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## OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

7 January 2021

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## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### IE Ireland

The **Intellectual Property Office of Ireland** has notified the International Bureau of information of interest if Ireland is designated (or elected), with effect since 2 December 2019, as follows:

Applicants of an international application designating Ireland for a European patent may request the Controller, within 31 months from the priority date, that the international application be treated as an application for a patent in Ireland under Part II of the *Patents Act 1992* (refer to Section 127A of the *Copyright and Other Intellectual Property Law Provisions Act 2019*, effective from 2 December 2019, and Rule 87A of the *Patents (Amendment) Rules 2019*, S.I. 589/2019).

[Updating of Annex B1(IE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### LS Lesotho

The **Registrar General's Office (Lesotho)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its telephone numbers and e-mail address, which are now as follows:

Telephone: (266) 22 31 28 56  
(266) 22 31 12 51

E-mail: registrar.general@gov.ls

[Updating of Annex B1(LS) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### QA Qatar

The **Intellectual Property Department (Qatar)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its telephone number and e-mail addresses, which are now as follows:

Telephone: (974) 4042 3278

E-mail: malnoaimi@moci.gov.qa  
salobaidli@moci.gov.qa  
walmkhlef@moci.gov.qa

[Updating of Annex B1(QA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## TM Turkmenistan

The **Patent Department, Ministry of Economy and Finance of Turkmenistan** has notified the international Bureau of changes to the name of the Office, as well as to its location, telephone and facsimile numbers, and Internet address, which are now as follows:

Name of Office:	State Service for Intellectual Property of the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan
Location:	Archabil Ave., 156 Ashgabat City Turkmenistan
Telephone:	(993-12) 39 46 86 (993-12) 39 46 84
Facsimile machine:	(993-12) 98 24 45
Internet:	<a href="http://fineconomic.gov.tm/ru">http://fineconomic.gov.tm/ru</a>

[Updating of Annex B1(TM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## UA Ukraine

The **Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, Department for Intellectual Property** has notified the International Bureau of a change in the name of the Office, which is now as follows:

Name of Office:	Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and Agriculture of Ukraine, Department for Development of Intellectual Property
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[Updating of Annex B1(UA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **US United States of America**

Due to the official closing of federal government offices, the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)** was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business on Thursday, 24 December 2020, in addition to the previously planned closure on Friday, 25 December 2020.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period expired on Monday, 28 December 2020.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the above closures, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

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

## **FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT**

### **AT Austria**

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **South African rand (ZAR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Austrian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 February 2021, is ZAR 32,730.

[Updating of Annex D(AT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### **AU Australia**

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **South African rand (ZAR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 February 2021, is ZAR 24,970.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **EP European Patent Organisation**

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **South African rand (ZAR)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 February 2021, is ZAR 32,730.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **US United States of America**

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 February 2021, are ZAR 33,650 for an entity other than a small or micro-entity, ZAR 16,830 for a small entity, and ZAR 8,410 for a micro-entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **ZA South Africa**

New equivalent amounts in **South African rand (ZAR)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 February 2021, are as follows:

International filing fee:	ZAR	22,660
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	ZAR	260
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	ZAR	3,410
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	ZAR	5,110

[Updating of Annex C(ZA) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **WAIVERS OF SEPARATE POWER OF ATTORNEY OR COPY OF GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY UNDER PCT RULES 90.4(d) AND 90.5(c)**

### **IT Italy**

Pursuant PCT Rules 90.4(d) and 90.5(c), the **Italian Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau that it waives the requirements under PCT Rules 90.4(b) and 90.5(a)(ii) to submit a separate power of attorney or a copy of a general power of attorney, respectively, with respect to international applications filed on or after 1 March 2021.

However, the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office, has also indicated particular instances in which a power of attorney is still required.

The Office continues to require that a separate power of attorney or a copy of a general power of attorney be submitted in the following instances:

- if the agent is not a patent attorney or an attorney-at-law authorized to practice in Italy (recorded in the pertinent official register or professional roll) or any law firm employing such a lawyer or attorney-at-law.
- if the agent is not a patent attorney or an attorney-at-law qualified to practice in another member State of the European Union, authorized to pursue certain professional activities in Italy on a temporary basis (refer to legislative Decree No. 206/2007).
- in case of reasonable doubt regarding the agent's entitlement to act.
- in case of a common representative (separate power of attorney required).

[Updating of Annex C(IT) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

**IL Israel**

**Agreement between the Government of Israel and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization<sup>1</sup> - Amendment to Annex D**

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Part I of Annex D thereof. These amendments will enter into force on 1 March 2021.

With effect from 1 March 2021, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

**Annex D  
Fees and Charges**

**Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges**

<b>Kind of fee or charge</b>	<b>Amount (Israel new shekel)</b>
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	3,553
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	3,553
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	1,523
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	1,523
Late furnishing fee (Rules 13 <sup>ter</sup> .1(c) and 13 <sup>ter</sup> .2)	457
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 <sup>ter</sup> and 94.2), per document	[No change]

**Part II. [No change]**

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<sup>1</sup> Available on the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag\\_il.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_il.pdf)



## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### EP European Patent Organisation

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau that its filing offices in Munich, The Hague, and Berlin were not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 4 to 8 January 2021 (inclusive).

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period expires on Monday, 11 January 2021. For further information, refer to the Notice from the President of the EPO dated 16 December 2020, available at:

<https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal/president-notice/archive/20201216.html>

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the above closures, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

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

### PH 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 from 11 to 13 November 2020 (inclusive).

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period expired on Monday, 16 November 2020.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the above closure, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

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

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### BY Belarus

The **National Center of Intellectual Property (Belarus)** has notified the International Bureau of a new amount of the transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14), in **Belarusian roubles (BYN)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. This amount, applicable since 1 January 2021, is BYN 71.05.

[Updating of Annex C(BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### IL Israel

The **Israel Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, payable to it as International Searching Authority and applicable from 1 March 2021, as follows:

Search fee (PCT Rule 16):	ILS	3,553
Additional search fee (PCT Rule 40.2):	ILS	3,553
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 <sup>ter</sup> .1(c)):	ILS	457

[Updating of Annex D(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office also notified new amounts of fees, in **new Israeli shekels (ILS)**, payable to it as International Preliminary Examining Authority and applicable from 1 March 2021, as follows:

Preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 58):	ILS	1,523
Additional preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 68.3):	ILS	1,523
Late furnishing fee (PCT Rule 13 <sup>ter</sup> .2):	ILS	457

[Updating of Annex E(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

**AVAILABILITY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS FROM DIGITAL LIBRARIES:  
NOTIFICATIONS BY PARTICIPATING OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES**

**FR France**

Certain information concerning the participation of the **National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)** in the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (“DAS”), as notified to the International Bureau and reproduced in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 22 October 2020 (page 220), was erroneous.

The said notification is hereby corrected and republished, as follows:

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 12 of the *Framework Provisions of the Digital Access for Priority Documents*, the **National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)** has notified the International Bureau of its participation in DAS, as a depositing Office, with effect from 1 December 2020, for international applications filed on or after 1 October 2019, which the applicant has expressly requested to be made available through DAS.

[Updating of Annex B1(FR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### BR Brazil

In accordance with PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **National Institute of Industrial Property (Brazil)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 March 2021, are USD 318 when filing online, and USD 476 when filing on paper.

[Updating of Annex D(BR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### BY Belarus

The **National Center of Intellectual Property (Belarus)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **Belarusian roubles (BYN)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable since 1 January 2021, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14): BYN 71.05

Fee for requesting restoration  
of the right of priority  
(PCT Rule 26*bis*.3(d)): BYN 60.90

[Updating of Annex C(BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### ES Spain

The **Spanish Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office. These amounts, applicable since 1 January 2021, are as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14): EUR 75.00

Fee for priority document  
(PCT Rule 17.1(b)): EUR 29.98

[Updating of Annex C(ES) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### IL Israel

In accordance with PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts, in **Swiss francs (CHF)**, **euros (EUR)** and **US dollars (USD)**, have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Israel Patent Office**. These amounts, applicable from 1 March 2021, are CHF 976, EUR 903 and USD 1,107, respectively.

[Updating of Annex D(IL) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## RU Russian Federation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **US dollars (USD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 March 2021, are USD 115 for searches carried out in Russian, and USD 543 for searches carried out in English.

[Updating of Annex D(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## US United States of America

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), new equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**. These amounts, applicable from 1 March 2021, are NZD 3,076 for an entity other than a small or micro-entity; NZD 1,538 for a small entity; and NZD 769 for a micro-entity.

[Updating of Annex D(US) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### BY Belarus

The **National Center of Intellectual Property (Belarus)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of the components of the national fee,<sup>1, 2</sup> in **Belarusian roubles (BYN)**, payable to it in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office and applicable since 1 January 2021, as follows:

For patent:

Filing fee:	BYN	71.05
Claim fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	30.45
Examination fee:	BYN	345.10
Claim examination fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	203
Annual fee for the third year:	BYN	71.05

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<sup>1</sup> For residents of Belarus, the payment of fees shall be effected in Belarusian roubles in accordance with the rate of the base value.

<sup>2</sup> For non-residents of Belarus the payment of fees shall be effected in US dollars, euros, Swiss francs or Russian roubles, unless otherwise provided for by international agreements with the Republic of Belarus, in accordance with the rate of the base value and the exchange rate established by the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus applicable on the date of payment.

For utility model:

Filing fee:	BYN	142.10
Claim fee for each independent claim in excess of one:	BYN	71.05

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (BY) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **GM Gambia**

The **Registrar General's Department, Ministry of Justice (Gambia)** has notified the International Bureau that the amount of the national filing fee, in **Gambian dalasi (GMD)** and **US dollars (USD)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, is GMD 5,000<sup>3</sup> or USD 400<sup>3</sup> (for applicants who are not residents of the Gambia).

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (GM) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **VN Viet Nam**

The **Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam)** has notified the International Bureau of a temporary change concerning exemption, reduction or refund of the filing fee component of the national fee. For the period from 1 January to 30 June 2021, the amount of the national filing fee, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, is reduced by 50%.

For additional information, refer to Circular No 112/2020/TT-BTC dated December 29, 2020 of the Ministry of Finance.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (VN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>3</sup> Includes examination, grant, and publication.

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

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## CONTRACTING STATES

### States Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

#### GB United Kingdom

On 23 December 2020, the **Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** deposited a declaration in accordance with Article 62(3) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

With effect from 23 March 2021, the United Kingdom's ratification of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) shall be extended to the territory of the **Bailiwick of Guernsey**, for the international relations of which the United Kingdom is responsible.

For additional information, refer to PCT Notification No. 218, available on the WIPO website at:

[https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/notifications/pct/treaty\\_pct\\_218.html](https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/notifications/pct/treaty_pct_218.html)

[Updating of Annexes A and C(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

#### GE Georgia

Due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, and taking into consideration the recommendations of the Interagency Coordination Council established at the Government of Georgia, the **National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia (SAKPATENTI)** was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 3 January to 15 January 2021 (inclusive).

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on one of the aforementioned days, that period expired on Monday, 18 January 2021.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the above closure, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

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

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **US dollars (USD)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 March 2021, is USD 1,697.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### MG Madagascar

The **Industrial Property Office of Madagascar** has notified the International Bureau that the filing fee component of the national fee, payable to the Office in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, includes grant and publication.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (MG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

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## RECEIVING OFFICES

### GB United Kingdom

The **Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)** has notified the International Bureau of changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office. The following persons may now act as such:

Any individual, partnership or body corporate who resides in or has a place of business in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or a Member State of the European Economic Area (EEA). A list of registered patent attorneys may be obtained from the following address: The Registrar, c/o The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Halton House, 20-23 Holborn, London, EC1N 2JD.<sup>1</sup> For international applications filed on or after 1 January 2021, any agent appointed must have an address for service in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands or Gibraltar.

[Updating of Annex C(GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### GB United Kingdom

The **Intellectual Property Office (United Kingdom)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its special requirements under PCT Rule 51*bis* (Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27), which are now as follows:

- Name and address of the inventor if they have not been furnished in the “Request” part of the international application;<sup>2, 3</sup>
- No representation by an agent is required, but an address for service in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands or Gibraltar is necessary (refer to *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Chapter, Procedure in the National Phase, paragraph GB.04 (Address for Service) for additional information).<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> E-mail: mail@cipa.org.uk; Internet: www.cipa.org.uk; telephone: (44-20) 74 05 94 50; facsimile: (44-20) 74 30 04 71.

<sup>2</sup> Must be furnished within 33 months from the priority date. Where the applicant expressly requests early entry into the national phase, the name and address of the inventor must be furnished within 16 months from the priority date, or two months from the date on which the conditions for early entry are satisfied, whichever is the later (unless already furnished in the “Request”).

<sup>3</sup> This requirement may be satisfied if the corresponding declaration has been made in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17.

<sup>4</sup> If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

Furthermore, the Office notified changes concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office. The following persons may now act as such:

Any individual, partnership or body corporate who resides in or has a place of business in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or a Member State of the European Economic Area (EEA). A list of registered patent attorneys may be obtained from the following address: The Registrar, c/o The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Halton House, 20-23 Holborn, London, EC1N 2JD.<sup>5</sup> For international applications that enter the national phase on or after 1 January 2021, any agent appointed must have an address for service in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands or Gibraltar.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (GB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **WAIVERS OF SEPARATE POWER OF ATTORNEY OR COPY OF GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY UNDER PCT RULES 90.4(d) AND 90.5(c)**

### **DE Germany**

The **German Patent and Trademark Office**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified the International Bureau of changes to particular instances in which the Office may require a separate power of attorney<sup>6</sup> or a copy of a general power of attorney under PCT Rules 90.4(b) and 90.5(a)(ii), respectively, even if the receiving Office has waived the requirement in general.

The Office continues to require that a separate power of attorney or a copy of a general power of attorney be submitted in the following instances:

- If the agent is not:
  - (i) a patent attorney or an attorney-at-law authorized to practice in Germany;
  - (ii) a patent attorney or an attorney-at-law of a member State of the European Union, of a contracting party to the *Agreement on the European Economic Area*, or of Switzerland, authorized to pursue certain professional activities (refer to the *Act on the Activities of European Patent Attorneys in Germany* and the *Act on the Activities of European Lawyers in Germany*).
- In case of reasonable doubts regarding the agent's entitlement to act.
- In case of a common representative (separate power of attorney required).

[Updating of Annex C(DE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>5</sup> E-mail: mail@cipa.org.uk; Internet: www.cipa.org.uk; telephone: (44-20) 74 05 94 50; facsimile: (44-20) 74 30 04 71.

<sup>6</sup> Waivers of powers of attorney do not apply (PCT Rules 90.4(e) and 90.5(d)) where the agent or common representative submits any notice of withdrawal during the international phase (PCT Rules 90bis.1 to 90bis.4; refer also to International Phase, paragraph 11.048).

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## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### ID Indonesia

The **Directorate General of Intellectual Property (Indonesia)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its special requirement, under PCT Rule 51*bis* (Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27), concerning the translation of the international application: the Office continues to require that the translation of the international application be furnished in three copies; however, where the international application is filed electronically, only one copy of the translation in electronic form must be furnished.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (ID) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### VN Viet Nam

The **Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its special requirement, under PCT Rule 51*bis* (Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27), concerning the translation of the international application: the Office now requires that the translation of the international application be furnished in two copies, instead of three.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (VN) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY RECEIVING OFFICES

### IB International Bureau of WIPO

Pursuant to PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d), and in accordance with Sections 703(a), 710(b) and 713(b) of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **International Bureau**, in its capacity as receiving Office, has notified changes to its notification published in PCT Gazette No. 07/2004 of 12 February 2004 (pages 3796 *et seq.*), as modified by the notifications published in PCT Gazette No. 43/2005 of 27 October 2005 (page 28466) and the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 8 May 2014 (pages 64 *et seq.*).

In particular, as from 1 July 2021, the International Bureau, in its capacity as receiving Office, will no longer accept the filing of international applications in electronic form using the PCT-SAFE software.

Consequently, as from 1 July 2021, the International Bureau, in its capacity as receiving Office, is prepared to accept international applications in electronic form according to the following requirements:

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.2, and for documents submitted subsequent to the filing of the international application)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files within the international application; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)

**As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5.1 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

**As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

**As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- ePCT-Filing
- EPO online filing software

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile, text string or click-wrap signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.3)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

**As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The acknowledgement of receipt of any purported international application filed in electronic form with the International Bureau as receiving Office will contain the information required under Section 704(a)(i).

The International Bureau as receiving Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. Only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) will a notification, or confirmation, of receipt not be generated.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the International Bureau will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by the same or another means (see Section 709(b)).



**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is available through WIPO's online Payment platform (<https://www3.wipo.int/epayweb/en/main.xhtml>).

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The PCT eServices Help Desk is available from 8.30 a.m. until 6.00 p.m. (Central European time) and can be contacted as follows:

- by e-mail at: pct.eservices@wipo.int
- by telephone at: (+41-22) 338 95 23

Every attempt will be made to respond to e-mail questions within one business day.

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international applications
- related documents to be submitted to the receiving Office after filing of the international application

However, priority documents may only be submitted in electronic form indirectly, using the WIPO Digital Access Service for priority documents, save for priority documents created in signed PDF format by the authority that received the earlier application, where the International Bureau has recognized the authority's format as one that can be accepted by ePCT.

**As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):**

The International Bureau as receiving Office will accept the filing of documents in any pre-conversion format together with the international application.

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

In case of failure of electronic systems when an international application is to be filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office, the applicant may use the ePCT Contingency Upload Service,<sup>1</sup> submit documents on physical media (CD-R or DVD-R), or use a different receiving Office. In addition, the International Bureau as receiving Office will use all means available to it, such as e-mail or notices on the WIPO website, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/epct/contingencyupload.html>

**As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):**

- WIPO customer CA (<https://www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.htm>)
- the International Bureau as receiving Office will also accept certificates issued by certification authorities which are accepted by other PCT receiving Offices and which have been notified accordingly to the International Bureau under Section 710, provided that such certificates are permitted, under the relevant certificate policy, to be used for filing with the International Bureau as receiving Office.

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

ePCT private services provide access to the files of international applications to the extent that they are available at the International Bureau.

[Updating of Annex C(IB) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **FILING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF NOTIFICATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE OR OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATION BY THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU**

### **IB International Bureau of WIPO**

Pursuant to PCT Rule 89*bis*.1(d), and in accordance Sections 703(a), 710(a), and 713(a) and (b) of the Administrative Instructions, the **International Bureau** notifies that, with effect from 1 July 2021, it is prepared to receive notifications, communications, correspondence or other documents relating to international applications in electronic form, according to the following requirements:

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- XML (for Article 19 amendments and data generated through ePCT “Actions”; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- PDF (for other files)
- TIFF (for files that are referenced by XML files; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)

**As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- online submission

**As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- ePCT, using “Actions” or document upload

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile or text string signatures (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is available through WIPO’s online Payment platform (<https://www3.wipo.int/epayweb/en/main.xhtml>).

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The PCT eServices Help Desk is available from 8.30 a.m. until 6.00 p.m. (Central European time) and can be contacted as follows:

- by e-mail at: pct.eservices@wipo.int
- by telephone at: (+41-22) 338 95 23

Every attempt will be made to respond to e-mail questions within one business day.

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- documents for the International Bureau related to international applications

However, priority documents may only be submitted in electronic form indirectly, using the WIPO Digital Access Service for priority documents, save for priority documents created in signed PDF format by the authority that received the earlier application, where the International Bureau has recognized the authority’s format as one that can be accepted by ePCT.

**As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):**

The International Bureau will accept the filing of documents in Office Open XML (docx) format together with Article 19 amendments.

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

In case of failure of electronic systems when a document is to be submitted, the applicant may use the ePCT Contingency Upload Service<sup>2</sup> or submit documents on physical media (CD-R or DVD-R). In addition, the International Bureau will use all means available to it, such as e-mail or notices on the WIPO website, to inform the applicant about procedures to follow as alternatives.

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

ePCT private services provide access to the files of international applications to the extent that they are available at the International Bureau.

**EXCUSE OF DELAY UNDER PCT RULE 82<sup>quater</sup>.2: NOTIFICATIONS BY OFFICES AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU UNDER PCT RULE 82<sup>quater</sup>.2(a)**

**EP European Patent Organisation**

In accordance with PCT Rule 82<sup>quater</sup>.2(a) concerning the excuse of delay in meeting certain time limits due to the unavailability of electronic means of communication at an Office or organization, the **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau of the following period of unavailability of one of its permitted electronic means of communication:

- New online filing (CMS): 23 December 2020, from 08:20 CET (Central European Time) to 18:45 CET.

Applicants who did not meet a PCT time limit due to the unavailability of the above-mentioned service during the indicated period may request excuse of delay in meeting that time limit under PCT Rule 82<sup>quater</sup>.2, in accordance with the applicable conditions, published in the Official Notices (PCT Gazette) of 26 November 2020, page 254.

Information concerning this unavailability has been published on the EPO website at:

<https://www.epo.org/service-support/availability-of-online-services/2020.html>

and on the WIPO website at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/unavailability.html>

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<sup>2</sup> Available at: <https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/epct/contingencyupload.html>

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

**18 February 2021**

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### SD Sudan

The **Registrar General of Intellectual Property Department (Sudan)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its e-mail address, which is now as follows:

E-mail: [epct.info@ipsudan.gov.sd](mailto:epct.info@ipsudan.gov.sd)

[Updating of Annex B1(SD) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### CU Cuba

The **Cuban Industrial Property Office** has notified the International Bureau that, since 1 January 2021, the currency for payment of fees to the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office, is the **Cuban peso (CUP)**.

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts of the transmittal fee and the fee for priority document, in **Cuban pesos (CUP)**, payable since 1 January 2021, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14): CUP 2,400

Fee for priority document  
(PCT Rule 17.1(b)): CUP 2,400

[Updating of Annex C(CU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **NO Norway**

New equivalent amounts in **Norwegian kroner (NOK)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 April 2021, are as follows:

International filing fee	NOK 12,750
Fee per sheet in excess of 30	NOK 140
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format)	NOK 1,920
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format)	NOK 2,880

[Updating of Annex C(NO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **RECEIVING OFFICES**

### **PE Peru**

The **National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (Peru)** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the number of paper copies of the international application required by it – one copy is now required, instead of three.

[Updating of Annex C(PE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### CU Cuba

The **Cuban Industrial Property Office**, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, has notified the International Bureau that, since 1 January 2021, the currency for payment of the national fee, and for exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee, is the **Cuban peso (CUP)**.

Furthermore, the Office notified new amounts, in **Cuban pesos (CUP)**, of the national fee and of the exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee, applicable since 1 January 2021, as follows:

National fee:

For patent:

Filing fee (including publication fee and the annual fee for the 1 <sup>st</sup> and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> years): <sup>1</sup>	CUP 11,040
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For utility model:

Filing fee (including publication fee and the annual fee for the 1 <sup>st</sup> and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> years): <sup>1</sup>	CUP 8,400
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Exemptions, reductions or refunds of the national fee:

Fees are reduced by CUP 1,200 where applications are filed both on paper and in electronic form

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (CU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>1</sup> The Office may also require payment of the third annual fee at the time of filing, depending on the date of entry into the national phase.



## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

**25 February 2021**

**Notices and Information of a General Character**

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## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### TZ United Republic of Tanzania

The **Business Registrations and Licensing Agency, Ministry of Industry and Trade (United Republic of Tanzania)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its location, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses, which are now as follows:

Location:	New Ushirika Tower, 6 <sup>th</sup> floor Lumumba Street Dar es Salaam United Republic of Tanzania
Telephone:	(255-22) 218 13 44 (255-22) 218 01 13 (255-22) 218 01 41 (255-22) 221 28 00
E-mail:	ceo@brela.go.tz maoni@brela.go.tz

[Updating of Annex B1(TZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## RECEIVING OFFICES

### BG Bulgaria

The **Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as receiving Office — any patent attorney or patent agent registered to practice before the Office may now act as such.

[Updating of Annex C(BG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### BG Bulgaria

The **Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria** has notified the International Bureau of a change concerning its requirements as to who can act as agent before the Office, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office — any patent attorney or patent agent registered to practice before the Office may now act as such.

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (BG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

**4 March 2021**

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

**SE Sweden**

**Agreement between the Swedish Intellectual Property Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization<sup>1</sup> – Amendment to Annex D**

The **Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV)** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(2) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Annex D, Part I, thereof. These amendments, which consist of changes to the fee amounts for copies of cited documents and documents contained in the file of the international application, entered into force on 9 November 2020.

The amended Annex D now reads as follows:

**Annex D  
Fees and Charges**

**Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges**

<b>Kind of fee or charge</b>	<b>Amount (Swedish kronor)</b>
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	[No change] <sup>2</sup>
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	[No change] <sup>2</sup>
Supplementary search fee(s) (Rule 45 <i>bis</i> .3(a))	[No change] <sup>2</sup>
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	[No change]
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), <sup>3</sup> 71.2(b), <sup>3</sup> 94.1 <i>ter</i> and 94.2):	
– for less than 10 pages	none
– for 10 pages	50
– for each page in excess of 10	2

**Part II. [No change]**

<sup>1</sup> Available on the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag\\_se.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_se.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Swedish kronor equivalent of the euro amount of the search fee (Rule 16.1(a)) payable to the European Patent Office as International Searching Authority, as modified from time to time in accordance with the directives under Rule 16.1(d).

<sup>3</sup> The applicant will receive free of charge a copy of each document containing non-patent literature. Other documents are available electronically, free of charge on the website: [www.prv.se](http://www.prv.se).

## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### FR France

The **National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its telephone number for national calls. Its telephone numbers are now as follows:

Telephone:	01 56 65 89 98 (national calls)
	(+33) 1 71 08 71 63 (international calls)

[Updating of Annex B1(FR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### LU Luxembourg

The **Intellectual Property Office (Luxembourg)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its facsimile number and an additional Internet address, as follows:

Facsimile machine:	(352) 247 94113
Internet:	www.eco.public.lu <a href="https://patent.public.lu/">https://patent.public.lu/</a>

[Updating of Annex B1(LU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### SG Singapore

The **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore** has notified the International Bureau of an additional e-mail address, to which general enquiries should be addressed. Its e-mail addresses are now as follows:

E-mail:	ipos_enquiry@ipos.gov.sg (for general enquiries)
	pct@ipos.gov.sg (for enquiries on specific PCT applications filed with RO/SG, ISA/SG or IPEA/SG)

Furthermore, the Office notified changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) — with effect since 16 June 2020, the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and no longer accepts the filing of documents by means of telecommunication.

[Updating of Annex B1(SG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### SE Sweden

The **Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV)** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees for copies of various documents, in **Swedish kronor (SEK)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as International Searching Authority and applicable since 9 November 2020, as follows:

Fee for copies of documents cited in the international search report (PCT Rule 44.3(b)):<sup>4</sup>

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

Fee for copies of documents contained in the file of the international application (PCT Rule 94.1 *ter*):

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

[Updating of Annex D(SE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

The Office also notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees for copies of various documents, in **Swedish kronor (SEK)**, payable to it in its capacity as Authority specified for international search, since 9 November 2020, as follows:

Fee for copies of documents cited in the supplementary international search report (PCT Rule 45*bis*.7(c)):<sup>5</sup>

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

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<sup>4</sup> All documents cited in the international search report are available free of charge from PRV's online service "Cited Documents" at: <https://www.prv.se/en/patents/patent-online-services/>

<sup>5</sup> All documents cited in the supplementary international search report are available free of charge from PRV's online service "Cited Documents" at: <https://www.prv.se/en/patents/patent-online-services/>

Fee for copies of documents contained in the file of the international application (PCT Rule 94.1 *ter*):

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

[Updating of Annex SISA(SE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Finally, the Office notified new amounts of fees for copies of various documents, in **Swedish kronor (SEK)**, payable to it in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority, since 9 November 2020, as follows:

Fee for copies of documents cited in the international preliminary examination report (PCT Rule 71.2(b)):<sup>6</sup>

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

Fee for copies of documents contained in the file of the international application (PCT Rule 94.2):

for less than 10 pages		None
for 10 pages	SEK	50
for each page in excess of 10	SEK	2

[Updating of Annex E(SE) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>6</sup> All documents cited in the international preliminary examination report are available free of charge from PRV's online service "Cited Documents" at: <https://www.prv.se/en/patents/patent-online-services/>

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## OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

11 March 2021

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.



**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

**ES Spain**

**Agreement between the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization<sup>1</sup> – Amendment to Annex D**

The **Spanish Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Annex D, Part I, thereof. These amendments, which consist of changes to the amounts of the preliminary examination fee and the additional fee for international preliminary examination, will enter into force on 12 March 2021.

With effect from 12 March 2021, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

**Annex D  
Fees and Charges**

**Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges**

<b>Kind of fee or charge</b>	<b>Amount (Euro)</b>
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a))	[No change] <sup>2</sup>
Additional fee (Rule 40.2(a))	[No change] <sup>2</sup>
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	589.48 <sup>2</sup>
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	589.48 <sup>2</sup>
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b) and 71.2(b)), per document	[No change]
Cost of copies (Rules 94.1 <i>ter</i> and 94.2), per page	[No change]

**Part II. [No change]**

<sup>1</sup> Available on the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag\\_es.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_es.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> This fee is reduced by 75% 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 not party to the European Patent Convention and which is classified by the World Bank in the group of countries of "low income", "lower middle income" or "upper middle income".

## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### NG Nigeria

The **Commercial Law Department (Trademarks, Patents and Designs) (Nigeria)** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the name of the Office, as well as to its location and mailing address, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses, as follows:

Name of Office:	Patents and Designs Registry, Commercial Law Department (Nigeria)
Location and mailing address:	Registrar Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment Block D, Old Secretariat Area 1 Garki Abuja Nigeria
Telephone:	(234-8) 033 34 88 06 (234-8) 036 77 71 83 (234-7) 031 65 16 52
E-mail:	iponigeria@yahoo.com patentsanddesigns@gmail.com

Furthermore, the Office notified the International Bureau of changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) — the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and no longer accepts the filing of documents by means of telecommunication.

[Updating of Annex B1(NG) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### WS Samoa

General information on **Samoa** as a PCT Contracting State is now available in Annex B1(WS), which is published at the end of this issue of the Official Notices (PCT Gazette).

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **European Patent Office (EPO)**. This amount, applicable from 1 May 2021, is NZD 2,942.

[Updating of Annex D(EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## ES Spain

The **Spanish Patent and Trademark Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the amounts of fees, in **euros (EUR)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority. These amounts, applicable from 12 March 2021, are as follows:

Preliminary examination fee <sup>3</sup> (PCT Rule 58):	EUR	589.48
Additional preliminary examination fee (PCT Rule 68.3): <sup>3, 4</sup>	EUR	589.48

[Updating of Annex E(ES) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## NZ New Zealand

New equivalent amounts in **New Zealand dollars (NZD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), as well as for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees. These amounts, applicable from 1 May 2021, are as follows:

International filing fee:	NZD	2,025
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	NZD	23
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):		
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	NZD	305
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	NZD	457

[Updating of Annex C(NZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>3</sup> The fee is reduced by 75% 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 not party to the European Patent Convention and which is classified by the World Bank in the group of countries of "low income", "lower middle income" or "upper middle income". Refer to: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/oepm\\_fee\\_reduction.html](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/oepm_fee_reduction.html)

<sup>4</sup> This fee is payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority and only in particular circumstances.

## WS Samoa

The **Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL)** has notified the International Bureau of the amounts of several fees, in **Samoan talas (SAT)**, payable to it in its capacity as receiving Office, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	SAT	200
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	SAT	100
Fee for requesting restoration of the right of priority (PCT Rule 26 <i>bis</i> .3(d)):	SAT	200

## DESIGNATED (OR ELECTED) OFFICES

### AU Australia

The **Australian Patent Office** has notified the International Bureau of changes to the required contents of the translation for entry into the national phase under PCT Article 22. The consolidated list of required contents is now as follows:

- Under PCT Article 22: description, claims (if amended, both as originally filed and as amended), any text matter of drawings.
- Under PCT Article 39(1): description, claims, any text matter of drawings (if any of those parts has been amended, only as amended by the annexes to the international preliminary examination report).

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## **EP European Patent Organisation**

The **European Patent Office (EPO)** has notified the International Bureau of a change to its special requirements under PCT Rule 51*bis*(a)(i), concerning documents relating to the identity of the inventor.

With effect from 1 April 2021, the consolidated list of special requirements of the Office, under PCT Rule 51*bis* (Certain National Requirements Allowed under Article 27), will be as follows:

- Name, country and place of residence of the inventor, if they have not been furnished in the “Request” part of the international application or in a declaration in accordance with PCT Rule 4.17(i).
- Address, nationality and residence of the applicant if they have not been furnished in the “Request” part of the international application.
- Appointment of an agent if the applicant has neither a residence nor his principal place of business within the territory of one of the Contracting States of the European Patent Convention.
- Furnishing of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in electronic form if it is not otherwise available to the EPO.

For details, refer to *Official Journal EPO, 2021 A3*, available online at:

<https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal/2021/01/a3.html>

[Updating of the National Chapter, Summary (EP) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

**B1**

**Information on Contracting States**

**B1**

**WS**

**SAMOA**

**WS**

**General information**

Name of Office:	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL) (Samoa)
Location:	ACC House, Levels 3 & 4, Apia, Samoa
Mailing address:	P.O. Box 862, Apia, Samoa
Telephone:	(685) 204 41
Facsimile machine:	(685) 204 43
E-mail:	ipros@mcil.gov.ws mpal@mcil.gov.ws
Internet:	www.mcil.gov.ws
Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?	No
Does the Office send notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications?	Yes
Would the Office accept evidence of mailing a document, in case of loss or delay, where a delivery service other than the postal authorities is used (PCT Rule 82.1)?	No
Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of Samoa:	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL) (Samoa) or International Bureau of WIPO, at the choice of the applicant (see Annex C)
Competent designated (or elected) Office if Samoa is designated (or elected):	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL) (Samoa)
May Samoa be elected?	Yes (bound by Chapter II of the PCT)
Types of protection available via the PCT:	Patents, utility models (a utility model may be sought instead of a national patent)
Provisions of the law of Samoa concerning international-type search:	None
Provisional protection after international publication:	None

**Information of interest if Samoa is designated (or elected)**

Time when the name and address of the inventor must be given if Samoa is designated (or elected):	May be in the request or may be furnished later. If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit of three months from the date of receipt of the invitation.
Are there special provisions concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material?	No

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## OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)

18 March 2021

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The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization in accordance with Article 55(4) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Rule 86 of the Regulations under the PCT.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

**KR Republic of Korea**

**Agreement between the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization<sup>1</sup> – Amendment to Annex D**

The **Korean Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau, in accordance with Article 11(3)(iii) of the above-mentioned Agreement, of amendments to Annex D, Part I, thereof. These amendments, which will enter into force on 16 May 2021, consist of changes to amounts of the additional fees for international search and international preliminary examination, as well as the introduction of an additional fee in the case of missing parts, or correct elements or parts, included or considered to have been contained in the international application.

With effect from 16 May 2021, the amended Annex D will read as follows:

**Annex D  
Fees and Charges**

**Part I. Schedule of Fees and Charges**

<b>Kind of fee or charge</b>	<b>Amount (Korean won)</b>
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a)) (in English language)	[No change]
Search fee (Rule 16.1(a)) (in Korean language)	[No change]
Additional fee (Rules 40.2(a) and 40 <i>bis</i> ) (in English language)	1,200,000
Additional fee (Rules 40.2(a) and 40 <i>bis</i> ) (in Korean language)	450,000
Preliminary examination fee (Rule 58.1(b))	[No change]
Late payment fee for preliminary examination	[No change]
Additional fee (Rule 68.3(a))	450,000
Protest fee (Rules 40.2(e) and 68.3(e))	[No change]
Late furnishing fee for sequence listings (Rules 13 <i>ter</i> .1(c) and 13 <i>ter</i> .2)	[No change]
Cost of copies (Rules 44.3(b), 71.2(b), 94.1 <i>ter</i> and 94.2), per page	[No change]

**Part II. [No change]**

<sup>1</sup> Available on the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag\\_kr.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/agreements/ag_kr.pdf)



## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### MX Mexico

Due to the unavailability of its electronic systems, the **Mexican Institute of Industrial Property** was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business on Monday, 22 February 2021.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5(i), if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Office fell on the aforementioned day, that period expired on Tuesday, 23 February 2021.

As regards the delay or loss in the mail of documents or letters addressed to the Office, or other possible reasons for delay in meeting time limits, due to the above closure, refer to PCT Rules 82.1 and 82*quater*, respectively.

Additional information concerning closed dates, as furnished to the International Bureau by the Office, is available at:

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

### RU Russian Federation

The **Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation)** has notified the International Bureau of the deletion of one of its facsimile numbers and a change to one of its telephone numbers for application processing. Its facsimile and telephone numbers are now as follows:

Telephone:	(7-499) 240 60 15 (general)
	(7-499) 240 58 88 (application (7-499) 240 25 91 processing)
Facsimile machine:	(7-495) 531 63 18

In addition, the Office notified that it now sends notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications.

Furthermore, the Office notified additional delivery services, other than the postal authorities, from which it would accept evidence of mailing a document in case of loss or delay under PCT Rule 82.1: in addition to DHL and Federal Express, the Office now also accepts evidence of mailing a document from any other service that is recognized worldwide and is available in the Russian Federation.

Finally, the Office notified the International Bureau of a change concerning the provisions of the law of the Russian Federation concerning international-type search – Article 1386(4) of the *Civil Code of the Russian Federation* is no longer valid; consequently, there are now no provisions of the law of the Russian Federation concerning international-type search.

[Updating of Annex B1(RU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### AU Australia

Pursuant to PCT Rule 16.1(d), a new equivalent amount in **Swiss francs (CHF)** has been established for the search fee for an international search carried out by the **Australian Patent Office**. This amount, applicable from 1 May 2021, is CHF 1,573.

[Updating of Annex D(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### KR Republic of Korea

The **Korean Intellectual Property Office** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts, in **Korean won (KRW)**, of the additional search fee (under PCT Rule 40.2(a)), as well as the introduction of an additional search fee (under PCT Rule 40*bis*) in the case of missing parts, or correct elements or parts, included or considered to have been contained in the international application. These fees, payable to the Office in its capacity as International Searching Authority with effect from 16 May 2021, are as follows:

Additional search fee

(PCT Rules 40.2(a) and 40*bis*):<sup>2</sup>

for searches carried out in English	KRW	1,200,000
for searches carried out in Korean	KRW	450,000

[Updating of Annex D(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

Furthermore, the Office also notified a new amount, in **Korean won (KRW)**, of the additional preliminary examination fee, payable to the Office its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority from 16 May 2021, as follows:

Additional preliminary examination fee

(PCT Rule 68.3(a)):<sup>3</sup>

KRW 450,000

[Updating of Annex E(KR) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

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<sup>2</sup> This fee is payable to the International Searching Authority and only in particular circumstances.

<sup>3</sup> This fee is payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority and only in particular circumstances.

## UZ Uzbekistan

The **Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan** has notified the International Bureau of new amounts of fees, in **Uzbek sum (UZS)**, payable to the Office in its capacity as receiving Office since 1 February 2021, as follows:

Transmittal fee (PCT Rule 14):	UZS	245,000 <sup>4</sup>
Fee for priority document (PCT Rule 17.1(b)):	UZS	245,000 <sup>4</sup>

[Updating of Annex C(UZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### **FILING AND PROCESSING IN ELECTRONIC FORM OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS: NOTIFICATIONS BY RECEIVING OFFICES, INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITIES, AUTHORITIES SPECIFIED FOR SUPPLEMENTARY SEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITIES**

## EP European Patent Organisation

Pursuant to PCT Rules 89*bis*.1(d) and 89*bis*.2, and in accordance with Sections 703, 710(b) and 713 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, the **European Patent Office (EPO)**, in its capacity as receiving Office, International Searching Authority, Authority specified for supplementary search, and International Preliminary Examining Authority, has notified the International Bureau of the availability of the new web-based filing service of the EPO, Online Filing 2.0, as from 1 April 2021.

Consequently, as from 1 April 2021, the EPO, in its aforementioned capacities, is prepared to accept international applications, as well as other documents and correspondence relating to international applications, in electronic form, according to the following requirements:

### **FILING VIA EPO ONLINE FILING:**

#### **As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- ASCII (7- and 8-bit) (see Annex F, section 3.1.1.3)
- PDF (see Annex F, section 3.1.2)

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<sup>4</sup> Reductions may apply. For further details refer to the Office's website at: <http://ima.uz/ru/regulatory/tarify-i-poshliny/>

- TIFF (for drawings and, in exceptional cases, description and claims; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)

**As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))
- CD-R filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d) and (e))
- DVD-R or DVD+R filing (see Annex F, section 5)

**As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- WAD (Wrapped Application Documents; see Annex F, section 4.1.1)
- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

**As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- EPO Online Filing software

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile and text string (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)
- enhanced electronic signature (see Annex F, section 3.3.4)

**As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The notification of receipt of any purported international application filed with the European Patent Office as receiving Office in electronic form will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The European Patent Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. Only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) or if the package submitted does not contain any files, will a notification or confirmation of receipt not be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or missing files are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the European Patent Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by mail (see Section 709(b)).

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is not available. Only currently available means of payment are allowed.

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The European Patent Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk will be available between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding official holidays. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: 00 800 80 20 20 20
- by e-mail at: [www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html](http://www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html)

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international application
- subsequently filed documents
- PCT Chapter II demand

**As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):**

The European Patent Office will accept the filing of documents in pre-conversion format under Section 706(a) and (f) of the Administrative Instructions. In particular, the files should be archived in ZIP format and contain either plain ASCII text or be created with one of the following word processing programs:

- Microsoft Word 97 and later releases
- Corel WordPerfect 6.1, 8 & 10 and later releases
- Writer of OpenOffice 2.0 and later releases (including the corresponding StarOffice products)

Any objects originating from other programs may be embedded into documents being generated by the word processing programs mentioned above as long as they can be viewed without loss of the information being contained in these objects.

Documents in a format other than those mentioned above may be attached in that format only if the applicant informs the European Patent Office at the time of filing where it can within reason acquire the relevant software.

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

The European Patent Office will provide information concerning the availability of its online filing systems on its website ([www.epo.org](http://www.epo.org)).

**As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):**

- Certification Authority (CA) for the European Patent Office ([www.epoline.org/security/EPO\\_PKI\\_CPS.pdf](http://www.epoline.org/security/EPO_PKI_CPS.pdf))
- WIPO customer CA ([www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.html](http://www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.html))
- Väestörekisterikeskus (VRK) ([www.vaestorekisterikeskus.fi](http://www.vaestorekisterikeskus.fi)) (FINEID smartcards)
- Fábrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre (FNMT) ([www.cert.fnmt.es](http://www.cert.fnmt.es)) (CERES certificates)

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

- European Patent Register

**FILING VIA THE EPO WEB-FORM FILING SERVICE:**

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- PDF (see Annex F, section 3.1.2)

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile and text string (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is not available. Only currently available means of payment are allowed.

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The European Patent Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk will be available between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding official holidays. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: 00 800 80 20 20 20
- by e-mail at: [www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html](http://www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html)

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international application
- subsequently filed documents (including the PCT Chapter II demand)

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

The European Patent Office will provide information concerning the availability of its online filing systems on its website ([www.epo.org](http://www.epo.org)).

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

- European Patent Register

**FILING VIA THE EPO CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:**

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (see Annex F, section 3.1.2)

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile and text string (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)

**As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The notification of receipt of any purported international application filed with the European Patent Office as receiving Office in electronic form will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the European Patent Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by mail (see Section 709(b)).

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is not available. Only currently available means of payment are allowed.

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The European Patent Office has put in place a help desk to answer questions from users of the service. The help desk will be available between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding official holidays. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: 00 800 80 20 20 20
- by e-mail at: [www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html](http://www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html)

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international application
- subsequently filed documents (including the PCT Chapter II demand)

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

The European Patent Office will provide information concerning the availability of its online filing systems on its website ([www.epo.org](http://www.epo.org)).

**As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):**

- Certification Authority (CA) for the European Patent Office  
([www.epoline.org/security/EPO\\_PKI\\_CPS.pdf](http://www.epoline.org/security/EPO_PKI_CPS.pdf))

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

- European Patent Register

**FILING VIA ePCT-FILING:**

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1)
- DOCX containing JPEG converted into XML before submission
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for drawings and, in exceptional cases, description and claims; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)



**As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

**As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

**As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- ePCT-Filing

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile and text string (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)

**As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The notification of receipt of any purported international application filed with the European Patent Office as receiving Office in electronic form will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The European Patent Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. Only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) or if the package submitted does not contain any files, will a notification or confirmation of receipt not be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or missing files are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the European Patent Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by mail (see Section 709(b)).

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is not available. Only currently available means of payment are allowed.

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international application
- subsequently filed documents through ePCT Document upload (including the PCT Chapter II demand)

**As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):**

The European Patent Office will accept the filing of documents in pre-conversion format together with the international application.

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

The European Patent Office will provide information concerning the availability of its online filing systems on its website ([www.epo.org](http://www.epo.org)).

**As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):**

- Certification Authority (CA) for the European Patent Office ([www.epoline.org/security/EPO\\_PKI\\_CPS.pdf](http://www.epoline.org/security/EPO_PKI_CPS.pdf))
- WIPO customer CA ([www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.html](http://www.wipo.int/pct-safe/en/certificates.html))

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

- European Patent Register

**FILING VIA ONLINE FILING 2.0 WITH INTEGRATED ePCT-FILING:**

**As to electronic document formats (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- XML (in general; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.1);
- DOCX containing JPEG converted into XML before submission
- WIPO Standard ST.25 (for sequence listings; see Annex F, section 3.1.1.2, and Annex C)
- PDF (see Annex F, section 3.1.2)
- TIFF (for drawings and, in exceptional cases, description and claims; see Annex F, section 3.1.3.1)

**As to means of transmittal (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- online filing (see Annex F, section 5 and Appendix III, section 2(d))

**As to electronic document packaging (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- WASP (Wrapped and Signed Package; see Annex F, section 4.2.1)

**As to electronic filing software (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- EPO Online Filing 2.0

**As to types of electronic signature (Section 710(a)(i)):**

- facsimile and text string (see Annex F, sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)

**As to conditions, rules and procedures relating to electronic receipt (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

The notification of receipt of any purported international application filed with the European Patent Office as receiving Office in electronic form will contain, in addition to the mandatory information required under Section 704(a)(i) to (iv), the names of the electronic files received (see Section 704(a)(v)).

The European Patent Office will make every effort to accept an international application in electronic form. Only if the application is not sent in accordance with the E-filing interoperability protocol (see Annex F, section 5.1) or if the package submitted does not contain any files, will a notification or confirmation of receipt not be generated. Other errors, such as the use of outdated certificates (see Annex F, Appendix II, section 4.4.7), applications infected by viruses or other forms of malicious logic (see Section 708(b)) or missing files are notified to the applicant by inclusion in the notification of receipt.

Where it appears that the notification of receipt sent to the applicant by electronic means of transmittal was not successfully transmitted, the European Patent Office will promptly retransmit the notification of receipt by mail (see Section 709(b)).

**As to methods of online payment (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

Online payment is not available. Only currently available means of payment are allowed.

**As to details concerning help desks (Section 710(a)(ii)):**

EPO Online Filing 2.0-related end user support questions, including straightforward ePCT user assistance questions, will be managed and resolved directly by the European Patent Office help desk. The help desk will be available between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding official holidays. The help desk may be contacted:

- by telephone at: 00 800 80 20 20
- by e-mail at: [www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html](http://www.epo.org/service-support/contact-us.html)

The WIPO PCT eServices team will provide second-level support.

**As to the kinds of documents which may be transmitted to the Office in electronic form (Section 710(a)(iii)):**

- international application
- subsequently filed documents
- PCT Chapter II demand

**As to the filing of documents in pre-conversion format (Section 710(a)(iv)):**

The European Patent Office will accept the filing of documents in pre-conversion format together with the international application.

**As to procedures for notification of applicants and procedures which applicants may follow as alternatives when the electronic systems of the Office are not available (Section 710(a)(v)):**

The European Patent Office will provide information concerning the availability of its online filing systems on its website ([www.epo.org](http://www.epo.org)).

**As to the certification authorities that are accepted by the Office and the electronic addresses of the certificate policies under which certificates are issued (Section 710(a)(vi)):**

- Certification Authority (CA) for the European Patent Office  
([www.epoline.org/security/EPO\\_PKI\\_CPS.pdf](http://www.epoline.org/security/EPO_PKI_CPS.pdf))

**As to the procedures relating to access to the files of international applications filed or stored in electronic form (Section 710(a)(vii)):**

- European Patent Register

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES (PCT GAZETTE)**

**25 March 2021**

### **Notices and Information of a General Character**

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## INFORMATION ON CONTRACTING STATES

### AO Angola

The **Angolan Institute of Industrial Property** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its location and mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address, as follows:

Location and mailing address:	Largo 17 de Setembro Edifício Palácio de Vidro nº 7 4º Andar, Ala Esquerda Caixa Postal 3840 Luanda-Marginal Angola
Telephone:	(244-222) 04 49 91 (244-922) 40 49 36 (mobile)
E-mail:	iapi1992@iapi.gov.ao

In addition, the Office notified changes concerning facsimile services and the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4) — the Office has discontinued the use of its facsimile services and, consequently, no longer accepts the filing of documents by facsimile machine.

[Updating of Annex B1(AO) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

### UZ Uzbekistan

The **Intellectual Property Agency under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan** has notified the International Bureau of changes to its location and mailing address, as follows:

Location and mailing address:	33, Khadra Street Tashkent 100017 Republic of Uzbekistan
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[Updating of Annex B1(UZ) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE PCT

### AU Australia

New equivalent amounts in **Australian dollars (AUD)** have been established for the international filing fee and the fee per sheet in excess of 30 (pursuant to PCT Rule 15.2(d)), for reductions under item 4 of the PCT Schedule of Fees, as well as for the handling fee (pursuant to PCT Rule 57.2(d)). These new amounts, applicable from 1 May 2021, are as follows:

International filing fee:	AUD 1,860
Fee per sheet in excess of 30:	AUD 21
Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):	
Electronic filing (the request being in character-coded format):	AUD 280
Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and abstract being in character-coded format):	AUD 420
Handling fee:	AUD 280

[Updating of Annexes C(AU) and E(AU) of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]

## DEPOSITS OF MICROORGANISMS AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL: REQUIREMENTS OF DESIGNATED AND ELECTED OFFICES

### BG Bulgaria

In accordance with PCT Rule 13*bis*.7(a)(ii), the **Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria**, in its capacity as designated (or elected) Office, has notified the International Bureau of a change to its requirements concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material, which are now as follows:

Designated (or elected) Office	Time (if any) earlier than 16 months from priority date by which applicant must furnish:		Additional indications (if any) which must be given besides those prescribed in Rule 13 <i>bis</i> .3(a)(i) to (iii) pursuant to notifications from the Offices concerned
	the indications prescribed in Rule 13 <i>bis</i> .3(a)(i) to (iii)	any additional matter specified in the adjacent right-hand column	
<b>Bulgaria</b> Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria	At the time of filing, either in the description or separately	At the time of filing, as part of the application	To the extent available to the applicant, relevant information on the characteristics of the microorganism

[Updating of Annex L of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*]