

C. PCT 1690

September 9, 2025

Madam,  
Sir,

*Notification of Patent and Utility Model Documents made available under Rule 34*

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a national Office as defined under Article 2(xiii) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). This definition covers both national Offices of PCT Contracting States and regional Offices entrusted with the task of granting patents that assume obligations and exercise powers under the PCT and its Regulations.

The PCT Assembly, at its fifty-fifth session held from July 6 to 14, 2023, adopted amendments to Rules 34, 36 and 63 with effect from January 1, 2026 (see document PCT/A/55/2, Annex II, and document PCT/A/55/4, paragraph 32). Rule 34.1(d)(i) as in force from January 1, 2026, requires an Office to notify the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) if the Office wishes to make its patent documents available for consultation by International Searching Authorities as part of the minimum documentation specified in Rule 34.1(b)(i), or if it wishes to make its utility model documents available for consultation by International Searching Authorities under Rule 34.1(c). The technical and accessibility requirements for making patent or utility model documents available are specified in Annex H of the PCT Administrative Instructions, as applicable from January 1, 2026 (see Circular C. PCT 1672, dated June 19, 2024).

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A template for an Office to make a notification under Rule 34.1(d)(i) is attached in the Annex to this Circular and will be made available on the WIPO website. Under Rule 34.1(e), the International Bureau will validate the availability of the documents notified under Rule 34.1(d)(i) and publish details in the PCT Gazette of the documents concerned and the date from which any patent documents will become part of the minimum documentation. Paragraph 23 of Annex H to the PCT Administrative Instructions requires that date to be at least two months after the date of publication in the PCT Gazette.

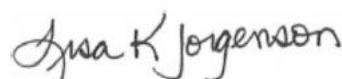
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In order for the International Bureau to complete the required validations and publish the required information in the PCT Gazette before the end of October 2025, Offices that would like their patent collections to be part of the PCT minimum documentation on January 1, 2026, will need to send the notification under Rule 34.1(d)(i) to the International Bureau by October 1, 2025. In this regard, Offices acting as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities are reminded that Rules 36.1(ii) and 63.1(ii) as in force from January 1, 2026, require them to make available their patent documents for consultation by other Authorities as part of the PCT minimum documentation. Moreover, any other Office whose patent collection currently forms part of the PCT minimum documentation will need to send this notification to the International Bureau by October 1, 2025, if it would like the inclusion in the PCT minimum documentation to continue without interruption after January 1, 2026. The inventory of patent documents forming the PCT minimum documentation until December 31, 2025, is set out in Part 4.1 of the *Handbook on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation*, which can be accessed on the WIPO website.

Any Office whose patent documents do not currently form part of the current PCT minimum documentation and will not be added to the minimum documentation as of January 1, 2026, should also use the template to notify the International Bureau at a later date when the Office wishes to add its patent or utility model collection to the PCT minimum documentation having made the documents available in accordance with the requirements in Annex H to the PCT Administrative Instructions. An Office should also use the template if it has made a previous notification but is required to make a subsequent notification due to a change in the type, format or source of the documents in the initial notification, such as making available a range of earlier documents in full text for the first time.

Notifications under Rule 34.1(d)(i) and any enquiries about this Circular or the requirements and process for adding a patent or utility model collection to the PCT minimum documentation should be sent by email to the PCT Business Development Division at [pct.bdd@wipo.int](mailto:pct.bdd@wipo.int).

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Jorgenson  
Deputy Director General  
Patents and Technology Sector

Enclosure: Annex – Template for Notification under PCT Rule 34.1(d)(i)

## NOTIFICATION UNDER PCT RULE 34.1(d)(i)

This Notification when completed should be sent by email as a Word document to the International Bureau at the following address: [pct.bdd@wipo.int](mailto:pct.bdd@wipo.int).

Name of Office: .....

Country (or Region) of collection: .....

Person completing this Notification:

Name: .....

Job Title: .....

Department: .....

Tel.: .....

E-mail: .....

With effect from *[DATE]* the following documents are available from this Office to International Searching Authorities.

Kind of document	ST.16 Code	Publication Dates		Format of Documents	Source of Documents
		From	To		
Choose an item.		Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
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*Notes for completion of table*

Please select items from the drop-down menu for each column, providing the applicable date ranges. For example, if a national patent collection is available in full text from 01-01-2020, in PDF from 01-01-1950 to 31-12-2019 and on paper from 01-01-1920 to 31-12-1949, this should be indicated in three separate rows. For the current publication format of a

document, the date in the “To” column should be left blank. Add further rows to the table if needed.

Kind of document (Rules 34.1(a) and (c)) can include:

- Published applications for national [regional] patents
- Published national [regional] patents
- Utility certificates (France only)
- Inventors' certificates (Russia on behalf of the former Soviet Union only)
- Utility models

ST.16 code should correspond to the code from WIPO Standard ST.16 to identify the kind of patent documents. Completion of this column is optional but strongly encouraged to facilitate establishing the inventory of patent documents forming the PCT minimum documentation in Part 4.1 of the *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation*. Further information on kind codes used by Offices can be found in Part 7.3.2 of the *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation*.

Format of documents:

- Publications from 1 January 2026 must be available in full text (ST.36 XML, ST.96 XML or plain text). Text-searchable PDF is not full-text for this purpose.
- For other online text or image-based, you can indicate the format below the table.

Source: (one of the first two should be indicated at least for publications from 1 January 2026)

- Online repository from this Office
- Online repository hosted by [host] on behalf of this Office – Please specify the host Office below the table.
- Collections available on request

[End of Annex and of Circular]