

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
GENEVA

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Third Session: Tokyo, October 23 to 27, 1973

MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION (PATENT DOCUMENTS):
PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING
DOCUMENTATION UNDER RULE 34.1(b)(i)

prepared by the International Bureau

1. WIPO has received a letter, dated September 13, 1973, from the Acting Commissioner of Patents of the United States Patent Office, reading as follows:

"The preliminary draft agenda (document PCT/TCO/III/1 Rev.) for the forthcoming meeting of the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation, contains item 8, which deals with minimum documentation concerning patent documents.

At the present time a degree of indecision exists regarding the interpretation of PCT Rule 34.1(b)(i). Specifically, prospective International Searching Authorities are not certain whether this Rule must be applied in its strictest meaning (i.e., the inclusion of duplicative patent documents from the several minimum documentation countries) or whether it could be satisfied by way of a family of patent system or some other arrangement which would avoid the burdensome problems created by a narrow and inflexible interpretation of the Rule.

In order to discuss this point with a view toward its resolution at the upcoming meeting, I would appreciate your placing a supplementary item to this effect on the draft agenda of the Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation."

2. In accordance with the above suggestion, an item has been placed on the revised preliminary draft agenda (item no. 8 of document PCT/TCO/III/1 Rev.Rev.) of the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation.

3. The Interim Committee is invited to express its views on the matter in question.

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