

# WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION  
(PCT UNION)

MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

Thirteenth Session  
Geneva, May 3 to 5, 2006

PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION:  
STATUS REPORT

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

## SUMMARY

1. This document summarizes the actions taken with regard to the comprehensive review of PCT minimum documentation since the twelfth session of the Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT, held in Geneva from December 12 to 16, 2005. A separate report on progress made in respect of the Search Guidance Intellectual Property Digital Library (SGIPDL) is given in document PCT/MIA/13/7. The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress made.

## BACKGROUND

2. At its twelfth session, the Meeting received information on the establishment of the task force to progress the work on a comprehensive review of the PCT minimum documentation and the activities subsequently undertaken by the task force in respect of the proposed addition of the patent documentation of the Republic of Korea and the broader issue of the review of the PCT minimum documentation per se. With respect to the former, the task force had successfully completed its work and provided input to the decision reached by the PCT Assembly to incorporate the patent documentation of the Republic of Korea into the PCT minimum documentation with effect from April 1, 2007.

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3. With regard to the broader issue of a comprehensive review of the PCT minimum documentation, the Meeting heard that an initial exchange of comments had been received from a number of members of the task force but, although substantial and in some cases very detailed, their limited number did not provide at that stage the basis for any form of comprehensive analysis.

#### ACTION TAKEN

4. At its twelfth session, the Meeting agreed that a document received from the Chairman of the comprehensive review which provided further thought on the questions that needed to be addressed and proposals on the way forward should be circulated to the task force for its consideration (see document PCT/MIA/12/10, paragraph 61). This action was taken by the Secretariat in December 2005. Comments were subsequently received from the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks of the Russian Federation.

5. Possible ways to subdivide the work to be undertaken and allocate responsibility to individual members of the task force are being explored by the Secretariat in cooperation with the chairman of the task force together and the possibility of a meeting of task force members investigated.

#### NEXT STEPS

6. The International Bureau is investigating the possibility of convening a physical meeting of the task force at the same time as another meeting where some of its membership will already be gathered. This would permit the task force to discuss the future content, distribution and organisation of the work to be undertaken in the comprehensive review of PCT minimum documentation more effectively, in order to provide the necessary impetus to speedier progress.

*7. The Meeting is invited to note the progress made in the comprehensive review of PCT minimum documentation.*

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