

WIPO



IPC/REF/1/1

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: April 19, 1999

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
(IPC UNION)**

AD HOC IPC REFORM WORKING GROUP

**First Session
Geneva, May 25 to 28, 1999**

DRAFT AGENDA

prepared by the Director General

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman
3. Adoption of the agenda
See the present document.
4. Report on the twenty-eighth session of the IPC Committee of Experts
See document IPC/CE/28/5.
5. Status and mandate of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group
6. Elaboration of long-term goals and a strategic plan for the development of the IPC
See project file IPC/R 1/99.

7. Introduction of electronic data illustrating the contents of IPC entries: examples of patent documents, detailed notes and classification definitions, exemplifying technical terms
See project file IPC/R 3/99.
8. Elaboration of rules for multiple classification in the IPC, for example, in areas covered by the last place rule, in function-oriented versus application areas, and investigation of possible bearing of such rules on general principles of classifying disclosed in the Guide to the IPC
See project file IPC/R 4/99.
9. Review of the hybrid systems in the IPC
See project file IPC/R 5/99.
10. Study of factors influencing an insufficient level of the consistency in the application of the IPC and elaboration of measures for increasing the consistency
See project file IPC/R 6/99.
11. Study of the possibility of cooperation between offices in the reclassification of backlog patent files, including its outsourcing to external contractors
See project file IPC/R 8/99.
12. Report by the International Bureau on the study of automated classification and indexing tools
13. Report by the International Bureau on improvements in training in the use of the IPC
14. Next session of the Working Group
15. Adoption of the report of the session
16. Closing of the session

The opening meeting will start on Tuesday, May 25, 1999, at 10 a.m., at the headquarters of WIPO, 34, chemin des Colombettes, Geneva (Conference Room B).

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