

Special Union for the International Patent Classification (IPC Union) IPC Revision Working Group

**Thirtieth Session
Geneva, November 4 to 8, 2013**

REPORT

adopted by the Working Group

INTRODUCTION

1. The IPC Revision Working Group (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) held its thirtieth session in Geneva from November 4 to 8, 2013. The following members of the Working Group were represented at the session: Brazil, China, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, and the European Patent Office (EPO) (21). The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.
2. The session was opened by Mr. R. Iasevoli (EPO), Chair of the Working Group.

OFFICERS

3. Mrs. N. Xu (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.

IPC REVISION PROGRAM

6. The Working Group discussed 17 revision projects, namely: [A 052](#), [A 056](#), [A 059](#), [C 459](#), [C 460](#), [C 461](#), [C 462](#), [C 463](#), [C 464](#), [C 465](#), [C 466](#), [C 467](#), [C 468](#), [F 008](#), [F 013](#), [F 014](#) and [F 015](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum.

7. Rapporteurs of revision projects were reminded to review, as far as possible, the references in the revised areas of the revision projects and to provide proposals for removal of non-limiting references from the scheme if any, as well as to provide definitions where needed.

IPC DEFINITIONS PROGRAM

8. The Working Group discussed 29 definition projects, namely: [D 009](#), [D 049](#), [D 154](#), [D 191](#), [D 224](#), [D 228](#), [D 233](#), [D 247](#), [D 248](#), [D 254](#), [D 255](#), [D 258](#), [D 261](#), [D 271](#), [D 272](#), [D 273](#), [D 283](#), [D 291](#), [D 292](#), [D 294](#), [D 296](#), [D 297](#), [D 298](#), [D 299](#), [D 300](#), [D 301](#), [D 302](#), [D 303](#) and [D 304](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" Annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum. The Working Group completed eight definition projects.

IPC MAINTENANCE

9. The Working Group discussed six maintenance projects, namely: [M 011](#), [M 014](#), [M 745](#), [M 748](#), [M 749](#) and [M 750](#). The status of those projects and the list of future actions and deadlines are indicated in the corresponding projects on the e-forum. All decisions, observations and technical annexes are available in the "Working Group Decision" Annexes of the corresponding projects on the e-forum.

10. The Working Group agreed to create a new maintenance project as follows:

Mechanical: [M 751](#) ([B29C](#), Rapporteur: Sweden).

UPDATES ON IPC-RELATED IT SUPPORT

11. The International Bureau delivered a [presentation](#) on the status of the various IT systems and projects supporting the IPC.

12. The International Bureau reported on the progress of the FIPCPC parallel viewer project and announced that, as first outcome of this project, the new version 4 of the IPC Internet publication platform (IPCPUB) was in production with new search features based on interaction with the PATENTSCOPE database and broader use of the Solr search engine.

13. A newly published set of specification and XML schemas now completes the description of IPC master files in their current form.

14. It was indicated that with the upload of IPC 2014.01 working lists in IPCRECLASS, the backlog of IPC reclassification is now 1.6 million families. The implementation of several functional evolutions would reduce this backlog through default transfer and de-activation in batch for projects in Stage 3. Family reclassification is now possible using a patent document having the same country code and document number but a different kind of code than the one of the corresponding document present in the working list.

15. Before the end of the year, functional evolutions and bug fixes would be implemented in the e-forum. These evolutions were related to the automatic conversion into PDF format of annexes posted in various formats and improvements in the user interface.

16. The International Bureau reported on the status of the IPC Revision Management (IPCRM) project which is currently at the stage of requirement analysis and preparation of terms of references for the out-sourcing of the solution. The main outcome of this analysis is described under project CE457 and offices were invited to submit comments and wishes. The relevant changes in master files would be foreseen for a first production use during the early publication of IPC 2016.01.

NEXT SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP

17. The Working Group, having assessed the workload expected for its next session, agreed tentatively to devote Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning to the mechanical field, Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning to the chemical field and Thursday afternoon and Friday to the electrical field.

18. The Working Group noted the following tentative dates for its thirty-first session:

May 12 to 16, 2014.

*19. This report was
unanimously adopted by the
Working Group by electronic
means on November 29, 2013.*

[Annexes follow]