

WIPO



PCT/A/40/4

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: August 15, 2009

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION (PCT UNION)

ASSEMBLY

Fortieth (17th Ordinary) Session Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 2009

APPOINTMENT OF THE EGYPTIAN PATENT OFFICE AS AN INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AND PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY UNDER THE PCT

Document prepared by the International Bureau

1. The appointment of International Searching Authorities (ISAs) and International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) is a matter for the Assembly and is governed by Articles 16(3) and 32(3) of the PCT. It follows from Rules 36.1(iv) and 63.1(iv) of the Regulations under the PCT that any appointment will be as both an ISA and an IPEA.
2. In a letter dated July 13, 2009, the text of which appears in Appendix I, accompanied by further details set out in Appendix II, the President of the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology requested that the Egyptian Patent Office be appointed as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT.
3. Articles 16(3)(e) and 32(3) of the PCT require that, before the Assembly makes a decision on the appointment of an ISA and IPEA, it shall hear the Office or organization concerned and seek the advice of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation. The Committee, at its 24th session held in Geneva from September 22 to October 1, 2009, will consider the appointment of the Egyptian Patent Office as an ISA and IPEA, and the Committee's advice will be submitted to the Assembly during its session (which is being held during the same period).

4. Under Articles 16(3)(b) and 32(3) of the PCT, the appointment of an ISA and IPEA is conditional on the conclusion of an Agreement, subject to approval by the Assembly, between the Office or organization concerned and the International Bureau. The text of a draft Agreement between the Egyptian Patent Office and the International Bureau is set out in Appendix III. Its Articles are substantially identical to the corresponding provisions in the Agreements relating to existing Authorities, approved by the Assembly at its 36th session, save that they include the revised version of Article 11, concerning amendments, proposed in Annex V of document PCT/A/40/2.

5. If the Assembly agrees to the appointment, it would take effect upon the entry into force of the Agreement between the Egyptian Patent Office and the International Bureau. Such entry into force would, under Article 9 of the draft Agreement, be a date to be specified by the Office in a notification to the Director General that it is prepared to start functioning as an ISA and IPEA, that date being at least one month from the date of the notification. Under Article 10 of the draft Agreement, it would remain in force until December 31, 2017, that is, until the same time as is proposed for the new Agreements relating to all existing Authorities.

6. The Assembly of the PCT Union is invited, in accordance with Articles 16(3) and 32(3) of the PCT:

(i) to hear the representative of the Egyptian Patent Office and take into account the advice of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation;

(ii) to approve the text of the draft Agreement between the Egyptian Patent Office and the International Bureau as set out in Appendix III; and

(iii) to appoint the Egyptian Patent Office as an International Searching Authority and an International Preliminary Examining Authority with effect from the entry into force of the Agreement until December 31, 2017.

[Appendices follow]

APPENDIX I

TEXT OF LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
EGYPTIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY
TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WIPO

Cairo, July 13, 2009

Re.: Appointment of the Egyptian Patent Office as International Authority under
the PCT rules

Dear Mr. Gurry,

Noting that the Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO) will be the first office in the Arab region to be appointed as International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA), services will hereafter be introduced to approximately four hundred and half million Arab-speaking clients.

Considering that EGPO has managed to handle the escalating numbers of filed applications pursuant to Paris Convention and PCT maintaining the international patent pendency rates.

Egyptian Government kindly requests to enroll the attached document¹ within the agenda of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation. We are so keen to receive your respective feedback and recommendations. Thereupon, we will introduce a presentation to the PCT Assembly as referred to in Articles 16(3) and 32(3) of the PCT.

Yours sincerely,

*[signed by Prof. Mohamed Tarek Hussein,
President, Academy of Scientific Research & Technology]*

Annexes:

- I. Minimum Documentation
- II. Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO) Technical Infrastructure
- III. Automation of Egyptian Patent Office
- IV. Automation Enhancements Roadmap
- V. EPOscan system
- VI. Workflow for E-Filing, E-Payment System, Workflow for Registration System, Workflow for Update Existing Application and Workflow for New Application System
- VII. Quality Sampling Review Committee (QSR) Flow Chart

[Appendix II follows]

¹ The document attached to the letter, together with the Annexes thereto, is set out in Appendix II of the present document.

APPENDIX II

BACKGROUND AND DETAILS OF APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

I. OVERVIEW OF THE EGYPTIAN PATENT OFFICE

1. Background of the Egyptian Patent Office

Egypt was one of the first countries in the Arab Region to enact laws on Industrial Property Rights such as Law no. 57 of year 1939 on the protection of Trademarks and Law no. 132 of year 1949 on the protection of Patents, Drawings and Industrial Models.

The Egyptian Patent Office (hereinafter referred to as EGPO) was established in 1950. In 1951, EGPO started to receive applications. The Presidential Decree no. 543 of year 1969 stipulated that the Ministry of Scientific Research was the competent authority to apply the provisions of Law no. 132 of year 1949. The enactment of the said Decree stressed the importance of patenting on developing industries and increasing productivity, consequently improving the national economy.

The Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (hereinafter referred to as ASRT) was established by the Presidential Decree no. 2617 of year 1971. By virtue of that Decree, ASRT became the Authority responsible for implementing the provisions of Law no. 132 of year 1949.

EGPO is an agency of ASRT and its president is an undersecretary of a president of ASRT, who is on a ministerial level. In 2002, the Law on Intellectual Property Rights was amended by Law no. 82 of year 2002 and as a result EGPO not only provides protection to patents, but also utility models, integrated circuits as well as undisclosed information.

EGPO budget is financed from ASRT, in addition to the fees collected for services delivered to clients. Therefore, it focuses on presenting high quality services taking into consideration clients' needs and market. EGPO has a very restricted system for optimal utilization of human resources and financial resources.

2. Organization

As mentioned above, the Egyptian Patent Office affiliates to the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology. The Office president reports directly to the president of the ASRT.

II. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The current situation

1. Cooperation with other Egyptian Government Agencies

EGPO believes that a major part of its role is to help put the inventions into practice in order to advance development and achieve welfare to the society. Being desirous to activate this role, EGPO has established the project of Focal Points network (FPs net.) to connect universities and research centers to industrial entities, so the latter can benefit from researches and patents. The project has started in March, 2003 with 23 FPs in 11 governorates. Through FPs applicants can pre-register their applications via the EGPO website. Aiming at achieving

the ultimate benefit of granted patents, EGPO tries to connect inventors to corresponding industries to meet the latter needs. EGPO holds also workshops to spread awareness among scientists and searchers in universities and research institutes regarding the importance of patenting their work.

2. Cooperation with the International Community

EGPO provides training courses to technical and legal examiners from other Arab and African patent offices as part of WIPO activities. These courses have covered trainees from Sudan, Libya, Syria, Algeria, Palestine, Jordan, Djibouti, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, and ARIPO in fields like, for example, legal and technical procedures for granting patents, procedures of filing patent applications and methods for utilizing thereof, and automation and archiving systems (EPO-scan). Additionally, EGPO legal experts provided assistance to the Syrian Patent Office on amending and reviewing its Law and regulations before consideration by the parliament for approval.

3. Co-operation work plan between WIPO & EGPO

- Data validation of patents database project.
- Automation of Reception project.
- Monitoring System Deployment project.
- EGPO Focal Points network Automation project.
- PCT-ROAD project.
- PCT Applications Download project.
- Electronic submission of granted patents project.

The Future Vision

1. Electronic Filing and Processing

EGPO is to apply PCT-ROAD to electronically communicate documents from and to The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). EGPO is working on activating e-services which allows applicants to electronically file applications and pay fees. It is worth mention that the first stage of the project is already completed.

2. Video Conference

EGPO is considering setting up a video conference network with the Focal Points network to facilitate holding regular training courses to update the officers with latest technical and legal issues and to assist in exchange of information.

3. Disaster Recovery Unit

A disaster recovery unit is being set up, which aims to provide protection to patent documents and databases, in addition to other stored data and information against all types of disasters.

4. ISO 9001/2000

EGPO is currently planning to be ISO certified.

III. PATENT EXAMINATION RESOURCES

1. Introduction

The patent examination resources of EGPO have expanded considerably in recent years keeping pace with growing number of patent application filings of the ever-expanding new technologies. More Examiners are being hired and trained to the internationally accepted standards using state-of-the-art equipment to access to patent and non-patent literature. These resources are needed to effectively search and examine patent applications filed by Egyptians and international community.

2. Human resources

EGPO started with 16 technical examiners and has expanded to reach now 115 technical examiners. They cover all required technical fields divided into, engineering (communication, power, mechanical, textiles, agricultural, and medical), science (chemistry, physics, microbiology, biochemistry, and entomology), physics (biophysics), pharmacy, and medicine (human, and dentist).

EGPO has an advisory board from all reputable universities and research centers in all fields of science. The said advisory board is acting to clarify prior art whenever it is necessary.

3. Competence of Examiners

All technical examiners are competent to do search and examination on applications in both the Arabic and English languages. Some of them are proficient in other languages such as French, German and Swedish.

All technical examiners are bachelor degree holders. About 30% of them hold postgraduate qualifications and 17 out of the 115 are M.A. holders.

4. Processing of Patent Applications and Other Work

In addition to modern IP law and executive regulations enforced since 2002, technical examiners in the EGPO use the “Examination Procedures Manual”, which is based on “The PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines” but customized to Egyptian Law. For implementing the procedures of this Manual, EGPO applies a series of electronic forms which are used for recording the actions of the examiners and transmitting information to patent application. In addition, a procedural manual details workflow inside EGPO, and “filing guidelines for applicants” contain all the information an applicant may need to know about procedures for filing patent applications.

5. Examination Methods and Tools

In the late 1990s, EGPO started a process of infrastructure development covering, for example, equipment; networks; security systems for networks and information; updating patents databases; and automation and archiving systems.

Dynamic search is currently available through Egyptian database. In that respect, Technical examiners are allowed to conduct search on both patents and patent applications by bibliographic data and abstract. External users are allowed to conduct Dynamic search service only on granted patents via the EGPO website. Search processes have reached about 35,000.

In 2007, security systems were renewed to achieve the highest degree of security to protect the secrecy of data and information when officials of EGPO access the internet. In order to ensure continuity of work under any circumstance, backup systems have been set up.

IV. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

In this information age, every day brings new information and new sources of information. EGPO makes every effort to update the examiners on all levels with state-of-the-art technologies in order to keep pace with developments. It organizes trainings such as, language courses (English & French), computer skills, training of trainers, customer services, supervision skills, archiving systems, modern documentation systems, administrative system development, auditing, and development of governmental affairs. Specialized on-the-job training courses are held to technical and legal examiners by the seniors to update them with information related to their work.

Training courses are held not only inside the office, but also outside in reputable organizations including The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), The European Patent Office (EPO), and the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (SPRO). Those courses cover, for example, search & examination procedures, databases search, negotiating agreements, intellectual property & technology transfer, information systems, PCT, administrative procedures for granting patents and R&D. EGPO staff also attend many international conferences and meetings such as, meetings of WIPO's Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), WIPO's Program and Budget Committee, the PCT Working Group, WIPO's Committee on Development of Intellectual Property, and the PCT Assembly.

EGPO being one of the largest and most advanced offices in the Arab region, has signed a MOU with WIPO to be a training centre for officers from other Arab Offices. Training has started since 2002. The number of Arab trainees is about 67 coming from Sudan, Libya, Algeria, Palestine, Jordan, Djibouti, Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain. As it is noticed from the countries, EGPO also focuses on African countries. It hopes to offer further services of this type in the future.

V. PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION

1. Available search documents

EGPO possesses more than 28 million patent documents from 8 countries, which go back to 1790. These documents are available in paper form, microfilm, CDs, and DVDs.

The technical examiners have access to a variety of patent information services, including those from WIPO, EPOLine, USPTO, JPO, SIPO, KIPRIS, SurfIP, Thompson Patent Store, PATENTSCOPE[®] and Free Patents online. To assist with IPC classification, examiners have access to TACSY and IPCCAT.

EGPO currently has access to EPOQUE as one-year test access term, has started in September, 2008. It is worth mention that The European Patent has extended the test access term for further one year ended in September 2010. After completion of such test term, EGPO is planning to grant full access to EPOQUE

Regarding the non-patent literature, in addition to EPOQUE, technical examiners have access to wide variety of scientific periodicals and journals that includes the non-patent literature as part of the PCT minimum documentation NCBI, Scirus, Pubmed, CAB Abstract, refworks, Inter Science, PNAS, highwirepress, and Elsevier journals.

Furthermore, EGPO has access to the Egyptian Universities Library (EUL) databases, which is provided by the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology. EUL covers the major scientific periodicals and journals including: ASME & API, IEEE, EPSCO, Science Direct, Springer link, Ovid MEDLINE, Ovid CAB, etc. (see Annex I).

2. Information Technology

EGPO started modernization and development of IT infrastructure since 1998 (see Annex II). EGPO applies effectively the Automated IP Management Software (AIPMS) supported by WIPO. AIPMS is a fully automated system that includes the following steps: registering patent applications, sustentative examination, technical and legal examinations, granting patents, issuing formal gazettes, inquiries, statistics, and annual fees. All applications documents in paper form are scanned on the automatic archive system. Then the documents forms are adjusted according to WIPO standers, and connected to the bibliographic database. AIPMS has been enhanced to keep up with the latest development. EGPO is to apply (XML) to facilitate document transfer to other international patent offices (see Annex III).

All PCT applications entering the national phase are downloaded directly from WIPO website via AIPMS. Technical examiners benefiting from the International Searching Reports in their work (see Annex IV).

Patent applications that are received on paper form are scanned by use EPOscan. After scanning step, the application contents are indexed and transformed to WIPO standard form, and then the application is connected to the bibliographic database through AIPMS by its number. All bibliographic data and attached documents are available to EGPO officers to carry on the necessary procedures via AIPMS, and search is conducted by patent number, title of invention, name of applicant, and abstract. External users can access to granted patents only via EGPO website. (see Annex V).

Technical examiners have access to all to up-to-date PC sets with high internet speed to enable them to do their work with high quality.

By 2010, EGPO is to fully activate e-government services, which include e-registration, e-payment, and e-signature. By applying such services, it is expectedly that number of applications will increase. Once the e-services law is enacted, EGPO will set a computerized program for safely e-filing procedures. Currently, pre-registration is allowed through EGPO website to patent attorneys and focal points. (see Annex VI).

EGPO is in experimental phase for using PCT-ROAD This is expected to significantly increase the efficiency of electronic communication with WIPO when fully deployed.

VI. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Believing that quality management is an essential for monitoring work follow procedures, EGPO has established the Quality Management System (QMS. It is based on the Quality Management System set forth in the PCT Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines. Further illustration on the QMS can be found later in this document.

The Egyptian Patent Office has implemented a major portion of the Quality Management System which is part of the Offices' Examination Procedures Manual. The Quality Sampling and Review has started its work since November 2007, and a High Committee has been convened to complete the final stages of the implementation.

The current status of the Quality Management System is set forth in Annex VII.

[Annexes to Appendix II follow]

ANNEX I

MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION

Table 1
Available Paper Document & Micro Form/Film or CD/DVD in EGPO

Country	Paper	MicroForm/Film	CD/DVD
EG	1-24056 (1951-2008) PAT 1-14406(1951-1972)APP	14407-31174 (1973-2008)	
AU		97000-29494 (1987-1996)	29495-21608 (1997-2004)
GB	700000-1101749 1101749-1595073 2000001-2279217 (1952-1991)		2970910-2348385 2348385-2430340 (1991-2004)
EPO	1-297000		
FR	1-1509200 1509201-2185250 (1905-1973)	2185251-2662500 (1973-1990)	2662501-2737075 (1990-2006)
DE	90901-3902298 (1960-1990)		3902299-5544667 (1990-2007)
US			1-7.373.672 (1790-2007)
JP abstract			1980-2003
RU abstract			2002-2008

Table 2
Available Document from esp@cenet in EGPO

esp@cenet	Facsimiles	Abstracts from	BIBLOGRAPHIC
CH	1888, from CH1 onwards	1970	
DE	1877, from DE1 onwards	1970	
EP	1978	1978	
FR	1920	1970	
GB	1920	1918	
US	1836, from US1 onwards	1970	
WO	1978	1978	
AT	1920	.	1975
JP	1980		1973
RU-SU			1972
OA			1966
AP	From begin		all

Table 3
Selection of Available Documents from EPOQUE in EGPO

[The EPOQUE database contains the complete patent literature part of the PCT minimum documentation, as it applies to Offices whose official languages do not include Japanese, Korean, Russian or Spanish, and much more: the patent collection is greater in both range of dates covered, as shown below, and in terms of countries covered.]

COUNTRY	BNS	EPOQUE Full-text	EPODOC
CH	All documents from: CH1 (A 18881101)	French, German and Italian since 1900	All documents from: CH1 (A 18881101)
DE	Documents from: DE1 (C 18770702) DE1427159U (U 19330203)	German full-text since 1920. oldest document DE318791 (C 19200207)	Documents from: DE1 (C 18770702) DE1427159U (U 19330203)
FR	Documents from: FR1983E (E 19000101) FR2000029 (A1 19690829) (Utility Model)	French full-text since 1900. oldest document FR1983E (E 19000101)	Documents From: FR1983E (E 19000101)
GB	Documents From: GB189503951 (A 18960330) GB20000136 (B 1979)	English full-text since: GB189503951 (A 18960330)	Documents From: GB189300739 (A 18931011)

COUNTRY	BNS	EPOQUE Full-text	EPODOC
JP	JP documents from 1970	-	Documents From: JP40000046Y1 (Y1 19650106
RU-SU	SU documents from 1972	-	SU documents from: SU115325 (A1 19721207)
US	All documents from: USX000001 (A 17900731)	All documents from: US1 (A 18360713)	All documents from: US1 (A 18360713)

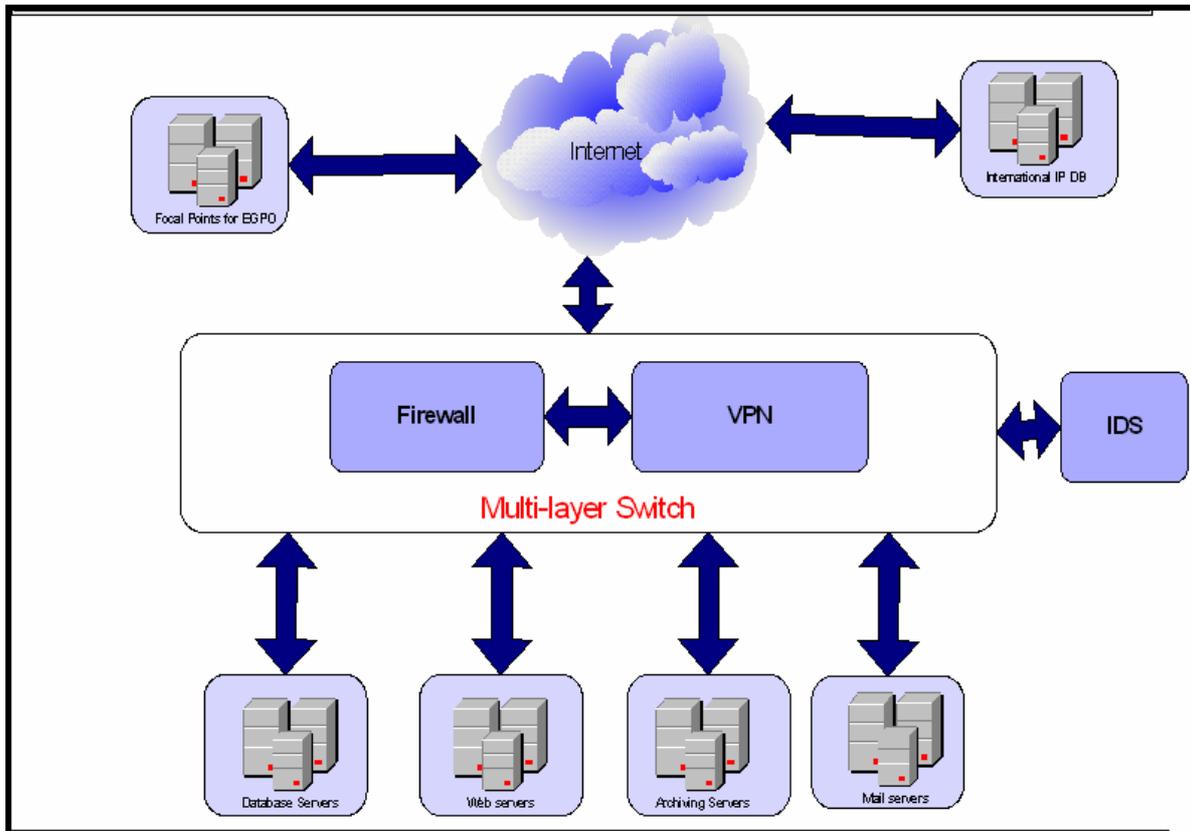
Non-Patent Literature

As noted above, EGPO has access to complete collection to non-patent literature agreed by the International Searching Authorities under Rule 34.1(b)(iii) through a variety of different services. When EPOQUE is deployed for EGPO examiners, it will allow a convenient single point of access to the majority of this literature and the existing systems will continue to be available to provide access to the remainder.

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

EGYPTIAN PATENT OFFICE (EGPO)
TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE



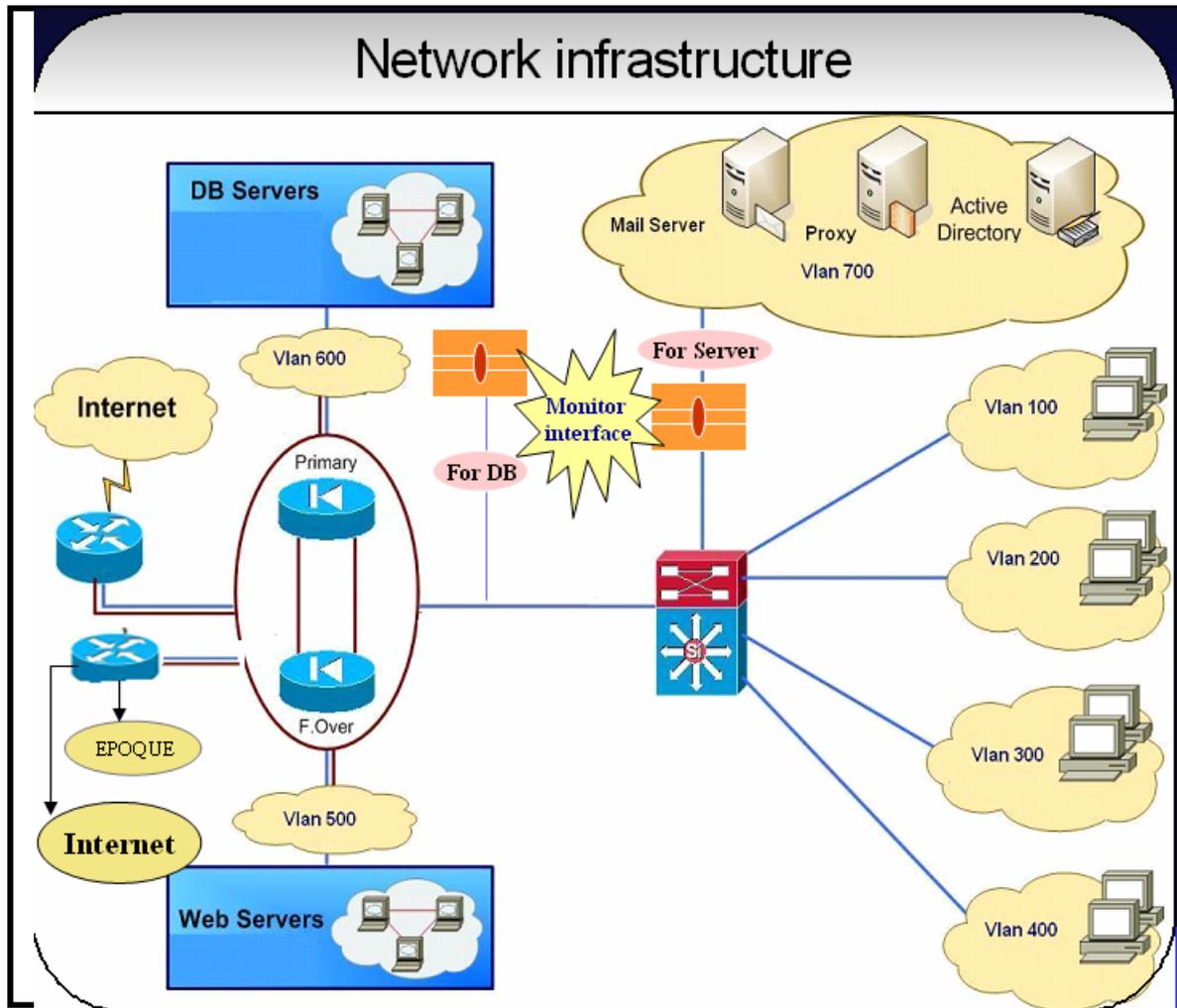
I. NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

Network infrastructure consists of catalyst 6500 that contains IDS, VPN, super Engine and FW service Modules that make network more secure

Catalyst 6500 Description

<i>VPN</i>	IP Sec VPN acceleration services Module (Sw-SVC-IPSec-1)
<i>IDS</i>	Intrusion Detection Module (Sw-SVC-IDSM2)
<i>SW</i>	WS-X6548v-GE-TX
<i>Engine</i>	(WS-Sup720-3B) Supervisor 720 with integrated switch Fabric/PFc3B
<i>FW</i>	Firewall Services Module (WS-SVC-FWM-1)

II. SECURITY SYSTEM



A. Polices of catalyst 6500

1. Divided catalyst into vlans
 - Vlan for client.
 - Vlan for examiners.
 - Vlan for IT
 - Vlan for Lower.
 - Vlan for (HR – Information – receiving Dep.).
 - Vlan for servers (domain & additional – ISA & additional – Exchange Servers).
 - Vlan for Database Server.
 - Vlan for website server.
2. Security policies applied on firewall service (primary)
3. Firewall failover (Secondary) .
4. IDS Monitor for any IP try to connect to Servers
5. another IDS Monitor for any IP try to connect to Database servers.
6. router for pass only allowed IP to connect to EPOQUENET Database server.
7. Backup for security system.

B. Servers on Network

1. Domain Active Directory server that manages,
 - Manage all users and computer during it
 - Divided user & computers to groups and manage all group
 - Put polices on each group according to needed for finished work Domain
Controllers GP
 - Put policies on each computer
2. Additional domain controller secondary
 - Make replications with primary domain
 - Update services on all servers & client during WSUS.
 - Generate report for all update & synchronization.
3. Symantec AntiVirus Server
 - Symantec AntiVirus client for server
 - Symantec System Center Console to mange all Symantec on all server & client
 - Update all AntiVirus for servers & client
 - Generate report for all computers that installed update and others that failed.
4. ISA Server 2004 primary
 - Manage all users wanted to access internet to permit and deny according to rules
put on ISA distributed according to needed of department.
 - Block specific sites.
 - Generate report for user
 - Generate report for unwanted user trying to access servers.
5. Additional ISA Server 2004 secondary
 - Make replication with primary ISA for data
 - Divided users on two ISA to obtain high speed.
6. Exchange Server
 - Make mail for each user on office
 - Mange all mails for user
 - Sent a copy for any mail sent by any user
 - Filters message receive or sent by user
 - Limit The Quota For Sender
 - User deal with mail inside & outside office
7. Archiving servers
 - Archiving servers contain all applications & patents in the following electronic
formats using EPOSAN system version 4:
 - 1- tiff compressed G4 format.
 - 2- pdf format.
 - 3- wipo st33 format.
 - Weekly Backup for Archive system
 - Exchange patent issued (.bac) format between EGPO and EPO
8. Database servers
 - AIPMS Patent database using oracle9i, Traips and PCT
 - PCT-ROAD and Core
 - EDI
 - Exchange patent issued bibliographic data (XML) format between EGPO and EPO.
 - Weekly Backup for database
9. Web Server
 - Web site server (www.egypo.gov.eg)
 - Backup Web server (Linux and JSP)

10. syslog server
 - Generate report for unwanted server access attempts blocked by intrusion detection system.
 - Generate report for IP users and site want to access statistics.
11. EPOQUE Server
 - Allow certain IP access to EPOQUE Database to authorized users and deny other one try to access

[Annex III follows]

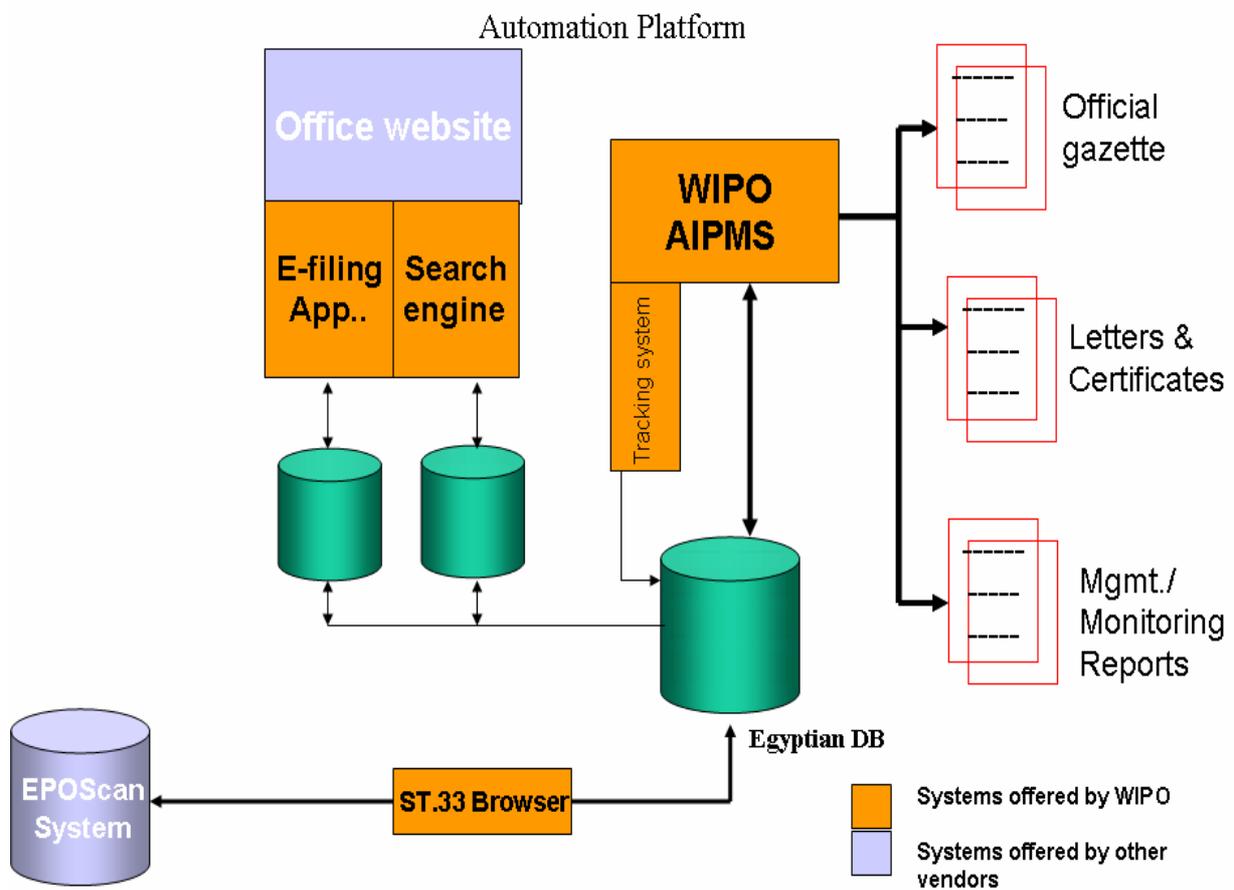
ANNEX III

AUTOMATION OF EGYPTIAN PATENT OFFICE

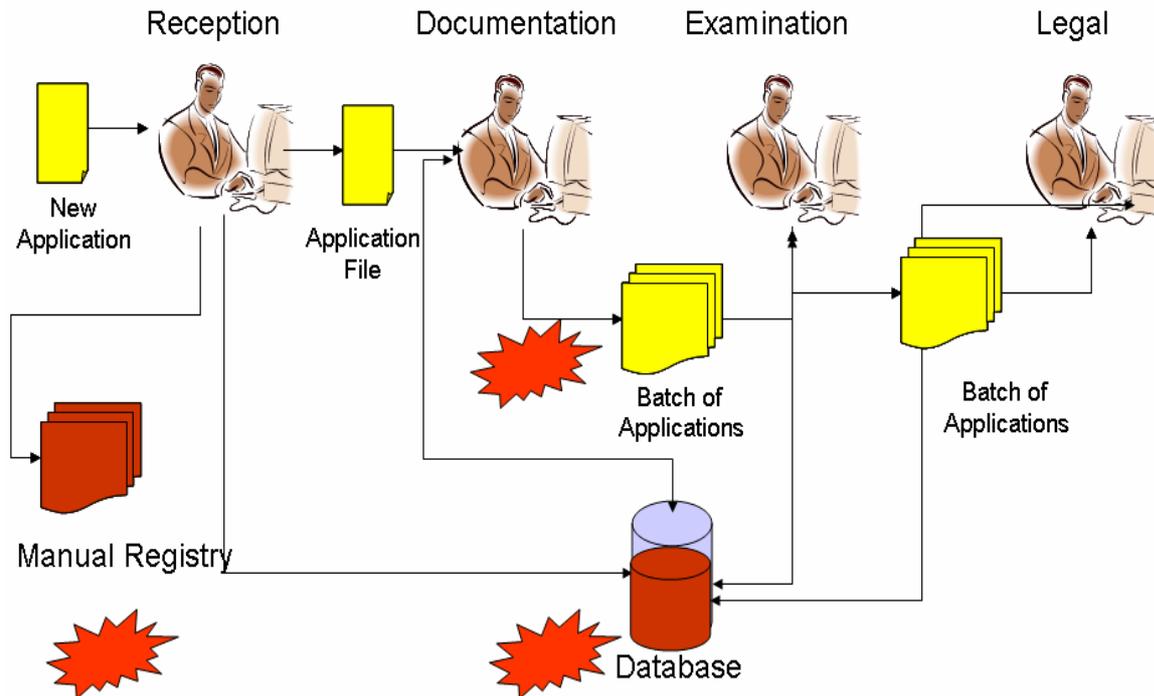
OBJECTIVES

- Automate office business processes (from filing to granting)
- Build office electronic registry
- Generate letters, correspondences, certificates and journal
- Establish basic electronic services for local and internal community (website and basic search)

A. Automation Platform



B. Automation of file workflow

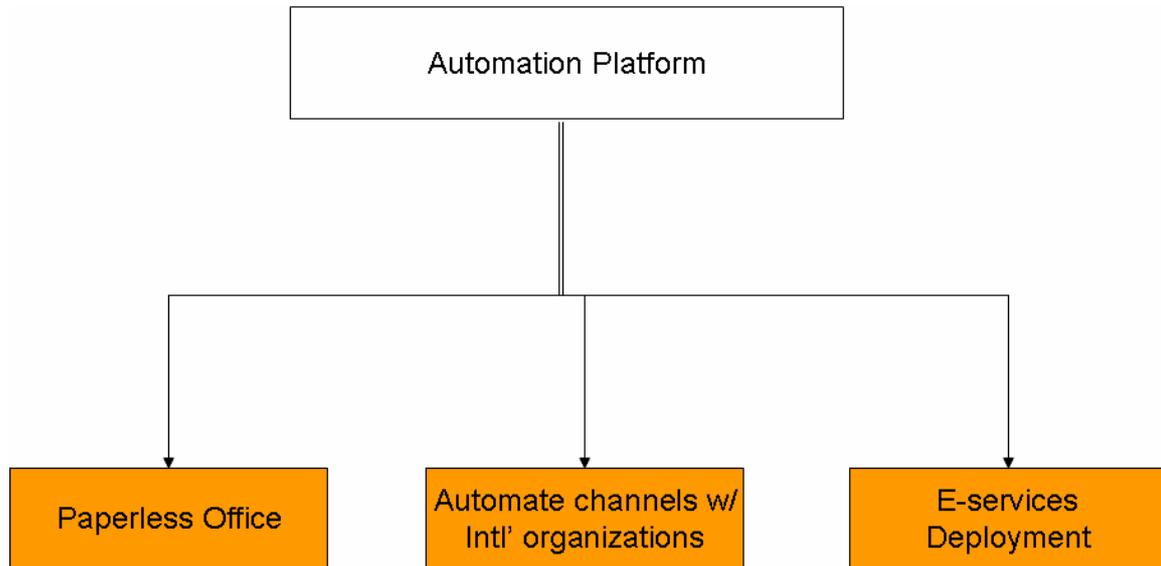


1. Incomplete database (old files)
 - Inaccurate search reports
 - Inaccurate corresponding (use manual letters in parallel)
 - Lower utilization of system features (e.g. annuities)
 - Obstacle facing e-services deployment
2. Parallel Manual registry
 - Double work (manual and electronic registry)
 - Source of errors and inconsistency
 - More resources to maintain both registries
3. Physical file movement
 - Slowing processing of applications
 - Possible file loss between departments
 - Additional resources required for tracking and monitoring
4. Applications volume:
 - Increased number of national applications
 - Increased number of International applications under PCT treaty
 - Big application volume for examination and legal
 - Limited increase of office staff

[Annex IV follows]

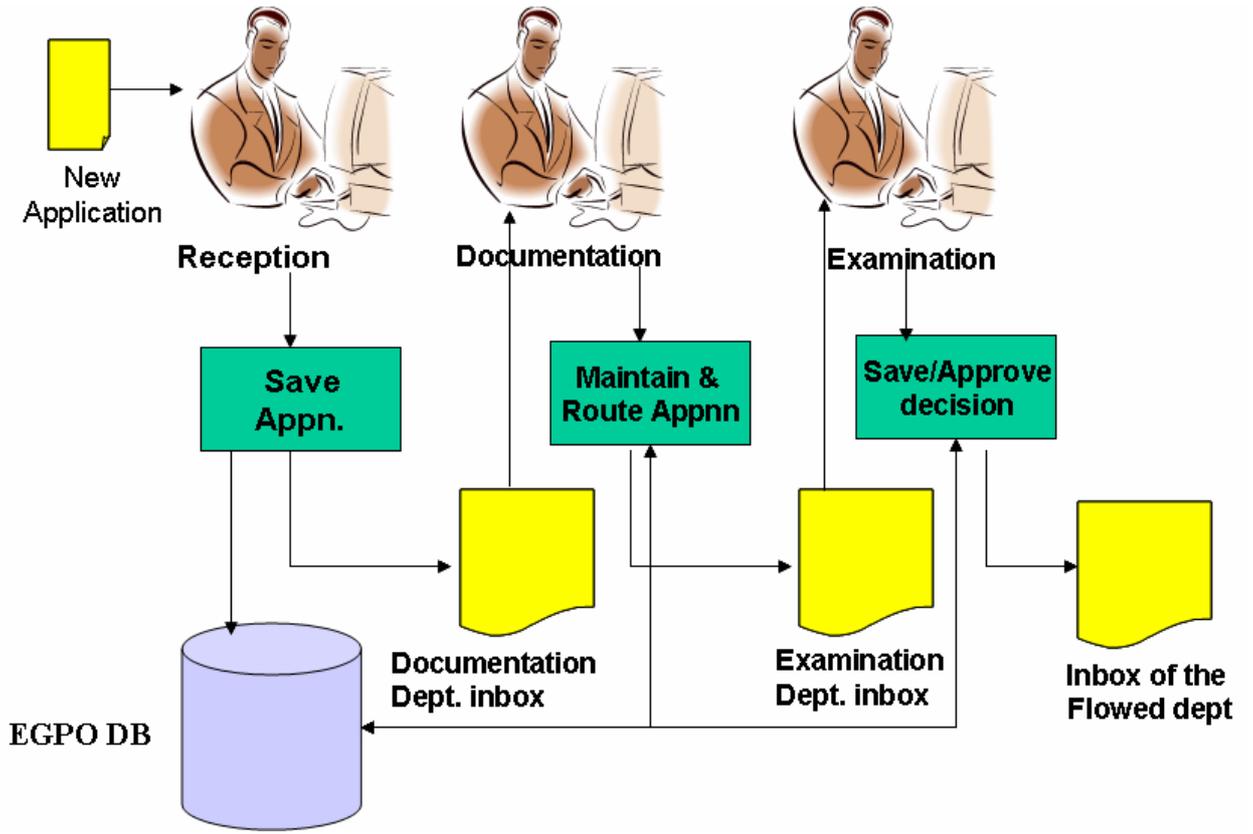
ANNEX IV

AUTOMATION ENHANCEMENTS ROADMAP



A. System Enhancements

1. Data validation (completion)
 - Build project team for: data capture, validation and monitoring/management
 - Implement project in two phases;
 - Phase I: active patents
 - Phase II: Lapsed patents
 - Initial project outlook:
 - 20 data entry staff
 - 5 revisers and quality control
 - 1 Project management
 - 6*2 months period
2. Automation of Reception (Serial Number)
 - Auto generate of application number from system
 - Possible generation of receipt from system
 - Reduce (eliminate) dependency on manual registry
 - Speedup application reception
 - Key pre-requisite for e-filing
3. Workflow-enabled System
 - Enable monitoring on each application file
 - Move from monthly monitoring to daily monitoring
 - Monitor processing delay on the level of department and on the level of employee
 - *Create uniform and streamlined processing across all applications*
 - *Speedup overall application processing and efficiency*



4. Output from the system

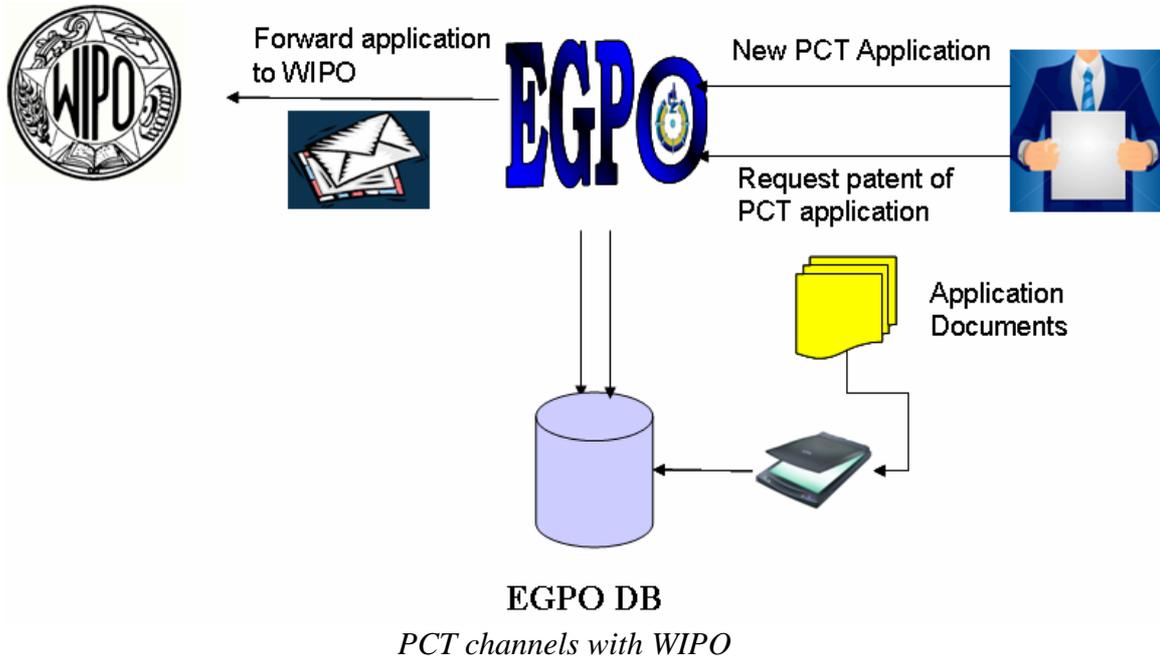
رقم الطلب	مرسل من	مرسل إلى	نوع القرار	تاريخ القرار
2003010005	الشؤون الإدارية	مقدم الطلب	إخطار مقدم الطلب	٢٠٠٥/٦/١٦
2003010022	الإستقبال	لجنة التظلمات	نظم على قرار	٢٠٠٥/٧/١٢
2003040125	الوثائق	الفحص الفني - محمد - مراجع	احالة للفحص الفني	٢٠٠٥/٧/٢٥
2003070278	شؤون قانونية	الوثائق	قبول قانوني	٢٠٠٥/٧/٢٠
2003070283	الفحص الفني	الشؤون القانونية	مراجعة مطبوعات	٢٠٠٥/٧/١٥
2003080345	الشؤون الإدارية	مقدم الطلب	إخطار مقدم الطلب	٢٠٠٥/٦/٢٠
2003090451	شؤون قانونية	الوثائق	قبول قانوني	٢٠٠٥/٧/١٥

طلب متأخر

طلبات انقضت مهلتها	
طلبات معلقة	
طلبات تحت الفحص	
طلبات مقبولة	

B. E-channels with WIPO

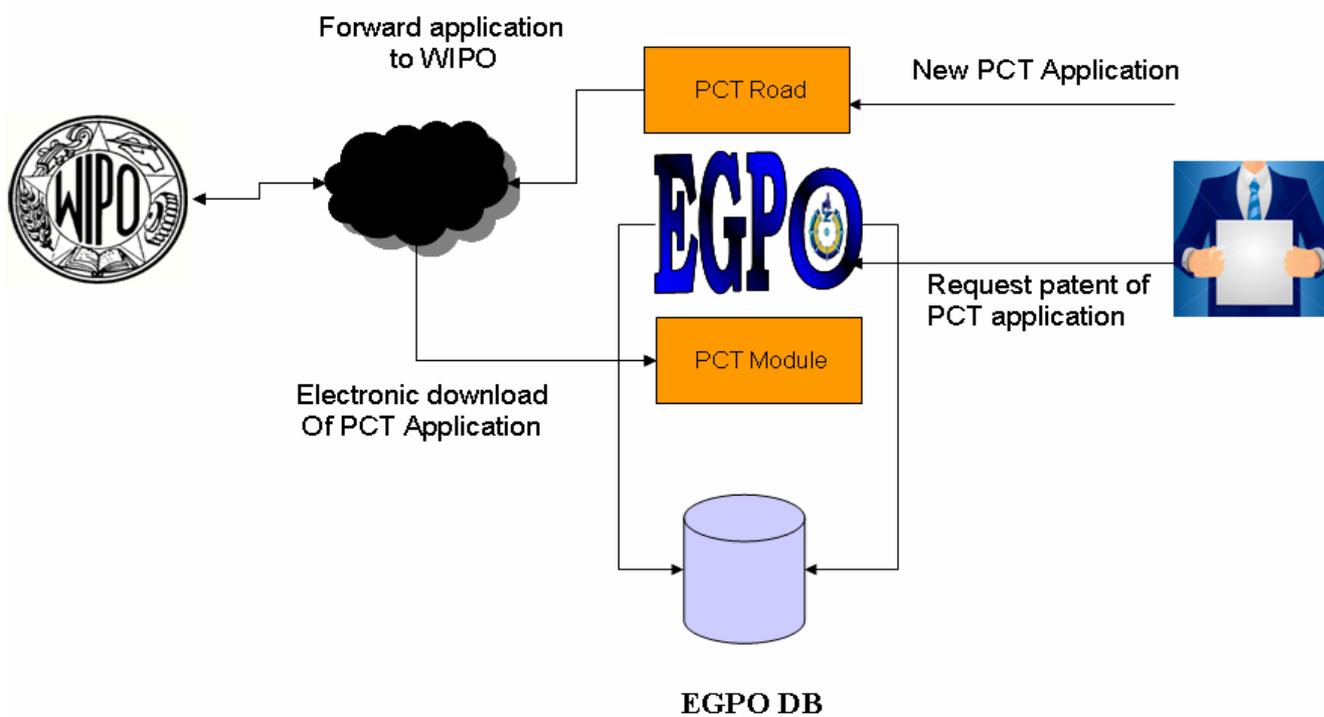
- Egyptian office member of PCT since 2003
- Accepts applications as receiving office since 2003
- Process applications entered into national phase since 2005



C. Use of e-channels

- Office gain
 - Speed up application reception
 - Speedup application communication
 - Simplify and speedup processing
 - Reduce bottleneck at reception
 - Develop office image with international organizations

Use of e-channels

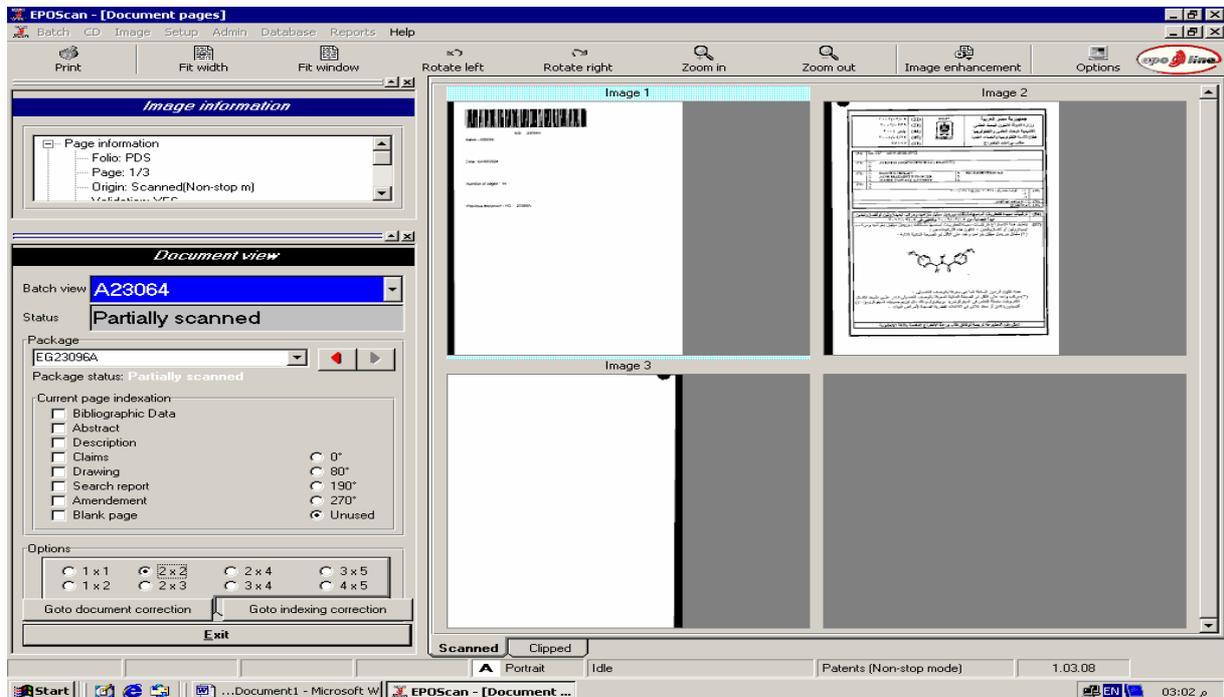


[Annex V follows]

ANNEX V
EPOSCAN SYSTEM



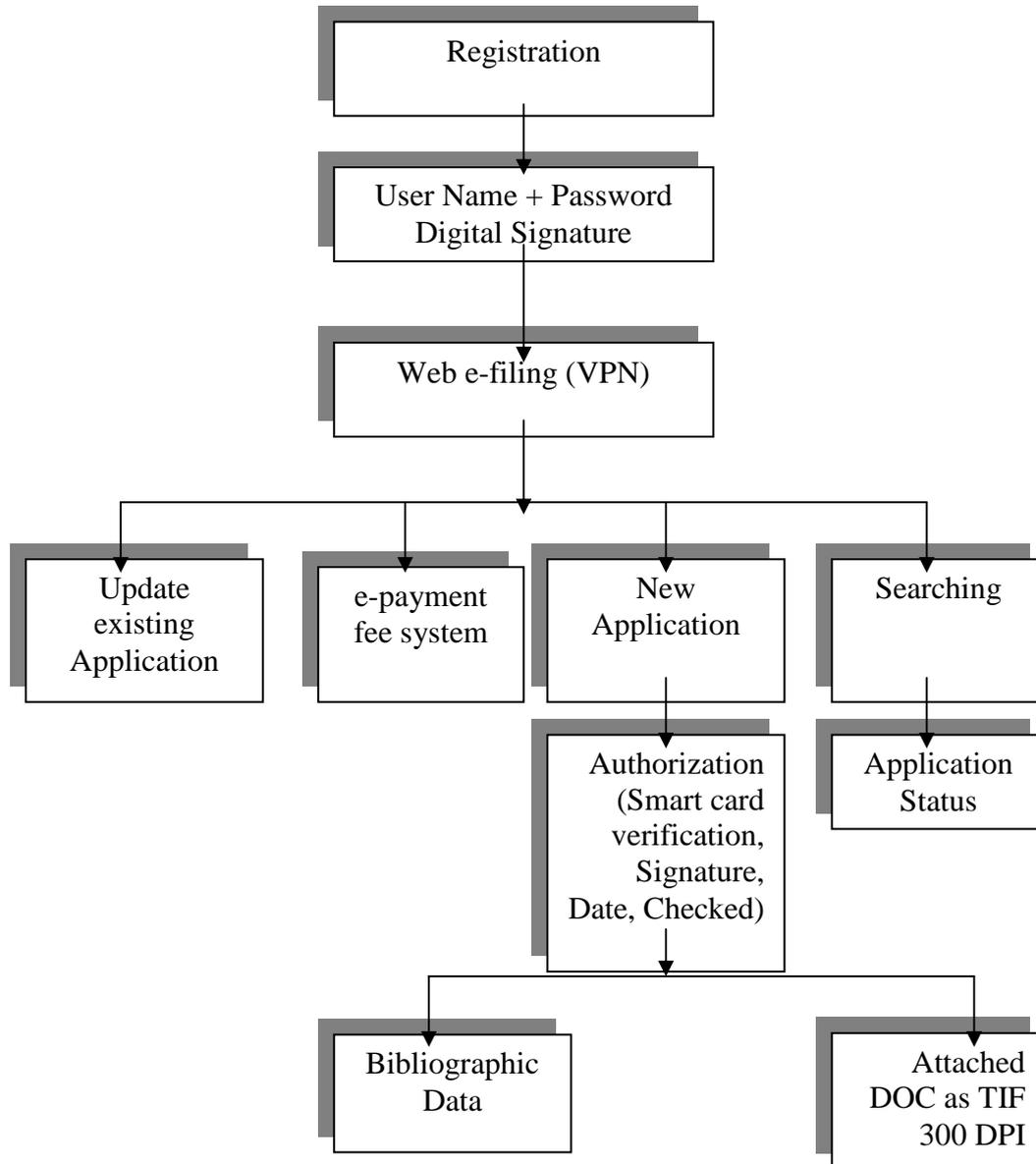
Index



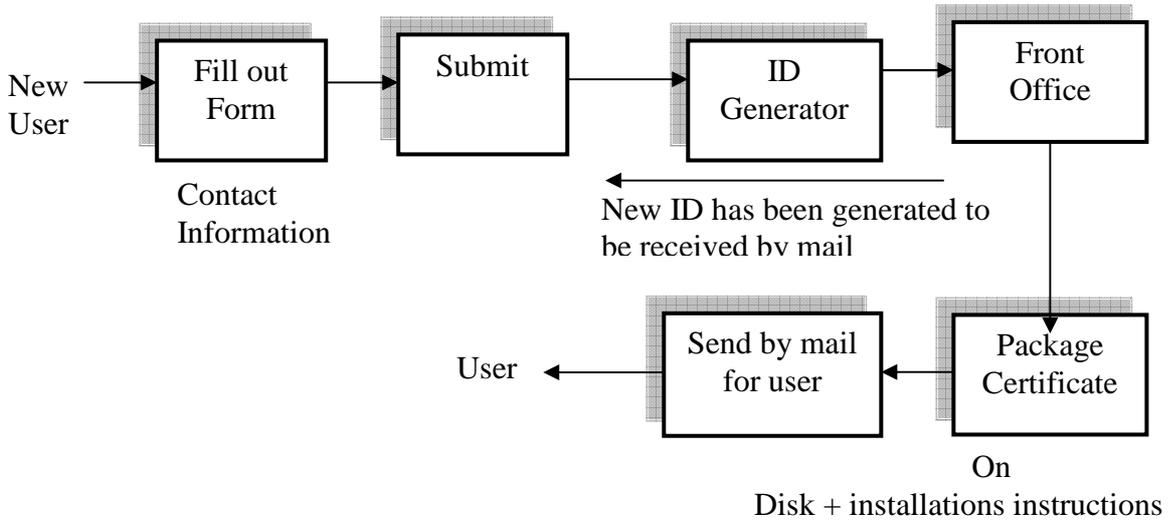
[Annex VI follows]

ANNEX VI
WORKFLOW FOR E-FILING, E-PAYMENT SYSTEM;
WORKFLOW FOR REGISTRATION SYSTEM;
WORKFLOW FOR UPDATE EXISTING APPLICATION; AND
WORKFLOW FOR NEW APPLICATION SYSTEM

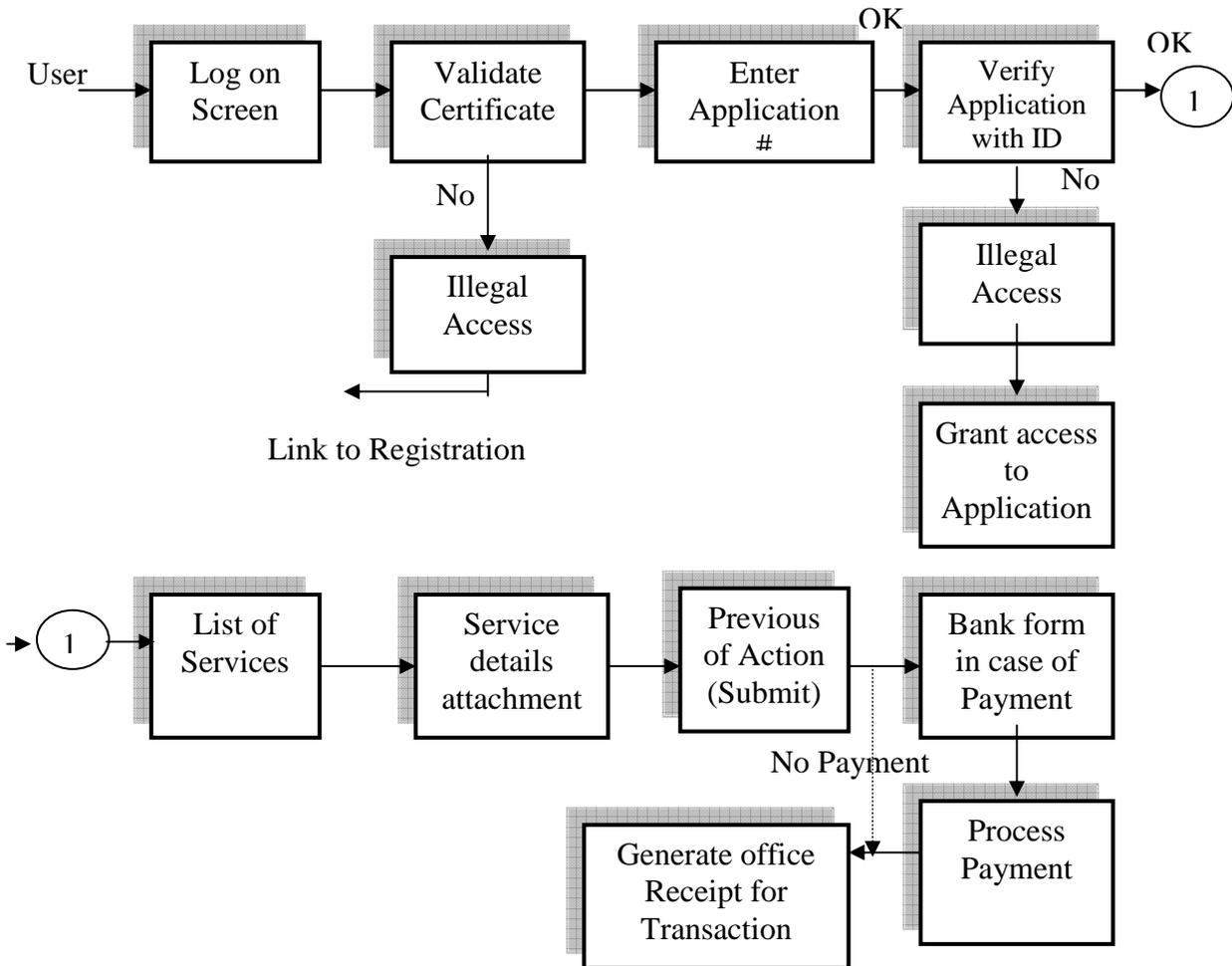
1. Workflow for e-filing, e-payment system



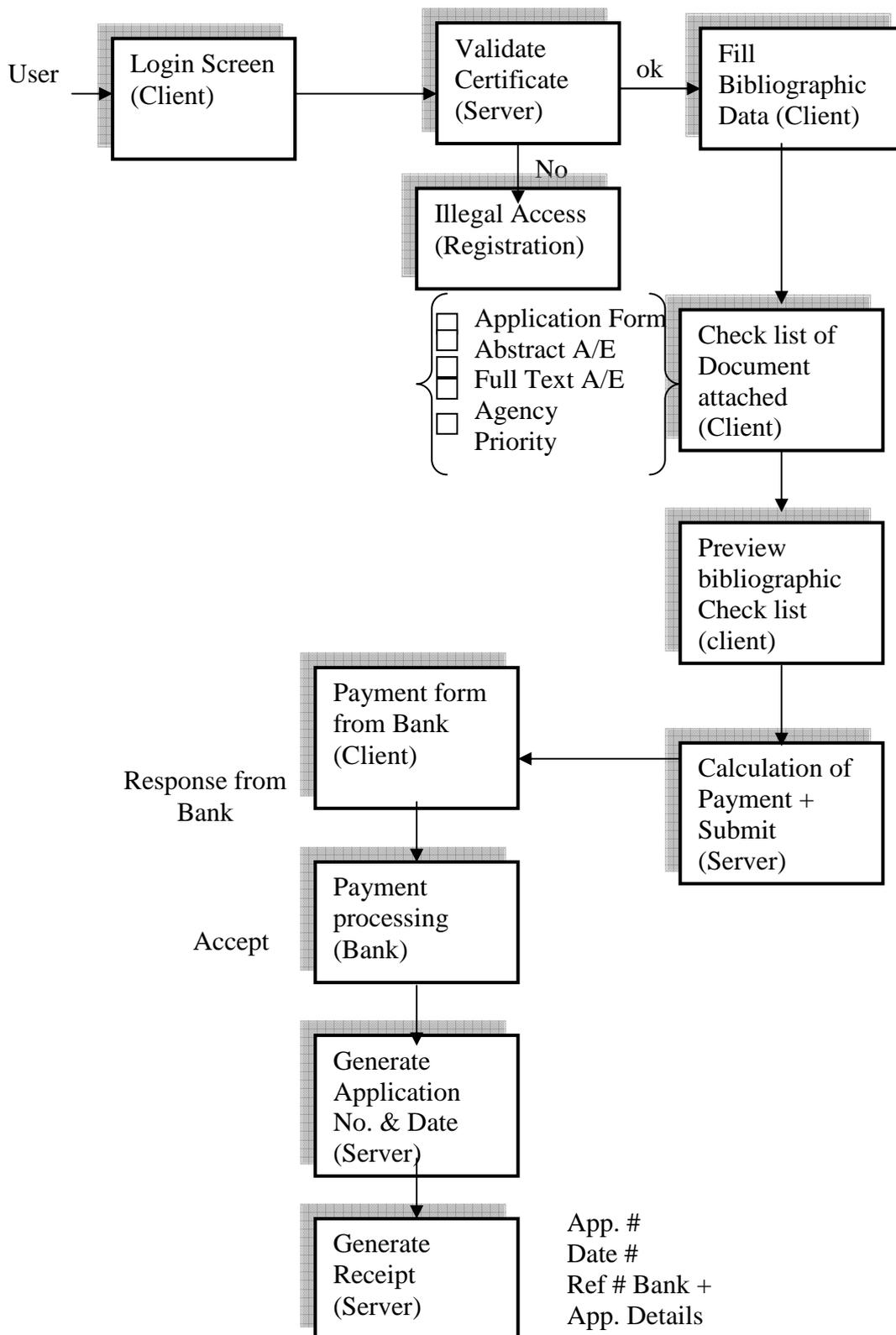
2. Workflow for Registration system



3. Workflow for Update Existing Application

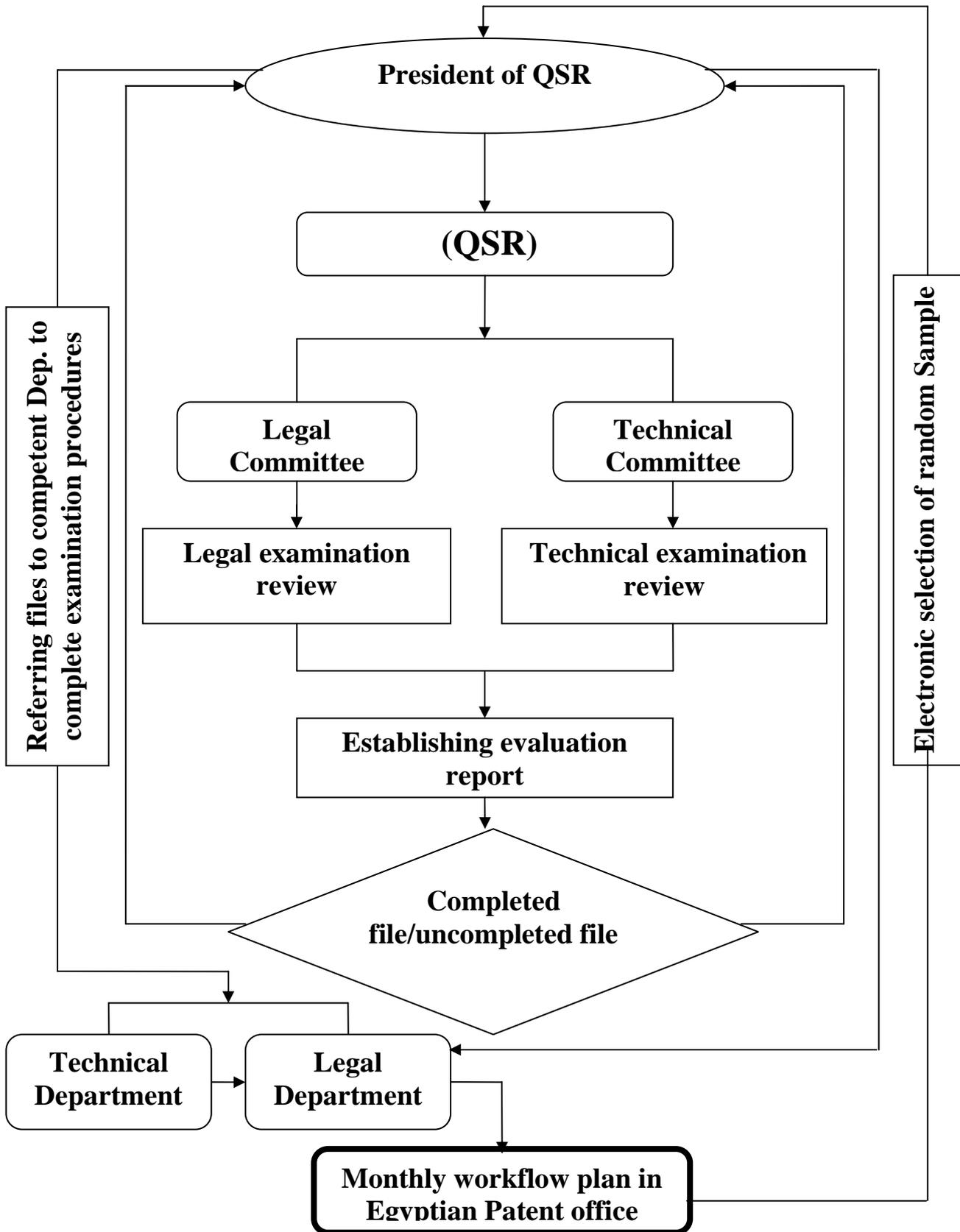


4. Workflow for New Application system



[Annex VII follows]

ANNEX VII
QUALITY SAMPLING REVIEW COMMITTEE (QSR) FLOW CHART



APPENDIX III

DRAFT AGREEMENT

between the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology
and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization

in relation to the functioning of the Egyptian Patent Office
as an International Searching Authority
and International Preliminary Examining Authority
under the Patent Cooperation Treaty

Preamble

The Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization,

Considering that the PCT Assembly, having heard the advice of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation, has appointed the Egyptian Patent Office as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and approved this Agreement in accordance with Articles 16(3) and 32(3),

Hereby agree as follows:

Article 1

Terms and Expressions

- (1) For the purposes of this Agreement:
 - (a) “Treaty” means the Patent Cooperation Treaty;
 - (b) “Regulations” means the Regulations under the Treaty;
 - (c) “Administrative Instructions” means the Administrative Instructions under the Treaty;
 - (d) “Article” (except where a specific reference is made to an Article of this Agreement) means an Article of the Treaty;
 - (e) “Rule” means a Rule of the Regulations;
 - (f) “Contracting State” means a State party to the Treaty;
 - (g) “the Authority” means the Egyptian Patent Office;
 - (h) “the International Bureau” means the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

(2) All other terms and expressions used in this Agreement which are also used in the Treaty, the Regulations or the Administrative Instructions have, for the purposes of this Agreement, the same meaning as in the Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions.

Article 2
Basic Obligations

(1) The Authority shall carry out international search and international preliminary examination in accordance with, and perform such other functions of an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority as are provided under, the Treaty, the Regulations, the Administrative Instructions and this Agreement.

(2) In carrying out international search and international preliminary examination, the Authority shall apply and observe all the common rules of international search and of international preliminary examination and, in particular, shall be guided by the PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines.

(3) The Authority shall maintain a quality management system in compliance with the requirements set out in the PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines.

(4) The Authority and the International Bureau shall, having regard to their respective functions under the Treaty, the Regulations, the Administrative Instructions and this Agreement, render, to the extent considered to be appropriate by both the Authority and the International Bureau, mutual assistance in the performance of their functions thereunder.

Article 3
Competence of Authority

(1) The Authority shall act as International Searching Authority for any international application filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, any Contracting State specified in Annex A to this Agreement, provided that the receiving Office specifies the Authority for that purpose, that such application, or a translation thereof furnished for the purposes of international search, is in the language or one of the languages specified in Annex A to this Agreement and, where applicable, that the Authority has been chosen by the applicant.

(2) The Authority shall act as International Preliminary Examining Authority for any international application filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, any Contracting State specified in Annex A to this Agreement, provided that the receiving Office specifies the Authority for that purpose, that such application, or a translation thereof furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination, is in the language or one of the languages specified in Annex A to this Agreement and, where applicable, that the Authority has been chosen by the applicant and that any other requirements regarding such application as specified in Annex A to this Agreement have been met.

(3) Where an international application is filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office under Rule 19.1(a)(iii), paragraphs (1) and (2) apply as if that application had been filed with a receiving Office which would have been competent under Rule 19.1(a)(i) or (ii), (b) or (c) or Rule 19.2(i).

Article 4
Subject Matter Not Required to Be Searched or Examined

The Authority shall not be obliged to search, by virtue of Article 17(2)(a)(i), or examine, by virtue of Article 34(4)(a)(i), any international application to the extent that it considers that such application relates to subject matter set forth in Rule 39.1 or 67.1, as the case may be, with the exception of the subject matter specified in Annex B to this Agreement.

Article 5
Fees and Charges

(1) A schedule of all fees of the Authority, and all other charges which the Authority is entitled to make, in relation to its functions as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority, is set out in Annex C to this Agreement.

(2) The Authority shall, under the conditions and to the extent set out in Annex C to this Agreement:

(i) refund the whole or part of the search fee paid, or waive or reduce the search fee, where the international search report can be wholly or partly based on the results of an earlier search (Rules 16.3 and 41.1);

(ii) refund the search fee where the international application is withdrawn or considered withdrawn before the start of the international search.

(3) The Authority shall, under the conditions and to the extent set out in Annex C to this Agreement, refund the whole or part of the preliminary examination fee paid where the demand is considered as if it had not been submitted (Rule 58.3) or where the demand or the international application is withdrawn by the applicant before the start of the international preliminary examination.

Article 6
Classification

For the purposes of Rules 43.3(a) and 70.5(b), the Authority shall indicate solely the International Patent Classification.

Article 7
Languages of Correspondence Used by the Authority

For the purposes of correspondence, including forms, other than with the International Bureau, the Authority shall use the language or one of the languages indicated, having regard to the language or languages indicated in Annex A and to the language or languages whose use is authorized by the Authority under Rule 92.2(b), in Annex D.

Article 8
International-Type Search

The Authority shall carry out international-type searches to the extent decided by it.

Article 9
Entry into Force

This Agreement shall enter into force on a date to be notified to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization by the Authority, that date being at least one month later than the date on which the notification is made.

Article 10
Duration and Renewability

This Agreement shall remain in force until December 31, 2017. The parties to this Agreement shall, no later than July 2016, start negotiations for its renewal.

Article 11
Amendment

(1) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) and (3), amendments may, subject to approval by the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union, be made to this Agreement by agreement between the parties hereto; they shall take effect on the date agreed upon by them.

(2) Without prejudice to paragraph (3), amendments may be made to the Annexes to this Agreement by agreement between the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Authority; they shall take effect on the date agreed upon by them.

(3) The Authority may, by a notification to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization:

(i) add to the indications of States and languages contained in Annex A to this Agreement;

(ii) amend the schedule of fees and charges contained in Annex C to this Agreement;

(iii) amend the indications of languages of correspondence contained in Annex D to this Agreement.

(4) Any amendment notified under paragraph (3) shall take effect on the date specified in the notification, provided that, for any increase of fees or charges contained in Annex C, that date is at least one month later than the date on which the notification is received by the International Bureau.

Article 12
Termination

(1) This Agreement shall terminate before December 31, 2017:

(i) if the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology gives the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization written notice to terminate this Agreement; or

(ii) if the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization gives the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology written notice to terminate this Agreement.

(2) The termination of this Agreement under paragraph (1) shall take effect one year after receipt of the notice by the other party, unless a longer period is specified in such notice or unless both parties agree on a shorter period.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have executed this Agreement.

Done at [city], this [date], in two originals in the Arabic and English languages, each text being equally authentic.

For the Egyptian Academy of Scientific
Research and Technology by:

For the International Bureau by:

...

...

Annex A
States and Languages

Under Article 3 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies:

- (i) the following States for which it will act:
Any African, Asian and/or Arab Contracting State;
- (ii) the following languages which it will accept:
 - (a) Arabic or English for international applications filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for any member of the League of Arab States.
 - (b) Arabic for international applications filed with any other receiving Office.

Annex B
Subject Matter Not Excluded from Search or Examination

The subject matter set forth in Rule 39.1 or 67.1 which, under Article 4 of the Agreement, is not excluded from search or examination, is the following:

Subject matter which is searched or examined in Egyptian national applications.

Annex C
Fees and Charges

Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges

<i>Kind of fee or charge</i>	<i>Amount</i> <i>(Egyptian pounds)</i>
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	...
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	...
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	...
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	...
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	[amount as set out in Rule 58bis]
Protest fee (Rules 40.2(e) and 68.3(e))	...
Late furnishing fee (Rule 13ter.1(c) and 13ter.2)	...
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b) and 94.2), per page	...

Part II. Conditions for and Extent of Refunds or Reductions of Fees

(1) Any amount paid by mistake, without cause, or in excess of the amount due, for fees indicated in Part I shall be refunded.

(2) Where the international application is withdrawn or considered withdrawn, under Article 14(1), (3) or (4), before the start of the international search, the amount of the search fee paid shall be fully refunded.

(3) Where the Authority benefits from an earlier search taken into account in accordance with Rule 4.12, [50%] of the search fee paid shall be refunded [upon request by the applicant].

(4) In the cases provided for under Rule 58.3, the amount of the preliminary examination fee paid shall be fully refunded.

(5) Where the international application or the demand is withdrawn before the start of the international preliminary examination, the amount of the preliminary examination fee paid shall be fully refunded.

Annex D
Languages of Correspondence

Under Article 7 of the Agreement, the Authority specifies the following languages:

Arabic, English.

[End of Appendix III and of document]