

WIPO



PCT/TAS/VII/3

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: February 20, 1978

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Seventh Session
Geneva, March 13 to 17, 1978

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF COLLECTIONS OF
PATENT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF PCT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS FOR
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

prepared by the International Bureau

Background

1. The PCT Interim Committee for Technical Assistance (hereinafter referred to as “the Interim Committee”), at its sixth session, held in Geneva from November 2 to 8, 1976, recommended that the International Bureau actively continue its efforts towards locating collections of patent documents available at present or expected to become available in the foreseeable future in national industrial property offices, libraries, research centers and industrial enterprises of the more developed countries, and of channeling these collections to governmental institutions, mainly industrial property offices and documentation centers, in developing countries. In this way, the technical information contained in patent document collections could be expected to become more easily accessible to developing countries on a national or regional basis. This would not only facilitate the implementation of the PCT in or for those countries, but would, in general, contribute to the transfer of technology to, and to the development of local industries in, developing countries.

Contents of This Document

2. This document reports on developments during the period from November 1976 to January 15, 1978.

Progress in Disposing of Offered Collections of Patent Documents

3. The Algerian Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property (INAPI) informed the International Bureau of its interest in receiving:

(a) the patent document collection of the Federal Republic of Germany referred to in document PCT/TAS/VI/11, paragraph 15, if and when it becomes available at the German Patent Office;

(b) the Belgian patent document collection offered by the Norwegian Patent Office (document PCT/TAS/VI/4, paragraph 13(i), and additionally patents Nos. 731,101 to 760,100);

(c) the Canadian patent document collection offered by the Netherlands Patent Office in November 1977, comprising:

patents Nos. 462,201 to 924,000 (bound)

patents Nos. 924,001 to 955,900 (unbound);

(d) the German Democratic Republic patent document collection offered by the Netherlands Patent Office in November 1977, comprising patents Nos. 26,001 to 85,000 (bound).

4. The International Bureau has informed the Patent Offices concerned and at the time of this report procedures for transportation of patent documents to Algeria are under way at the Norwegian and the Netherlands Patent Offices. The patent collection under 3(a), above, has not yet become available.

5. The Brazilian National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) informed the International Bureau of its interest in receiving:

(a) the patent document part-collection of the Federal Republic of Germany in the specialized fields of fisheries and shipbuilding (approximately 7,000 documents) of the German Patent Office documentation center in Bremerhaven;

(b) the United Kingdom patent specifications from 1929 to 1967, in the form of 35 mm microfilm rolls, offered by the State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries of the USSR.

6. The International Bureau has informed the Patent Offices concerned and at the time of this report the document collection from the German Patent Office has arrived in Brazil, and the document collection from the Soviet Union is being prepared for transportation.

Patent Documents in the Petroleum and Petrochemical Industry

7. A collection on 35 mm microfilm of approximately 145,000 patents is also available, the main items being from the following countries:

United States of America	38,000
France	20,000
Germany (Federal Republic of)	18,000
Netherlands	18,000
United Kingdom	14,000

An index of the patent locations on the different reels facilitates search.

Delivery is against cost of preparation of copies of the approximately 900 reels of microfilm. This collection was offered to the International Bureau by the Shell International Research Maatschappij B.V., of the Netherlands, and negotiations are progressing well. The microfilms are expected to be at the disposal of the International Bureau early in 1978.

Further Action by the International Bureau

8. Since the work began in 1974 of obtaining patent document collections made available from any source and transmitting them to developing countries, the total number of documents thus transmitted, including those in the process of being transmitted at present, is over five million. Interest in, and understanding of the value of the information content of, patent documentation is increasing in developing countries. However, in order to be able to profit from offers of patent collections, developing countries should continue to indicate to WIPO their interest in such collections and, where a collection is offered for a limited period, should request delivery within the time limits during which that collection is kept available, since storage problems on the donor's side impose financial and administrative constraints that make it impossible to store the patent collections offered beyond the indicated time limits. Furthermore, in order to enable WIPO to continue working towards obtaining additional collections of patent documents and transmitting collections to developing

countries, continued support for these efforts is needed on the part of developed countries, in particular the patent offices and documentation centers in highly industrialized countries and industrial organizations. It is hoped that those having patent collections which might become available in the future will continue to offer such collections to WIPO and will, as far as is feasible, give WIPO early warning to ensure that there is sufficient time for disposing of the material offered.

9. *The Interim Committee is requested:*
- (i) to take note of this report,*
 - (ii) to ask for offers and requests concerning patent document collections to be made during the present session,*
 - (iii) to ask the International Bureau to continue its efforts to solicit offers and satisfy requests for patent document collections for the purposes of technical assistance to developing countries.*

[End of document]