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INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

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SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE PCT INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

prepared by the International Bureau

This document contains a summary report on the technical activities undertaken by the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation. It is intended for transmittal, after approval or modification by that Committee, to the first session of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information (PCPI) in order to assist the latter in its planning.

Activity	Results achieved	References to previous documents and PCT/TCO reports
1. <u>PCT Minimum Documentation "Patents"</u> (i) Patent documents according to PCT Rule 34.1.(c)(i) to (v) and PCT Rule 34.1.(e) (a) Inventory of patent documents issued since January 1, 1920 (b) Establishment of the state of completeness of the search files of the Prospective International Searching Authorities (ISA's)	Inventory completed covering period from January 1, 1920, to December 31, 1976 Summary completed covering period January 1, 1920, to December 31, 1976	PCT/TCO/VII/3, Annex Q PCT/TCO/VII/3, Annex Q PCT/TCO/VII/14, paragraphs 11 to 15
(ii) Patent documents according to PCT Rule 34.1.(c)(vi) (documents other than (i) above in English, French or German, in which no priority is claimed, <u>sorted</u> by interested countries)	Inventory of sorted collections of documents of Australia, Austria and Canada have been established (starting from July 2, 1970)	PCT/TCO/VI/6 PCT/TCO/VI/11 PCT/TCO/VI/16, paragraphs 43 to 51
(iii) Publication date of patent documents pertaining to the PCT Minimum Documentation	A survey of the different types of publication dates indicated on patent documents was made	PCT/TCO/VI/5 PCT/TCO/VI/16, paragraphs 35 to 42
(iv) PCT Minimum Documentation 1920 cut-off date	A study was made of the "age" of patent documents cited by prospective ISA's in the course of ascertaining prior art	PCT/TCO/VI/10 PCT/TCO/VI/12 PCT/TCO/VI/16, paragraphs 87 and 88
(v) English-language abstracts of patent documents according to PCT Rule 34.1.(e)	(i) the general availability of such abstracts, since 1962, was established (ii) work on a machine-readable inventory of such abstracts was started	PCT/TCO/VI/16, paragraphs 52 to 70 PCT/TCO/VII/7 and Supplement PCT/TCO/VII/12 PCT/TCO/VII/14, paragraphs 16 to 29

Activity	Results achieved	References to previous documents and PCT/TCO reports
(vi) Abstracting services for patent documents	A survey was made of existing abstracting services which publish abstracts of patent documents in English, French, German, Japanese and Russian (including also Official Gazettes)	PCT/TCO/SS/III/5
(vii) Translation services for patent documents	Same survey as under (vi) was made	PCT/TCO/SS/III/6
2. <u>PCT Minimum Documentation "Non-patent Literature"</u> (i) Minimum list of non-patent literature according to PCT Rule 34.1. (b) (iii) (ii) PAL (Patent Associated Literature) System	A list of 169 technical journals was established, which is to be considered the "minimum list" In cooperation with the Institution of Electrical Engineers, London, the PAL System has been developed. the latest proposals of INSPEC (PAL System Mark II) have been submitted last November to the PCT countries	PCT/INT/1 PCT/TCO/VI/16, paragraphs 10 to 13 PCT/TCO/VII/10 PCT/TCO/VII/14, paragraphs 30 to 35
3. <u>Quality of search under the PCT</u> (i) Uniformity of search techniques (ii) Isolated searches (iii) Test searches	A survey on current search standards of prospective ISA's has been prepared Reports on the performance of "isolated" searches were submitted and studied Pilot searches were proposed to be performed by prospective ISA's in order to test their preparedness for the PCT search; the test was not implemented	PCT/TCO/IV/10 PCT/TCO/IV/18, paragraphs 41 to 44 PCT/TCO/IV/9 PCT/TCO/IV/18, paragraphs 41 to 44 PCT/TCO/IV/11 PCT/TCO/IV/18, paragraphs 45 to 49

	Activity	Results achieved	References to previous documents and PCT/TCO reports
	(iv) Guidelines for International Search	Guidelines for International Search to be carried out under the PCT were established	PCT/INT/5 PCT/TCO/VII/14, paragraphs 35 to 46
	(v) Questions of "Patent Families"	A decision was made regarding the inclusion of members of patent families in the search files, and on the citation of such members in PCT search reports	PCT/TCO/V/9 PCT/TCO/V/20, paragraphs 48 to 57
4.	<u>Preparation of Abstracts</u>	Guidelines for the preparation of abstracts for PCT applications were approved. These Guidelines are the ones elaborated by ICIREPAT	PCT/TCO/V/10 PCT/TCO/V/15 PCT/TCO/V/20, paragraphs 58 to 60 ICIREPAT Manual, pages 3.12.0 to 3.12.15

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