STANDARD ST.3

RECOMMENDED STANDARD ON TWO-LETTER CODES FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Revision performed by the International Bureau in accordance with the revision procedure provided in Annex III of this Standard in September 2023

INTRODUCTION

1. This Recommended Standard provides two-letter alphabetic codes which, for the purpose of improving the access to intellectual property information, represent, in particular, the names of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations the legislation of which provides for the protection of intellectual property rights or which organizations are acting in the framework of a treaty in the field of intellectual property.

2. The designation of States or other entities in this Recommended Standard does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any State or territory, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers.

3. The two-letter alphabetic codes in this Recommended Standard are aligned with the universally recognized ISO Alpha-2 Codes listed in International Standard ISO 3166-1, "Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries and their Subdivisions – Part 1: Country Codes", which is available on the Online Browsing Platform of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The short form of state names in this Recommended Standard is aligned with the UN Terminology Database (UNTERM) with a few exceptions. These exceptions, as well as the territory names, are based on established WIPO practice, reflecting official requests by the states concerned.

RECOMMENDED STANDARD CODE

4. This Recommended Standard is intended to be implemented for any use by intellectual property offices requiring the identification of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations, in coded form.

5. The recommended codes with respective names are contained in Annex I in two sections, organized as follows:

   (i) Section 1 presents a list of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations, in alphabetic sequence of their short names and their corresponding codes;

   (ii) Section 2 presents the codes referred to in (i) in alphabetic order and the corresponding (short) names of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations.

6. In addition to the said recommended codes, the two-letter alphabetic code "XX" is recommended to refer to unknown states, other entities or organizations.

MAINTENANCE

7. ISO has entrusted a Maintenance Agency with the management of International Standard ISO 3166. WIPO has been granted associate-member status in the Maintenance Agency and is therefore closely associated with its work.

8. The International Bureau updates this Recommended Standard at intervals following the decisions of the Maintenance Agency and of the respective WIPO body with regard to the inclusion of new two-letter alphabetic codes or the amending of existing two-letter alphabetic codes. With respect to the inclusion of new names or the change of existing names of states and territories, the International Bureau updates this Recommended Standard following UNTERM with a few exceptions described in paragraph 3 above. With respect to the inclusion of new names or the change of existing names of intergovernmental organizations, the International Bureau updates this Recommended Standard following communications received from the intergovernmental organization concerned and established WIPO practice in this regard. The revision procedure of this Recommended Standard is provided in Annex III.

IMPLEMENTATION AND GUIDELINES FOR USERS

9. To assist users of documents relating to intellectual property titles and/or applications therefore, Annex II, Section 1, to this Recommended Standard lists those States for which the code in force prior to January 1, 1978, was subsequently replaced by a new code. A list of States or organizations, with their respective codes, that ceased to exist is given in Annex II, Section 2.

10. The codes contained in Annex I to this Recommended Standard should be used in all documents relating to intellectual property titles and/or applications therefore, even when referring to documents for which a different code existed before January 1, 1978.

11. The letter combinations AA, QM to QY, XA to XM, XO to XT, XW, XY, XZ and ZZ are available for individual use and for provisional codes.

[Annexes follow]
ANNEX I, SECTION 1

LIST OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES, AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, IN ALPHABETIC SEQUENCE OF THEIR SHORT NAMES, AND THEIR CORRESPONDING CODES

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### ANNEX I, SECTION 2

**LIST OF CODES, IN ALPHABETIC SEQUENCE, AND THE CORRESPONDING (SHORT) NAMES OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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| PA   | Panama                        |
| PE   | Peru                          |
| PG   | Papua New Guinea              |
| PH   | Philippines                   |
| PK   | Pakistan                      |
| PL   | Poland                        |
| PT   | Portugal                      |
| PW   | Palau                         |
| PY   | Paraguay                      |
| QA   | Qatar                         |
| QZ   | Community Plant Variety Office (European Union) (CPVO) |
| RO   | Romania                       |
| RS   | Serbia                        |
| RU   | Russian Federation            |
| RW   | Rw anda                       |
| SA   | Saudi Arabia                  |
| SB   | Solomon Islands               |
| SC   | Seychelles                    |
| SD   | Sudan                         |
| SE   | Sw eden                       |
| SG   | Singapore                     |
| SH   | Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha |
| SI   | Slovenia                      |
| SK   | Slovakia                      |
| SL   | Sierra Leone                  |
| SM   | San Marino                    |
| SN   | Senegal                       |
| SO   | Somalia                       |
| SR   | Suriname                      |
| SS   | South Sudan                   |
| ST   | Sao Tome and Principe         |
| SV   | El Salvador                   |
| SX   | Sint Maarten (Dutch part)     |
| SY   | Syrian Arab Republic          |
| SZ   | Esw atini                     |
| TC   | Turks and Caicos Islands      |
| TD   | Chad                          |
| TG   | Togo                          |
| TH   | Thailand                      |
| TJ   | Tajikistan                    |
| TL   | Timor–Leste                   |
| TM   | Turkmenistan                  |
| TN   | Tunisia                       |
| TO   | Tonga                         |
| TR   | Türkiye                       |
| TT   | Trinidad and Tobago           |
| TV   | Tuvalu                        |
| TW   | Taiwan Province of China      |
| TZ   | United Republic of Tanzania   |
| UA   | Ukraine                       |
| UG   | Uganda                        |
| US   | United States of America      |
| UY   | Uruguay                       |
| UZ   | Uzbekistan                    |
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[Annex II follows]
## ANNEX II, SECTION 1

### LIST OF STATES IN RESPECT OF WHICH CODES HAVE CHANGED

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[Section 2 follows]
ANNEX II, SECTION 2

LIST OF STATES OR ORGANIZATIONS THAT EXISTED ON JANUARY 1, 1978, BUT THAT NO LONGER EXIST

Czechoslovakia ........................................ CS
Democratic Yemen ..................................... SY/YD⁽¹⁰⁾
German Democratic Republic ....................... DL/DD⁽¹¹⁾
International Patent Institute ....................... IB
Soviet Union ........................................ SU
Yugoslavia/Serbia and Montenegro ................ YU⁽¹²⁾

[Annex III follows]
ANNEX III

PROCEDURE FOR THE REVISION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.3

1. The International Bureau would revise the short form of names of states, territories and names of intergovernmental organizations in WIPO Standard ST.3 and notify the members of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS members) the revision as follows:

   (a) The International Bureau would revise WIPO Standard ST.3 by incorporating changes regarding the short form of state names as adopted by the UN Terminology Database (UNTERM). With regard to territory names or where a deviation from state names in UNTERM is required, the International Bureau would also revise WIPO Standard ST.3 by incorporating the necessary changes based on established WIPO practice reflecting official requests by the states concerned. With regard to names of intergovernmental organizations, the International Bureau would similarly revise WIPO Standard ST.3 by incorporating the changes identified or received by the International Bureau from the intergovernmental organizations concerned; and

   (b) The International Bureau would then publish the revised WIPO Standard ST.3 on WIPO’s website, followed by a notification informing the CWS members of the publication of the revision.

2. With regard to a revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 other than the names mentioned in paragraph 1 above, such as changes to two-letter codes, the International Bureau should prepare a proposal for the revision for consideration and approval by the CWS members as follows:

   (a) The International Bureau would prepare a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.3. In particular, in regard to two-letter alphabetic codes of states and territories, the International Bureau would prepare a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 by incorporating changes already adopted by ISO 3166/MA. With regard to two-letter alphabetic codes of intergovernmental organizations, the International Bureau would prepare a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 by incorporating a suitable two-letter code representing the organization concerned;

   (b) The International Bureau would issue a circular inviting the CWS members to consider the proposal and respond within two months;

   (c) If consensus is reached within the two-month period, then the International Bureau would publish the revised WIPO Standard ST.3; and

   (d) If consensus is not reached, the International Bureau proposal, together with the remarks submitted, would be forwarded to the following CWS session for consideration and final decision.

[End of Annex III and of Standard]

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(1) Intergovernmental organizations (regional patent offices) acting for certain Contracting States under the PCT (Patent Cooperation Treaty). In the case of the European Patent Office, it is the operational organ of the European Patent Organization.

(2) The Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP) (former Benelux Trademark and Designs Offices) have replaced the national Offices of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands (Kingdom of the) with regard to actions relating to marks and industrial designs.

(3) In the electronic database of the International Register of Marks, the International Bureau of WIPO uses the following additional codes, not part of the active codes of Standard ST.3: “DD” to designate Germany without the territory that, prior to October 3, 1990, constituted the Federal Republic of Germany; “DT” to designate Germany without the territory that, prior to October 3, 1990, constituted the German Democratic Republic.
The code “WO” is used in relation to the international publication under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) of international applications filed with any PCT receiving Office, as well as publication of international design registrations under the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs. In this regard, reference is made to INID code (33) given in WIPO Standards ST.9 and ST.80. The code “WO” is also the appropriate code to be used with respect to international registrations of marks under the Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks. In this regard, reference is made to INID code (330) given in WIPO Standards ST.60. The code “IB” is used in relation to the receipt of international applications under the PCT filed with the International Bureau of WIPO in its capacity as a PCT receiving Office, and for filing international industrial design applications under the Hague Agreement.

Provisional name.


Code SY used before 1.1.1978.

Code DL used before 1.1.1978.

Subsequent to the country name change of “Yugoslavia” to “Serbia and Montenegro”, that took effect on February 4, 2003, and to the decision by the ISO 3166/MA to use the new country name and new two-letter code “CS” (to replace “YU”), which was announced on July 23, 2003, the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group agreed, at its fifth session, in November 11, 2004, to recommend that the two-letter code “YU” continue to be used for “Serbia and Montenegro” in the intellectual property field because code “CS” raised certain problems due to its former use to represent “Czechoslovakia” until 1993.

The acronym or abbreviation of an entity is not part of its name.

The two-letter codes “EP”, “EM”, and “QZ” must be used to indicate the corresponding Office defined in this Standard while the Code “EU” must be used to indicate other institutions in the European Union. Additionally, the codes must be used in the following situations:

“EP” for documentation and information related to patents administered by the European Patent Office (EPO);

“EM” for documentation and information related to European Union Trademarks and European Union Industrial Designs administered by the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), and for the designation of the European Union in the Madrid and Hague Systems;

“QZ” for documentation and information related to Community Plant Variety Rights administered by the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO); and

“EU” for documentation and information related to other rights applicable in the European Union and not covered by the codes “EP”, “EM” and “QZ”, such as marketing authorizations approved by the European Medicines Agency or geographical indications protected under EU legislation.