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**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
(IPC UNION)**

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

**Thirty-Ninth Session
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PUBLICATION OF IPC VERSION 2007.01 AND RELATED RECLASSIFICATION
OF PATENT FILES

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The first new version of the advanced level of the reformed IPC (IPC 2007.01) containing amendments to the advanced level entered into force on January 1, 2007. Those amendments relate to subclasses A62D and H02M and have been adopted by the Advanced Level Subcommittee, in English, on the basis of advanced level revision projects A001 and A004. The Subcommittee adopted the amendments in September 2006.
2. On October 5, 2006, the International Bureau made available the English version of IPC 2007.01 on a special site called "early publication" and new master files associated with IPC 2007.01 on the IBIS site. Both sites were opened to industrial property offices, commercial providers of online databases and members of the Patent Documentation Group.
3. Following some improvements made to the English version of IPC 2007.01 and elimination of certain errors in the associated files, both IPC 2007.01 in English and the master files were published on the WIPO IPC public site in November 2006. It should be noted that, in the future, new versions of the advanced level of the IPC and new master files will also be made available to the general public three months before the new version enters into force.

4. Following adoption by the Advanced Level Subcommittee of the English version of the amendments to the advanced level, the International Bureau has started preparation of the respective French version. The French version was finalized and subsequently adopted by the Subcommittee for the French Version of the Advanced Level in November 2006. At the same time, master files associated with the French version of IPC 2007.01 were prepared.

5. The first new version of the advanced level of the reformed IPC (IPC 2007.01) was published on the WIPO IPC public site in its two authentic languages, English and French, in December 2006, before its entering into force.

6. According to the principles of IPC reform, revision of the advanced level of the IPC was accompanied by reclassification of respective patent files. The reclassification procedure was elaborated jointly by WIPO and the EPO and was launched in September 2006.

7. The working lists of documents were prepared by the EPO for all industrial property offices that could potentially take part in the reclassification. The working lists were published on the WIPO website and made available for downloading. Before their submission to the MCD, the reclassification results were typically submitted by offices to a central e-mail box which was established and managed by WIPO.

8. In total, 10 industrial property offices participated in the reclassification of patent files for the first revised version of the advanced level of the IPC. This resulted in the reclassification of a major part of the worldwide patent collection corresponding to the revised areas of IPC 2007.01.

9. The Committee of Experts is invited to consider this document and to make decisions as necessary.

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