French or German: EUR 160 – for IAs in Russian or Ukrainian: EUR 50 If the ISR has been prepared by another ISA: – for IAs in English, French or German: EUR 180 – for IAs in Russian or Ukrainian: EUR 70	EUR 185
US	USD 640 800 ⁴² For small entity ²⁷ : USD 320 400 ⁴² For micro entity ²⁷ : USD 160 200 ⁴²	USD 218
XN	DKK 5,000	DKK 1,380
XV	EUR 900	EUR 185

[See over page for footnotes to fee tables]

Footnotes to fee tables:

- 1 Payable to the receiving Office in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- 2 This fee is reduced by 90% where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant fulfills the criteria indicated on the PCT website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees. Note that the PCT Assembly adopted an Understanding, with effect from 11 October 2017, which clarifies that this fee reduction is intended to apply only in the case where the applicants indicated in the request are the sole and true owners of the application and under no obligation to assign, grant, convey or license the rights in the invention to another party which is not eligible for the fee reduction.
- 3 Where the IA contains a sequence listing as a separate part of the description, this should preferably be furnished in accordance with Annex C, paragraph 40, of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that is, in compliance with WIPO Standard ST.25 text format; no additional fees are due for sequence listings filed in this format. Where, however, such sequence listings are filed in the form of an image file (e.g. PDF), fees are due for each page (see *PCT Newsletter* No. 06/2009, page 2 at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/newslett/2009/newslett_09.pdf).
- 4 For the search fee payable to the receiving Office, consult the entry in Table I(b) for the competent International Searching Authority.
- 5 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request not being in character coded format.
- 6 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request being in character coded format.
- 7 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request, description, claims and abstract being in character coded format.
- 8 This fee is reduced by 60% where the IA is filed by a natural person, a small or medium-sized enterprise, a cooperative, an academic institution, a non-profit-making entity or a public institution. For further details, see Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) No. 129/14 of 10 March 2014.
- 9 When calculating the USD equivalent amount in CLP, applicants should use the exchange rate fixed by the Central Bank of Chile on the day before the date of payment.
- 10 The EPO is available as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority as of 1 December 2020 for a duration of two years as a pilot project. For further details, please refer to the EPO's website at: <https://www.epo.org/service-support/faq/own-file/cnipa-epo-pilot.html> and to the CNIPA's website at: https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2020/10/20/art_364_153578.html.
- 11 This fee is reduced by 70% where the applicant is a natural person and by 90% where the applicant is a student or a retiree.
- 12 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.
- 13 This fee is not payable in respect of IAs filed by applicants fulfilling the conditions indicated on the PCT website at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees.
- 14 The competent International Searching Authority(ies) for an IA filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office is (are) the Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the IA 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*, Annex C (IB).
- 15 For paper filings, the fee for a natural person and/or a startup is INR 3,500; the fee for a small entity, alone or with natural person(s) and/or a startup is INR 8,800.
- 16 This fee is reduced if the application is filed in Japanese by applicants who are eligible for fee reductions, such as small or medium-sized enterprises, micro enterprises and academic institutions. Further details on eligibility for the fee reduction are available at: www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf.
- 17 This fee is reduced by 90% if the applicant is an individual. The amount does not include the postage/ mailing costs which must be paid by the applicant directly to the express delivery service (e.g. DHL). For non-residents of Kyrgyzstan, the equivalent amount of the fee can be paid in a freely convertible currency, in accordance with the exchange rate established by the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic and applicable on the date of payment.
- 18 The Japan Patent Office is competent only for IAs filed in Japanese.
- 19 The amount of this fee is not yet known. The Office should be consulted for the applicable fee amount.
- 20 This fee is subject to a national tax of 16%.
- 21 Plus MYR 60 for each sheet in excess of 30 for electronic filings, and MYR 70 for each sheet in excess of 30 for paper filings.
- 22 This fee is reduced by 50% where the applicant is a natural person.
- 23 This fee is reduced by 50% if the IA is filed by electronic means.
- 24 Although there is no transmittal fee payable, the applicant must nevertheless pay the postage fee for the transmittal of the copy of the international application to the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority.
- 25 This fee is reduced by 90% where all applicants are also inventors and by 80% where all applicants are also non-profitable institutions and/or organizations. When the fee is payable with relation to an application made by both types of applicant, and all applicants are either also inventors, or non-profitable institutions and/or organizations, the fee is reduced by 80%.
- 26 Plus non-electronic filing fee portion for IAs filed other than by the Office electronic filing system of USD 400, or in the case of filings by small entities or micro entities: USD 200.
- 27 For further details about entitlement to and establishment of "small entity" status and "micro entity" status, see 37 CFR § 1.27 and 1.29 (pages R-41 and R-47), respectively, at: www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/consolidated_rules.pdf.
- 28 Reductions may apply – for further details see the Office's website at: <http://ima.uz/ru/regulatory/tarify-i-poshliny/>
- 29 The 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 a State for which the Austrian Patent Office is an International Searching Authority (in the case of the search fee)/International Preliminary Examining Authority (in the case of the preliminary examination fee).
- 30 Applicable where the applicant is (a) a Chilean university, or (b) a foreign university headquartered in any of the States which benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee and authenticated by its legal representative, in a simple declaration signed in the presence of a notary, as constituted as a university in accordance with the law of that State, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criterion set out in either sub-item (a) or (b)). For details of applicants entitled to the 90% reduction, see: www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees.
- 31 The search fee payable to the Office is reduced by 25% where the applicant, or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person or a legal entity and is a national of and resides in a State which is classified by the World Bank in the group of countries of "low income", "lower middle income" or "upper middle income".
- 32 The search and preliminary examination fees payable to the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, and the supplementary search fee in the case of the EPO, are reduced by 75% under certain conditions. For further information, see the relevant footnotes in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annexes D (EP and ES) and E (EP and ES) at: www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/index.html.
- 33 This fee is reduced for applications filed in Japanese, or for applications in respect of which a translation into Japanese has been furnished under PCT Rule 12.3, by applicants who are eligible for fee reductions, such as small or medium-sized enterprises, micro enterprises and academic institutions.
For further details see: https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf.
- 34 This fee is reduced by 75% where the applicant, or if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a national of, and has a residence or business domicile in, one of the following States: Cambodia, Colombia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam.
- 35 Applicable where the applicant is a small entity which refers to any natural or juridical person whose assets are worth not more than one hundred million pesos (P100M); or any entity, agency, office, bureau or unit of the Philippine government including government-owned or controlled corporations, state universities and colleges and government-owned or government-run schools.
- 36 Payable to the International Bureau in Swiss francs.
- 37 This fee applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment).
- 38 Payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- 39 Payable when the international search report was not issued by the Australian Patent Office.
- 40 Payable when the international search report was established by the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation).
- 41 In all cases where footnote 40 does not apply.
- 42 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*, Annex C (US)).

PCT Contracting States and Two-letter Codes (153 on 1 March 2021)



AE United Arab Emirates	CU Cuba	IN India	MK North Macedonia (EP)	SG Singapore
AG Antigua and Barbuda	CY Cyprus (EP) ²	IR Iran (Islamic Republic of)	ML Mali (OA) ²	SI Slovenia (EP) ²
AL Albania (EP)	CZ Czechia (EP)	IS Iceland (EP)	MN Mongolia	SK Slovakia (EP)
AM Armenia (EA)	DE Germany (EP)	IT Italy (EP) ³	MR Mauritania (OA) ²	SL Sierra Leone (AP)
AO Angola	DJ Djibouti	JO Jordan	MT Malta (EP) ²	SM San Marino (EP) ²
AT Austria (EP)	DK Denmark (EP)	JP Japan	MW Malawi (AP)	SN Senegal (OA) ²
AU Australia	DM Dominica	KE Kenya (AP)	MX Mexico	ST Sao Tome and Principe (AP)
AZ Azerbaijan (EA)	DO Dominican Republic	KG Kyrgyzstan (EA)	MY Malaysia	SV El Salvador
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina ¹	DZ Algeria	KH Cambodia ⁴	MZ Mozambique (AP)	SY Syrian Arab Republic
BB Barbados	EC Ecuador	KM Comoros (OA) ²	NA Namibia (AP)	SZ Eswatini (AP) ²
BE Belgium (EP) ²	EE Estonia (EP)	KN Saint Kitts and Nevis	NE Niger (OA) ²	TD Chad (OA) ²
BF Burkina Faso (OA) ²	EG Egypt	KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NG Nigeria	TG Togo (OA) ²
BG Bulgaria (EP)	ES Spain (EP)	KR Republic of Korea	NI Nicaragua	TH Thailand
BH Bahrain	FI Finland (EP)	KW Kuwait	NL Netherlands (EP) ²	TJ Tajikistan (EA)
BJ Benin (OA) ²	FR France (EP) ²	KZ Kazakhstan (EA)	NO Norway (EP)	TM Turkmenistan (EA)
BN Brunei Darussalam	GA Gabon (OA) ²	LA Lao People's Democratic Republic	NZ New Zealand	TN Tunisia ⁴
BR Brazil	GB United Kingdom (EP)	LC Saint Lucia	OM Oman	TR Turkey (EP)
BW Botswana (AP)	GD Grenada	LI Liechtenstein (EP)	PA Panama	TT Trinidad and Tobago
BY Belarus (EA)	GE Georgia	LK Sri Lanka	PE Peru	TZ United Republic of Tanzania (AP)
BZ Belize	GH Ghana (AP)	LR Liberia (AP)	PG Papua New Guinea	UA Ukraine
CA Canada	GM Gambia (AP)	LS Lesotho (AP)	PH Philippines	UG Uganda (AP)
CF Central African Republic (OA) ²	GN Guinea (OA) ²	LT Lithuania (EP) ²	PL Poland (EP)	US United States of America
CG Congo (OA) ²	GQ Equatorial Guinea (OA) ²	LU Luxembourg (EP)	PT Portugal (EP)	UZ Uzbekistan
CH Switzerland (EP)	GR Greece (EP) ²	LV Latvia (EP) ²	QA Qatar	VC Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
CI Côte d'Ivoire (OA) ²	GT Guatemala	LY Libya	RO Romania (EP)	VN Viet Nam
CL Chile	GW Guinea-Bissau (OA) ²	MA Morocco ⁴	RS Serbia (EP)	WS Samoa
CM Cameroon (OA) ²	HN Honduras	MC Monaco (EP) ²	RU Russian Federation (EA)	ZA South Africa
CN China	HR Croatia (EP)	MD Republic of Moldova ⁴	SA Saudi Arabia	ZM Zambia (AP)
CO Colombia	HU Hungary (EP)	ME Montenegro ⁵	SC Seychelles	ZW Zimbabwe (AP)
CR Costa Rica	ID Indonesia	MG Madagascar	SD Sudan (AP)	
	IE Ireland (EP) ²		SE Sweden (EP)	
	IL Israel			

¹ Extension of European patent possible.

² May only be designated for a regional patent (the "national route" via the PCT has been closed).

³ Italy may be designated for a national patent only in international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020.

⁴ Validation of European patent possible.

⁵ Only extension of European patent possible. Applicants wishing to obtain patent protection in Montenegro should enter the regional phase before the European Patent Office (EPO) and seek the extension of the European patent application and the granted European patent to Montenegro as there is no national phase before the Intellectual Property Office of Montenegro.

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 State indicated in **bold italics** has adhered to the PCT but will only become bound by the PCT on the date shown in parentheses; it will not be considered to have been designated in international applications filed before that date.

Note that even though the filing of a request constitutes under PCT Rule 4.9(a) the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents, applicants should always use the latest version of the e-filing software used to generate the request form, or the latest versions of the request form (PCT/RO/101) and demand form (PCT/IPEA/401) (the latest versions are dated 1 July 2020 and 1 July 2019, respectively). The request and demand forms can be printed from the website, in editable PDF format, at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/forms/>, or obtained from receiving Offices or the International Bureau, or, in the case of the demand form, also from International Preliminary Examining Authorities. Where possible, applicants are encouraged to use ePCT-Filing in order to benefit from the most up-to-date PCT data.