

Meeting of International Authorities Under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Twenty-Fourth Session
Reykjavík, February 8 to 10, 2017

REPORT ON THE RECOMMENDATION FOR AN AUTHORITY FILE OF PATENT DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY A NATIONAL OR REGIONAL PATENT OFFICE TO ENABLE OTHER PATENT OFFICES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO ASSESS THE COMPLETENESS OF THEIR COLLECTIONS OF PUBLISHED PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document prepared by the European Patent Office

BACKGROUND

1. The Task Force on the Authority file was created by the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS), at its reconvened fourth session of CWS (CWS/4BIS) in March 2016, to deal with Task No. 51 (see paragraph 122 (e) of document CWS/4BIS/16):

“Prepare a recommendation for an authority file of patent documents issued by a national or regional patent office to enable other patent offices and other interested parties to assess the completeness of their collections of published patent documents.”

2. The Task Force was also requested:

“to present a proposal for a new WIPO standard or the revision of existing WIPO Standard(s) for consideration and approval by the CWS at its next session to be held in 2017”

3. The European Patent Office (EPO) was assigned the role of Task Force Leader and has since then established the objectives and scope of the new WIPO recommendation and held one round of discussions on the Task Force’s e-forum.

PROGRESS REPORT

4. The Task Force started operating in June 2016 on the basis of a draft prepared by the EPO. Many Offices participated in the process and posted useful comments on WIPO's related wiki.
5. The Task Force established the objectives and scope of the new WIPO recommendation for an Authority File, held a meeting in person and a WebEx while carrying the first round of discussions.

ROADMAP

6. Complete the current draft Recommendation for an authority file of patent documents and submit it to the fifth session of the CWS for consideration and approval.

7. The Meeting is invited to note the contents of the present document.

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