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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Fifth Session

Geneva, October 28 to November 3, 1975

PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIST OF
TECHNICAL NON-PATENT LITERATURE OBTAINABLE FREELY OR ON VERY
FAVORABLE CONDITIONS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report prepared by the International Bureau

Background

1. At its fourth session, held in Geneva from November 13 to 19, 1974, the "PCT Interim Committee for Technical Assistance" (hereinafter referred to as "the Interim Committee") decided to defer consideration of the "establishment of a list of technical non-patent literature that can be obtained freely, or on very favorable conditions, by developing countries, so as to enable them to start a technical library in fields of their interest" until its 1975 session.
2. The International Bureau was requested to study this matter further, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication of any similar efforts which might already have been undertaken by organizations in the framework of the United Nations dealing with problems relating to the transfer of technology to developing countries.

Further studies of the International Bureau

3. In consultation with organizations in the framework of the United Nations, the International Bureau has found valuable information as to periodicals relating to various technical fields. However, these sources did not yield any significant number of technical periodicals in addition to the periodicals already identified previously by the International Bureau, which can be obtained free of charge (see below). Furthermore, no evidence has been discovered of any similar effort (i.e., establishing a list of freely available technical periodicals) having been undertaken by organizations in the framework of the United Nations dealing with problems related to the transfer of technology to developing countries.

4. From the work of the International Bureau in connection with the establishment of the PCT minimum list of non-patent literature, it became apparent that several patent Offices, and the International Patent Institute (IIB) receive regularly technical periodicals of the kind contemplated, which are published by industrial organizations all over the world.

5. Despite the fact that there is a certain element of advertisement inherent in these periodicals which would indicate an interest of the firm concerned in as large a distribution as possible, not all of them are distributed freely, this, in particular, in view of the cost of publication and distribution involved.

6. Several of the periodicals originating from industrial organizations have been recognized by the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation as having such an important patent-related technical content that they were included in the PCT minimum list of non-patent literature after a screening process of over three years. Most of these periodicals may be obtained freely.

7. The International Bureau has established a list of 55 technical periodicals that can be obtained freely. This list is reproduced as the Annex to this document. In this list, there are nine periodicals which are part of the PCT minimum list of non-patent literature.

8. With the cooperation of industrial and professional technical associations, the present list could be expanded easily in order to broaden both the technical field coverage, as well as the number of languages of publication. Thereby, the mandate given in PCT Article 50(3) ("The information services shall be operated in a way particularly facilitating the acquisition by Contracting States which are developing countries of technical knowledge and technology, including available published know-how") could be fulfilled in a satisfactory and useful way for all developing countries, at no or low cost to the latter and at no significant extra cost to the International Bureau aside from the printing of such a list at intervals. Tentative estimations place the total number of such periodicals at between 500 and 1,000. The major work would lie with the organizations supplying the information, to ascertain which technical publications in their countries, or geographical areas, could be distributed freely, or on very favorable conditions, to developing countries.

9. The work of the International Bureau would, of course, be carried out with due consideration of the need to avoid duplication with any similar effort which might have been or might be undertaken by organizations in the framework of the United Nations dealing with problems related to the transfer of technology to developing countries.

10. *The Interim Committee is invited to take cognizance of this report, to express its opinion on the usefulness of a list of technical periodicals as contemplated and to take a decision on whether or not it wants to include in its working program for 1976 the establishment of a list of technical periodicals that can be obtained freely by developing countries.*

[Annex follows]

Preliminary list of technical periodicals available free of charge
or on very favorable conditions to developing countriesSerial
number

1. ACEC Review
2. Allis Chalmers Engineering Review
- 3* ASEA Journal
4. ASEA Research (Special Issue)
- 5* Bell Laboratories Record
- 6* The Bell System Technical Journal
7. Bosch Technische Berichte
- 8* Brown Boveri Review
9. Bulletin du Ciment
10. Bulletin Technique Vevey
11. Charmilles 1921 -1971
12. Chez Sprecher
- 13* CIBA-Geigy Review
14. Ericsson Review
15. Ericsson Technics
16. Escher Wyss News
17. FUJI Electric Journal
18. FUJI Electric Review
19. FUJITSU Scientific & Technical Journal (& Index)
20. The Furukawa Electric Review
21. GF Information KDM (George Fischer Limited)
22. Goldschmidt informiert...
23. Hasler Mitteilung
24. Hewlett-Packard Journal
25. Honeywell Computer Journal
26. IBM -Bulletin
27. -Computing Report
- 28* -Journal of Research and Development
29. -Nachrichten
30. -Systems Journal
- 31* -Technical Disclosure Bulletin
32. Information (Schweizer Bürofachschrift)
33. Journal of the Institute of Electronics and Communication Engineers of Japan
34. Lucas Engineering Review
35. M.A.N. -Forschen, Planen, Bauen
36. Mitsubishi Electric Engineer
37. Mitsui Technical Review
38. NHK Laboratories Note
39. NHK Technical Journal
40. NHK Technical Monograph
- 41* Philips-Research Reports
- 42* -Technical Review
43. -Telecommunication Review
44. La Recherche
45. La Revue de Danfoss
46. La Revue Polytechnique
47. Siemens-Albis Berichte
48. .Sika-Technik
49. Skoda Revue
50. Sperry Technology
51. Sulzer Technical Review
52. Technische Information Grundig
53. Technische Mitteilungen AEG-Telefunken
54. Technische Mitteilungen KRUPP
55. The Western Electric Engineer.

*Periodicals included in the PCT minimum list of non-patent literature (see document PCT/TCO/V/2-Annex)

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