

# WIPO



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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**

GENEVA

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

**IPC REVISION WORKING GROUP**

**Eleventh Session  
Geneva, June 14 to 24, 2004**

**UPDATING OF THE IPC MATERIAL IN THE WIPO HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL  
PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. At its thirty-third session, held in October 2003, the IPC Committee of Experts considered a program of updating of the existing IPC training and explanatory material for the use of the IPC and took certain decisions in respect of the following material contained in the WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation: the Introductory Manual to the International Patent Classification, IPC Training Examples and Guidelines for the Organization of Search Files Based on the IPC (see document IPC/CE/33/12, paragraphs 72 to 77).
2. The above material is collected in the first section of the IPC-related part of the Handbook, concerned with the application of the IPC. The second section relates to the revision of the IPC and includes the following material: Philosophy of the IPC Revision Work, the IPC Revision Procedure and Specific Instructions for the Revision of the IPC.
3. In view of the numerous changes introduced by the reform in the structure, basic principles and rules of the IPC, the material relating to the revision of the IPC should be completely reconsidered. In respect of the IPC revision procedure, this has already been done in the document "Revision Policy and Revision Procedure for the Reformed IPC" adopted by the IPC Committee of Experts at its thirty-third session (see Annex IV to document IPC/CE/33/12). However, updating of the Philosophy of the IPC Revision Work and of the Specific Instructions for the Revision of the IPC has not yet been considered.

4. In order to provide a sufficient basis for the future revision process, it is proposed that the IPC Revision Working Group consider the elaboration of the philosophy and of the detailed instructions for the revision of the reformed IPC.

*5. The Working Group is invited to consider the proposal contained in paragraph 4, above.*

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