



## **Implementation of WIPO Standard ST.26**

The Working Group noted documents related to the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.26 (see documents PCT/WG/15/3 and PCT/WG/15/9). Delegations looked forward to usability improvements in the WIPO Sequence software, and the implementation of sequence listing viewing features in PATENTSCOPE. The Working Group invited the Committee on WIPO Standards to assess the requirements for a new standard for priority documents, allowing for the exchange of sequence listings and other matter in their original formats.

## **Mixed-Language International Applications**

The Working Group generally supported a proposal by the European Patent Office to amend the PCT Regulations to deal with the issue of international applications filed containing more than one language where all languages are accepted by the receiving Office and International Searching Authority (see document PCT/WG/15/18). However, some details needed further discussion.

## **Formal Integration of the Patent Prosecution Highway into the PCT**

The Working Group noted previous efforts to formally integrate the Patent Prosecution Highway into the PCT (see document PCT/WG/15/16) and invited the IB to arrange an information sharing workshop at a future in-person session of the Working Group.

## **Filing Medium of International Applications and Related Documents**

There was broad interest in a proposal by Brazil to allow receiving Offices to require the filing of international applications and submission of subsequently filed documents only in electronic form (see document PCT/WG/15/13). However, delegations raised concerns over safeguards for applicants and consistency with the Patent Law Treaty, which requires Offices of Contracting Parties to accept filings on paper.

## **PCT Minimum Documentation**

There was support for the proposal to amend the PCT Regulations concerning the PCT minimum documentation (see documents PCT/WG/15/11 and PCT/WG/15/12). However, some delegations considered that implementation details in the draft associated Administrative Instructions needed to be finalized before the amended Rules could be adopted.

## **WIPO Fee Transfer Service**

Most delegations expressed support in principle for a proposal to make use of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service mandatory for fees collected by one Office for the benefit of another. There was also some support for offering “centralized payments” of fees to the IB on behalf of an Office, which would allow payments to be integrated into services delivered through ePCT (see document PCT/WG/15/10). The IB would prepare proposed changes to the Rules for mandatory use of the WIPO Fee Transfer Service for a future session of the Working Group and would explore offering centralized payments as a pilot to select Offices.

## Other Issues

The Working Group also considered the following:

- coordination of patent examiner training (see document PCT/WG/15/7);
- a repository of e-learning resources for the training of substantive patent examiners (see document PCT/WG/15/4);
- coordination of technical assistance under the PCT (see document PCT/WG/15/10);
- a status report of the IP5 PCT Collaborative Search and Examination pilot (see document PCT/WG/15/8);
- PCT online services (see document PCT/WG/15/15);
- the twenty-ninth session of the Meeting of the International Authorities under the PCT (see document PCT/WG/15/2).

## Summary and Documents

The Summary by the Chair (document PCT/WG/15/19) is available with the working documents on the WIPO website at:

[https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=72089](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=72089)

## PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation

The thirty-second session of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation was held in Geneva from 3 to 7 October 2022, together with the fifteenth session of the PCT Working Group. The Committee recommended to the PCT Assembly that the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property be appointed as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT.

Further information is available in the Summary by the Chair at:

[https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc\\_details.jsp?doc\\_id=587471](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=587471)

## European Patent Office as ISA: CNIPA/EPO Pilot extended until 30 November 2023

It is recalled that, on 1 December 2020, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) and the European Patent Office (EPO) began a pilot to allow PCT applicants who are nationals or residents of China to select the EPO, in addition to the CNIPA, as International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) for international applications filed with the CNIPA or the International Bureau as receiving Office.

The first phase of the pilot, which started on 1 December 2020 for a two-year period and which is due to end 30 November 2022 will be extended by one year, from 1 December 2022 until 30 November 2023.

The designation by the CNIPA of the EPO as ISA in the framework of the pilot is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the pilot will only be applicable to international applications filed in English;

(b) the pilot will apply to international applications filed with the CNIPA or with the International Bureau (IB), as receiving Office; and

(c) a maximum of 3,000 international applications will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis during the extended 12 months of the pilot.

The transitional period set at the beginning of the pilot, during which applicants filing their international applications with the CNIPA as receiving Office and choosing the EPO as ISA have to pay the international search fee directly with the EPO acting as ISA, will continue to apply.

The amount – payable in euros only – is indicated in PCT Fee Table I(b). The payment of the search fee will then initiate the process for the transmission of the search copy to ISA/EP. Applicants are invited to use the EPO's online credit card platform (<https://www.epo.org/fee-payment-service/en/login>) or, if they have an EPO deposit account, to use the EPO Online Filing (OLF) or the EPO case management system (CMS). It is not possible to pay the search fee by bank transfer or via the EPO's Online Fee Payment service.

For international applications filed with the IB as receiving Office, the search fee should be paid directly to the IB in euros, Swiss francs or US dollars. The equivalent amounts in each of those currencies are indicated in PCT Fee Table I(b).

For further detailed information, please refer to

- the list of Frequently Asked Questions on the EPO's website at:  
<https://www.epo.org/service-support/faq/own-file/cnipa-epo-pilot.html>
- the information published on the website of the CNIPA at:  
[https://english.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2022/9/30/art\\_1340\\_179068.html](https://english.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2022/9/30/art_1340_179068.html)
- the Joint Communiqué of the CNIPA and the EPO at:  
[https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2022/9/16/art\\_53\\_178765.html](https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2022/9/16/art_53_178765.html) and  
<https://www.epo.org/news-events/news/2022/20220916.html>

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (CN))

### **The Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism (Montenegro): Ceasing of Receiving Office Functions and Closure of National Route**

The Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism (Montenegro) has notified the International Bureau (IB) that, with effect from 1 October 2022, it has ceased to act as a receiving Office under the PCT. As from that date, it is therefore no longer possible to file PCT applications with that Office.

The Office has delegated its duties as receiving Office under the PCT to the European Patent Office (EPO), which will act as receiving Office in addition to the IB, for PCT applicants who are residents or nationals of Montenegro.

Furthermore, the Office has informed the IB that it has closed the national route for obtaining patent protection via the PCT for international applications filed on or after 1 October 2022. Applicants desiring protection in Montenegro will no longer be able to enter the national phase in that country. Since Montenegro became bound by the European Patent Convention (EPC)

on 1 October 2022, international applications filed on or after that date automatically include the designation of Montenegro for a European patent. Consequently, PCT applicants will only be able to seek protection in Montenegro by entering the regional phase before the European Patent Office. The list of States which are party to the EPC and which have closed the national route now includes Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, San Marino and Slovenia.

Moreover, the Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism (Montenegro) has provided details to the IB concerning restrictions in its national legislation which are applicable when filing international applications with other Offices, as follows: any international application where the applicant has Montenegrin nationality or has his/her residence or its seat in Montenegro, and which concerns an invention of significance for the defense and security of Montenegro, will be subject to compulsory filing with the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro and shall thus not be filed with the European Patent Office (EPO) nor the International Bureau.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annexes B1 (ME) and C (ME))

## **Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications**

### **Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) (Cabo Verde)**

The Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) (Cabo Verde), in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau (IB) under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d), that, with effect from 31 October 2022, it accepts international applications filed in electronic form using ePCT-Filing. The applicable electronic filing fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees are indicated in Fee Table I(a).

The notification containing the requirements and practices of the Office with regard to the filing of international applications in electronic form was published in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* on 29 September 2022, at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official\\_notices/index.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (CV))

### **Iraqi Patent Office (IQPO) begins receiving and processing international applications in electronic form**

The Iraqi Patent Office (IQPO), in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the IB under PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d), that, with effect from 4 September 2022, it accepts international applications filed in electronic form using ePCT-Filing. The applicable electronic filing fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees are indicated in Fee Table I(a).

The notification containing the requirements and practices of the Office with regard to the filing of international applications in electronic form was published in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* on 22 September 2022, at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official\\_notices/index.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (IQ))

## Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO) to begin receiving and processing international applications in electronic form – *corrigendum*

Please note that the date of effect from which the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO), in its capacity as receiving Office, accepts international applications filed in electronic form using ePCT-Filing is 22 August 2022, and not 15 August 2022, as was indicated in *PCT Newsletter* No. 07-08/2022.

Furthermore, the notification containing the requirements and practices of the Office with regard to the filing of international applications in electronic form was published in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* on 22 September 2022, and not 25 August 2022, at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official\\_notices/index.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (JM))

## Update of Electronic Filing Notifications by Receiving Offices

The following Offices have updated their e-filing notifications to take into account the change in the applicable format for the filing of sequence listings as from 1 July 2022 (from WIPO Standard ST.25 to ST.26):

- FI Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH)
- AP African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)
- TR Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent)

The corresponding changes were published in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* on 22 September and 6 October 2022 at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official\\_notices/officialnotices.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/officialnotices.pdf)

## Languages Accepted for Language-Dependent Free Text in Sequence Listings in accordance with PCT Rule 12.1(d)

It is recalled that amendments to PCT Rule 12.1(d) relating to language-dependent free text contained in the sequence listing part of the description of an international application entered into force on 1 July 2022, and a new paragraph (*a-bis*) was added to Section 332 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT prescribing that each receiving Office shall notify the International Bureau (IB) of the language or languages of any language-dependent free text which it is prepared to accept.

The following receiving Offices have notified the following information to the IB in accordance with Section 332(*a-bis*):

- **AP African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO):** English. The Office does *not* permit the language-dependent free text to be filed in more than one language within a single sequence listing.
- **DK Danish Patent and Trademark Office:** Danish, English, French, German Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish. The Office also permits the language-dependent free text to be filed in both English and another filing language within a single sequence listing.

- **TH Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) (Thailand):** English. The Office does **not** permit the language-dependent free text to be filed in more than one language within a single sequence listing.
- **ZA Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) (South Africa):** English. The Office does **not** permit the language-dependent free text to be filed in more than one language within a single sequence listing.

## New/updated ISA and IPEA Agreements

### Korean Intellectual Property Office

An updated version of the Agreement between the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the International Bureau of WIPO, as in force from 1 December 2022, relating to the functioning of the Korean Intellectual Property Office as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, has been published in PDF format in English and French at, respectively:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/access/isa\\_ipea\\_agreements.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/access/isa_ipea_agreements.html)

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/fr/access/isa\\_ipea\\_agreements.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/fr/access/isa_ipea_agreements.html)

## PCT Information Update

### CV Cabo Verde (competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities; filing of international applications in electronic form)

The Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) (Cabo Verde) has specified the European Patent Office, with effect from 17 October 2022, and the Korean Intellectual Property Office, with effect from 1 December 2022, in addition to the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil), as competent International Searching Authorities and International Preliminary Examining Authorities for international applications filed with the Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) (Cabo Verde) (or with the International Bureau (IB)) as receiving Office by nationals and residents of Cabo Verde.

Furthermore, for information on the acceptance, with effect from 31 October 2022, by the Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) (Cabo Verde) as receiving Office of international applications filed using ePCT-Filing, please refer to “Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications”, above.

General information about Cabo Verde as a PCT Contracting State has been published in the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*, Annex B1 (CV) at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/gdvol1/annexes/annexb1/ax\\_b\\_cv.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/gdvol1/annexes/annexb1/ax_b_cv.pdf)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant’s Guide*, Annex C (CV))



### **CZ Czechia (e-mail address)**

The e-mail address of the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic has changed as follows:

E-mail: [posta@upv.gov.cz](mailto:posta@upv.gov.cz)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (CZ))

### **IQ Iraq (filing of international applications in electronic form)**

For information on the acceptance, with effect from 4 September 2022, by the Iraqi Patent Office (IQPO) as receiving Office of international applications filed using ePCT-Filing, please refer to “Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications”, above.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (IQ))

### **JP Japan (fees)**

As from 1 November 2022, there will be a change in the equivalent amounts of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet over 30, payable in JPY to the Japan Patent Office as receiving Office, as well as a change in the equivalent amount in JPY of the applicable fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees, as indicated in Fee Table I(a).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (JP))

### **ME Montenegro (name of Office; e-mail address; Internet address; telephone number)**

The name, e-mail address, Internet address and telephone number of the Ministry of Economic Development, Department for Intellectual Property (Montenegro) has changed as follows:

Name of Office: Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism (Montenegro)

E-mail: [dragana.ranitovic@mek.gov.me](mailto:dragana.ranitovic@mek.gov.me)

Internet: [www.gov.me/mek](http://www.gov.me/mek)

Telephone: (382) 20 234 591

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (ME))

### **RO Romania (national security provisions)**

The State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (Romania) has provided details to the IB concerning restrictions in its national legislation which are applicable when filing international applications with other Offices, as follows: nationals or residents of Romania or legal persons having a principal place of business in Romania must file an international application which may be of interest for national defense or security with the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (Romania).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (RO))



**SE Sweden (fees)**

As from 1 November 2022, there will be a change in the equivalent amounts of the international filing fee and the fee per sheet over 30, payable in SEK to the Swedish Intellectual Property Office as receiving Office, as well as a change in the equivalent amount in SEK of the applicable fee reductions listed in item 4 of the Schedule of Fees, as indicated in Fee Table I(a).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (SE))

**SY Syrian Arab Republic (fees)**

The Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection, Directorate of Industrial and Commercial Property Protection (Syrian Arab Republic) has notified the IB that, since 15 June 2022, the amounts in Syrian pounds (SYP) of the following fees, payable to the Office as receiving Office, are:

Transmittal fee:.....SYP 5,000

Fee for priority document:.....SYP 3,000

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (SY))

**Handling fee (Japan Patent Office, Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV))**

As from 1 November 2022, there will be changes in the equivalent amounts of the handling fee, payable in JPY to the Japan Patent Office and in SEK to the Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV) as International Preliminary Examining Authorities. The new amounts will be JPY 28,600 and SEK 2,200, respectively.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex E (JP) and (SE))

**Search fee (various Offices)**

As from 1 November 2022, there will be changes in the equivalent amounts payable in the currencies specified below for international searches carried out by the following Offices:

Intellectual Property Office of Singapore .....EUR

China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) ..USD

Japan Patent Office .....CHF

Korean Intellectual Property Office .....CHF

National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil).....USD

As from 1 December 2022, there will be changes in the equivalent amounts payable in the currencies specified below for international searches carried out by the following Offices:

Korean Intellectual Property Office .....USD

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) .....NZD, ZAR

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex D (BR, CN, JP, KR, SG, US))

## WIPO Fee Transfer Service

It is recalled that, since 1 July 2020, any receiving Office, International Searching Authority, Authority specified for supplementary search or International Preliminary Examining Authority may participate in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service as a “participating Office”, in which PCT fees are transferred from one Office (the “collecting Office”) to another (the “beneficiary Office”) via the International Bureau (IB) (for further information, please refer to PCT/WG/12/20 at: [https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc\\_details.jsp?doc\\_id=436911](https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=436911)).

The IB has published information on 6 October 2022 on the Offices that have notified the IB of their participation, or of a change in the scope of their participation in the WIPO Fee Transfer Service in the *Official Notices (PCT Gazette)* (from page 279) at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official\\_notices/index.html](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html)

## Exceptional Non-working Days

It is recalled that, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach an Office fell on a day on which the Office is not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business, that period is extended so as to expire on the next succeeding business day.

### Australian Patent Office

The Australian Patent Office has notified the International Bureau (IB) that it was not open to the public for the transaction of official business on 22 September 2022, due to the designation of that day as a National Public Holiday for the National Day of Mourning in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

A notice concerning the Office closure is available on the Australian Patent Office website at:

<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/offices-closed-act-dg-declaration-2022-national-day-of-mourning.pdf>

### Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ)

The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) has notified the IB that it was closed for the purpose of the transaction of official business on 26 September 2022 in commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day.

The notice concerning the Office closure has been published on the IPONZ website at:

<https://www.iponz.govt.nz/news/iponz-closed-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-memorial-day-26-september-2022/>

### Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines

Due to inclement weather conditions, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business 26 September 2022.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the IB by the Offices, is available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/dc/closeddates/>



### *Webinar in German*

A recording of the following webinar in German:

- “Exploring the PCT” webinar series: Amendments and Rectification of Obvious Mistakes (22 September 2022);

as well as the supporting documents, can now be accessed at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/de/seminar/webinars/index.html>

### *Webinar in Russian*

A recording of the following webinar in Russian:

- PCT system: Priority corrections and other corrections in PCT international applications (9 June 2022);

as well as the supporting documents, can now be accessed at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/ru/seminar/webinars/index.html>

## **Global Innovation Index**

The 2022 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) is now available at:

[https://www.wipo.int/global\\_innovation\\_index/en/2022/](https://www.wipo.int/global_innovation_index/en/2022/)

This edition of the GII tracks the most recent global innovation trends against the background of an ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, slowing productivity growth and other evolving challenges. It reveals the most innovative economies in the world, ranking the innovation performance of around 132 economies while highlighting innovation strengths and weaknesses. A summary of the findings of the new edition of the GII was published in Press Release PR/2022/895, at:

[https://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2022/article\\_11.html](https://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2022/article_11.html)

## **Practical Advice**

### **Considerations for requesting early publication of an international application**

*Q: I have filed an international application and am wondering if I should request early publication of the application, as I heard that my competitor has a similar product to my invention in development. Are there any factors I should take into consideration before I request early publication by the International Bureau, and what should I do if I want to?*

A: International publication of an international application is required to take place promptly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date (PCT Article 21(2)(a)). This 18-month period gives you a chance to further consider whether to proceed with the application and is in line with the practice of most jurisdictions. You may, however, request early publication of the international application under PCT Article 21(2)(b)), but before doing so, you should think carefully about whether this is of interest to you.

### **Factors to consider before requesting early publication**

There can be certain advantages that can be gained in having your international application published before 18 months from the priority date:





















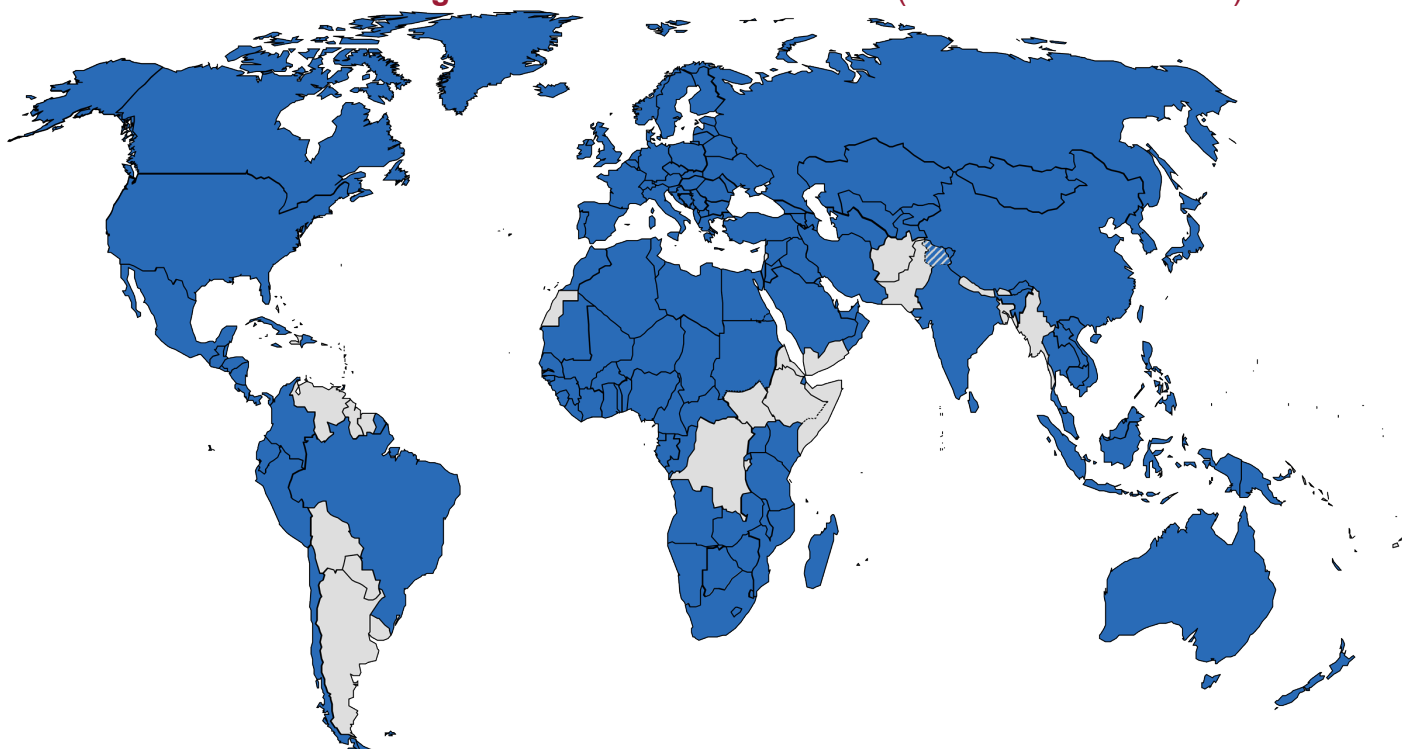




**Footnotes to fee tables:**

- 1 Payable to the receiving Office in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- 2 This fee is reduced by 90% where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant fulfills the criteria indicated on the PCT website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees). Note that the PCT Assembly adopted an Understanding, with effect from 11 October 2017, which clarifies that this fee reduction is intended to apply only in the case where the applicants indicated in the request are the sole and true owners of the application and under no obligation to assign, grant, convey or license the rights in the invention to another party which is not eligible for the fee reduction.
- 3 Where the IA contains a sequence listing as a separate part of the description, this should preferably be furnished in accordance with Annex C, paragraph 40, of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, that is, in compliance with WIPO Standard ST.25 text format; no additional fees are due for sequence listings filed in this format. Where, however, such sequence listings are filed in the form of an image file (e.g. PDF), fees are due for each page (refer to *PCT Newsletter* No. 06/2009, page 2 at: [https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/newslett/2009/newslett\\_09.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/newslett/2009/newslett_09.pdf)).
- 4 For the search fee payable to the receiving Office, consult the entry in Table I(b) for the competent International Searching Authority.
- 5 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request not being in character coded format.
- 6 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request being in character coded format.
- 7 If the IA is filed in electronic form, the request, description, claims and abstract being in character coded format.
- 8 This fee is reduced by 60% where the IA is filed by a natural person, a small or medium-sized enterprise, a cooperative, an academic institution, a non-profit-making entity or a public institution. For further details, refer to Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) No. 251 of 2 October 2019.
- 9 Paper filings are only accepted if received by mail. For further details, refer to the Official Resolution of the National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil) No. 253 of 13 November 2019 (<http://revistas.inpi.gov.br/pdf/Comunicados2550.pdf>).
- 10 When calculating the USD equivalent amount in CLP, applicants should use the exchange rate fixed by the Central Bank of Chile on the day before the date of payment.
- 11 The EPO is available as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority as of 1 December 2020 for a duration of two years as a pilot project. For further details, please refer to the EPO's website at: <https://www.epo.org/service-support/faq/own-file/cnipa-epo-pilot.html> and to the CNIPA's website at: [https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2020/10/20/art\\_364\\_153578.html](https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/art/2020/10/20/art_364_153578.html)
- 12 This fee is reduced by 70% where the applicant is a natural person and by 90% where the applicant is a student or a retiree.
- 13 The first amount of the transmittal fee is applicable to individuals or entities employing less than 25 persons. The second amount is applicable to entities employing 25 persons or more.
- 14 This fee is not payable in respect of IAs filed by applicants fulfilling the conditions indicated on the PCT website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees)
- 15 The competent International Searching Authority(ies) for an IA filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office is (are) the Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the IA had been filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, the Contracting State of which the applicant (or any of the applicants) is a resident or national. Refer also to the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (IB).
- 16 The fee for paper filings for a natural person or startup or small entity(ies).
- 17 The fee for paper filings for other(s), alone or with natural person(s) or startup(s) or small entity(ies).
- 18 This fee is reduced if the application is filed in Japanese by applicants who are eligible for fee reductions, such as small or medium-sized enterprises, micro enterprises and academic institutions. Further details on eligibility for the fee reduction are available at: [www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet\\_e.pdf](http://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf)
- 19 This fee is reduced by 90% if the applicant is an individual. The amount does not include the postage/ mailing costs which must be paid by the applicant directly to the express delivery service (e.g. DHL). For non-residents of Kyrgyzstan, the equivalent amount of the fee can be paid in a freely convertible currency, in accordance with the exchange rate established by the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic and applicable on the date of payment.
- 20 The Japan Patent Office is competent only for IAs filed in Japanese or for which a translation into Japanese has been furnished under PCT Rule 12.3.
- 21 The amount of this fee is not yet known. The Office should be consulted for the applicable fee amount.
- 22 This fee is subject to a national tax of 16%.
- 23 Plus, for paper filings: MYR 5 for one to ten pages, MYR 10 for 11 to 20 pages, MYR 40 for 21 to 50 pages, MYR 60 for 51 pages or more.
- 24 This fee is reduced by 50% where the applicant is a natural person.
- 25 This fee is reduced by 50% for online filings.
- 26 Although there is no transmittal fee payable, the applicant must nevertheless pay the postage fee for the transmittal of the copy of the international application to the International Bureau and the International Searching Authority.
- 27 This fee is reduced by 90% where all applicants are also inventors and by 80% where all applicants are also non-profitable institutions and/or organizations. When the fee is payable with relation to an application made by both types of applicant, and all applicants are either also inventors, or non-profitable institutions and/or organizations, the fee is reduced by 80%.
- 28 Plus non-electronic filing fee portion for IAs filed other than by the Office electronic filing system of USD 400, or in the case of filings by small entities or micro entities: USD 200.
- 29 For further details about entitlement to and establishment of "small entity" status and "micro entity" status, refer to 37 CFR § 1.27 and 1.29 (pages R-41 and R-47), respectively, at: [www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/consolidated\\_rules.pdf](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/consolidated_rules.pdf)
- 30 Reductions may apply – for further details refer to the Office's website at: <http://ima.uz/ru/regulatory/tarify-i-poshliny/>
- 31 The fee is reduced by 75% where the applicant, or if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person and is a national of and resides in a State for which the Austrian Patent Office is an International Searching Authority (in the case of the search fee)/International Preliminary Examining Authority (in the case of the preliminary examination fee).
- 32 Applicable where the applicant is (a) a Chilean university, or (b) a foreign university headquartered in any of the States which benefit, in accordance with the Schedule of Fees under the PCT Regulations, from the 90% reduction of the international filing fee and authenticated by its legal representative, in a simple declaration signed in the presence of a notary, as constituted as a university in accordance with the law of that State, provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criterion set out in either sub-item (a) or (b)). For details of applicants entitled to the 90% reduction, refer to: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees)
- 33 This fee is reduced by 25% where the applicant, or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person or a legal entity and is a national of and resides in a State which is classified by the World Bank in the group of countries of "low income", "lower middle income" or "upper middle income".
- 34 The search and preliminary examination fees payable to the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, and the supplementary search fee in the case of the EPO, are reduced by 75% under certain conditions. For further information, refer to the relevant footnotes in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annexes D (EP and ES) and E (EP and ES) at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/guide/en/index.html>
- 35 This fee is reduced for applications filed in Japanese, or for applications in respect of which a translation into Japanese has been furnished under PCT Rule 12.3, by applicants who are eligible for fee reductions, such as small or medium-sized enterprises, micro enterprises and academic institutions.  
For further details refer to: [https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet\\_e.pdf](https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf)
- 36 This fee is reduced by 75% where the applicant, or if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a national of, and has a residence or business domicile in, one of the following States: Cambodia, Colombia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam.
- 37 Applicable where the applicant is a small entity which refers to any natural or juridical person whose assets are worth not more than one hundred million pesos (P100M); or any entity, agency, office, bureau or unit of the Philippine government including government-owned or controlled corporations, state universities and colleges and government-owned or government-run schools.
- 38 Payable to the International Bureau in Swiss francs.
- 39 This fee applies where a declaration referred to in PCT Article 17(2)(a) has been made by the International Searching Authority because of subject matter referred to in PCT Rule 39.1(iv) (methods of treatment).
- 40 Payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.
- 41 Payable when the international search report was not issued by the Australian Patent Office.
- 42 Payable when the international search report was established by the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation).
- 43 In all cases where footnote 42 does not apply.
- 44 Payable when the international search was not carried out by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (provided that the USPTO is a competent International Preliminary Examining Authority in the particular case—refer to *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex C (US)).

## PCT Contracting States and Two-letter Codes (156 on 1 October 2022)



AE United Arab Emirates	CV Cabo Verde	IQ Iraq	MK North Macedonia (EP)	SI Slovenia (EP) <sup>2</sup>
AG Antigua and Barbuda	CY Cyprus (EP) <sup>2</sup>	IR Iran (Islamic Republic of)	ML Mali (OA) <sup>2</sup>	SK Slovakia (EP)
AL Albania (EP)	CZ Czechia (EP)	IS Iceland (EP)	MN Mongolia	SL Sierra Leone (AP)
AM Armenia (EA)	DE Germany (EP)	IT Italy (EP) <sup>3</sup>	MR Mauritania (OA) <sup>2</sup>	SM San Marino (EP) <sup>2</sup>
AO Angola	DJ Djibouti	JM Jamaica	MT Malta (EP) <sup>2</sup>	SN Senegal (OA) <sup>2</sup>
AT Austria (EP)	DK Denmark (EP)	JO Jordan	MW Malawi (AP)	ST Sao Tome and Principe (AP)
AU Australia	DM Dominica	JP Japan	MX Mexico	SV El Salvador
AZ Azerbaijan (EA)	DO Dominican Republic	KE Kenya (AP)	MY Malaysia	SV El Salvador
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>1</sup>	DZ Algeria	KG Kyrgyzstan (EA)	MZ Mozambique (AP)	SY Syrian Arab Republic
BB Barbados	EC Ecuador	KH Cambodia <sup>4</sup>	NA Namibia (AP)	SZ Eswatini (AP) <sup>2</sup>
BE Belgium (EP) <sup>2</sup>	EE Estonia (EP)	KM Comoros (OA) <sup>2</sup>	NE Niger (OA) <sup>2</sup>	TD Chad (OA) <sup>2</sup>
BF Burkina Faso (OA) <sup>2</sup>	EG Egypt	KN Saint Kitts and Nevis	NG Nigeria	TG Togo (OA) <sup>2</sup>
BG Bulgaria (EP)	ES Spain (EP)	KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NI Nicaragua	TH Thailand
BH Bahrain	FI Finland (EP)	KR Republic of Korea	NL Netherlands (EP) <sup>2</sup>	TJ Tajikistan (EA)
BJ Benin (OA) <sup>2</sup>	FR France (EP) <sup>2</sup>	KW Kuwait	NO Norway (EP)	TM Turkmenistan (EA)
BN Brunei Darussalam	GA Gabon (OA) <sup>2</sup>	LA Lao People's Democratic Republic	NZ New Zealand	TN Tunisia <sup>4</sup>
BR Brazil	GB United Kingdom (EP)	LC Saint Lucia	OM Oman	TR Turkey (EP)
BW Botswana (AP)	GD Grenada	LI Liechtenstein (EP)	PA Panama	TT Trinidad and Tobago
BY Belarus (EA)	GE Georgia	LK Sri Lanka	PE Peru	TZ United Republic of Tanzania (AP)
BZ Belize	GH Ghana (AP)	LR Liberia (AP)	PG Papua New Guinea	UA Ukraine
CA Canada	GM Gambia (AP)	LS Lesotho (AP)	PH Philippines	UG Uganda (AP)
CF Central African Republic (OA) <sup>2</sup>	GN Guinea (OA) <sup>2</sup>	LT Lithuania (EP) <sup>2</sup>	PL Poland (EP)	US United States of America
CG Congo (OA) <sup>2</sup>	GQ Equatorial Guinea (OA) <sup>2</sup>	LU Luxembourg (EP)	PT Portugal (EP)	UZ Uzbekistan
CH Switzerland (EP)	GR Greece (EP) <sup>2</sup>	LV Latvia (EP) <sup>2</sup>	QA Qatar	VC Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
CI Côte d'Ivoire (OA) <sup>2</sup>	GT Guatemala	LY Libya	RO Romania (EP)	VN Viet Nam
CL Chile	GW Guinea-Bissau (OA) <sup>2</sup>	MA Morocco <sup>4</sup>	RS Serbia (EP)	WS Samoa
CM Cameroon (OA) <sup>2</sup>	HN Honduras	MC Monaco (EP) <sup>2</sup>	RU Russian Federation (EA)	ZA South Africa
CN China	HR Croatia (EP)	MD Republic of Moldova <sup>4</sup>	RW Rwanda (AP)	SC Seychelles
CO Colombia	HU Hungary (EP)	ME Montenegro (EP) <sup>5</sup>	SA Saudi Arabia	SD Sudan (AP)
CR Costa Rica	ID Indonesia	MG Madagascar	SE Sweden (EP)	SG Singapore
CU Cuba	IE Ireland (EP) <sup>2</sup>			
	IL Israel			
	IN India			

1 Extension of European patent possible.

2 May only be designated for a regional patent (the "national route" via the PCT has been closed).

3 Italy may be designated for a national patent only in international applications filed on or after 1 July 2020.

4 Validation of European patent possible.

5 For international applications filed before 1 October 2022, only an extension of a European patent is possible (there is no national phase before the Intellectual Property Office of Montenegro). International applications filed on or after 1 October 2022 will include the designation of Montenegro for a European Patent.

Where a State can be designated for a regional patent, the two-letter code for the regional patent concerned is indicated in parentheses (AP = ARIPO patent, EA = Eurasian patent, EP = European patent, OA = OAPI patent).

**Important:** This list includes all States that have adhered to the PCT by the date shown in the heading. Any State indicated in **bold italics** has adhered to the PCT but will only become bound by the PCT on the date shown in parentheses; it will not be considered to have been designated in international applications filed before that date.

Note that even though the filing of a request constitutes under PCT Rule 4.9(a) the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents, applicants should always use the latest version of the e-filing software used to generate the request form, or the latest versions of the request form (PCT/RO/101) and demand form (PCT/IPEA/401) (the latest versions are dated 1 July 2022). The request and demand forms can be printed from the website, in editable PDF format, at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/forms/>, or obtained from receiving Offices or the International Bureau, or, in the case of the demand form, also from International Preliminary Examining Authorities. Where possible, applicants are encouraged to use ePCT-Filing in order to benefit from the most up-to-date PCT data.