

C. PCT 1705

May 27, 2026

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

Paired Review and Small Group Discussions of Quality Management Systems

At the fifteenth informal meeting of the Quality Subgroup, International Authorities discussed the paired review and small group discussions of quality management systems (QMS) (see paragraphs 9 to 12 of Annex II to document PCT/MIA/32/10). Paragraph 12 sets out the recommendation of the Subgroup as follows:

“12. The Subgroup recommended that the International Bureau invite Authorities at an early stage to participate in paired review and small group discussions over the course of 2026, encouraging additional Authorities to participate.”

Paired Review Sessions

Your Office is invited to participate in the paired review sessions that will take place in 2026. If your Office wishes to participate, you should indicate this by sending an e-mail to the International Bureau at pct.mia@wipo.int by July 1, 2026, at the latest. After this date, the International Bureau will contact participating Authorities with details of the pairings. While the paired review sessions can be held at any time before the Meeting of International Authorities, expected to take place in October 2026, holding the paired review sessions before July 31, 2026, will enable any matters to be followed up during the small group discussions.

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Small Group Discussions

Your Office is also invited to propose topics for the small group discussion sessions by posting proposals on the Quality Subgroup electronic forum, or by sending an e-mail to the International Bureau at pct.mia@wipo.int. Any proposal should indicate whether your Office is willing to lead the session. You are encouraged to make proposals as soon as possible. The International Bureau will perform an initial review of any proposals submitted by July 1, 2026, and arrange sessions shortly after this date where an Office is willing to lead the session and there is strong interest in participating from several Offices. However, the International Bureau intends to perform a further review of all proposals received by August 31, 2026, which will enable Authorities to propose any topics emerging from the paired review sessions. After this date, the International Bureau will invite International Authorities to participate in proposed small group discussions to take place in time for any follow-up before the next informal meeting of the Quality Subgroup.

Reports on Quality Management Systems

The QMS reports for 2025 of all International Authorities, submitted in response to Circular C. PCT 1689 dated September 2, 2025, are available on the [WIPO website](#). The International Bureau will request the QMS reports for 2026 later this year. If an Authority wishes to make any updates to their 2025 QMS report for consideration during the paired review and small group discussion sessions, an updated report may be submitted on the appropriate page of the electronic form of the Quality Subgroup, or by sending it by email to pct.mia@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Jorgenson
Deputy Director General
Patents and Technology Sector