

**PCT/EF/PFC 21/001**  
**ORIGINAL: FRANÇAIS / ENGLISH**  
**SITUATION AT: MAY 31, 2021**  
**SITUATION AU : 31 MAI 2021**

**Administrative Instructions Under the  
Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)**  
Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications

**Instructions administratives du  
Traité de coopération en matière de brevets (PCT)**  
Norme concernant le dépôt et le traitement électroniques

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE FILE/  
DOSSIER RELATIF A LA PROPOSITION DE MODIFICATION

<b>SUBJECT: Addition of alternative means of secure online transmission by recipient retrieval</b>		PROPOSED BY: IB	
<b>SUJET : Ajout de moyens alternatifs de transmission sécurisée en ligne par récupération du destinataire</b>		PROPOSÉES PAR : IB	
HANDLING: Expedited cycle TRAITEMENT : Cycle accéléré		PROPOSED DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE: 01.01.2022 DATE PROPOSÉE D'ENTRÉE EN VIGUEUR :	
Annex/ Annexe	Content/Contenu	Origin/ Origine	Date
1	Addition of alternative means of secure online transmission by recipient retrieval Ajout de moyens alternatifs de transmission sécurisée en ligne par récupération du destinataire	IB	31.05.2021

Next action: Comment	By: 29.06.2021
Prochaine action : Commentaires	Pour le :

[Annex I follows/  
L'annexe I suit]

Item 1	
Location:	Annex F, new section 5.1ter
Change:	<p><b>FROM:</b></p> <p><b>TO:</b></p> <p><i>5.1ter Alternative means of secure online transmission by recipient retrieval</i></p> <p>Offices offering electronic transmission of documents through online retrieval by a recipient (either the applicant or Office processing the application) should use a secure protocol. Unless the applicant has explicitly requested an alternative arrangement (such as transmission of documents directly by email), transmission should use a connection protected by TLS or greater and a means appropriate to the sensitivity of the documents concerned to ensure that the documents can be retrieved only by authorized persons.</p> <p>A preferred implementation involves:</p> <p>(a) the international application being associated with one or more accounts with the Office, secured by two factor authentication;</p> <p>(b) notifications being sent to the recipient when a document becomes available, either using email to the recipient or, where so agreed with the recipient, by the recipient regularly accessing a secure list of newly available documents provided through an associated account, either manually through a secure browser connection or automatically through a RESTful secure web service.</p> <p>(c) the recipient downloading such documents from an associated account, either manually through a secure browser connection or automatically through a RESTful secure web service.</p> <p>The association between the international application and any applicant account(s) should preferably be set up using information provided by the applicant at the time of filing using compatible online filing software. Offices should also provide secure means for adding, removing or modifying such associations after filing.</p>
Reason:	This alternative method of retrieval offers an additional secure document transmission mechanism that is sufficiently secure as to permit its use as a document delivery to applicant mechanism. Furthermore it enables the timely distribution of documents to applicants, including via the file held by the IB, where paper postal systems across the globe may be disadvantageous for applicants.

[End of Annex I and of document/  
Fin de l'annexe I et du document]