

ANNEX IV

RECLASSIFICATION RULES IN THE  
MASTER CLASSIFICATION DATABASE (MCD)

1. The MCD should deliver to the reclassifying patent office the complete patent family with the classification symbols as stored in the MCD for each document classified in the IPC entry to be revised. If several entries are involved in the reclassification, a list will be produced for each entry.
2. When the MCD has to carry out class propagation, the class addition is to be realized for all family members (PCT minimum documentation). However, when the corresponding deletion of the old classification symbol cannot be carried out, a warning is to be created by the MCD and sent to the office which published the document with the old classification symbol.
3. An office selected for a reclassification action on the basis of the rules for task allocation should be in charge of reclassifying a patent family, even when on its own document the symbol to be reclassified is missing.
4. After reclassification, offices should send to the MCD a minimum set of information, which contains the document identification together with the old classification symbol for deletion as well as the new classification symbol for addition.

[Annex V follows]