

WIPO



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION
(PCT UNION)

PCT COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Eighth Session
Geneva, September 16 to 18, 1985

REPORT

adopted by the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation

INTRODUCTION

1. The PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") held its eighth session in Geneva from September 16 to 18, 1985. Following the decision establishing the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information, the session of the Committee was held jointly with the ninth session of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information (hereinafter referred to as "the Permanent Committee").
2. The following members of the Committee were represented: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Soviet Union, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, European Patent Office (EPO) (17). Canada, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, and Spain (4) were represented by observers. The Commission of the European Communities, the International Patent Documentation Center (INPADOC), the Patent Documentation Group (PDG) and the publishers of the journal 'World Patent Information' were also represented by observers. The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.
3. Mr. L.E. Kostikov, Deputy Director General, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director General of WIPO.
4. The session was presided over by the Chairman of the Permanent Committee, Mr. E. Caussignac (Switzerland). Mr. P. Higham, Head, Patent Information Section, Patent Information and Classification Division, WIPO, acted as Secretary of the session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Committee unanimously adopted the agenda which is attached as Annex II to this report.

PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION: PATENTS

Sorted Collections of Patent Documents According to PCT Rule 34.1(c)(vi)
(Project P 41)

6. The Committee noted the report given in Annex 20 to project file P 41 that updated inventories of patent documents published by Australia, Austria and Canada according to PCT Rule 34.1(c)(vi) had been produced and were available from the International Bureau at the price of 50 Swiss francs (COM microfiche) or 65 Swiss francs (paper print-out). In reply to a question from the representative of Germany (Federal Republic of), the International Bureau stated that copies of the said inventories could also be made available on magnetic tape at cost, but that it could not for the moment give the price.

7. The representative of Austria stated that his office would continue to provide information to update the said inventories on magnetic tape. The representative of Australia stated that his office would shortly be sending to the International Bureau information covering the period 1983 to June 1985, recorded on magnetic tape and including symbols of the International Patent Classification (IPC), so as to update the information earlier provided on magnetic tape and covering the period 1970 to 1982. Further updating material would then be provided in January, 1986, and thereafter at yearly intervals. The International Bureau welcomed those statements and said that it would reissue the updated inventory of patent documents published by Australia according to PCT Rule 34.1(c)(vi) early next year to include IPC symbols for all documents published since 1970.

8. The Committee, recognizing the usefulness of the said inventories as an authoritative listing of patent documents supplied by the three offices, unanimously agreed to request the International Bureau to continue the production of updated inventories of patent documents issued according to the said Rule on a yearly basis. Finally, the Committee agreed that this project was terminated and requested the International Bureau to report about future activities on this subject, on an annual basis, to the Permanent Committee.

Inventories of English-Language Abstracts of Patent Documents According to PCT Rule 34.1(e) (Project P 42)

9. The Committee noted an oral report given by the International Bureau that negotiations with Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) for the delivery of updates of CAS bibliographic material to offices of member countries of the PCT Union which are not PCT International Searching Authorities (PCT/ISAs) had reached an advanced stage and that a positive decision on this question was likely to be taken in the very near future. It was to be expected that the International Bureau would shortly receive from CAS copies of contracts which CAS would insist upon concluding between itself and WIPO and between itself and any member of the Committee wishing to receive copies of the said inventories.

10. The Committee noted that statement by the International Bureau and expressed the hope that the decision outstanding from CAS since its last session would be favorable to a continuation of the inclusion of CAS information in the said inventories. The Committee requested the International Bureau to circulate to members of the Committee copies of the said contracts, when received, and to request members of the Committee to endorse the terms of the said contracts as soon as possible.

11. The Committee agreed that if no positive decision had been received from CAS by the end of 1985 concerning the negotiations referred to in paragraph 9 above, then the International Bureau should proceed to establish the said inventories without the inclusion of bibliographic information concerning the English-language abstracts of Japanese and Soviet Union patent documents published by CAS and should proceed according to the decisions taken by the Committee at its last session, namely:

(a) to obtain from Derwent Publications Ltd and from the Japan Patent Information Organization (JAPIO) quotations for the supply of information to update to the end of 1985, and thereafter on a regular basis, the information already available to the International Bureau;

(b) to ascertain from Derwent Publications Ltd. and from JAPIO whether they would be prepared to extend their agreements with WIPO in respect of the supply of information to the offices of member countries of the PCT Union which are not PCT/ISAs and to regional industrial property offices;

(c) to issue, as soon as possible in 1986, a Circular Letter, containing cost estimates, to the offices of the member countries of the PCT Union and to the EPO and other regional industrial property offices, asking for commitments to purchase copies of the said inventories, it being made clear to offices which are not PCT/ISAs that the availability of the said inventories is dependent upon the permission of Derwent Publications Ltd. and JAPIO to provide information to such offices.

PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION: "NON-PATENT" LITERATURE

List of Periodicals Established Under PCT Rule 34.1.b(iii)

12. The Committee noted and approved the list of periodicals established under PCT Rule 34.1(b)(iii) as updated by the International Bureau in response to information so far received from offices concerning changes in titles and publication details of certain of the periodicals given on the said list. The Committee requested the International Bureau to publish the said revised list in the PCT Gazette in early 1986 and urged those offices that had not yet sent correcting information to the International Bureau to do so no later than the end of October, 1985.

POSSIBILITY TO CHANGE THE FORMAT OF PCT PAMPHLETS

13. Following the request made at the twelfth session of the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) (hereinafter referred to as "the Assembly"), which took place in Geneva from September 24 to 28, 1984, the Committee considered possible suggested changes, aimed at making savings in the operations under the PCT, of the format of the PCT pamphlets (other than

those which are used for each application's communication to the designated offices under Article 20 of the PCT and which would continue to have the same format as they now have).

14. Following a detailed discussion of the technical merits of the suggestions during which it was acknowledged that all possible savings in the administration of the PCT should receive careful consideration, the Committee agreed that the following advice should be communicated to the Assembly:

- concerning the suggestion that all pages of the pamphlet--other than the front page (which would continue to have the same format as it now has) and the pages containing drawings--would contain two pages of the international application, with a 50% reduction in size: the effect of the introduction of the suggested format would greatly reduce the ease with which the document could be read, particularly when the document was present in a search file or when the contents of the document were recorded on a microfilm. It was also noted that a reduction in the size of characters would impair legibility. The Committee noted that no other patent documents forming part of the PCT Minimum Documentation had the suggested format. The Committee accordingly agreed that the disadvantages resulting from the adoption of the proposed suggestion were decisive and agreed to advise the Assembly that the suggestion should not be further pursued;
- concerning the suggestion that the drawings would be printed recto-verso (instead of recto only): the International Bureau explained that that suggestion was not worth pursuing if the suggestion discussed above were not to be adopted. The Committee therefore agreed to recommend that the suggestion concerning the drawings should not be further pursued;
- concerning the suggestion that each page would no longer be marked with the international publication number and would show the international application number as marked by the receiving office (presently, the International Bureau prints on the top of each page the international publication number and the international application number after having deleted the international application number as marked by the receiving office): the Committee did not reach a consensus on the merits of the suggestion. Consequently, the Committee agreed not to make a recommendation in respect of that third suggestion. The International Bureau stated that it would study possible alternative solutions which would allow savings to be made.

IPC INDEXING CODES

15. Discussion was based on document PCT/CTC/VIII/3, setting forth, in paragraph 4, a proposal by the PCPI Working Group on Planning for the "Guidelines for International Search to be Carried Out under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)" (see document PCT/INT/5, Chapter V, paragraph 1.1) to contain a recommendation that the PCT/ISAs allot the non-obligatory classification symbols and indexing codes of the IPC to the international applications they classified.

16. The Committee agreed that it would be preferable to have the above-mentioned applications classified and indexed accordingly--resulting in the PCT pamphlets having also the said symbols and codes printed thereon. It felt that the question of introducing a recommendation to that effect in the said Guidelines should be considered in the framework of the planned revision of the Guidelines.

17. This report was unanimously adopted by the Committee at its closing meeting on September 18, 1985.

[Annexes follow]

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

(in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States)/
(dans l'ordre alphabétique anglais des noms des Etats)

I. MEMBER STATES/ETATS MEMBRES

AUSTRALIA/AUSTRALIE

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Mr. J. FICHTE, Vice President, Austrian Patent Office, Vienna

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Mr. A. WITTMANN, Head, Documentation and Information Department, German Patent Office, Munich

Mr. M. VÖGTEL, Head, Documentation Division, German Patent Office, Munich

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Mr. D. DOGGER, Assistant Librarian, Patent Office, Rijswijk (ZH)

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Mr. Jae Uk CHAE, Commercial Attaché, Permanent Mission of Korea, Geneva

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Mrs. T. NEMANOVA, Head Section, All-Union Institute State Patent Examination, USSR State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries, Moscow

SWEDEN/SUEDE

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M. E. CAUSSIGNAC, Président des Chambres de recours, Office fédéral de la propriété intellectuelle, Berne

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Mr. G.K. LINDSEY, Superintending Examiner, The Patent Office, London

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- Mr. W.S. LAWSON, Administrator for Documentation, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington D.C.
- Mr. T. LOMONT, Director, Office of International Patent Classification, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington D.C.

II. MEMBER ORGANIZATION/ORGANISATION MEMBRE

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- M. A. VANDECASTEELE, Directeur principal, Classification, Documentation, OEB, Direction générale 1, Rijswijk (ZH), Pays-Bas
- M. R. BARÉ, Directeur, Classification, Documentation, OEB, Direction générale 1, Rijswijk (ZH), Pays-Bas

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- Mr. P. TREPANIER, Senior Project Officer, Directorate of Intellectual Property, Bureau of Corporate Affairs, Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Hull

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- Mr. M. KOPČA, Vice President, Office for Inventions and Discoveries, Prague
- Mrs. M. FORTOVÁ, Vice Director, Centre of Information on Inventions, Office for Inventions and Discoveries, Prague

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- Mr. H. KONRAD, Scientific Counsellor, Office for Inventions and Patents, Berlin
- Mr. K-P. WITTIG, Scientific Counsellor, Office for Inventions and Patents, Berlin

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- Sr. J-D. VILA ROBERT, Jefe Clasificación de Patentes y Modelos, Registro de la Propiedad Industrial, Madrid

IV. OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS/ORGANISATIONS OBSERVATRICES

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INTERNATIONAL PATENT DOCUMENTATION CENTER (INPADOC)

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WORLD PATENT INFORMATION (WPI)

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V. OFFICERS/BUREAU

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Second Vice-Chairman/ Deuxième vice-président:	Mr. B. ROZOV, Soviet Union
Secretary/Secrétaire:	Mr. P. HIGHAM, WIPO

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ANNEX II

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