

ANNEX IX

STATUS OF THE IPC REFORM PROGRAM*

Tasks completed

- Task No.1 Elaborate long-term goals and a strategic plan for the development of the IPC
- Task No. 2 Consider the IPC revision policy, the revision procedure and the criteria for
[Task No. 9] accepting new revision proposals in relation to the core and advanced levels
 of the reformed IPC
- Task No. 3 Consider the introduction of electronic data illustrating the contents of
 IPC entries
 (Definition Task Force – Members: Portugal, Sweden, United States of
 America, EPO)
- Task No. 4 General principles of classification; elaboration of rules for multiple
 classification in the IPC
- Task No. 5 Review the hybrid systems in the IPC
 (Hybrid Systems Task Force – Members: Sweden, United Kingdom, United
 States of America, EPO)
- Task No. 6 Study factors influencing an insufficient level of the consistency in the
 application of the IPC and elaborate measures for increasing the consistency
- Task No. 7 Determine the most appropriate duration of revision cycles
- Task No. 10 Develop a general question and answer pamphlet on the application of
 the IPC

Tasks on which some work remains to be done

- Task No. 14 Determine the most appropriate contents of the core level of the reformed IPC
- Task No. 15 Study the feasibility of introducing a simplified set of rules in the IPC, in
 particular a uniform precedence rule
 (Rules Task Force – Members: Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom, United
 States of America, EPO)
- Task No. 19 Elaborate an IPC Systematic Maintenance Procedure

* Task Forces created under particular Tasks are indicated in brackets.

Tasks on which substantial work remains to be done

- Task No. 8 Elaborate principles of the creation, maintenance and functioning of the Master Classification Database
(Data Recording Task Force – Members: France, Norway, United Kingdom, United States of America, EPO)
- Task No. 12 Study automated classification and indexing tools and conduct pilot projects on their use, in particular for the reclassification of backlog patent files
- Task No. 13 Improve IPC training by providing modern training techniques, for example, computer-based and Internet training tools, involving, in particular, enhanced support for developing countries in the use of the IPC
- Task No. 16 Study ways and means for the establishment of the French version of the advanced level of the IPC
- Task No. 17 Revise the Guide to the IPC to provide for a more comprehensive explanation of the principles and rules of the IPC and to take into account the results of the IPC reform

Tasks of continuing activity

- Task No. 11 Establish a close cooperation between the Committee and the Standing Committee on Information Technologies
- Task No. 18 Update the IPC reform implementation plan

[End of Annex IX and of document]