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GENEVA

**INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION
(PCT UNION)**

PCT COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Twenty-First Session

Geneva, September 26 to October 5, 2005

**PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION:
ADDITION OF PATENT DOCUMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Document prepared by the International Bureau

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE

1. In response to the invitation of the Meeting of International Authorities Under the PCT to report on when the International Searching Authorities would be able to include the documents in any databases necessary for them to search the patent documentation of the Republic of Korea effectively, the Task Force reviewing the concept, definition and content of the PCT minimum documentation (see paragraph 3 of document PCT/CTC/21/2) has reported as follows:

“The Task Force reports that most Authorities either already search the patent documents of the Republic of Korea to the extent required by the proposed amendment to Rule 34 or will be ready to begin doing so in 2006. The remainder of the Authorities expect to have their databases ready to begin such searches by January 1, 2007.

“The Task Force recommends that, if the Assembly decides that the proposed amendments of the PCT Regulations in Annex II of document PCT/A/34/2 should enter into force on April 1, 2007, the proposed amendments to Rule 34 should enter into force on the same date for reasons of administrative convenience. The Task Force notes, however, that the inclusion of this documentation in the Authorities’ search databases does not need to await the entry into force of the Rule change and, in view of the importance of the technical information contained in the documentation, recommends

that all Authorities should include the documentation in their databases at the earliest possible date and in any event by January 1, 2007.”

2. *The Committee is invited:*

(i) *to note that most International Searching Authorities either already search the patent documents of the Republic of Korea to the extent required by the proposed amendments of Rule 34 set out in the Annex to document PCT/CTC/21/2 and Annex III to document PCT/A/34/2 Rev., or will be ready to begin doing so in 2006;*

(ii) *to note that the remainder of the International Searching Authorities expect to have their databases ready to begin such searches by January 1, 2007;*

(iii) *to recommend to the Assembly that, for reasons of administrative convenience, the proposed amendments of Rule 34 be adopted with the same date of entry into force as the amendments set out in Annex II to document PCT/A/32/2 Rev.; and*

(iv) *to advise the Assembly that, notwithstanding the date of entry into force of the proposed amendments of Rule 34, the International Searching Authorities intend to include the relevant documentation in their databases at the earliest possible date and in any event by January 1, 2007.*

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