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ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ

C. PCT 998 - 07.2

August 2, 2004

Madam, Sir,

Modifications of the Administrative Instructions Under the PCT

Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications: Modifications of Annex F, Including Appendix I

- 1. This Circular concerns modifications of Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), including Appendix I thereof, to be promulgated with effect from January 1, 2005.
- 2. Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions containing, respectively, the legal framework and the technical standard for electronic filing and processing of international applications, entered into force on January 7, 2002 (see *PCT Gazette* S-04/2001 dated December 27, 2001). Those provisions have since been modified on several occasions. The consolidated texts of Part 7, Annex F and Appendix I of Annex F are contained, respectively, in documents PCT/AI/2 (see also *PCT Gazette* S-04/2004 dated July 1, 2004), PCT/AI/ANF/1 and PCT/AI/DTD/1, which are available on WIPO's Website at http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/index.htm.
- 3. The present modifications are based on PCT/EF/PFC 04/002, 004 and 005 files, which are available on WIPO's Website at http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/index.html. The International Bureau took into account all comments received after consultation under Rule 89.2(b) of the Regulations under the PCT, in accordance with the change procedure provided for in section 2.5.5 of Annex F (expedited consideration of proposals for change), with the national and regional patent Offices of, or acting for, all PCT Contracting States, with PCT International Authorities and with interested intergovernmental organizations, as well as with certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system (see Circular C. PCT 992, dated June 8, 2004).

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- 4. Following that consultation, section 4.3.1 (Table 6 of the recommended file naming convention) of Annex F is modified. In addition, Appendix I of Annex F ("XML DTDs for the E-PCT Standard") is modified as follows:
 - (i) modifications to sections 3 to 5;
- (ii) addition of new sections 5.9 and 5.10, entitled "International Search Report (ISR)" and "International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP)", respectively.
- 5. The text of the modifications of the main body of Annex F and of Appendix I thereto is set out, respectively, in documents PCT/AI/ANF/1 Rev.1 and PCT/AI/DTD/1 Rev.1, which are both available on WIPO's Website at http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/index.htm. Paper copies of those documents are available from the International Bureau upon request.
- 6. The modifications will be promulgated in *PCT Gazette* No. 32/2004 on August 5, 2004, with effect from January 1, 2005.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Gurry Deputy Director General