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March 11, 2003

Madam,
Sir,

I have pleasure in inviting your Office, in its capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), to the eighth session of the *Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT* (PCT/MIA), which will be held in Washington, D.C., at the United States Patent and Trademark Office from May 5 to 9, 2003 (starting at 10 a.m.).

The working language will be English.

./ The draft agenda (document PCT/MIA/8/1 Prov.) is enclosed. I invite your Office to provide comments on, or any further proposals for, the draft agenda. The International Bureau would appreciate receiving any such comments and proposals by April 14, 2003.

As for the previous session, the working documents will be made available on the PCT/MIA electronic forum, which has been established on WIPO's website at www.wipo.int/pct/mia; copies on paper will be sent only on request. I encourage Authorities to make use of this forum for advance discussion of issues arising from the seventh session (see document PCT/MIA/7/5) or from the documents which will be made available for this session.

It would be appreciated if you could inform me of the names and titles of the representatives of your Office by April 21, 2003.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francis Gurry', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Francis Gurry
Assistant Director General

Enclosure: document PCT/MIA/8/1 Prov.

WIPO



PCT/MIA/8/1 Prov.
ORIGINAL:English
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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

**INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION
(PCT UNION)**

**MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES
UNDER THE PCT**

**Eighth Session
Washington, D.C., May 5 to 9, 2003**

DRAFT AGENDA

prepared by the Director General

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of a Chair
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. PCT minimum documentation
5. Proposed revised PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines
6. Report of the "virtual" task force on a PCT common quality framework
7. New and amended forms relating to international search and preliminary examination
8. Adoption of the report of the session
9. Closing of the session

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