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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

PCT/EF/PFC 21/003
ORIGINAL: FRANÇAIS / ENGLISH
SITUATION AT: FEBRUARY 14, 2022
SITUATION AU : 14 FEVRIER 2022

Administrative Instructions Under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications

Instructions administratives du Traité de coopération en matière de brevets (PCT)

Norme concernant le dépôt et le traitement électroniques

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE FILE/
DOSSIER RELATIF A LA PROPOSITION DE MODIFICATION

SUBJECT: **Modification of Annex F and appendix I in respect of ST.26** **SUJET :** **Modification du Annexe F et de l'appendice I en ce qui concerne le ST.26**		PROPOSED BY: IB PROPOSÉES PAR : IB
HANDLING: Expedited cycle TRAITEMENT : Cycle accéléré	PROPOSED DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE: 01.07.2022 DATE PROPOSÉE D'ENTRÉE EN VIGUEUR :	

Annex/ Annexe	Content/Contenu	Origin/ Origine	Date
1	Modification of Annex F and appendix I in respect of ST.26 Modification du Annexe F et de l'appendice I en ce qui concerne le ST.26	IB	15.10.2021
2	Comment from the German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA)	DE	16.11.2021
3	Comment from the Japan Patent Office	JP	18.11.2021
4	Comment from the Japan Patent Office	JP	30.11.2021
5	Comment from the National Institute of Industrial Property of Chile	CL	6.12.2021
6	Comment from the Canadian Intellectual Property Office	CA	6.12.2021
7	Comment from the China National Intellectual Property Administration	CN	6.12.2021
8	Comments from the International Bureau	IB	11.2.2022

Next action: Prochaine action :	Entry into force Entrée en vigueur	By: Pour le : 1.07.2022

[Annex I follows/ L'annexe I suit]

Item 1	
Location:	Annex F, section 3.1
Change:	**FROM:** *3.1 Allowable electronic document formats* This Annex is based on the principle of establishing an industry standards-based environment for electronic exchange of IA documents. A notable result of this is: the standard for submitting electronic documents emphasizes the use of open standards and will not promote, as far as possible, proprietary vendor formats for electronic documents. The reasons for this policy include avoiding the need to maintain multiple copies of electronic filings in specific versions of proprietary electronic document formats over which Offices have no control. This standard requires the IA documents to be free from virus or other malicious logic. Note that this standard also applies to other documents and correspondence relating to international applications filed or processed in electronic form by virtue of Rule 89*bis*.2 and AIs Section 713(b). Any document in electronic form that is prepared or exchanged in accordance with this standard shall be in one of the electronic document formats listed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 which are allowed under section 3.4 in the communication sector concerned. Note, however, that section 3.4 permits, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office to agree on the use of other types of electronic document formats for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form, except for the record copy. ~~**Applicants may present a nucleotide and amino acid sequence listing in any of the electronic document formats listed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 which are allowed under section 3.4 in the Applicant-Office communication sector. However, where the sequence listing is not presented in the electronic document format specified in paragraph 40 of the Standard for the Presentation of Nucleotide and Amino Acid Sequence Listings in International Patent Applications under the PCT (see Annex C of the Administrative Instructions and WIPO Standard ST.25, and section 3.1.1.2, below; hereinafter referred to as "Annex C/ST.25 text file"), the competent International Searching Authority and the International Preliminary Examining Authority may, for the purposes of the international search and of the international preliminary examination, respectively, invite the applicant to furnish to them a sequence listing in that electronic document format (see Rule 13ter) (see also paragraph 42(iv) of Annex C of the Administrative Instructions with regard to the right of designated or elected Offices to invite the applicant to furnish a sequence listing in that electronic document format).**~~ Where a table is contained in an international application, the spatial relationships (e.g., columns and rows) of the table elements shall, irrespective of the electronic document format in which the table is presented, be maintained. **TO:**

	3.1 Allowable electronic document formats This Annex is based on the principle of establishing an industry standards-based environment for electronic exchange of IA documents. A notable result of this is: the standard for submitting electronic documents emphasizes the use of open standards and will not promote, as far as possible, proprietary vendor formats for electronic documents. The reasons for this policy include avoiding the need to maintain multiple copies of electronic filings in specific versions of proprietary electronic document formats over which Offices have no control. This standard requires the IA documents to be free from virus or other malicious logic. Note that this standard also applies to other documents and correspondence relating to international applications filed or processed in electronic form by virtue of Rule 89*bis*.2 and AIs Section 713(b). Any document in electronic form that is prepared or exchanged in accordance with this standard shall be in one of the electronic document formats listed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 which are allowed under section 3.4 in the communication sector concerned. Note, however, that section 3.4 permits, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office to agree on the use of other types of electronic document formats for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form, except for the record copy. **Where an applicant discloses sequences that should be included in a sequence listing, that listing should be provided in the electronic format set out in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions. For international applications filed on or after July 1, 2022, this is the XML-based WIPO Standard ST.26. For earlier applications, WIPO Standard ST.25 continues to apply, which may include either image-based or text files. If relevant sequences are disclosed other than in WIPO Standard ST.26 format (or not in an Annex C/ST.25 text file for earlier applications) the competent International Searching Authority and the International Preliminary Examining Authority may, for the purposes of the international search and of the international preliminary examination, respectively, invite the applicant to furnish to them a sequence listing in that electronic document format (see Rule 13ter). The designated or elected Office may likewise require the appropriate electronic document format for national phase processing.** Where a table is contained in an international application, the spatial relationships (e.g., columns and rows) of the table elements shall, irrespective of the electronic document format in which the table is presented, be maintained.
Reason:	The paragraph has been updated to continue to provide a reference to the new Annex C of the PCT Administrative Instructions.

Item 2	
Location:	Annex F, section 3.1.1.2
Change:	**FROM:** *3.1.1.2 Annex C/ST.25 text file* Any sequence listing presented as an Annex C/ST.25 text file (see **~~paragraph 40 of the Standard for the Presentation of Nucleotide and Amino Acid Sequence Listings in International Patent Applications under the PCT~~** **~~(~~**Annex C of the Administrative Instructions and WIPO Standard ST.25**~~)~~**) must be included as a referenced document. For the Applicant-Office (international phase) communication sector, receiving Offices must accept this electronic document format in accordance with the basic common standard. For the Office-Office communication sector, Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format. **TO:** *3.1.1.2 Annex C/ST.25 text file* Any sequence listing presented as an Annex C/ST.25(1) text file (see **the version of** Annex C of the Administrative Instructions **in force prior to July 1, 2022** and WIPO Standard ST.25) must be included as a referenced document. For the Applicant-Office (international phase) communication sector**, for international applications filed prior to July 1, 2022**, receiving Offices must accept this electronic document format in accordance with the basic common standard. For the Office-Office communication sector, Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format.
Reason:	Section 3.1.1.2 has been updated to reflect an ongoing need to transfer ST.25 files for applications filed prior to the changeover date, along with an indicator that such files are no longer acceptable in filing. The proposed new Annex C includes a footnote to explain the applicability of the old Annex C to files for international applications prior to the entry into force.

Item 3	
Location:	Annex F, section 3.1.1.4
Change:	**FROM:** **TO:** ***3.1.1.4 ST.26 XML file*** **Any sequence listing presented as a WIPO ST.26 XML file (see Annex C of the Administrative Instructions and WIPO Standard ST.26) must be included as a referenced document.** **For the Applicant-Office (international phase) communication sector, receiving Offices must accept this electronic document format in accordance with the basic common standard. For the Office-Office communication sector, Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format.**
Reason:	Section 3.1.1.4 has been introduced to reflect the need to transfer ST.26 files for applications filed on or after to the changeover date.

Item 4	
Location:	Annex F, section 3.2
Change:	**FROM:** *3.2 E-PCT document and submission structure* An international application submission may contain multiple documents, each with text, drawings and sequence listings stored in multiple electronic document formats. In order to accommodate the need for multiple electronic document formats while preserving a structure that a computer system can understand, an E-PCT submission, including its documents, must conform to the structure specified in this section. In order to be in compliance with this requirement, each E-PCT submission must contain an XML package data file that explicitly references the submission documents, and must conform to the "package-data" DTD (Document Type Definition) as specified in Appendix I, section 3.1. However, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office may agree to use other types of structures for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form. In such case, the recipient Office should inform the International Bureau accordingly. The referenced documents (e.g. the request and the patent application) are logically part of the submission as such. As shown in Figures 2 and 2*bis*, the referenced documents (external entities) are typically the request, the application (description, claims), the priority documents, etc. which in turn may contain images, tables, drawings which are separate but related objects that may be encoded as either XML, PDF, ~~**ST.25**~~, ASCII or image formats (TIFF or JFIF). Each document in XML format shall conform to one of the DTDs specified in Appendix I, except for referenced "other-documents", where a receiving Office may choose to accept documents in XML format conforming to DTDs not specified in Appendix I, in which case the Office shall notify those DTDs to the International Bureau. The version of the DTD must be set in the "DTD VERSION" attribute of the document in XML format (as specified by the DTD itself).

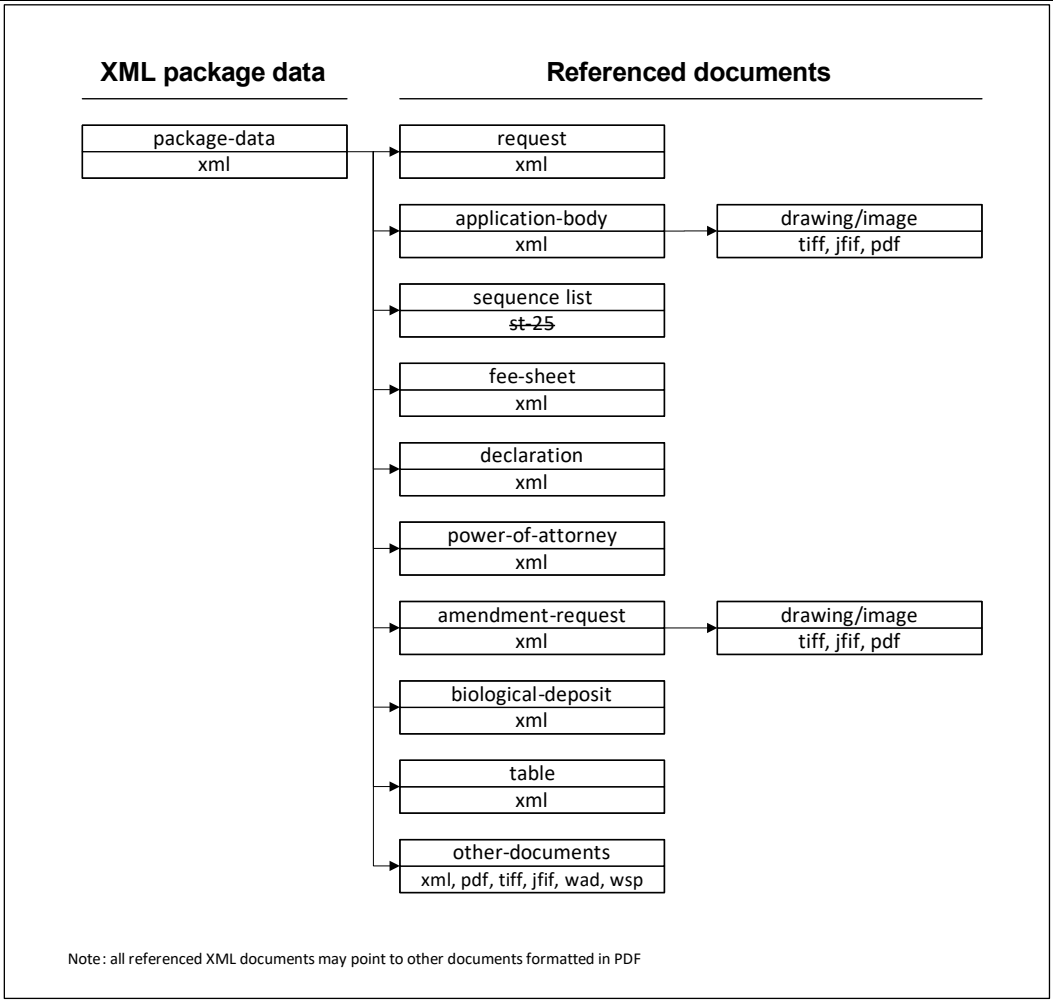


Figure 2 - Example of E-PCT IA structure where the text of the description, claims and abstract is in character coded format (in XML format)

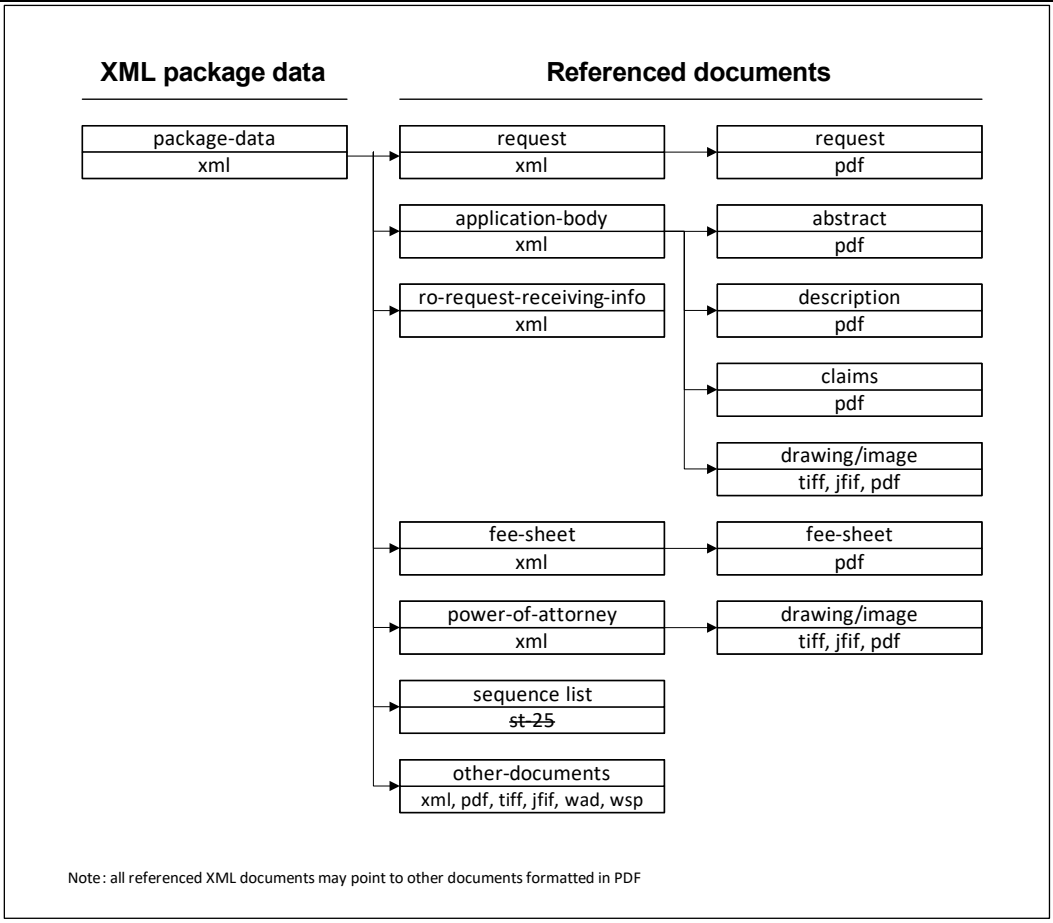


Figure 2*bis* - Example of E-PCT IA structure where the text of the description, claims and abstract is not in character coded format (but in PDF format)

TO:

3.2 E-PCT document and submission structure

An international application submission may contain multiple documents, each with text, drawings and sequence listings stored in multiple electronic document formats. In order to accommodate the need for multiple electronic document formats while preserving a structure that a computer system can understand, an E-PCT submission, including its documents, must conform to the structure specified in this section.

In order to be in compliance with this requirement, each E-PCT submission must contain an XML package data file that explicitly references the submission documents, and must conform to the “package-data” DTD (Document Type Definition) as specified in Appendix I, section 3.1. However, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office may agree to use other types of structures for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form. In such case, the recipient Office should inform the International Bureau accordingly. The referenced documents (e.g. the request and the patent application) are logically part of the submission as such.

As shown in Figures 2 and 2*bis*, the referenced documents (external entities) are typically the request, the application (description, claims), the priority documents, etc. which in turn may contain images, tables, drawings which are

separate but related objects that may be encoded as either XML, PDF, **ST.26**, ASCII or image formats (TIFF or JFIF). Each document in XML format shall conform to one of the DTDs specified in Appendix I **(or, in the case of sequence listings, the version of WIPO Standard ST.26 applicable according to paragraph 5 of Annex C of the Administrative Instructions)**, except for referenced "other-documents", where a receiving Office may choose to accept documents in XML format conforming to DTDs not specified in Appendix I, in which case the Office shall notify those DTDs to the International Bureau. The version of the DTD must be set in the "DTD VERSION" attribute of the document in XML format (as specified by the DTD itself).

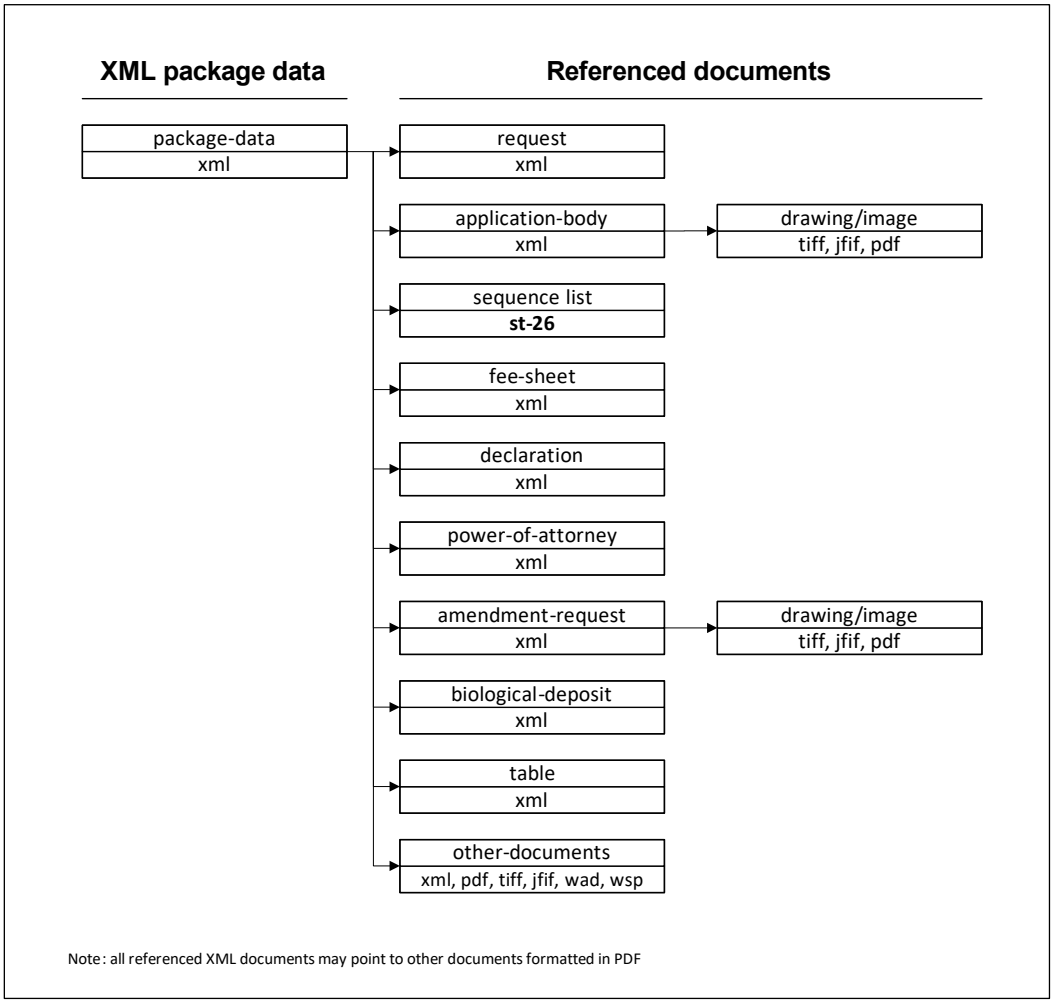


Figure 2 - Example of E-PCT IA structure where the text of the description, claims and abstract is in character coded format (in XML format)

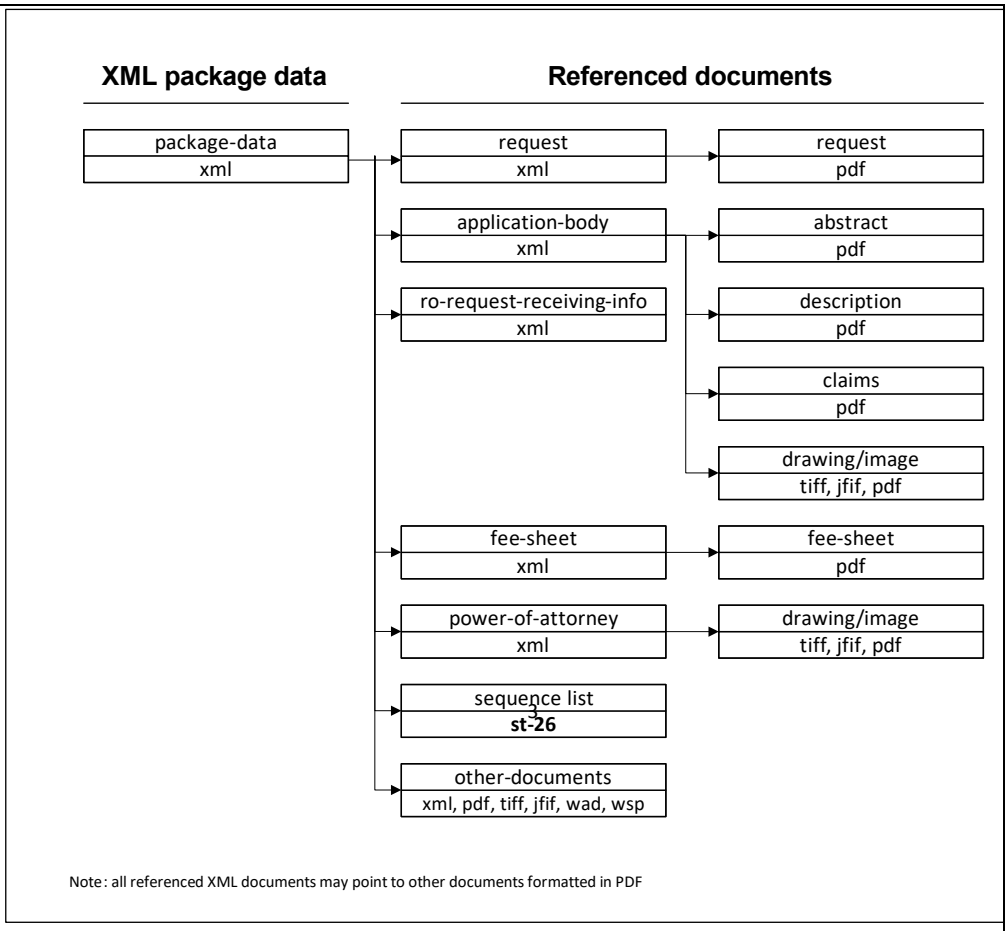


Figure 2*bis* - Example of E-PCT IA structure where the text of the description, claims and abstract is not in character coded format (but in PDF format)

Reason:	Section 3.2 has been updated to reflect the use of ST.26 files for applications filed after to the entry into force.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Item 5</td></tr>
<tr><td>Location:</td><td>Annex F, section 3.4</td></tr>
<tr><td>Change:</td><td>

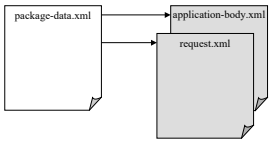
FROM:

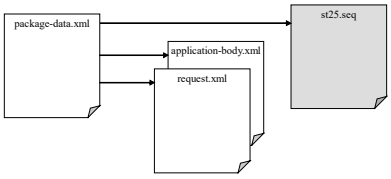
3.4 Allowable document formats, by PCT communication sector

The document and image formats that are allowable under this standard are contained, listed by PCT communication sectors, in the tables below. For each format, the tables state the options available to Offices and an example of a corresponding valid package contents under this standard.

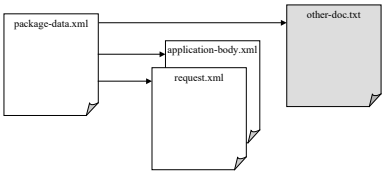
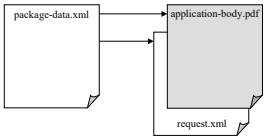
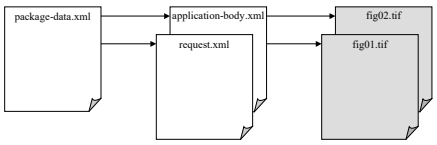
Any document in electronic form that is prepared or exchanged in accordance with this standard shall be in one of the electronic document formats listed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 which are allowed under this section in the communication sector concerned. However, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office may agree to use other types of electronic document formats for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form, except for the record copy. In such case, the recipient Office should inform the International Bureau accordingly.

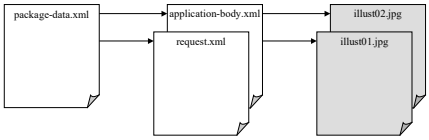
<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">Applicant-Office (international phase) sector</td></tr>
<tr><td>Format</td><td>Options allowable</td><td>Example package contents</td></tr>
<tr><td>XML

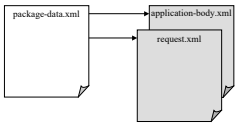
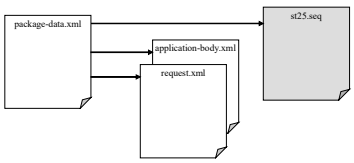
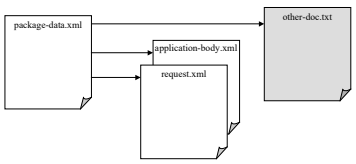
See section 3.1.1.1</td><td>A receiving Office must accept this format per the basic common standard. A receiving Office shall notify the IB of the character encoding scheme for XML documents (as described in section 3.1.1.1) if it is other than the standard encoding scheme (UTF-8).</td><td> 
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex C/ST.25 text file

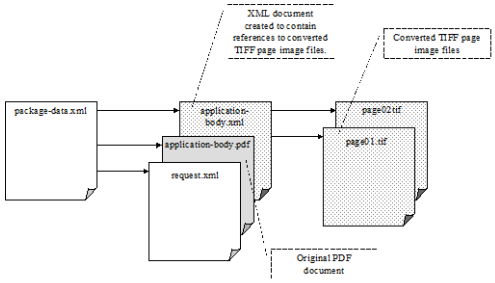
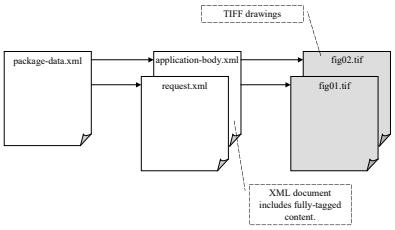
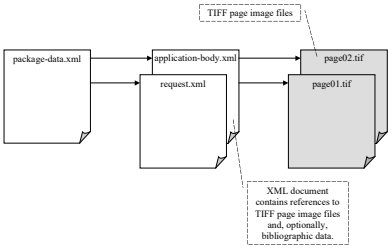
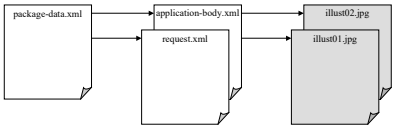
See section 3.1.1.2</td><td>A receiving Office must accept this format <s>per the basic common standard</s>.</td><td> 
</td></tr>
</table>

</td></tr>
</table>

	ASCII See section 3.1.1.3	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept documents in this format, which documents it will accept in this format, and whether it will accept seven-bit and/or eight-bit ASCII.	
	PDF See section 3.1.2	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept documents in this format. In order to accommodate Offices that do not accept PDF documents, any Office that chooses to accept documents in this format must also convert the document text and drawings to TIFF images and transmit those documents in both formats to the IB.	
	TIFF See section 3.1.3.1	A receiving Office must accept this format per the basic common standard. Images may be used for drawings, figures, equations or other illustrations. This format is not intended to be used as a replacement for character-coded document formats.	

JFIF See section 3.1.3.2	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept images in this format.	

Office-Office sector		
Format	*Options allowable*	*Example package contents*
XML See section 3.1.1.1	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format. A receiving Office shall notify the IB of the character encoding scheme for XML documents (as described in section 3.1.1.1) if it is other than the standard encoding scheme (UTF-8).	
Annex C/ST.25 See section 3.1.1.2	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format.	
ASCII See section 3.1.1.3	Offices shall notify the IB whether they will transmit and receive documents in this format.	

PDF See section 3.1.2	Offices shall notify the IB whether they will transmit or accept documents in this format. For documents originally submitted in PDF format, Offices may request transmission of the original PDF documents in addition to the document converted in TIFF format.	
TIFF See section 3.1.3.1	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format. Images may be used for drawings, figures, equations or other illustrations, as in the first example to the right.	
TIFF (cont'd)	This format may also be used to transmit image based or scanned documents between offices in the form of page images, as in the second example to the right(1)	
JFIF See section 3.1.3.2	An Office shall notify the IB whether it will transmit or accept images in this format.	

With footnote:

(1) See TIFF in the Applicant-Office sector table for an example of TIFF images used as drawings, etc. The example package contents shown here are not permitted in the Applicant-Office sector.

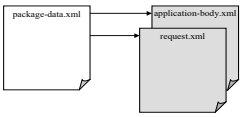
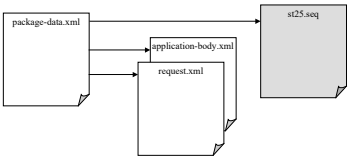
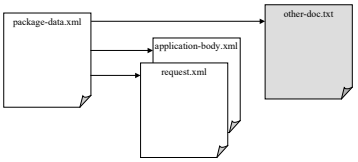
TO:

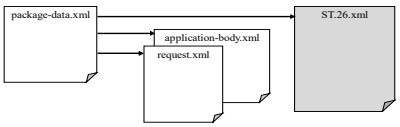
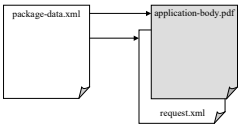
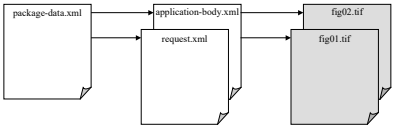
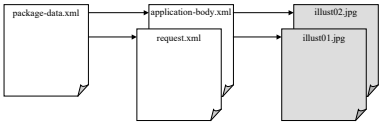
3.4 Allowable document formats, by PCT communication sector

The document and image formats that are allowable under this standard are contained, listed by PCT communication sectors, in the tables below. For each format, the tables state the options available to Offices and an example of a corresponding valid package contents under this standard.

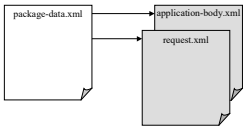
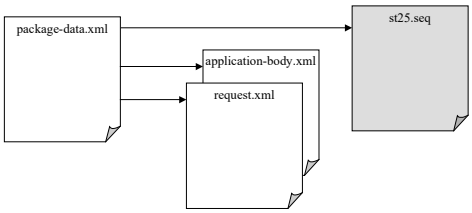
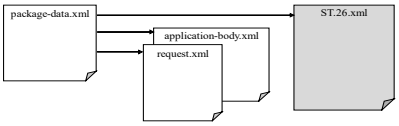
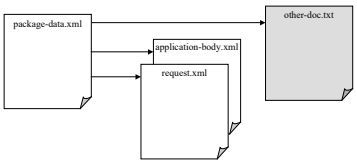
Any document in electronic form that is prepared or exchanged in accordance with this standard shall be in one of the electronic document formats listed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 which are allowed under this section in the communication sector concerned. However, in the Office-Office communication sector, the sending Office and the recipient Office may agree to use other types of electronic document formats for IA documents filed on paper and converted into electronic form, except for the record copy. In such case, the recipient Office should inform the International Bureau accordingly.

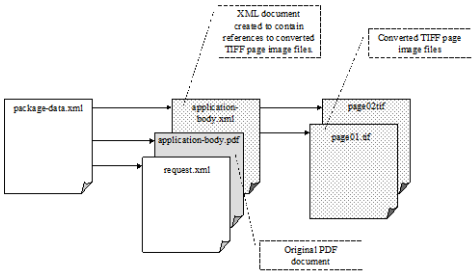
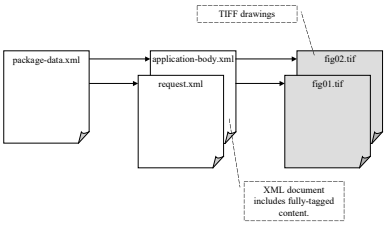
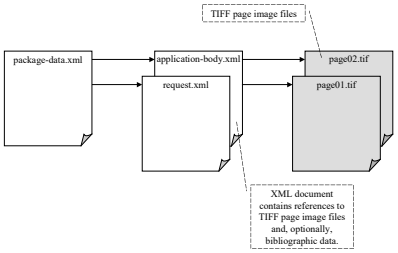
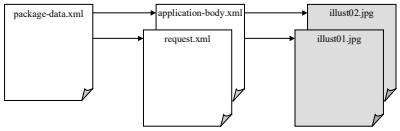
Applicant-Office (international phase) sector

Format	*Options allowable*	*Example package contents*
XML See section 3.1.1.1	A receiving Office must accept this format per the basic common standard. A receiving Office shall notify the IB of the character encoding scheme for XML documents (as described in section 3.1.1.1) if it is other than the standard encoding scheme (UTF-8).	
Annex C/ST.25 *See section 3.1.1.2*	A receiving Office must accept this format **for post filing documents for applications filed prior to July 1, 2022.**	
ASCII See section 3.1.1.3	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept documents in this format, which documents it will accept in this format, and whether it will accept seven-bit and/or eight-bit ASCII.	

ST.26 text file **See section 3.1.1.4**	**A receiving Office must accept this format per the basic common standard.**	**(INSERTED DIAGRAM)** 
PDF See section 3.1.2	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept documents in this format. In order to accommodate Offices that do not accept PDF documents, any Office that chooses to accept documents in this format must also convert the document text and drawings to TIFF images and transmit those documents in both formats to the IB.	
TIFF See section 3.1.3.1	A receiving Office must accept this format per the basic common standard. Images may be used for drawings, figures, equations or other illustrations. This format is not intended to be used as a replacement for character-coded document formats.	
JFIF See section 3.1.3.2	A receiving Office shall notify the IB whether it will accept images in this format.	

Office-Office sector

Format	*Options allowable*	*Example package contents*
XML See section 3.1.1.1	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format. A receiving Office shall notify the IB of the character encoding scheme for XML documents (as described in section 3.1.1.1) if it is other than the standard encoding scheme (UTF-8).	
Annex C/ST.25 text file See section 3.1.1.2	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format.	
ST.26 text file **See section 3.1.1.4**	**Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format.**	(INSERTED DIAGRAM) 
ASCII See section 3.1.1.3	Offices shall notify the IB whether they will transmit and receive documents in this format.	

PDF See section 3.1.2	Offices shall notify the IB whether they will transmit or accept documents in this format. For documents originally submitted in PDF format, Offices may request transmission of the original PDF documents in addition to the document converted in TIFF format.	
TIFF See section 3.1.3.1	Offices must be able to transmit and receive this format. Images may be used for drawings, figures, equations or other illustrations, as in the first example to the right.	
TIFF (cont'd)	This format may also be used to transmit image based or scanned documents between offices in the form of page images, as in the second example to the right(2).	
JFIF See section 3.1.3.2	An Office shall notify the IB whether it will transmit or accept images in this format.	

With footnote:

(2) See TIFF in the Applicant-Office sector table for an example of TIFF images used as drawings, etc. The example package contents shown here are not permitted in the Applicant-Office sector.

Reason:	Section 3.4 has been updated to reflect the use of ST.26 files for applications filed after to the changeover date, and the continued use of ST.25 files as post filing documents from applicants and transferable documents between Offices.

Item 6	
Location:	Annex F, section 4.3.1 Table 5
Change:	**FROM:** Table 5 *File name extensions accepted* txt – Text file, see section 3.1.1.3. xml – XML file, see sections 3.1.1.1 tif – TIFF file, see section 3.1.3.1. jpg – JFIF file, see section 3.1.3.2. pdf – Portable document format (PDF) file, see section 3.1.2. app – ST.25 file, see section 3.1.1.2. zip – Archive file containing one or more files **TO:** Table 5 *File name extensions accepted* txt – Text file, see section 3.1.1.3. xml – XML file, see section**s** 3.1.1.1.**, 3.1.1.4. (ST.26 file)** tif – TIFF file, see section 3.1.3.1. jpg – JFIF file, see section 3.1.3.2. pdf – Portable document format (PDF) file, see section 3.1.2. app – ST.25 file, see section 3.1.1.2. zip – Archive file containing one or more files
Reason:	Section 4.3.1 Table 5 has been updated to include sequence listings as XML files and “app” has been retained for back file applications.

Item 7	
Location:	Annex F, Section 4.3.2
Change:	**FROM:** **…** dupont0340-seql.~~**app**~~ Sequence listing (ST.2~~**5**~~) **TO:** **…** dupont0340-seql.**xml** Sequence listing (ST.2**6)**
Reason:	Section 4.3.3 has been updated to reflect the file naming of ST.26 files rather than ST.25 files.

Item 8	
Location:	Annex F, Section 4.3.3

Change:	**FROM:** pctib2004012345-seql.~~**app**~~ Sequence listing (ST.2~~**5**~~) **TO:** pctib2004012345-seql.**xml** Sequence listing (ST.2**6**)
Reason:	Section 4.3.3 has been updated to reflect the file naming of ST.26 files rather than ST.25 files.

Item 9	
Location:	Annex F, Appendix III, Section 2(b)
Change:	**FROM:** (b) any sequence listing is presented in ~~**the electronic document format specified in paragraph 40 of the Standard for the Presentation of Nucleotide and Amino Acid Sequence Listings in International Patent Applications under the PCT ("Annex C/ST.25 text file"; see paragraph 40 of Annex C of the Administrative Instructions and WIPO Standard ST.25; see also Annex F, section 3.1.1.2);**~~ **TO:** (b) any sequence listing is presented in **ST.26 XML format; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.4, Annex C of the Administrative Instructions and WIPO Standard ST.26;**
Reason:	Section 2(b) has been updated to reflect the use of ST.26 files for applications filed after to the changeover date.

Item 10	
Location:	Annex F, Appendix IV, Section 2(c)
Change:	**FROM:** (c) A receiving Office or an Authority may limit the size of the files written on the physical medium. If, to comply with this requirement, a single document needs to be split into multiple files written on a single physical medium, or if a single document needs to be split into multiple files to be written on multiple physical media, such splitting shall be done such that the files can be rejoined to form one single contiguous file without any repeated or missing contents in accordance with either the ZIP file splitting standard or the Unix/Linux "split" command. In either case, the file names shall be in accordance with the defaults in those standards for splitting and recreating a file with a particular original name, for example, for "sequence-list.~~**txt**~~" in the case of ZIP split files: "sequence-list.z01",

	"sequence-list.z02", "sequence-list.zip"; or, in the case of Unix split files: "sequence-listaa.~~**txt**~~", "sequence-listab.~~**txt**~~", etc. **TO:** (c) A receiving Office or an Authority may limit the size of the files written on the physical medium. If, to comply with this requirement, a single document needs to be split into multiple files written on a single physical medium, or if a single document needs to be split into multiple files to be written on multiple physical media, such splitting shall be done such that the files can be rejoined to form one single contiguous file without any repeated or missing contents in accordance with either the ZIP file splitting standard or the Unix/Linux "split" command. In either case, the file names shall be in accordance with the defaults in those standards for splitting and recreating a file with a particular original name, for example, for "sequence-list.**xml**" in the case of ZIP split files: "sequence-list.z01", "sequence-list.z02", "sequence-list.zip"; or, in the case of Unix split files: "sequence-listaa.**xml**", "sequence-listab.**xml**", etc.
Reason:	Section 2(c) has been updated to reflect the use of XML for ST.26 sequence listing files for applications filed after to the changeover date.

Item 11	
Location:	Annex F, Appendix Appendix I, 5.1 demand.

Change:	**FROM:**
	`<!ELEMENT the-sequence-listing EMPTY>`
	`<!ATTLIST the-sequence-listing basis (originally | amendment-art34-st25 | amendment-art34-paper-or-image) #REQUIRED >`
	
	`<!ELEMENT cl-amendments-art34 EMPTY>`
	
	`<!ATTLIST cl-amendments-art34 quantity CDATA #REQUIRED page-count CDATA #IMPLIED >`
	`<!--`
	`PCT/IPEA/401 BOX No.VI Check List`
	
	`-->`
	`<!ELEMENT demand-check-list (cl-translation-of-application-demand? , cl-amendments-art34? , cl-copy-amendments-art19? , cl-copy-statement-art19? , cl-letter-art19?, cl-letter? , cl-fee-calculation? , cl-separate-power-of-attorney? , cl-general-power-of-attorney? , cl-copy-general-power-of-attorney? , cl-lack-of-signature? , cl-priority-document? , cl-sequence-listing?,cl-sequence-listing-table? , cl-other-document*)>`
	
	TO:

	<!ELEMENT the-sequence-listing EMPTY> <!ATTLIST the-sequence-listing basis (originally | **amendment-art34 |** amendment-art34-st25 | amendment-art34-paper-or-image) #REQUIRED > <!ELEMENT cl-amendments-art34 EMPTY> <!ATTLIST cl-amendments-art34 quantity CDATA #REQUIRED page-count CDATA #IMPLIED **sequence-listing (yes | no) #IMPLIED** > <!-- PCT/IPEA/401 BOX No.VI Check List --> <!ELEMENT demand-check-list (cl-translation-of-application-demand? , cl-amendments-art34? , cl-copy-amendments-art19? , cl-copy-statement-art19? , cl-letter-art19?, cl-letter? , cl-fee-calculation? , cl-separate-power-of-attorney? , cl-general-power-of-attorney? , cl-copy-general-power-of-attorney? , cl-lack-of-signature? , cl-priority-document? , cl-sequence-listing? **, cl-sequence-listing-statement?** ,cl-sequence-listing-table? , cl-other-document*)>
Reason:	The DTD changes have been proposed to meet the needs of the new demand form proposed for implementation on July 1, 2022. The changes enable the use of the demand form for applications, filed after July 1, 2022, that use ST.26 sequence listings in place of ST.25 sequence listings used for applications filed prior to July 1, 2022.

Item 12	
Location:	Annex F, Appendix Appendix I, 5.1 search-report
Change:	**FROM:** <!ELEMENT sequence-list-basis (material-of-sequence-list , presentation-of-statements?, additional-info?)> <!-- (PCT/ISA/210 Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item1.~~b~~ of the first sheet)) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application ~~**and necessary to the claimed invention**~~, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

	(PCT/ISA/237 Box No. I Basis of this opinion) **~~2~~**. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application **~~and necessary to the claimed invention~~**, this opinion has been established on the basis of: (PCT/IPEA/409 Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this report was established on the basis of: (PCT/IPEA/408 Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion was established on the basis of: --> **TO:** <!ELEMENT sequence-list-basis (material-of-sequence-list , presentation-of-statements? , **without-compliant-sequence-list?** , additional-info?)> <!-- (PCT/ISA/210 Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item1.**c** of the first sheet)) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis **of a sequence listing**: (PCT/ISA/237 Box No. I Basis of this opinion) **3**. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, this opinion has been established on the basis of **a sequence listing**: (PCT/IPEA/409 Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention,

	this report was established on the basis of **a sequence listing:** (PCT/IPEA/408 Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing) 1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion was established on the basis of **a sequence listing:** --> <!-- (PCT/ISA/210 and PCT/ISA/237) In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished. (PCT/IPEA/409 and PCT/IPEA/408) In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyon**d** the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished. --> **<!--** **(PCT/ISA/210, PCT/ISA/237, PCT/IPEA/409 and PCT/IPEA/408)** **With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion was established to the extent that a meaningful opinion could be formed without a WIPO Standard ST.26 compliant sequence listing.** **-->** **<!ELEMENT without-compliant-sequence-list EMPTY>**
Reason:	

	The DTD changes have been proposed to meet the needs of the new search report, written opinion and international preliminary report on patentability forms proposed for implementation on July 1, 2022. The updates enable their use for applications that use ST.26 sequence listings according to the revised administrative instructions in force after July 1, 2022 in place of ST.25 sequence listings used prior to July 1, 2022.

Item 13	
Location:	Annex F, Appendix Appendix I, 5.14 written opinion components

Change:	**FROM:**
	`<!--application-documents-sequence-list`
	`Indicates the documents of the description on which the opinion is based.`
	`-->`
	`<!ELEMENT application-documents-sequence-list (material-of-sequence-list,`
	`material-of-sequence-listing-cancelled?,`
	`material-of-sequence-listing-ignored?,`
	`presentation-of-statements?, additional-info?)`
	`>`
	
	`<!ELEMENT presentation-of-statements EMPTY >`
	
	`<!ATTLIST presentation-of-statements`
	`submitted (yes | no) #REQUIRED >`
	
	`<!ELEMENT presentation-of-statements EMPTY >`
	
	`<!ATTLIST presentation-of-statements`
	`submitted (yes | no) #REQUIRED >`
	
	TO:
	
	`<!ELEMENT application-documents-sequence-list (material-of-sequence-list,`
	`material-of-sequence-listing-cancelled?,`
	`material-of-sequence-listing-ignored?,`
	`presentation-of-statements?, **without-compliant-sequence-list?,** additional-info?) >`
	
	`<!ELEMENT presentation-of-statements EMPTY >`
	
	`<!ATTLIST presentation-of-statements`
	`submitted (yes | no) #REQUIRED >`
	
	<!--
	(PCT/ISA/210, PCT/ISA/237, PCT/IPEA/409 and PCT/IPEA/408)
	
	With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to

	the claimed invention, this opinion was established to the extent that a meaningful opinion could be formed without a WIPO Standard ST.26 compliant sequence listing. **-->** **<!ELEMENT without-compliant-sequence-list EMPTY>**
Reason:	The DTD changes have been proposed to meet the needs of the new search report, written opinion and international preliminary report on patentability forms proposed for implementation on July 1, 2022. The updates enable their use for applications that use ST.26 sequence listings according to the revised administrative instructions in force after July 1, 2022 in place of ST.25 sequence listings used prior to July 1, 2022.

[End of Annex I /
Fin de l'annexe I]

Comments from the German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA)

Thank you for giving us to opportunity to comment on this PFC. This is just a very minor remark on syntax, regarding the two new rows introduced into the table for the allowable document formats per communication sector, see item 5 pages 15 and 16 of the Annex to the PFC. In the first column these entries say “ST.26 text file”, while the heading 3.1.1.4 introduced in item 3 (page 4 of the annex) reads “ST.26 XML file”.

Could we suggest changing these entries to match 3.1.1.4?

[Annex III follows /
L’annexe III suit]

Comments from the Japan Patent Office

This is the reply from the Japan Patent Office (JPO) to C. PCT 1632.

After detailed, internal discussions, the JPO reached the conclusion that we can agree on the proposed changes to Annex F and its Appendix I.

For your reference, the JPO would like to inform you about the description of Item11. Considering the addition of “cl-sequence-listing-statement”, we think the following Attribute Declaration is lacking.

<!--
Checklist; a statement that the sequence listing does not go beyond the
disclosure in the international application as filed
-->
<!ELEMENT cl-sequence-listing-statement EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST cl-sequence-listing-statement quantity CDATA #REQUIRED >

We would like to request IB to confirm this point.

[Annex IV follows /
L’annexe IV suit]

Comments from the Japan Patent Office

This is the additional comment from the JPO.

As we have already made a comment in the JPO response to C.PCT1627, we would like to tell you the following points just in case.

1. "6. a statement to the effect that the sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed." will be added to Box No. VI of form IPEA/401, but the JPO for the time being will not able to add the new column on JPO-PAS due to restrictions in our system. As a result, the JPO will use the existing “other” instead.
2. The JPO will add necessary explanations in the additional/supplemental boxes when the JPO is unable to make changes to the following forms due to restrictions in our system for the time being: ISA/203, ISA/210, ISA/237, IPEA/408, and IPEA/409.

[Annex V follows /
L’annexe V suit]

Comments from the National Institute of Industrial Property, Chile (INAPI)

[Comment translated from original received in Spanish]

As requested, we transmit to you INAPI's comments to Circular C. PCT 1632 dated 29/10/2021 on a proposal for changes to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions to allow the use of files under WIPO Standard ST.26 in the filing of international applications as of 1 July 2022, and to allow the use of files under WIPO Standard ST.25 in the processing of international applications filed before that date.
In this regard, having reviewed the proposals made by the International Bureau, we have no comments on them, as we believe that they seek to implement the new WIPO Standard ST.26 in the PCT as a means of filing nucleotide and amino acid sequences in international applications in an appropriate manner.

[Annex VI follows /
L'annexe VI suit]

Comments from the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO)

CIPO has reviewed the proposals to Annex F of the Administrative Instructions and does not have any comments or concerns. CIPO supports the proposed changes.

[Annex VII follows /
L'annexe VII suit]

Comments by the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)

CNIPA doesn't have any comments on the proposals for changes to Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT to enable the use of WIPO Standard ST.26 files mentioned in Circular C.PCT 1632.

[Annex VIII follows /
L’annexe VIII suit]

Comments from the International Bureau

The International Bureau would like to express its thanks to the Offices that have reviewed the proposal and provided comments.

In respect of the comments received, the international Bureau advises that it has taken into consideration the points raised:

i. by the German Patent and Trademark Office regarding the consistency of the terminology for ST.26 XML files, where the text of Annex F has been updated accordingly; and,
ii. by the Japan Patent Office in respect of the declaration of the cl-sequence-listing-statement element, where the International Bureau confirms the inclusion of the declaration of this element in the Demand DTD.

Considering the comments received from PCT member states and with no controversial comments outstanding, the International Bureau will adopt the proposal for entry into force on July 1, 2022.

[End of Annex XI and of document/
Fin de l'annexe XI et du document]