

C. PCT 1619

The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments and has the honor to invite representatives of members and observers of the *Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group* to attend its fourteenth session, which will be held in hybrid format in Geneva, at the headquarters of WIPO, from Monday, June 14 at 12 noon (CEST), to Thursday, June 17, 2021.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the medical protocols that the Secretariat has introduced to safeguard participants and staff, physical attendance at the session will be limited and remote participation is recommended. The number of delegates per member or observer delegation permitted to be present on site will depend on the guidelines issued by the Swiss authorities for the period concerned. Note also that, as at the date of issue of this invitation, special rules apply for people entering Switzerland, which could include entry restrictions and may require incoming travelers to fill out an entry form, show proof of a negative coronavirus test and/or go into quarantine. Online participants will be able to follow the discussions with interpretation and take the floor like delegates in the meeting room.

The draft agenda for the session (document PCT/WG/14/1 Prov.) and other working documents are available on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=62348

It would be appreciated if the name(s), title(s) and e-mail address(es) of the representative(s) who will participate in the session could be communicated to the International Bureau of WIPO by Friday, May 14, 2021. In order to communicate this information, representatives are required to register online at:

https://www.wipo.int/registration/en/form.jsp?registration_id=416 by using the following code: TG33PU88DS. The registration form will allow representatives to indicate whether they will participate in the meeting in person or remotely.

In view of the technical arrangements that must be put in place for remote participation after the close of online registration, delegations are requested to strictly adhere to the registration deadline. Registered remote participants will be contacted in advance of the start of the session concerning technical modalities for accessing the meeting via the remote meeting platform.

As WIPO is committed to promoting gender equality, it would be appreciated if parity could be taken into account when nominating representatives.

Any queries in relation to the meeting may be addressed to the Secretariat at: <u>pct.wg@wipo.int</u>.

April 6, 2021