

C. PCT 1693

November 13, 2025

Madam,
Sir,

New ePCT features – eNotification Service and Generation of International Bureau (IB) Forms in all Publication Languages using ePCT

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office (RO), an International Searching Authority (ISA), an International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA), an Authority specified for supplementary search, and/or a designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also addressed to certain nongovernmental organizations representing users of the PCT System.

The purpose of the circular is to inform about the introduction of new features in ePCT, concerning the sending of eNotifications by the IB on behalf of other Offices and the availability of machine translated IB Forms in all publication languages.

1. eNotification to applicants about the availability of forms and documents

The deployment of ePCT version 4.15 this March introduced new features, including an enhanced notification method which enables Offices to provide applicants with notification links to issued Forms accessible in ePCT, as an alternative to sending notifications to applicants by e-mail or on paper. Version 4.16, scheduled for release in early December 2025, will introduce a function that allows the IB to provide this service on behalf of participating Offices and Authorities, and to deliver official notifications to applicants on behalf of any Office or Authority that wishes to make use of this new service, ensuring timely and secure communication with applicants.

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The functioning of the new service may be summarized as follows: when an Office has finalized a form or document which would usually be transmitted directly to the applicant, it instead transmits the document to the IB by completing it in the ePCT platform. The IB then sends a secure electronic notification to the applicant, providing links to view and download the document within the ePCT environment. Applicants or agents who have access to ePCT and who have selected ePCT as the notification method in their international application, will be able to retrieve the document by clicking on the link provided.

An example of the operation of this service may be illustrated as follows: currently, ePCT provides an interface enabling ISAs to create international search reports and written opinions of the ISA in any of the PCT's ten publication languages. Once the ISA has established the international search report and the written opinion, it notifies the IB that those documents are available in ePCT. The IB then sends secure links to the applicant or agent, who has opted to receive notifications in this manner and who can then view and/or download the documents. Under these conditions, the transmission of the international search report and the written opinion of the ISA to the applicant is deemed completed on the day they were made available for retrieval by the applicant in ePCT.

This service is intended to simplify the workflows for Offices, reduce transmission costs, and enhance the reliability and security of communications with applicants.

II. Generation of machine-translated copy of the IB Forms in all publication languages

The amendments to Rule 92 of the Regulations under the PCT, which entered into force on July 1, 2025, enable the IB to expand the language of communications with applicants and Offices to any of the 10 languages of international publication. Although the IB maintains its current practice of issuing official IB Forms in English or French until further notice, a new ePCT feature (to be available from early December 2025) enables Offices and applicants to render machine translations of the IB Forms in any of the ten publication languages.

These machine-translated copies of the IB Forms will be generated in PDF format on the basis of the XML source forms combined with stylesheets and AI-assisted translations of free-text fields. Each generated PDF includes a watermark indicating the timestamp, source language and target language. While the generated forms are not stored in the international application file, they may be downloaded or printed locally by the ePCT user. All form generation actions are recorded in the international application history for audit purposes. A sample machine-translated copy of an IB Form is enclosed in the Annex to this Circular.

This enhancement is intended to facilitate greater accessibility for Offices and applicants working in different publication languages.

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III. Comments on the Proposed New ePCT features

You are invited to provide comments or address any questions concerning the above new features of ePCT by e-mail to: pct.legal@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Lisa K. Jorgenson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Lisa Jorgenson
Deputy Director General
Patents and Technology Sector

Enclosure: Annex — Sample of Form PCT/IB/314 (English original and Spanish machine-translated version)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

INVITATION TO REQUEST RECTIFICATION

(PCT Rules 91.1(h) and 91.2)

To:

DOE, John
123 Main Street
Apt 4B
Springfield, IL 62701
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

Date of mailing (<i>day/month/year</i>) 20 October 2025 (20.10.2025)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference T-416filingone	REPLY DUE See item 2 and the last paragraph below
International application No. PCT/IB2025/095470	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 October 2025 (17.10.2025)
Applicant DOE, John	

1. The International Bureau has discovered in the international application/in other documents submitted by the applicant to the International Bureau what appears to be an obvious mistake:

☐ as shown on the attached copy.

☒ as specified hereafter:

The claims are not consecutively numbered. Claim 11 is indicated twice.

2. The applicant is hereby **invited to submit a request for rectification** to the following authority:

☐ the receiving Office

☒ the International
Searching Authority

☐ the International
Preliminary Examining
Authority

☐ the International Bureau,
at the address indicated
below

HOW TO CORRECT A MISTAKE?

Except where the mistake is in the request, any rectification must be submitted in the form of a replacement sheet or sheets, accompanied by a letter drawing attention to the differences between the replaced sheet and the replacement sheet. For a mistake in the request, the desired rectification may simply be stated in a letter if it is of a nature where the change can be transferred clearly onto the request record copy (Rule 26.4).

ATTENTION

No rectification will be made without the express authorization of the competent authority indicated above and the request for rectification must be submitted to that authority within 26 months from the priority date (Rule 91.2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Moussaid El Mostafa e-mail ro.ib@wipo.int Telephone No. +4122 338 9742
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INVITACIÓN A PEDIR UNA RECTIFICACIÓN

(Reglas 91.1.h) y 91.2 del PCT)

Destinatario :

DOE, John
123 Main Street
Apt 4B
Springfield, IL 62701
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

Fecha de expedición (día/mes/año) 20 octubre 2025 (20.10.2025)	
Referencia del expediente del solicitante o del mandatario T-416filingone	PLAZO DE RESPUESTA
Solicitud internacional N° PCT/IB2025/095470	Fecha de presentación internacional (día/mes/año) 17 octubre 2025 (17.10.2025)
Solicitante DOE, John	

1. La Oficina Internacional ha detectado en la solicitud internacional/en otros documentos presentados por el solicitante a la Oficina Internacional lo que parece ser un error evidente:

☐ como se muestra en la copia adjunta.

☒ como se especifica a continuación:

Las reivindicaciones no están numeradas consecutivamente. La reivindicación 11 está indicada dos veces.

2. Se invita al solicitante a presentar una petición de rectificación ante la siguiente administración:

☐ la Oficina receptora ☒ la Administración encargada de la búsqueda internacional ☐ la Administración encargada del examen preliminar internacional ☐ la Oficina Internacional, en la dirección que se indica a continuación

¿CÓMO CORREGIR UN ERROR?

Salvo que el error esté en el petitorio, toda rectificación deberá presentarse en forma de hoja u hojas de reemplazo, acompañadas de una carta en la que se señalen las diferencias entre la hoja reemplazada y la hoja de reemplazo. En caso de que el error figure en el petitorio, la rectificación puede indicarse simplemente en una carta si es de una naturaleza tal que el cambio pueda trasladarse claramente al ejemplar original del petitorio (Regla 26.4).

ATENCIÓN

No se efectuará ninguna rectificación sin la autorización expresa de la administración competente indicada anteriormente; la petición de rectificación deberá presentarse a la administración en cuestión en un plazo de 26 meses a partir de la fecha de prioridad (Regla 91.2).

	Funcionario autorizado Moussaid El Mostafa ro.ib@wipo.int N° de teléfono: +4122 338 9742
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