

C. PCT 1558

March 13, 2019

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office, International Searching Authority, International Preliminary Examining Authority and/or designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also being sent to interested intergovernmental organizations as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

This Circular concerns the conclusion of consultations, notified in PCT Circulars C. PCT 1549 and C.PCT 1557, regarding proposals for change to the Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications under the PCT (Annex F of the Administrative Instructions).

Description of changes

Proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are set out in the following Proposal for Change (PFC) files (see https://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/pfc_files.htm):

- PCT/EF/PFC 18/001 (Modification of the DTDs for the PCT fee calculation sheet and the PCT fee calculation sheet chapter II); and,
- PCT/EF/PFC 19/001 (Modification of the DTDs for the PCT Demand).

Conclusion of consultations

Consultations under PCT Rule 89.2 have been conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions.

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At the start of consultations regarding the DTDs for the PCT fee calculation sheet and the PCT fee calculation sheet chapter II, the International Bureau made a counter proposal to extend the model originally proposed to allow for the possibility that the receiving Office and the International Searching Authority are not the same Office. The International Bureau has taken note of the comment related to the need for the filing software interface to request the information only in the case where Offices are selected for which it is relevant, as well as to make clear to users which deposit accounts are referred to and why.

The International Bureau, in light of the comments received regarding the modification of the DTDs for the PCT fee calculation sheet and the PCT fee calculation sheet chapter II (as modified by the counter proposal from the International Bureau), and the modification of the DTD for the PCT Demand, has concluded that there were no controversial comments regarding the proposals. A consolidated, revised Appendix I to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions can be found on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ai_dtd_13.pdf.

Further process

The modifications to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions are hereby promulgated with effect from April 1, 2019.

Except where special transitional arrangements have been agreed with the International Bureau for receiving Offices that are unable to make the changes in time, the International Bureau advises receiving Offices that the revised DTDs and style sheets must be installed on their e-filing servers prior to April 1, 2019. Receiving Offices where the International Bureau hosts the e-filing server should note that the International Bureau will make the necessary updates to their e-filing servers.

Implementation coordination information and any further requests for information should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to Mr. Peter Waring, Senior Counsellor, PCT Business Development Division, e-mail: pctbdd@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,



John Sandage
Deputy Director General