

C. PCT 1600

May 22, 2020

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office (RO), International Searching Authority (ISA), International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) and/or designated or elected Office (DO/EO) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also being sent to interested intergovernmental organizations as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT System.

As part of transitioning to furnishing search reports and written opinions in XML, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) observed that the written opinion specification did not allow for a structured specification of the claims for which there is non-establishment of the written opinion. And, the specification did not allow for an optional category of citation and comments to be specified in relation to conflicting documents. Consequently, KIPO has proposed changes to the specification of the written opinion to enable the transmission of this information.

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES

Proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are set out in the following Proposal for Change (PFC) file (available at: http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/pfc_files.htm):

- PCT/EF/PFC 20/001 (Modification of the DTD for the written opinion (ISA/237))

CONSULTATIONS

Consultations under PCT Rule 89.2 are being conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions. The International Bureau has updated the facilities available to the consultative group and has, in addition to

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the normal process, made this PFC available in the WIPO Wiki (available at: <https://www3.wipo.int/confluence/display/PCTAFCG>) to enable the prompt sharing of comments in a public forum. Existing members of the consultative group have been granted access rights to post comments directly on to the WIPO Wiki page; furthermore, comments submitted using the existing e-mail process, that is, submitted by e-mail sent to the address set out below, will be added to the WIPO Wiki page by the International Bureau.

The International Bureau would appreciate receiving any comments on the proposals by July 1, 2020. Comments should preferably be made by posting them directly onto the WIPO Wiki page or by e-mail to: pctbdd@wipo.int. All comments received will be made available on the WIPO Wiki and later as Annexes to the PFC file. Copies of the proposals on paper are available from the International Bureau upon request. Enquiries concerning the proposals should be directed to the International Bureau by e-mail to: pctbdd@wipo.int.

FURTHER PROCESS

Once the Consultative Group established under Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions has made its recommendations, the International Bureau will promulgate any necessary changes to the PCT Administrative Instructions, together with information on entry into force of the changes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Sandage", written in a cursive style.

John Sandage
Deputy Director General