

## **Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

**Thirteenth Session**  
**Geneva, November 10 to 14, 2025**

### **REPORT ON TASK NO. 50 BY THE PART 7 TASK FORCE**

*Document prepared by the Part 7 Task Force Leader*

#### **SUMMARY**

1. The Part 7 Task Force has worked under Task No. 50 and reports on its activities since the last session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS). This report includes the following:
  - The results of a survey to update Part 7.2.6 and Part 7.2.7 of the Handbook on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation;
  - A proposal to revise Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook; and
  - A draft survey questionnaire on citation practices in intellectual property (IP) offices to update Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. At its ninth session in 2021, the CWS approved the revised work plan for updating Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook, including a survey on calendar dates in 2022. The CWS approved a simplified process for updating Part 7, whereby survey results would be collected and published directly, without requiring the questionnaire or results to be submitted to the CWS for formal approval. The CWS also requested the Task Force to schedule an update to Part 7.9 on citation practices. (See paragraphs 112 to 114 of document CWS/9/25.)
3. At its tenth session in 2022, the CWS was informed that the Secretariat had issued Circular C.CWS 162, inviting intellectual property (IP) offices to participate in a survey on the representation of calendar dates. The CWS also took note of the analysis of the responses received, as presented in document CWS/10/18.

4. At the same session in 2022, the CWS also considered and approved the updated work plan of the Part 7 Task Force, which is reproduced in the table below.

Section	Topic	Last Published	Status
Part 7.9	Citation practices	2008	update 2023
Part 7.6	Bibliographic information in patent gazettes	1990	update 2023
Part 7.2.6 and Part 7.2.7	Application numbering – current practices & former practices	2017	update 2024
Part 7.3	Examples and kinds of patent documents	2016	update 2025

5. The CWS noted that the two planned surveys to update Part 7.6 and Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook would be conducted using the simplified process approved at its ninth session. Under this process, the results would be collected and published without presenting the questionnaire or the raw results to the CWS for approval. Instead, the analysis of the survey results would be submitted to the CWS for consideration and approval (see paragraph 114 of document CWS/9/25). The CWS will be informed of the published results at its subsequent session.

6. At its eleventh session in 2023, the CWS approved the update to the description for Task No. 50 which reads:

*“Ensure the necessary maintenance and update of surveys published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation”.*

7. At the same session, the CWS agreed to postpone discussions on the revision of WIPO Standards ST.11 and ST.19. As a consequence, the CWS also decided to postpone the planned survey to update Part 7.6 of the WIPO Handbook. In addition, the citation practice survey, which would support the update of Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook, was postponed.

8. At its twelfth session in 2024, the CWS noted that the Part 7 Task Force would prepare a proposal to revise Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook for presentation at the thirteenth session. The CWS also approved the conduct of a survey to support updates to Parts 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the Handbook in 2025 and requested that the Part 7 Task Force report the survey results at the thirteenth session. (See paragraphs 43 and 44 of document CWS/12/29).

## PROGRESS REPORT ON TASK NO. 50

### Objectives

9. The objective of the Part 7 Task Force is to maintain and update surveys published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook according to the work plan approved by the CWS.

### Relevant actions for 2025

10. The Part 7 Task Force held an online meeting on June 3, 2025, and agreed to work on the following items:

- Conducting a survey to support updates to Parts 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook;
- Drafting a proposal on the revision methodology for Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook, to be presented at the thirteenth session of the CWS; and

- Revising the survey on citation practices in industrial property offices, with the aim of updating Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook and submitting it for approval at the thirteenth session of the CWS.

#### Potential Challenges or Dependencies

11. The Task Force has identified the following challenges and dependencies that may affect the timely and effective completion of its work:

- Limited participation from IP offices: Engagement in this task has been limited, potentially due to its lower prioritization by some IP offices. This may affect the diversity of input and delay progress on related activities; and
- Dependence on survey participation: The quality and representativeness of the survey results are contingent on sufficient and meaningful responses from IP offices. A low response rate could limit the value of the data collected.

#### Progress evaluation

12. Part 7 Task Force has completed the planned actions for 2025 mentioned above. The results of the Task Force activities are explained in detail below.

#### RESULTS OF SURVEY ON NUMBERING OF APPLICATIONS AND PRIORITY APPLICATIONS – CURRENT AND FORMER PRACTICES

13. On July 9, 2025, the Secretariat issued Circular C.CWS.199 inviting IP offices to provide information regarding both former and current practices related to the numbering of applications and priority applications. To collect the information effectively, two separate survey questionnaires were prepared: “*Questionnaire on Numbering of Applications and Priority Applications – Current Practices (related to WIPO Handbook Part 7.2.6)*” and the “*Questionnaire on Numbering of Applications and Priority Applications – Former Practices (related to WIPO Handbook Part 7.2.7)*”.

14. With regard to the “*Questionnaire on Numbering of Applications and Priority Applications – Current Practices*”, at the time of preparing this document, 37 IP offices provided their responses from the following 34 Member States: Austria (AT), Australia (AU), Algeria (DZ), Bulgaria (BG), Bahrain (BH), Brazil (BR), Canada (CA), China (CN), Costa Rica (CR), Czechia (CZ), Estonia (EE), Finland (FI), Georgia (GE), Germany (DE), Greece (GR), Hungary (HU), Israel (IL), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), Japan (JP), Kenya (KE), Republic of Korea (KR), Kazakhstan (KZ), Lithuania (LT), Mexico (MX), Norway (NO), Paraguay (PY), Russian Federation (RU), San Marino (SM), Serbia (RS), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE), United Kingdom (GB), and Uruguay (UY); two regional IP offices: the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO); and the International Bureau (IB) on the current numbering systems used under the PCT, Hague, and Madrid Systems. It should be noted that 12 of the 37 responding IP offices participated in the new survey for the first time.

15. With regard to the survey “*Questionnaire on Numbering of Applications and Priority Applications – Former Practices*”, at the time of preparing this document, 28 responses have been provided by IP offices from the 25 following Member States: Austria (AT), Australia (AU), Bahrain (BH), Brazil (BR), Canada (CA), China (CN), Costa Rica (CR), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Georgia (GE), Hungary (HU), Israel (IL), Italy (IT), Japan (JP), Republic of Korea (KR), Kazakhstan (KZ), Lithuania (LT), Republic of Moldova (MD), Poland (PL), Paraguay (PY), Russian Federation (RU), Slovakia (SV), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE), and United Kingdom (GB); two regional IP offices: the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO); and the International Bureau (IB) on former numbering systems used under the PCT, Hague, and Madrid Systems.

16. Sections 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook, published in 2017, contain information from 37 IP offices. In response to the recent survey conducted this year, 25 of those 37 IP offices responded to the surveys regarding their current and former practices of numbering applications and priority numbers while 12 IP offices have not. The Secretariat is in the process of encouraging those IP offices that have not yet replied to the survey to verify the currently published information regarding both their current and former practices related to the numbering of applications and priority numbers.

17. At the time of preparing this document, the Secretariat is working on updating Part 7.2.6 and Part 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook to reflect feedback received from IP offices. Once the updated Part 7.2.6 and Part 7.2.7 have been published, the Secretariat will inform the IP offices and encourage them to review the information.

#### PROPOSAL FOR UPDATING WIPO HANDBOOK PART 7.3 EXAMPLES AND KINDS OF PATENT DOCUMENTS

18. Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook contains examples and kinds of patent documents issued by IP offices.

- Part 7.3.1 contains a list of examples of patent documents published by industrial property offices grouped according to their ST.16 kind-of-document codes.
- Part 7.3.2 contains an inventory of different kinds of patent documents ordered by the issuing industrial property office. ST.16 codes are provided for the listed documents along with information about the applicable patent legislation, publication details, specific application of the code and samples of first pages.

19. Traditionally, updates to Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook were carried out through periodic surveys distributed to IP offices. However, this approach has led to delays and infrequent updates, despite continuous changes in national or regional Offices' practices.

20. As a follow-up to the decision by the CWS described in paragraph 8 above, the Task Force discussed how to update information available in Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook. As the outcome of the discussion, the Task Force proposes three options for updating Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook for consideration by the CWS, as outlined below. It should be noted that most Task Force members expressed a preference for Option 3.

- (a) *Option 1: Continue with the current survey-based update.* This option involves conducting regular and comprehensive surveys of all IP offices every few years to collect updated data.

##### Advantages:

- Data collection would be structured and uniform;
- Comprehensive snapshot as the surveys gather detailed, broad data at regular intervals;
- Established process following the methodology that is familiar with clear governance and procedures; and
- Controlled revisions as changes to the questionnaire are approved through the CWS.

Disadvantages:

- The information in Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook may be outdated, as updates are only made after all IP offices complete a survey and the results are collected, analyzed, and processed. This can lead to delays in reflecting recent changes.
- Conducting surveys can be resource-intensive and time-consuming, particularly for IP offices that have not changed their practices but are still required to respond.
- Updates to the survey require CWS approval and cannot be implemented mid-cycle, resulting in inflexibility.

(b) *Option 2: Adopt a fully ad-hoc update.* IP offices can submit information to update the WIPO Handbook Part 7.3, at any time without waiting for a formal survey cycle.

Advantages:

- Timely updates through the immediate inclusion of new practices or changes reported by IP offices;
- Increased flexibility by allowing IP offices to quickly report internal changes;
- Reduced administrative delays by eliminating the need to wait for survey cycles or CWS approvals; and
- Encourage continuous engagement from IP offices, promoting more frequent and proactive updates.

Disadvantages:

- Risk of inconsistent participation as some IP offices may not update regularly, which would lead to uneven data coverage;
- Some IP offices may require a formal request to initiate updates; and
- Tracking challenges, as frequent or uncoordinated updates may make it harder to monitor changes over time, increasing the risk of oversight.

(c) *Option 3: Implement a hybrid approach.* This approach combines periodically structured surveys (for example every four to five years) with an ad-hoc submission channel that allows Offices to provide updates as changes occur throughout the cycle.

Advantages:

- Balanced flexibility and structure by enabling timely updates while preserving the benefits of comprehensive periodic reviews;
- Encourages continuous engagement by allowing IP offices to submit updates as needed, while ensuring consistency in published information;
- Captures emergent changes through ad-hoc updates, helping maintain complete and up-to-date data; and
- Supports standardization through the use of predefined templates and procedures.

Disadvantages:

- Requires additional coordination, as managing both ad-hoc and periodic update channels increases administrative complexity;
- Potential for data conflicts, since ad-hoc updates may overlap or contradict information gathered through scheduled surveys; and
- Need for structured processes, as templates and workflows must be developed and maintained to handle ad-hoc submissions effectively.

21. To facilitate the update of Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook, the Secretariat prepared a template for consideration by the CWS, including guidelines, which is reproduced in Annex I of the present document. The proposed template can be used with any of the three Options mentioned in paragraph 20 above and it is prepared on the basis of the template previously used to collect information to update Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook (see C.CWS 50: <https://www.wipo.int/documents/d/cws/docs-en-circulars-files-cws-050.pdf>). Once the CWS has approved the proposed template, the Secretariat would explore suitable formats for the template such as an online submission form or a downloadable document and publish it in the WIPO Handbook website. In addition, the Secretariat proposes the following procedures, depending on the option approved by the CWS:

- (a) If Option 1 is approved, the Secretariat shall issue a circular, including the template, encouraging all IP offices to review their respective entries in Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook and confirm whether the information is accurate or requires updating. IP offices wishing to provide new information regarding the kind of patent documents shall also be encouraged to submit the relevant details to the Secretariat.
- (b) If Option 2 is approved, the Secretariat shall publish the template and guidelines under Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook. These materials will serve as a standardized tool for all IP offices to submit updates or new information as needed.
- (c) If Option 3 is approved, the Secretariat shall issue a circular, including the template, every four years encouraging all IP offices to review their respective entries in Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook and confirm whether the information is accurate or requires updating. IP offices wishing to provide new information regarding the kind of patent documents shall also be encouraged to submit the relevant details to the Secretariat. Additionally, IP offices can submit their updates or new information at any time, using the template which will be available in WIPO website, without waiting for the issuance of a circular.

#### PROPOSAL FOR REVISING OF THE SURVEY CONCERNING CITATION PRACTICES IN INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICES

22. Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook provides examples of citation practices related to patent information. As this part of the WIPO Handbook was last updated in 2008, the Part 7 Task Force has prioritized its revision for 2025 in accordance with its work plan. The Task Force conducted a consultation for comments and suggestions on the draft revised survey posted on the wiki.

23. In addition, The Task Force received a request from the International Bureau to add a new section to the revised survey titled “Citing Documents Based on Machine Translations”. This follows discussions at the 2024 PCT Quality Subgroup Meetings in Geneva and Beijing, where concerns were raised about citing machine-translated documents. The new section aims to collect data on how IP offices handle such citations, providing a basis for possible updates to the PCT Guidelines and WIPO Standard ST.14.

24. The Task Force proposes the revised questionnaire on “Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Industrial Property Offices”, for consideration and approval by the CWS. The revised survey is included as Annex II, in this document and all changes made are tracked. Strike-through text indicates deletion and underlined text indicates addition.

25. The Task Force further proposes that the Secretariat conduct the “Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Industrial Property Offices” in 2026 and report the results to the fourteenth session of the CWS.

#### WORK PLAN

26. The proposed work plan for 2026 is as follows:

Section	Topic	Last Published	Action Item
Part 7.9	Citation practices	2008	Conduct the approved survey questionnaire and update Part 7.9
Part 7.3	Examples and kinds of patent documents	2016	Update Part 7.3 based on the option approved by the CWS

27. *The CWS is invited to:*

(a) *note the content of this document and the two Annexes to the present document;*

(b) *request its members and observers to verify the information published on Part 7.2.6 and Part 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook;*

(c) *consider and decide an Option to be used for updating WIPO Handbook Part 7.3, as referred to in paragraph 20 to above;*

(d) *consider and approve the proposed template, as referred to in paragraph 21 above and reproduced in Annex I to this present document;*

(e) *request the Secretariat to manage the update of WIPO Handbook Part 7.3, based on the Option approved by the CWS, as referred to in paragraph 21 above;*

(f) *consider and approve the proposed survey questionnaire on the citation practice, as referred to in paragraphs 22 to 25 above and reproduced in Annex II to this present document;*

*(g) request the Secretariat to issue a circular inviting all Offices to respond to the survey, and update Part 7.9, as referred to in paragraph 25 above; and*

*(h) consider and approve the updated work plan as indicated in paragraph 26 above.*

[Annex I follows]



## TEMPLATE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING PART 7.3 OF THE WIPO HANDBOOK

### INTRODUCTION

Part 7.3 of the [WIPO Handbook on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation](#) is dedicated to the presentation of patent documents published by intellectual property (IP) offices, organized by patent document kind codes in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.16. It provides detailed information on current publication practices and, where applicable, includes information on former practices related to patent documents that are no longer published.

Part 7.3 is divided into two parts:

- [Part 7.3.1](#) contains a list of examples of patent documents published by industrial property offices grouped according to their ST.16 patent document kind codes.
- [Part 7.3.2](#) contains an inventory of different kinds of patent documents ordered by the issuing industrial property office. ST.16 codes are provided for the listed documents along with information about the applicable patent legislation, publication details, specific application of the code and samples of first pages.

To ensure accuracy and consistency, IP offices, whether already listed or new, are encouraged to submit new information or update their entries using the template below.

This template is designed to support IP offices to provide relevant information consistently, clearly and comprehensively. It captures key details related to the application of patent document kind codes and associated publication practices. IP offices may add additional information as needed to reflect specific practices.

## TEMPLATE

Country/Organization Name and Code (Please refer to WIPO Standard <a href="#">ST.3</a> )	
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WIPO ST.16 kind code (Please refer to WIPO Standard <a href="#">ST.16</a> )	Kind of document (Please provide in capital letters the title in the official language/s, the translation into English within brackets and optionally the transliteration into Latin characters)	Current or former practice (Please indicate whether the publication of this kind of document is current or it is no longer published)
		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Currently published  <input type="radio"/> Published previously

References to patent law	Publication details	Application of code
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Published in accordance with {reference to the law – title, number, etc.} of {date}, Art. {number}</li> <li>– {Description of the application of the letter code}</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– {First/Second/Third/etc.} level of publication</li> <li>– Published in {indicate format of kind of document}</li> <li>– Published from {date/year} to {date/year} or published on or after {date/year}</li> <li>– {Information about the numbering system}</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Where the code appears</li> <li>– The date or year when the code was first used</li> <li>– Sample of the first page {Please attach the sample of the first page file}</li> </ul>

Additional information (Please include any other relevant information related to the kind of patent documents)

## GUIDELINES TO FILL OUT THE TEMPLATE

### Country/Organization Name and Code

Indicate the two-letter code in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.3.

### Current or former practice

Indicate whether the publication of this kind of patent document reflects current or previous practice. This information helps users understand the publication status and history of publication, including both those currently published or now discontinued.

### Patent document kind code

Indicate the kind code of the patent document published in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.16.

#### Kind of document

- Provide the kind of document in your official language(s);
- Provide an English translation of the original title for reference; and
- Optionally provide a Latin transliteration if the original uses a non-Latin script.

#### References to patent law

- Indicate the relevant patent law or regulation (title, number, article and date); and
- Briefly describe how the kind code applies under the law or regulation.

#### Publication details

Indicate relevant publication information, including:

- The publication level, as defined in WIPO Standard ST.16 (refer to the explanation after paragraph 6, and paragraphs 7 and 11);
- The means of making the document available, e.g., on paper, online database, etc. (refer to paragraph 6 of the WIPO Standard ST.16 for a non-exhaustive list);
- The year when the code was introduced for the given kind of documents and the year when it was discontinued, if applicable; and
- A description of the numbering system, specifying whether it is unique to this document type or shared with other types, and if so, during what period.

#### Application of code

Indicate details on how the patent document kind code is applied, including:

- Where the code appears, for example: online databases;
- The starting date, or year, when the code was first used, in each format; and
- A sample of the first page of the document to illustrate its presentation.

#### Additional information

Include any additional relevant details related to the kind of patent documents published that are not covered by the above fields.

#### EXAMPLES

Please refer to [Part 7.3.1](#) or [Part 7.3.2](#) to view examples of documents with or without transliteration of the original title, as well as examples of patent documents that are no longer published.

#### QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or need help, please contact the Secretariat at:  
[cws.surveys@wipo.int](mailto:cws.surveys@wipo.int).

[Annex II follows]

## **SURVEY CONCERNING CITATION PRACTICES IN INDUSTRIAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICES**

### **Identification Page**

#### **Section 1**

1. Please enter the two-letter country code corresponding to your Office or Organization.
2. Please enter your email address so we can contact you if we have questions about your response.

### **Questions about citation references provided by your IPO: Sections 2-5**

#### **Section 2: Citation reference availability:**

~~Citation references relevant to a patent document can be suggested or decided to be included by people including Applicants, Examiners, and interested third parties.~~ A citation reference may occur in a patent description, a search or examination report or other location associated with a patent document and can be provided by people including Applicants, eExaminers, and interested third parties.

3. Does your IPO publish citation references associated with your IPO's patent documents?

*Note: In the context of this survey "citation reference" refers to the identification of (part of) a document, not the text or other information contained within the cited document.*

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please comment if necessary

4. Select one option describing the availability, to the public, of your IPO's citation references.

☐ Available to the public ☐ Availability is limited ☐ Not available

*Note: If limited or not available, please comment. e.g., limited to type of person trying to view the citation reference (e.g., applicants only) or limited to the part of the life cycle in which the citation reference was included (e.g., references suggested during opposition are unavailable)*

5. In which of the following location(s) within the patent documents, published by your IPO, can citation references be found?

- ☐ Preliminary search report ☐ Substantive search and/or examination report
- ☐ Patent description ☐ Other patent document location
- ☐ Bibliographic data

Please comment on any of the above mentioned locations, if appropriate

6. If citations references are part of the bibliographic front page information, are ~~citation references~~ they included in INID code (56)?

for INID codes see <https://www.wipo.int/documents/d/standards/docs-en-03-09-01.pdf> ~~#INID~~

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sometimes (please provide details)

7. Beyond the locations listed as options in question 5 above, select the location(s) outside the patent document where citation references can be found:

- ☐ Summary information (Internet) ☐ ~~End of document (internet)~~ Separate document
- ☐ E-Dossier/File wrapper ☐ Other location (provide details)

Please specify if "Other location"

8. Are hyperlinks included for the above Internet locations?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable

Please comment if necessary

9. Does your IPO give information about a patent document that cites the specific patent document the user is looking at (i.e., a forwards citation)?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Are hyperlinks ~~back~~ to the citing document provided?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please comment if necessary

11. Does your Office follow the recommendations set out in WIPO Standard ST.14 for the identification of citation references?

see <https://www.wipo.int/documents/d/standards/docs-en-03-14-01.pdf>

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially (please specify/provide further details)

Comment, if necessary

12. Does your IPO provide indications, to the general public, informing about who suggested or decided on including the citation references?

*(e.g., suggested by applicant, included by examiner. Such indications can be helpful for deciding how relevant a citation reference may be. As an example, the front page bibliographic data (in image format) of US 7,353,465 B1 indicates under INID code (56), by the use of an asterisk \*, that the references were cited by an examiner.)*

☐ Yes ☐ No

13. If available, where can indications of who created a citation reference be found by the general public?

select as many items as are applicable.

- ☐ Bibliographic data on patent document ☐ Preliminary search report
- ☐ Substantive search and/or examination report ☐ ~~End of patent document~~ Part of patent document
- ☐ Other

please comment if necessary, and if "Other", please specify where an indication can be found

### Section 3: Search Report Information

14. Does your IPO ~~prepare international search reports (ISRs) in the capacity as an International Searching Authority~~ publish International Search Reports (ISR) under the PCT?

☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Does your IPO ~~publish~~ prepare IPO-specific national/regional search reports (non PCT)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

16. Which type of search report(s) are the rest of your answers in Section 3 based on?

(if you answered "Yes" to either ~~143~~ or ~~154~~)

☐ ISR ☐ National / regional ☐ Both ISR and non-ISR ☐ Other

Please specify if "Other"

17. Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

☐ Yes (If yes, please provide examples) ☐ No

Please comment if necessary:

18. Are relevance indicators stated?

e.g., X, Y (see paragraph 14 of WIPO Standard ST.14)

☐ Yes ☐ No

19. Do your citation references include online URLs?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sometimes

20. Are unique document identifiers used e.g., DOI?

~~e.g., DOI~~

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Sometimes

21. If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

☐ Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

☐ ISBN and ISSN

☐ Other:

If "Other" please specify:

22. Please comment on any major differences between the provision of ISR and other search report citation references



## Section 4: Centralizing/Tagging Citation References

e.g., suitable for a database containing data elements identifying the location of the cited text/documents

23. Do you (intend to) add tags to identify citation references? ~~(e.g., see [http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/scit/en/taskforce/citation\\_practices/docs/st36-ice-citations.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/scit/en/taskforce/citation_practices/docs/st36-ice-citations.pdf))~~

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not now, but we intend to in the future

specify when

24. Does your IPO have a centralized database containing citation reference identification data elements?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not now, but we intend to in the future

specify when

25. If possible, please specify any structural elements on which the database is founded, for example:

☐ WIPO Standard ST.36 or/ST.96 or other XML

☐ ST.97 or other JSON

☐ Relational database

☐ Other (please specify)

26. Are citation references from your IPO searchable by the general public?

i.e., can one search the text of the data elements identifying the text/document cited

☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes", please specify the location where the references are searchable e.g., <http://www.>?

27. Is the information in the database technically and legally exchangeable e.g., with other IPOs?

☐ Yes ☐ No

28. Please add any further comments you may have about any of the questions in section 4 above:

**Questions about your IPO's published documents that may be cited (within a citation reference): Sections 5 to 7**

**Section 5: Location of published patent documents which can be considered to be an (or the) authentic source**

29. Which medium and format represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your IPO's published ~~patent documents~~, patent application? Select all that apply. A legal version is, e.g., a publicly available document that could be consulted in court proceedings.

☐ Paper

☐ Website

☐ Bulk publication (via SFTP or API)

☐ CD/DVD

☐ [Other], please specify

Medium: e.g., Internet or paper

30. Which medium and format represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your IPO's published granted patents? Select all that apply:

☐ Paper only

☐ Website

☐ Bulk publication (via SFTP or API)

☐ CD/DVD

☐ Other (please specify)

31. Please advise how to locate the medium you have selected: (e.g., specify the title of a DVD or data collection and an Internet address for ordering the DVD data collection)

29-32. Regarding the medium indicated above, is there one or more (file) formats that should be looked at

(in preference to other formats)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

30-33. If yes, please select all formats that should be considered in preference to other formats

☐ .pdf (Adobe)

☐ .html

☐ .tif image

☐ Paper

☐ .xml

☐ .json

☐ Other

Please comment if "Other"

~~34.~~34. Where else can your published patent documents be found?

Select as many as are applicable

☐ Internet

Main Internet address:

☐ Other known Internet addresses: separate each address with a semi- colon ;

If available, please advise how to find or subscribe to each available source (e.g. P.O. Box or internet address)

☐ CD/DVD

Title / location:

☐ FTP

Title / Location:

☐ Paper

Title / Location:

☐ Web services

Title / Location:

(bulk data download)

☐ Commercial providers

Specify, if desired

☐ Other

Please specify:

**Section 6: Availability of location identifiers**

(for citing later within a search report) occurring within some or all of your IPO's authentic legal published documents (stated in the first part of section 5 above); e.g., a location identifier may be a page, paragraph, or an image number. Answer this question according to your current publication procedures.

**32.35.** Which, if any, ~~text-page~~-based identifiers do your published patent documents contain: tick all that apply

☐ Page numbers☐ Column numbers☐ Line numbers☐ Other (please specify)

**33.36.** Which, if any, identifiers of non-textual elements occur within the description part of your published patent document: (tick all that apply and include comment if appropriate)

☐ Image/figure numbers within the description☐ Chemical formula numbers☐ Tables☐ Gene sequences☐ Mathematical formulas☐ Computer programs☐ Minutes/Seconds(for referencing videos)☐ Webpage identifiers (URL with heading/section reference)☐ Other (please specify)

**Section 7: Paragraph number details:** complete this section if your published patent documents include paragraph numbers

~~34~~37. Paragraph numbers are typically created by:

- ☐ Applicant / Inventor                      ☐ Your IPO e.g., examiners                      ☐ An external publisher
- ☐ Other (please specify)

~~35~~38. Paragraph numbers are recreated: tick all that apply

- ☐ During the publication process
- ☐ When numbered paragraphs are amended
- ☐ Other process (please specify)

~~36~~39. Describe any special treatment you give to long paragraphs:

i.e., longer than 300 words

~~37~~40. Describe how you treat numbered paragraphs that are subsequently amended:

particularly when one paragraph is replaced by many, or one or more paragraphs are deleted

~~38~~41. If necessary, please provide additional comment on any part of the questions or answers given above in this section.

### **Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations**

42. Does your Office currently allow to cite machine-translated documents in search or examination reports?

☐ Yes                      ☐ No

☐ Other (please specify)

43. When citing a document without paragraph numbering, how does your Office identify the relevant passage in the machine translation?

44. How does your Office ensure that applicants can access the exact machine translation used by your Office?

☐ Sent directly to the applicant

☐ Uploaded to the electronic file to an online register

☐ Not currently shared

☐ Other (please specify)

45. Does your Office record or store the machine translation used by the examiner for internal or public reference?

☐ Yes, for internal use only

☐ Yes, and it is made publicly available

☐ No

46. Does your Office have a preferred format for citing machine translations in search or examination reports?

☐ Yes (please provide example)

☐ No

☐ In development (please provide details)

47. Has your Office encountered cases where an applicant disputed the relevance of a citation based on a machine translation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (please specify)

48. Should there be a standardized method for referencing the machine translation engine and date of translation in the international search report?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (Please specify)

49. Should WIPO Standard ST.14 be revised to include recommendation on how references to machine translations should be cited in a patent document?

☐ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Other (please specify)



## General questions about Citation Practices: Sections 9-10

**Section 9: Examples of citation references published by your IPO, if this information is available.**

**39-50.** If possible, please provide a patent (application) number and a publicly available Internet address that contains one or more typical examples of patent and non-patent literature citation references.

Specify application number and kind code, e.g., *WO 2005/110961 A1*

Specify Internet address and any instructions helpful to find patent (application) number, e.g., ~~*http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/en/ia.jsp?*~~

*IA=IB2005001265&REF=RSS*

Specify where in the document the citation references can be found, e.g., *page 1, lines 19 and 25, search report at end of document*

## Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

**40-51.** If applicable, please make any further comments, e.g., you may wish to comment on difficult aspects of citation practices for your IPO:

e.g., users are confused about the part of a document a citation reference was referring to

e.g., citation references do not refer to the authentic rendering of a patent document

e.g., it is not clear how or whether to state a url as part of a citation reference

[End of Annex II and of document]