

C **C**
Receiving Offices
IB **IB**
INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of: ¹	All PCT Contracting States ²
Language in which international applications may be filed:	Any language ³
Language in which the request may be filed:	Any language of publication
Number of copies on paper required by the receiving Office:	1
Does the receiving Office accept the filing of international applications with requests in PCT-EASY format? ⁴	Yes
Types of physical media accepted by the receiving Office:	3.5 inch diskette, CD-R, DVD-R
Does the receiving Office accept the filing of international applications in electronic form? ⁵	Yes, the Office accepts XML and PDF files filed using PCT-SAFE or EPO Online Filing. Offline filings may be furnished on CD-R or DVD-R ⁶
Does the receiving Office accept the inclusion of application documents in pre-conversion format (Administrative Instruction 706)?	Yes, the Office accepts any format ⁷
Does the receiving Office accept requests for restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3)?	Yes, the Office applies both the “unintentional” and the “due care” criteria to such requests

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¹ Applicants may file with the International Bureau only if the national security provisions allow filing of patent applications abroad. Compliance with such provisions is the applicant's responsibility and will not be checked by the International Bureau.

² The International Bureau is the only receiving Office for the following Contracting States: Angola, Barbados, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Montenegro, Nigeria, Oman, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sri Lanka and United Arab Emirates.

³ If the language in which the international application is filed is not accepted by the International Searching Authority (see Annex D), the applicant will have to furnish a translation (PCT Rule 12.3). If the language in which the international application is filed is not a language of publication and no translation is required for the purposes of international search (PCT Rule 12.3(a)), the applicant will have to furnish a translation of the application into one of the languages of publication (PCT Rule 12.4(a)).

⁴ Where the request is filed in PCT-EASY format together with the electronic file on a physical medium and the receiving Office accepts such filings, the total amount of the international filing fee is reduced (see “Fees payable to the receiving Office”).

⁵ Where the international application is filed in electronic form in accordance with and to the extent provided for in Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions, the total amount of the international filing fee is reduced (see “Fees payable to the receiving Office”). Where the international application contains a sequence listing as a separate part of the description, this should preferably be furnished in accordance with Annex C of the Administrative Instructions, 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 *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* dated 14 May 2009, page 79).

⁶ For the relevant notifications by the International Bureau acting as receiving Office, refer to *PCT Gazette* No. 34/2003, pages 19248 *et seq.*; No. 07/2004, pages 3796 *et seq.*; and No. 43/2005, page 28466.

⁷ For the relevant Notice concerning Administrative Instruction 710(a), see *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* dated 26 June 2008, page 91.

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Competent International
Searching Authority:

Any International Searching Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the international application had been filed with any other receiving Office of, or acting for, the PCT Contracting State of which the applicant (or, if there is more than one applicant, at least one of the applicants) is a national or resident^{8, 9} (see Annexes B1 and B2 for such other competent receiving Offices, Annex C for the corresponding competent International Searching Authorities, and below for the States for which the International Bureau acts instead of their national Offices pursuant to PCT Rule 19.1(b))

For nationals and residents of Angola: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office, National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) or State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China

For nationals and residents of Barbados: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office, Swedish Patent and Registration Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office

For nationals and residents of Lao People's Democratic Republic: European Patent Office

For nationals and residents of Madagascar: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office, Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks (Rospatent) or Swedish Patent and Registration Office

For nationals and residents of Montenegro: European Patent Office

For nationals and residents of Nigeria: Australian Patent Office, Canadian Intellectual Property Office or European Patent Office

For nationals and residents of Oman: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office

For nationals and residents of Saint Lucia: Australian Patent Office, Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office

For nationals and residents of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: Australian Patent Office, Canadian Intellectual Property Office, European Patent Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office

For nationals and residents of Sao Tome and Principe: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office or National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)

For nationals and residents of Sri Lanka: Australian Patent Office, European Patent Office, Korean Intellectual Property Office or Swedish Patent and Registration Office

For nationals and residents of the United Arab Emirates: Australian Patent Office or Austrian Patent Office

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⁸ Where the applicant is a national or a resident of the United States of America, the availability of the European Patent Office as an International Searching Authority and/or International Preliminary Examining Authority is restricted. The limitation criteria also apply to applications filed by two or more applicants when at least one of them is a national or resident of the United States of America, and when none of them are nationals or residents of a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention. For details, see Annexes D(EP) and E(EP).

⁹ Where the applicant is a national or a resident of the United States of America, the Australian Patent Office may be chosen as the competent International Searching Authority and/or International Preliminary Examining Authority for certain international applications only. For further details concerning which international applications this is restricted to, see *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* dated 23 October 2008, page 131 *et seq.*

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Competent International Preliminary Examining Authority:

Any International Preliminary Examining Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the international application had been filed with any other receiving Office of, or acting for, the PCT Contracting State of which the applicant (or, if there is more than one applicant, at least one of the applicants) is a national or resident^{10, 11} (see Annexes B1 and B2 for such other competent receiving Offices, Annex C for the corresponding competent International Preliminary Examining Authorities, and below for the States for which the International Bureau acts instead of their national Offices pursuant to PCT Rule 19.1(b))

For nationals and residents of Angola: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹², National Institute of Industrial Property or State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China

For nationals and residents of Barbados: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹³, Swedish Patent and Registration Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office¹⁴

For nationals and residents of Lao People's Democratic Republic: European Patent Office¹⁵

For nationals and residents of Madagascar: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹³, Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks (Rospatent) or Swedish Patent and Registration Office

For nationals and residents of Montenegro: European Patent Office¹⁵

For nationals and residents of Nigeria: Australian Patent Office, Canadian Intellectual Property Office or European Patent Office¹⁵

For nationals and residents of Oman: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹² or United States Patent and Trademark Office¹⁴

For nationals and residents of Saint Lucia: Australian Patent Office, Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹² or United States Patent and Trademark Office¹⁴

For nationals and residents of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: Australian Patent Office, Canadian Intellectual Property Office, European Patent Office or United States Patent and Trademark Office

For nationals and residents of Sao Tome and Principe: Austrian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹² or National Institute of Industrial Property

For nationals and residents of Sri Lanka: Australian Patent Office, European Patent Office¹⁶, Korean Intellectual Property Office or Swedish Patent and Registration Office

For nationals and residents of the United Arab Emirates: Australian Patent Office or Austrian Patent Office

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¹⁰ See footnote 8.

¹¹ See footnote 9.

¹² The European Patent Office is competent only if the international search is or has been performed by that Office or the Austrian Patent Office.

¹³ The European Patent Office is competent only if the international search is or has been performed by that Office, the Austrian Patent Office or the Swedish Patent and Registration Office.

¹⁴ The United States Patent and Trademark Office is competent only if the international search report has been prepared by that Office.

¹⁵ The European Patent Office is competent only if the international search is or has been performed by that Office.

¹⁶ The European Patent Office is competent only if the international search is or has been performed by that Office or the Swedish Patent and Registration Office.

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Fees payable to the receiving Office: ¹⁷	Currency: Swiss franc (CHF), euro (EUR) and US dollar (USD)		
Transmittal fee: ¹⁸	CHF 100	or EUR 82	or USD 109
International filing fee: ¹⁹	CHF 1,330	or EUR 1,094	or USD 1,453
Fee per sheet in excess of 30: ^{19, 20}	CHF 15	or EUR 12	or USD 16
Additional component: ^{19, 20}	Where applicable		
Reductions (under Schedule of Fees, item 4):			
PCT-EASY: ²¹	CHF 100	or EUR 82	or USD 109
Electronic filing (the request in character coded format):	CHF 200	or EUR 165	or USD 219
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract in character coded format):	CHF 300	or EUR 247	or USD 328
Search fee:	For the amounts, see Annex D corresponding to International Searching Authority chosen by applicant		
Fee for priority document: ²²	CHF 50	or EUR 41	or USD 55
	Supplement for airmail:		
	CHF 10	or EUR 8	or USD 11
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26bis.3(d)):	None		
Is an agent required by the receiving Office?	No		
Who can act as agent?	Any person who has the right to practice before the national Office of, or acting for, a Contracting State of which the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, any of the applicants is a resident or national, or, where the International Bureau acts as receiving Office pursuant to PCT Rule 19.1(b), any natural or legal person		

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¹⁷ For further details on the payment of fees see the WIPO web site at: www.wipo.int/pct/en/filing/modes.htm.

¹⁸ Applicants who qualify for the 90% reduction of the international filing fee (see footnote 19) do not have to pay the transmittal fee.

¹⁹ This fee is reduced by 90% if the international application is filed by:

- (a) an applicant who is a natural person and who is a national of and resides in a State whose per capita national income is below USD 3,000 (according to the average per capita national income figures used by the United Nations for determining its scale of assessments for the contributions payable for the years 1995, 1996 and 1997) or pending a decision by the PCT Assembly on the eligibility criteria specified in this sub-paragraph, one of the following States: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Barbados, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, the Seychelles, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Arab Emirates; or

- (b) an applicant, whether a natural person or not, who is a national of and resides in a State that is classed as a least developed country by the United Nations;

provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criteria set out in either sub-item (a) or (b).

For further details of the applicability of the 90% reduction, see www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/fee_reduction.pdf and *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* dated 29 May 2008, page 69, Schedule of Fees, item 4. It is to be noted that, if both the electronic filing reduction and the 90% reduction of the international filing fee are applicable, the 90% reduction is calculated after the electronic filing reduction.

²⁰ See footnote 5.

²¹ See footnote 4.

²² No fee is due where the priority document is established, in accordance with Rule 17.1(b), for the purposes of an international application nor where the Office is requested to make priority documents available via the WIPO Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (DAS) (see Annex B).

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Waiver of power of attorney:

Has the International Bureau waived the requirement that a separate power of attorney be submitted?

Yes²³

Particular instances in which a separate power of attorney is required:

Upon appointment of, or for any paper submitted by, an agent or a common representative who was not indicated on the request form at the time of filing

Has the International Bureau waived the requirement that a copy of a general power of attorney be submitted?

Yes²³

Particular instances in which a copy of a general power of attorney is required:

Upon appointment of, or for any paper submitted by, an agent or a common representative who was not indicated on the request form at the time of filing

²³ Waivers of powers of attorney do not apply (PCT Rule 90.4(e) and 90.5(d)) where the agent or common representative submits any notice of withdrawal during the international phase (PCT Rule 90*bis*.1 to 90*bis*.4; see also International Phase, paragraph 11.048).