

# WIPO



IPC/WG/22/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: January 8, 2010

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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**

GENEVA

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

**IPC REVISION WORKING GROUP**

**Twenty-Second Session**

**Geneva, November 30 to December 4, 2009**

REPORT

*adopted by the Working Group*

## INTRODUCTION

1. The IPC Revision Working Group (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) held its twenty-second session in Geneva from November 30 to December 4, 2009. The following members of the Working Group were represented at the session: Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, and the European Patent Office (EPO) (21). Costa Rica was represented by an observer. The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.

2. The session was opened by Mr. A. Farassopoulos, Head, International Classifications and WIPO Standards Service.

## OFFICERS

3. Mr. A. Farassopoulos (WIPO) acted as Secretary of the session.

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Working Group unanimously adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex II to this report.

## DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

5. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings held from September 24 to October 2, 1979 (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), the report of this session reflects only the conclusions of the Working Group (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participant, except where a reservation in relation to any specific conclusion of the Working Group was expressed or repeated after the conclusion was reached.

## REMOVAL OF NON-LIMITING REFERENCES FROM THE SCHEME

6. The Working Group recalled its decision at the last session that all references in class titles should be removed from the scheme irrespective of their nature. Three maintenance projects M 033 to M 035 were created for mechanics, electricity and chemistry, respectively, in order to discuss those cases where no agreement could be reached regarding the type of reference (limiting, informative, application place) or where to move them.

7. For several cases where the type of references was determined as “special adaptation”, while the proposed action was to keep them in the scheme, the Working Group decided to change the type of those references from “special adaptation” to “limiting”.

8. The Working Group made the following observations with respect to the removal of non-limiting references from the scheme. All references to annexes in this paragraph refer to annexes of the corresponding project file, unless otherwise stated.

Project M 033 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 8), and on the comments received.

The Working Group approved, with some modifications, the actions proposed in Annex 8 regarding the placement of the removed references (see Technical Annexes 71 to 89 and Annex 11 to the project file).

The International Bureau was invited to prepare a consolidated table for the remaining references where no agreement could be reached regarding the type of reference or on where to move them and to include therein the questions raised and the comments received so far.

Project M 034 (electrical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 6), and on the comments received.

The Working Group approved, with minor amendments, the actions proposed in Annex 6 regarding the placement of the removed references (see Technical Annexes 90 to 91 and Annex 9 to the project file).

The project was thus completed.

Project M 035 (chemical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 7), and on the comments received.

The Working Group approved, with some modifications, part of the actions proposed in Annex 7 regarding the placement of the removed references (see Technical Annexes 92 to 104 and Annex 11 to the project file).

With respect to the references to subclass C12P in the title of class C07 and to main groups C25B 3/00 and C25B 7/00, Sweden, as Rapporteur of project M 714, was invited to submit a proposal to confirm the nature of the said references and indicating, for the limiting ones, where they should be placed in the scheme of class C07.

With respect to the reference to class C21 in the title of class C22, the EPO was invited to submit a proposal to clarify the relationship between classes C22 and C21, to the newly created maintenance project M 717, with the EPO as Rapporteur.

With respect to the references to main groups C23C 28/00 and C23F 17/00 in the title of class C25, the EPO was invited to submit a proposal for a note in class C25 replacing the references to main groups C23C 28/00 and C23F 17/00 to the newly created maintenance project M 718, with the EPO as Rapporteur.

This project was therefore considered as completed.

Project M 036 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 6), and on the comments received.

The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the actions proposed in Annex 6 regarding the removal of non-limiting references from four subclasses for which definitions had already been published (see Technical Annexes 105 to 108 and Annex 9 to the project file).

The Working Group requested the Rapporteur of definition projects D 073 and D 075 (the United Kingdom) to confirm the nature of the reference pointing to subclass B03B from subclass B03D, and of the reference to group F01N 3/037 in subclass B04C.

Project M 037 (electrical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 6).

The Working Group approved the actions proposed in Annex 6 regarding the removal of non-limiting references from five subclasses for which definitions had already been published (see Technical Annexes 109 to 111).

Project M 038 (chemical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project file, in particular on a proposal prepared by the International Bureau (see Annex 7), and on the comments received.

The Working Group approved the actions proposed in Annex 7 regarding the removal of non-limiting references from eight subclasses for which definitions had already been published (see Technical Annexes 112 to 117).

The International Bureau was invited to reconsider the proposed actions for subclasses C07D and C08F in view of the Last Place Priority Rule applied in these subclasses and to prepare a new rapporteur proposal.

The International Bureau was invited to submit proposals for the remaining subclasses to projects M 036 to M 038. Following a round of comments, consolidated proposals should be prepared by the International Bureau for approval by the Task Force.

The Secretariat informed the Working Group that Annex 11 to project file WG 191 contained a table summarizing the status of the task of removal of non-limiting references for each subclass, which would be updated after this session in order to take into account the latest decisions (see Annex 12).

## INTRODUCTION OF RESIDUAL MAIN GROUPS IN IPC SUBCLASSES

9. Discussions were based on a compilation of project file R 706, in particular on the rapporteur proposal in Annex 22.

The Working Group approved the new residual main group G06M 15/00 corresponding to the second part of the subclass title (see Technical Annex 118)

The project was thus completed.

## IPC REVISION PROGRAM

### General

10. The Working Group discussed 26 revision projects in total, including seven pending C projects, plus 19 A projects, and approved amendments relating to those projects (see Technical Annexes 1 to 42 to this report relating to revision projects). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in Annex III to this report.

### IPC Revision Projects

11. The Working Group made the following observations with respect to the IPC revision projects. All references to annexes in this paragraph refer to annexes of the corresponding project file, unless otherwise stated.

Project A 009 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of the definitions submitted in Annex 45. The EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

The Working Group approved to add a new entry to main group G01S 19/00 in the first entry of the subclass index corresponding to “Beacon Systems” (see Technical Annex 1).

Project A 012 (electrical) – The Working Group approved with some amendments, the French version of the scheme (see Technical Annex 2F) and the definitions of Annex 38 (see Annex 43).

The EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

Project A 014 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 24 (see Technical Annex 3E). It was agreed that no definitions would be needed for this project.

The French version of Annex 27 was approved (see Technical Annex 3F).

Project A 017 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved, with some modifications, amendments to the English version of the scheme as proposed in Annex 25, and the corresponding amendments to the French version (see Technical Annexes 4E and 4F), the English version of definitions in Annex 26, with some amendments proposed by Japan in Annex 27 and by the United Kingdom in Annex 29 (see Annex 31), the Revision Concordance List (RCL) as proposed in Annex 23 (see Annex V to this report) and the List of Cross-References (CRL) in Annex 21.

The French version of definitions of Annex 30 was also approved with amendments (see Annex 32).

Project A 018 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the proposed amendments to the English version of the scheme in Annex 21, with modifications (see Technical Annex 5E), and approved the CRL of Annex 14.

Comments were invited on:

- how could the subject matter of subgroups B21D 26/023 and B21D 26/035 be incorporated into the scheme;
- whether the “and” should be replaced by “or” in subgroups B21D 26/029 and B21D 26/045, in view of the corresponding definition statements;
- whether the titles of subgroups B21D 26/031 and B21D 26/047 properly expressed their residual nature as defined in corresponding subgroup definitions in Annex 20;
- whether the term “bottom” used in the title of subgroup B21D 26/049 was appropriate and whether the term “closed end” was more appropriate;
- whether the title of subgroup B21D 26/053 reflected the subject matter that the group is intended to cover.

The Rapporteur was invited to update the RCL based on the conclusions on the above questions.

The French version of the approved amendments to the English version of the scheme was requested for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

The EPO indicated that the expected date of completion of reclassification by the EPO would be September 2010. It was noted that the United States of America would complete the reclassification by end of 2010 and Japan would complete the reclassification by March 2010.

Project A 019 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of the scheme in Annex 14 (see Technical Annex 6E) and the definitions in Annex 18. The French version of the scheme in Annex 19 was also approved with some amendments (see Technical Annex 6F). The RCL of Annex 13 was approved with minor modifications (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 12 was also approved.

The EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

It was noted in the framework of checking of cross-references, that the International Bureau should also check the definitions and the Catchword Index from now on.

Project A 020 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the definitions of Annex 23, including the remarks of Japan in Annex 24 (see Annex 25). The French version of Annex 19 was approved, subject to the remarks of France in Annex 20 (see Technical Annex 7F).

The EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

Project A 021 (electrical) – The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the English version of the scheme as proposed in Annex 21 (see Technical Annex 8E).

The RCL of Annex 17 and the CRL of Annex 13, . the French version of the scheme (see Technical Annex 8F) and the definitions of Annex 22 were also approved.

A French version of the definitions was requested for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

Project A 022 (electrical) – The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the proposed English and French versions of the scheme (see Technical Annexes 9 and 10). The RCL of Annex 16 including the remarks of Sweden in Annex 20, and the CRL of Annex 14 were also approved. The definitions of Annex 19 were also approved, including the remarks of Sweden in Annex 20 and of Germany in Annex 21.

The EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

Project A 023 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of the scheme in Annex 7 (see Technical Annex 11E).

Comments were invited on:

- whether the approved title of group G03F 1/40 and its examples were appropriate, and in particular, whether the title should refer to “ESD prevention or protection”;
- whether the approved example in group G03F 1/44 was appropriate;
- whether the residual nature of groups G03F 1/50 and 1/68 should be explicitly indicated in view of the first place priority rule;
- whether the approved title of subgroup G03F 1/64 correctly covered the subject matter that the group is intended to cover; and
- whether the proposed subgroups G03F 1/88, 1/90 and 1/92 covered the old subgroups G03F 1/02, 1/04 and 1/06, and how they should be integrated in the new scheme.

The EPO was invited to update the French version of the scheme in Annex 6, taking into account the approved amendments in Annex 7.

Project A 024 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of the scheme in Annex 9, including comments by France in Annex 18 (see Technical Annex 12F), the RCL of Annex 8 (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 10.

The English version of definitions of Annex 16 was also approved with addition of a reference pointing to A01M 29/16 from A01M 29/22 in group definitions, as proposed by Sweden in Annex 17 (see Annex 19). The Rapporteur was invited to prepare a French version of the definitions.

Project A 025 (mechanical) – The Working Group agreed with Rapporteur's conclusions that the approved main group F41H 11/00 correctly incorporated its subgroup F41H 11/12, a reference in group F41H 11/14 pointing to group F42B 12/68 was not needed and the approved title of subgroup F41H 11/30 was correct. It was noted that the term "landmines" should be in one word (see Technical Annex 13E).

The Working Group approved, with amendments, the French version of the scheme in Annex 11 (see Technical Annex 13F). The RCL of Annex 9 (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 10 were also approved.

A round of comments was invited on the rapporteur proposal of definitions in Annex 8, to be followed by a consolidated rapporteur proposal.

Project A 026 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the English version of the scheme in Annex 8 and the French version in Annex 12 (see Technical Annexes 14E and 14F), the RCL of Annex 10 (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 11.

The English version of definitions in Annex 18 was also approved with minor changes in group F23B 90/06 and with deletion of F23B 90/00 group definitions (see Annex 20).

A French version of the definitions was requested for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

Project A 027 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the remaining part of the scheme in English and the complete scheme in French (see Technical Annexes 15 and 16). Furthermore, following the control of cross-references (see Annex 12) the relevant corrections in the scheme were approved (see Technical Annexes 17 and 18). Finally the RCL was approved (see Annex V to this report).

A round of comments was invited on the proposed definitions of Annex 17 in light of the United States of America's comments in Annex 19.

Project A 028 (mechanical) – The Working Group agreed with Rapporteur's conclusion that no further amendments would be needed to the already approved English version of the scheme and approved with some amendments, the French version in Annex 10 (see Technical Annex 19F). The RCL of Annex 11 (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 12 were also approved.

The English version of the definitions in Annex 9 was approved with the condition that the Rapporteur would resubmit an updated proposal by deleting all the unrelated references in the drawings, if not particularly time consuming.

A French version of the definitions was requested for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

Project A 029 (electrical) – A modified version of the new group H04N 5/341 and the complete French version of the scheme were approved (see Technical Annex 20). The RCL was also approved (see Annex V to this report). Finally, in view of the control of cross-references, it was decided that no relevant action was needed and the project was thus considered completed.

Project A 030 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved with some amendments, the English version of the scheme in Annex 7, and agreed to amend the guidance headings for groups A63C 5/00 to A63C 11/00 (see Technical Annex 21E).

Comments were invited on:

- whether the First Place Priority Rule was desirable for this new main group A63C 10/00 and if that were the case, whether the approved order of groups was appropriate;
- where the subject matter of snowboard should be covered in the IPC and whether it was possible to amend the existing titles of subgroups under A63C 5/00 to cover explicitly the subject matter.

The EPO was invited to prepare a RCL. The International Bureau was invited to submit a CRL.

Project A 031 (electrical) – Comments were invited on the initial proposal of Annex 1 in light of the late comments submitted by the Republic of Korea in Annex 3.

Project A 032 (electrical) – The proposed new subgroups of subclass G06Q were approved with some amendments, and some main groups were amended (see Technical Annex 22).

Comments were invited on:

- the references proposed by Germany in Annex 8 for the approved groups G06Q10/04 and 20/32;
- whether the approved example of group G06Q 20/06 was suitable; and
- whether definitions were desirable for some subgroups, and if that were the case, for which subgroups.

The EPO was invited to draft a French version and a RCL. The International Bureau was invited to submit a CRL.

Project C 443 (chemical) – The amendments proposed by Rapporteur in Annex 43 to the notes of class C13 and of subclass C13B, and to the relevant titles of main groups C13B 5/00 and 15/00, were approved. It was noted that the references in the titles of class C13 and of subclasses C13B and C13K were also amended in order to take into account the amendment of references already approved in the framework of project M 035 (see Technical Annexes 25E, 26E and 33E).

The complete French version (see Technical Annexes 25F to 33F) and amendments following the checking of cross-references (see Technical Annexes 23 and 24) were also approved. Finally, the RCL was approved (see Annex V to this report).

Project C 447 (electrical) – The French version was approved (see Technical Annex 34F) and the project was thus completed.

Project C 449 (electrical) – The French version in Annex 36 and Annex 21 was approved (see Technical Annexes 35F and 36F). The Rapporteur was invited to submit a RCL before the next session of the Committee and the International Bureau was invited to prepare a CRL.

Project C 452 (electrical) – It was agreed that the scope of subclass B82B should remain unchanged. The proposed title and notes of subclass B82B were thus approved with some amendments (see Technical Annex 37).

Two additional main groups were introduced in subclass B82Y and the subclass title was amended accordingly. Finally, the notes proposed by Rapporteur for subclass B82Y were also approved with some amendments (see Technical Annex 38).

It was noted that there would be no RCL in this project since it would create an extremely large amount of documents to be reclassified. The Trilateral Offices had identified the initial set of documents that would populate subclass B82Y. In addition, a list of places where nano-technology related art was already classified, more comprehensive than the one provided in note (4) of subclass B82Y, would be included in the definitions to be submitted, in order to assist other offices to identify unique national documents that should be reclassified.

It was finally decided to bring to the attention of the Committee that the approved new note (4) of subclass B82Y was in contradiction with the proposed deletion of paragraph 107 of the *Guide to the IPC*, in the framework of project CE 413.

Project C 453 (electrical) – The RCL was approved (see Annex V to this report). Amendments following the checking of cross-references were also approved (see Technical Annexes 39 and 40). The project was thus completed.

Project C 455 (chemical) – The French version (see Technical Annexes 41 and 42) and the RCL (see Annex V to this report) were approved. Following the checking of cross-references, it was agreed that no action was needed. The project was thus completed.

Project C 456 (mechanical) – At the twenty-first session of the Working Group, comments had been invited on which approach to follow, i.e., either:

- the creation of a new indexing scheme on “Environmentally Sound Technologies” (EST), or
- the creation of a complete list of entries in the Catchword Index (CI) under the term EST.

It was agreed that the use of an indexing scheme would result in the need to distinguish between “good” and “bad” technologies. Additionally, today’s “good” technologies could become tomorrow’s “bad” technologies. Providing a list of IPC places in the CI where EST are likely to be found seemed a much better solution.

The discussion also covered the establishment of a single/common structured EST scheme based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) inventory in collaboration with UNFCCC Secretariat. An alternative indexing scheme based on environmental effects (suggested by the EPO in Annex 8) was not considered feasible. The creation of a separate task force for the purposes of this project was not considered necessary.

The Working Group noted that the EPO was working on the development of a non-exhaustive indexing scheme based exclusively on technical features. The Working Group would be further informed when such a scheme would be finalized.

It was therefore decided to recommend to the Committee approval of the CI approach. In the event of such approval, the Rapporteur was invited to submit a consolidated proposal based on Annexes 4 and 6. A round of comments was invited on the proposal to be submitted before the next session of the Working Group.

It was furthermore agreed to propose to the Committee a separate publication of the CI list with references of EST places in the IPC, in a readily-accessible manner, e.g., from the IPC homepage.

## IPC DEFINITIONS PROGRAM

General

12. Discussions were based on compilations of the relevant definition project files. The decisions of the Working Group with respect to those projects, in particular new deadlines and the appointment of offices for the preparation of French versions, are listed in Annex IV to this report. Further information with respect to some of those decisions is given in paragraph 18 below.

13. The Secretariat indicated that an updated table summarizing the status of the task of introduction of residual main groups would be posted to project file WG 111.

14. In order to improve the visibility of modifications on definition proposals decided during the meeting, it was noted that the International Bureau would submit to the relevant definition project on the e-forum an additional Annex with the approved proposal and modifications in track changes. References to these annexes would be indicated in the report.

15. Following some confusion over the titles as they appear in some proposed definitions and the titles of the same places which were adopted during the scheme approval, the following proposals were approved:

(a) the titles of groups were not needed in the new platform of the Internet publication since definitions would appear in a pop-up window together with the scheme;

(b) the titles, without references, should automatically be added in the definitions XML master file, but should not be displayed in (a), above. This would also allow automatic correction of titles in definitions in case they were amended in the scheme; and

(c) in view of (b), above, there was no need to add the titles in the definition template.

16. It was noted that the *Guidelines for Drafting Definitions* were under revision in the framework of project D 000 and the remarks above would be included in the revised *Guidelines*.

17. In view of the introduction of several illustrations in some definitions, e.g., in project A 020, it was noted that if such illustrations were taken from a patent document, this document should be identified. Numbers on illustrations should be avoided. They should, however, be removed only if this was a straightforward task. Attention should be also given to the clarity of the illustration.

### IPC Definition Projects

18. The Working Group made the following observations, in addition to the decisions set forth in Annex IV to this report, with respect to the cited IPC definition projects. All references to annexes in this paragraph refer to annexes of the corresponding project file, unless otherwise stated.

Project D 039 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 69 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme in Annex 54, with some amendments (see Technical Annex 43).

Project D 060 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme in Annex 35 including the remarks of Japan in Annex 36 (see Technical Annex 120). The project was thus completed.

Project D 069 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 27 with minor modifications.

Project D 081 (mechanical) – The Working Group invited comments on the proposed non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme in Annex 26 and the definitions in Annex 27.

Project D 095 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme in Annex 22. It was agreed to amend the English version of definitions in Annex 23 with some modifications.

The International Bureau was invited to amend the French version of definitions accordingly.

Project D 101 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 34 (see Technical Annex 44) and invited comments on the French version of Annex 36.

Project D 102 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 34 (see Technical Annex 45). The project was thus completed.

Project D 104 (mechanical) – The Working Group agreed that no residual main group was needed in subclass A61C and the informative references proposed in Annex 24 should be incorporated into the definition. The Rapporteur was invited to amend the English version and the International Bureau was invited to amend the French version accordingly. The project was thus completed.

Project D 106 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 27, subject to the remarks in Annex 38 (see Technical Annex 46). The French version of Annex 39 was approved, subject to the remarks of Canada in Annex 41 (see Annex 42). The project was thus completed.

Canada was invited to propose in the framework of project CE 421 amendments to the Glossary to the *Guide to the IPC* regarding the term “fluent”.

Project D 107 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 26 with amendments as proposed by Canada in Annex 27 (see Annex 28).

Project D 108 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 28. The project was thus completed.

Project D 109 (mechanical) – The Working Group invited comments on the need for a residual main group. The French version of Annex 26 was approved with minor modifications (see Annex 27).

Project D 117 (chemical) – The Working Group agreed that the limiting references pointed out in Annex 25 were suitable. The project was thus completed.

Project D 136 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the modified English version of definitions in Annex 16. The French version of definitions in Annex 14 was approved and the Rapporteur of the French definitions was invited to amend the French version of definitions accordingly.

It was agreed to create new maintenance project M 719, with Sweden as Rapporteur, to resolve the apparent discrepancy in scope between the English and French terms currently in use for the title of subclass A63D (use of the term “Boccia” in the title), and the titles of groups A63D 1/00, 5/00 (see Annex 10).

Project D 139 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the proposal by Sweden in Annex 14 to add a reference to F23Q 2/28 in main group F23Q 3/00 (see Technical Annex 123). The French version of definitions in Annex 15 was approved with some amendments (see Annex 16). The project was thus completed.

Project D 140 (mechanical) – The Working Group agreed to move references F02B and F02F 1/00 in Annex 18 from limiting references into informative references, and to amend the English version of subclass definitions in Annex 16 accordingly (see Annex 21). The Working Group approved with some amendments, the French version of Annex 20

(see Annex 22). It was agreed that no residual main group was needed in subclass F23R. The project was thus completed.

Project D 141 (chemical) – It was agreed to create new maintenance project M 720, with the United States of America as Rapporteur, and invited comments on the need for a residual main group in subclass C30B in light of the analysis by Japan in Annex 20.

The International Bureau was requested to transfer the relevant annexes from project D 141 to project M 720.

Project D 143 (electrical) – The Working group approved the English version in Annex 9 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 12 (see Technical Annex 47).

A French version of the definitions was requested.

Project D 167 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of subclass definitions in Annex 33.

Comments were invited on:

- whether the examples of first bullet of main group G06K 9/00 under definitions statements were appropriate and
- whether the definition statements of groups correctly reflected the intended scope of groups or whether definition statements were needed in all cases.

Project D 171 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 16. The project was thus completed.

Project D 172 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 17 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 18 (see Technical Annex 48). The EPO was invited to submit a French version of the definitions. With respect to the proposal to amend the subclass title and the subclass index of G01D and the title of main group G01D 18/00, as proposed in Annex 19, see paragraph 21, below, within project M 013, and Technical Annex 69 E.

Project D 173 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 15. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a proposal for the removal of non-limiting references.

Project D 174 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 24 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 21 (see Technical Annex 49). The project was thus completed.

Project D 175 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 16. The project was thus completed.

Project D 176 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 13 (see Technical Annex 50). The project was thus completed.

Project D 177 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 21 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 16 (see Technical Annex 51). The project was thus completed.

Project D 178 (electrical) – The Working Group approved, with an amendment, the French version of definitions in Annex 18, (see Annex 19) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 17 (see Technical Annex 52). The project was thus completed.

Project D 180 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 14 with amendments proposed in Annex 19 (see Annex 21). The Working Group also approved the French version of definitions in Annex 20 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 17 (see Technical Annex 53). The project was thus completed.

Project D 181 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 14 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 15 (see Technical Annex 54).

Project D 184 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 6. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a proposal for the removal of non-limiting references and the French version of definitions.

Project D 187 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 11, subject to the amendments suggested in Annex 12 (see Annex 14). The project was thus completed.

Project D 189 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 13 (see Technical Annex 55 and the French version of definitions in Annex 12 with an amendment (see Annex 15). The International Bureau was invited to amend the English version of the definitions accordingly (see Annex 16). The project was thus completed.

Project D 190 (electrical) – The Working Group approved with an amendment, the French version of definitions in Annex 18 (see Annex 25) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 21 (see Technical Annex 56). Comments were invited on the rapporteur proposal in Annex 22 to change the definition statement and on the counter proposal by Japan in Annex 24 to delete affected sentence.

Project D 191 (electrical) – The Working Group approved with some amendments, the English version of definitions in Annex 11 (see Annex 18). The Working Group also approved with an amendment, the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 17 (see Technical Annex 57).

The French version of the definitions was invited.

Project D 193 (electrical) – The Working Group approved English version of definitions in Annex 7 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 13, with some amendments (see Technical Annex 58).

Project D 194 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 19 with an amendment (see Annex 21) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 14 (see Technical Annex 59).

The French version of the definitions was invited.

Project D 196 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 21. The project was thus completed.

Project D 201 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 14. The project was thus completed.

Project D 202 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of definitions in Annex 12. The project was thus completed.

Project D 203 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 12 with an amendment (see Annex 14) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 11, with an amendment (see Technical Annex 60). It was agreed to create new maintenance project M 721, with the EPO as Rapporteur, to modify subgroup titles of C06F 1/22 and C06F 1/26, in order to better clarify the term “assembling matches”.

Project D 204 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 7 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 9 with some amendments (see Technical Annex 61).

The French version of the definitions was requested.

Project D 205 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 10 with an amendment (see Annex 12) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 9 (see Technical Annex 62).

The French version of the definitions was requested.

Project D 206 (chemical) – The Working Group approved with an amendment, the French version of definitions in Annex 9 (see Annex 11).

The International Bureau was requested to update the English version of definitions accordingly (see Annex 12). The project was thus completed.

Project D 207 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 7 and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 9, including the remarks by Germany in Annex 10 (see Technical Annex 63).

The French version of the definitions was requested.

Project D 208 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of definitions in Annex 10 with an amendment (see Annex 12) and the list of non-limiting references to be removed from the scheme, as proposed in Annex 11, with an amendment (see Technical Annex 64).

Project D 209 (chemical) – The Working Group approved with an amendment, the English version of definitions in Annex 10 (see Annex 11).

A French version of the definitions was requested.

Project D 215 (mechanical) – The Working Group invited a round of comments on Annexes 5 and 6.

## IPC MAINTENANCE

### General

19. Discussions were based on compilations of the relevant maintenance project files. The Working Group considered eight pending IPC maintenance projects and approved amendments relating to those projects (see the Technical Annexes to this report relating to maintenance projects). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in Annex III to this report.

### IPC Maintenance Projects

20. The Working Group made the following observations with respect to the IPC maintenance projects.

Project M 013 (electrical) – Discussions were based on a compilation of the project, and in particular on Annexes 14 and 16, submitted by the Russian Federation, relating to a proposal for the amendments to the title of subgroup G01W 1/11.

The Working Group agreed to create a new maintenance project M 722, with the Russian Federation as Rapporteur, to examine patent documents currently classified in subgroup G01W 1/11 and to amend the title of this subgroup based on result of that analysis.

The Working Group noted a proposal in Annex 19 of project D172 to amend the title and subclass index of subclass G01D and to amend the title of main group G01D 18/00. The Working Group approved the proposed amendments in Annex 19 of project D 172 (see Technical Annex 69E).

The International Bureau was requested to transfer the relevant annex from project D172 to project M013, and the EPO was invited to prepare a French version of the amendments.

Project M 014 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 35 (see Technical Annex 70E).

The French version was also approved (see Technical Annex 70F).

The Working Group agreed to postpone consideration of the comments by Sweden in Annex 32, until harmony project T078 is submitted to the Working Group.

Project M 101 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the RCL of Annex 28 (see Annex V to this report) and the CRL of Annex 29. It was noted that the references in the title of subclass C07B were amended in order to take into account the amendment of references approved in the framework of project M 038 (see Technical Annex 119). The project was thus completed.

Project M 707 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of the title of subclass B27G, as proposed by the Rapporteur in Annex 13, without references (see Technical Annex 121E).

Comments were invited on:

- references in the title of subclass B27G in light of the references listed by Rapporteur in Annexes 8 and 13, and the references in the main group titles under subclass B27G;
- the need for amendments to the guidance headings and subclass index.

Project M 713 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the remaining rapporteur proposal of Annex 7 (see Technical Annex 122E).

It was agreed that there was no need for a class index in C10 and that the relationship between subclasses C10G and C10J was clear enough without a reference.

The International Bureau was requested to submit proposals for a RCL and for a CRL.

The French version was requested for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

Project M 714 (chemical) – Discussions were based on an initial proposal submitted by Rapporteur and the comments received (see Annexes 1 to 5 to the project file).

Comments were invited on the relationship between classes C07 and C08, in particular, how to exclude subject matter relating to peptides or nucleic acids, which should be covered by subclasses C07K or C07H respectively, instead of class C08.

The Rapporteur was invited to analyze the existing definitions in class C07, taking into account the comments to be submitted.

Project M 715 (mechanical) – The English version of Annex 1 to the project file was approved (see Technical Annex 123E).

The French version was also approved (see Technical Annex 123F).

The Working Group noted comments by the United States of America in Annex 2 to the project file, relating to the contradiction between the title of subclass A23K and an item of “preserving of animal feedstuffs ---A23K” under “preserving” in the Catchword Index. The International Bureau was requested to amend the Catchword Index accordingly. The project was thus completed.

Project M 716 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved, with some amendments, the English version of Annex 1, (see Technical Annex 124E).

The French version was also approved (see Technical Annex 124F).

The project was thus completed.

## STATUS OF THE WORK

21. The Chair stated that, on the agenda of this session, 17 definition projects were approved in English and 22 definition projects were completed in both English and French. In total, 145 definition projects have been completed so far. Annex IV to this report gives the status of each definition project on the program. He also indicated that 26 revision projects have been dealt with and nine projects were completed in both languages (see Annex III to this report for the status of each revision project). Furthermore, 16 maintenance projects have been dealt with and four projects were completed in both languages (see Annex III to this report for the status of each maintenance project).

## NEXT SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP

22. The Working Group, having assessed the workload expected for its next session, agreed to devote the first two days to the mechanical field, the following two days to the electrical field and the last day to the chemical field.

23. The Working Group noted the following dates for its twenty-third session:

May 31 to June 4, 2010.

*24. The working group unanimously adopted this report by electronic means on January 11, 2010.*

[Annexes follow]