ANNEX VIII

IPC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
Continuous tasks			
1	Elaboration of classification definitions		
1(a)	Develop a plan for completion of all subclass definitions	Prepare an updated list of priorities Prepare a list of prioritized subclasses	Q2/2006 Q4/2006
1(b)	Preparation of definitions	Complete definitions for an additional 50 subclasses	Q4/2008
2	Systematic maintenance of the IPC		
2(a)	Develop a plan for maintenance of all subclasses	Prepare an updated list of priorities Start pilot projects	Q2/2006
2(b)	Treatment of maintenance projects	Complete maintenance of 10 subclasses	Q4/2007
3	Removal of informative references in IPC schemes	Remove informative references from the IPC schemes after completion of corresponding D-projects	As needed
4	Removal of references from guidance headings		
4(a)	Develop a plan for removal of references from guidance headings in all subclasses	Develop plan	Q2/2006
4(b)	Removal of references	Remove all references from guidance headings and relocate them in appropriate groups (i.e., limiting type) or in the electronic layer (i.e., informative type)	Q4/2007
5	Special Residual Subclasses and Residual Main Groups		

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
5(a)	Introduction of residual main groups in IPC schemes	Create residual main groups where appropriate	Q1/2008
5(b)	Maintenance of special residual subclasses and main groups in IPC schemes	Develop a procedure Periodical review of all residual subclasses and main groups for emerging technologies or classification problems	Q2/2006 Continuous
Ad hoc tasks			
6	Treating revision projects	Treat CL projects and projects which are forwarded from the ALS	As needed
7	Update of IPC training examples	Update existing training examples following a revision project. Introduce a new training example when a new subclass is introduced or an existing one is extensively revised	As needed
8	Correction of obvious errors or deficiencies in IPC schemes or definitions	The IB will evaluate proposals for correcting obvious errors in IPC schemes or definitions and refer to ALS or WG, if appropriate. IB will correct evident clerical errors without further action.	As needed
9	Evaluate borderlines between core and advanced level in schemes for problems with hierarchy, ease of use, and correctness of notes, examples or references	Evaluate and propose improvements to the schemes, notes, examples or references and refer task to ALS when appropriate	As needed
10	IPC Guide or Handbook improvement	Evaluate proposals for new or revised principles or rules for the IPC and propose corresponding changes to the Guide. Update the Handbook to reflect any changes in the Guide and Guidelines	Q4/2007

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
11	Quality control of IPC classification	Develop a procedure for investigating significant discrepancies reported between classification symbols applied to members of simple patent families. Propose corrective actions as appropriate	Q2/2007 Continuous
12	Preparation of new IPC edition		Q1/2008

[Technical Annexes follow]