AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES FOR DRAFTING CLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS

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DEFINITION STATEMENT

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Numbers on graphics should be avoided. However, if graphics are taken from a patent document, numbers should be removed only if this is a straightforward task. Attention should be also given to the clarity of the graphics.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION PLACES

When the scope of the subclass is generally affected by its relationships with other places, and those relationships cannot entirely be expressed in the form of references, then those relationships are stated here.

This section includes special rules of classification or guidance for defining the classification practice between different classification places, e.g. availability and usage of indexing subclasses or groups, multiple classification, relationships between general (function oriented) and application-oriented places, relationships between a residual place and other related places.

When the special rules of classification or guidance for defining the classification practice apply only within a subclass/group, then the specific section "SPECIAL RULES OF CLASSIFICATION WITHIN THIS SUBCLASS/GROUP" should be used instead.

This section also includes more detailed explanation about the particular application of notes in certain technical areas, where, in the scheme, only the standardized wording of notes explaining the classification rules is presented.

Where the relationship between classification places is characterized by having a place which is considered to be a limiting reference as well as a non-limiting reference, this section should be used to explain the nature of this relationship to minimize any confusion when the specific reference sections of the definition do not fully clarify the relationship.

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SPECIAL RULES OF CLASSIFICATION WITHIN THIS SUBCLASS/GROUP

This section contains special classification rules, which apply only <u>within</u> the subclass/group and not <u>between</u> subclasses/groups. Examples of such classification rules are the last place or first place priority rules. Normal precedence rules are not considered as special, and therefore should not be listed here.

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[End of Annex VI and of document]