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PCT/MIA/I/3

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

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

**MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES
UNDER THE PCT**

**First Session
Geneva, January 15 to 19, 1990**

REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH GUIDELINES

Memorandum prepared by the International Bureau

1. The present document contains three annexes.
2. Annex I reproduces the comments received from some International Searching Authorities on the proposed draft of revised PCT Search Guidelines as contained in document PCT/GL/2 Prov. of June 12, 1989.
3. Annex II reproduces those parts of the PCT Search Guidelines as contained in document PCT/GL/2 Prov. which have been further modified, in particular on the basis of the comments reproduced in Annex I to this document. The majority, but not all, of the proposals for modification have been taken into account. All further modifications have been made in handwriting on copies of the relevant pages of document PCT/GL/2 Prov. in order to show exactly what has been changed. The two-letter country code in a circle indicates the International Searching Authority ("ISA") which proposed the modification. The letters "IB" indicate that the related modification was made by the International Bureau. Where the letters "IB" follow a two-letter country code identifying an ISA, the proposed modification has been further amended by the International Bureau. To the extent that the comments contained in Annex I are not reflected by the modifications contained in Annex II, any required additional modification will be made after the comments have been considered by the Meeting.

4. Annex III contains the draft proposal for a modified Form, Form PCT/ISA/206, which is the form for the invitation to pay additional search fees in case of lack of unity of invention and for submission of the partial international search report. The modification of this form is proposed consequential to the proposal to amend Chapter VII, Unity of Invention, of the PCT Search Guidelines and to issue a partial international search report together with the invitation to pay additional search fees.

5. The Meeting is invited

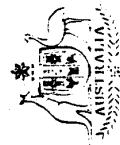
(a) to consider the comments reproduced in Annex I.

(b) to approve the further modification to the PCT Search Guidelines contained in Annex II, and

(c) to consider the draft of the modified Form PCT/ISA/206.

[Annexes I to III follow]

**Australian
Patent, Trade Marks
and Designs Offices**



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In reply please quote:

28 September 1989

Mr. A. Bogsch
Director General
WIPO
34 Chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND

Re: Draft revision of guidelines for international search to be carried out under the patent cooperation treaty (PCT). (PCT SEARCH GUIDELINES).

Dear Mr Bogsch

I refer to WIPO Circular C. 358 PCT 211 requesting the views of this Office on the above matter.

The ISA/AU generally agrees with the draft, however, it would like the IB to consider the observations in the attached annex.

Yours sincerely

G. Baker
A/Deputy Commissioner

ANNEX

page 1 of 3.

CHAPTER II.

Paragraph 10.

The proposed procedure of possibly stopping the search in the case of unpaid fees may not be practical if there is any significant time period between the RO notifying the ISA of a charge being made and notification from the IB that the amounts due have been paid. Difficulty could be experienced in completing the ISR within the allowed time period.

The practice of the ISA/AU is to proceed with the search regardless of whether or not any fee is outstanding since it is considered remote that an application will be withdrawn for non-payment before the ISR is established.

CHAPTER III.

Paragraph 4.2.

It is not clear whether the requirement of allowing the same time limits for Article 15(5) searches as for full international searches is mandatory from the PCT and Regulations, or a procedural matter in addition to the requirements of the PCT and Regulations.

Although the ISA/AU tries to complete Article 15(5) searches within the same time limits as for international searches our general practice is to allow a longer period of time to establish the search report for an Article 15(5) search. The proposed change would result in an additional burden on the resources of the ISA/AU and is thus not supported.

CHAPTER IV.

Paragraph 1.2.

It is not clear from the last sentence of the paragraph how Section 511(a) gives the basis for the ISA to transmit any decision on a rectification under Rule 91.1 to both the IB and the RO. Rule 91.1 appears to only give basis for transmission to the IB.

Paragraph 1.4.

At line 6 "definite" should presumably be "definitive".

page 2 of 3.

Paragraph 1.6.

This paragraph does not provide procedures where the Receiving Office notifies the ISA that the applicant has been invited to furnish a title or abstract but none has as yet been supplied.

Paragraph 2.2.

The term "related" in line 6 should apparently read "analogous" as per line 3.

Paragraph 3.2.

The statement in the last sentence of the paragraph is not consistent with Rule 43.5(e). Rule 43.5(e) restricts the identification of relevant passages for "only certain passages" of the cited document.

CHAPTER VI.

Paragraph 4.5.

The reference in the last line of the paragraph to Section 507(f) is erroneous. The situation referred to by the paragraph is covered by Section 507(e).

CHAPTER VII.

In general.

The ISA/AU does not agree with the changes to CHAPTER VII as a whole, and in particular to paragraphs 1, 2, and 10, which require, where there is lack of unity, that:

- (i) a partial ISR be prepared in relation to the invention first mentioned in the claims,
 - (ii) the partial ISR be then sent to the applicant together with communication of lack of unity and an invitation to pay additional fees, and
 - (iii) an additional search(es) be then carried out for any additional invention(s) if the appropriate fees are paid by the applicant.
- The time constraints to complete the ISR (usually 3 months) are considered too restrictive with regard to the time required to complete any additional searches, particularly when the applicant has at least 15 days, under Rule 40.3, to respond to an invitation.

page 3 of 3.

Further, under the draft procedure, the time constraints to decide a protest and inform the applicant, at the latest together with the ISR, are considered to be too restrictive.
Paragraph 12.

In the last sentence of the paragraph, the expression "the claim" should apparently be "the claim or claims".

CHAPTER VIII.

Paragraph 2.2.

The reference to "a priori" in line 2 appears redundant.

CHAPTER X.

Paragraph 3.2.

The reference to "which" in line 2 should clearly be "which".

Paragraph 9.1.

The ISA/AU does not agree with the first sentence of the paragraph. This sentence implies that an ISA should, as a matter of course, attach copies of all references cited in the ISR, to the ISR, and send these to the applicant. This procedure appears to be required irrespective of whether or not the applicant has requested the copies, or is to pay a fee.

The extra cost of producing the copies, apparently at the expense of the ISA's, is not acceptable to the ISA/AU.

Paragraph 9.2.

The paragraph does not appear to take into consideration Rule 44.3(d) which allows an agency of the ISA to send copies of references.

CHAPTER XI.

Paragraph 5.

The last sentence of paragraph 5 is not consistent with the requirements of Rule 44.2 in that a notification using form PCT/ISA/205 is only required under the conditions specified in this Rule and not in all cases as the draft proposes.

This paragraph does not appear to take into consideration Rule 8.2(b) which allows for no figure to be selected.

USSR STATE COMMITTEE
FOR INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES
Moscow, Soviet Union

C O M M E N T S
of the Soviet International Searching
Authority on the Draft Revision of PCT
Search Guidelines

Dr. A. Bogsh
Director General
World Intellectual Property
Organization (WIPO)

Dear Doctor Bogsh,

With reference to your letter of June 12, 1989 C.358/PCT 211
I would like to transmit herewith Comments of the Soviet
International Searching Authority on the Draft Revision of PCT
Search Guidelines.

Sincerely yours,

L.S. Komarov
First Deputy Chairman

The Soviet International Searching Authority had studied
the Draft Revision of Guidelines for International Search to be
carried out under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) (PCT
Search Guidelines) as it presented in the document PCT/GI/2 Prov.
received with the Circular Letter C.358/PCT 211.

In general we support the amendments made in the Guidelines,
which will, without doubts, to serve more completely the aim to
securing of the uniformity in the working methods of the Inter-
national Searching Authorities and in the preparation of their
search reports.

Nevertheless it seems to us that there is the possibility of
further modification of the Guidelines on the next stage, for
example, more detailed disclosure of paragraphs 2.4 to 2.6 of
Chapter III and paragraph 2.2 of Chapter IV using the wording
of the International Patent Classification (as it was done in
the Chapter V).

Further, the problem aroused in the Circular Letter concern-
ing the practice of one of the International Searching Autho-
rities related to "a posteriori" finding of the lack of unity of
invention, may be considered in a broader sense, as the need of
the International Searching Authority to take into consideration
the possibility of the same situation on the national phase,
after the search for conflicting national applications. By other
words, that problem is closely connected with the problem of the
orientation of the search as it is disclosed in the PCT Rule
33.3(b).

For the evaluation of those and other such problems it
will be useful to provide for direct consultations between the
International Searching Authorities, the same as there were
carried out in the course of preparation of the first versions
of PCT Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines, and we
would like to be grateful to the International Bureau for the
study concerning the possibility of such consultations.

2.

Further, please find also some additional particular notes of the Soviet International Searching Authority concerning the text of the Guidelines:

- ad Chapter I, paragraph 2
it seems to be advisable to mention in this paragraph also the experience of International Searching Authorities as a source of those Guidelines,
- ad Chapter II, paragraph 1
may be it would be useful to mention in this paragraph also the possibility of international preliminary examination as an intermediary stage (between the international search and the national examination),
- ad Chapter IV, paragraph 1.6
it seems to be necessary to provide the notification of the International Searching Authority by the International Bureau of earlier publication of the international application. May be this situation should be reflected in the Administrative Instructions,
- ad Chapter VI, paragraph 6.2
this paragraph provide for some reaction of the applicant on the reference appeared (" showing later publication "). But such situation would be possible only in case of "partial report",
- ad Chapter VII, paragraph 2
an introduction in the Guidelines of new term of "partial international search report" will require the introduction of this term also in the Administrative Instructions (at least in the Annex F - "Forms"),
- ad Chapter X, paragraph 1.2
this paragraph seems to be ambiguous, because it deals with the internal procedure in the International Searching Authority,
- ad Chapter X, paragraph 3.2
attention is drawn to the misprint at the beginning of the second line .



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 12 1989

Dr. Arpad Bogsch
Director General
World Intellectual Property Organization
34 chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Dear Arpad:

Thank you for your letter of June 12, 1989, conveying a copy of the draft modification of the Searching Authority Guidelines under the Patent Cooperation Treaty. In accordance with your request we have reviewed the draft modifications. Enclosed is a copy of our comments.

Any inquiries regarding these comments should be directed to Richard B. Lazarus of this Office.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Quigg
Assistant Secretary and Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks

Enclosure

The following are our comments on the draft revision of the PCT Search Guidelines. The paragraphs which are reproduced below have added matter underlined and deleted matter in brackets [].

Chapter II

Paragraph No. 10 - The International Searching Authority [may] should not [proceed with] begin the international search if it receives information from the receiving Office that a charge has been made in respect of the international search fee under Rule 16 bis.1(a) and time remains to prepare the search report. [The] In this case the international search [must be resumed] should begin promptly upon information from the International Bureau that the amounts due have been paid (Section 509). Where notification of a Rule 16 bis.1 (a) charge has been received by the International Searching Authority the international search report should not be established and transmitted until receipt of a notification from the International Bureau that the amounts due have been paid.

Chapter III

Paragraph No. 3.4, lines 2 and 3. - Change "or to correct" to - - including the correction of - -.

Chapter IV

Paragraph No. 1.2 - In the last line change "511(a)" to - - 511(v) - -.

Paragraph No. 3.4 - It is recommended that the following sentence be added at the end of this paragraph. - - Where amendments are made after publication the amended search report should be marked "amended" before copies are forwarded to the applicant and the International Bureau. - -

Paragraph No. 3.5 - At the end of the paragraph add - - The International Searching Authority may also notify applicant that the amendments have been forwarded, however the International Searching Authority is not responsible for their timely transmittal to the International Bureau, see Rule 46.1 - -.

Chapter V

Paragraph No. 1.1 - The suggested changes in the last two sentences should not be made. The non-obligatory indexing codes are not at present used by the ISA/US. Accordingly, in line 10 after "Also," it is recommended to insert the phrase -- after the searching authority has implemented the use of the non-obligatory indexing codes and non-obligatory classification symbols --.

Paragraph No. 2.1 - In line 5 replace "as well as" with -- and after the searching authority has implemented the use of the non-obligatory indexing codes and non-obligatory classification symbols should also apply --.

Paragraph No. 3.1, line 6, - insert -- followed by the notation "(amended)" -- before the first word "indicating". This change clarifies how the examiner should mark the amended classification to distinguish it from the earlier published classification.

Chapter VII

Paragraph No. 2 - The proposed amendments are not acceptable. The ISA/US does not issue partial search reports.

Paragraph No. 10 - For the reason noted in paragraph 2 above the proposed amendments are not acceptable.

Paragraph No. 12 - The additions in the last 3 and 1/2 lines of this section are not understood.

Chapter X

Paragraph No. 3.1 - The first sentence should be changed to read as follows: --

The printed international search report form (Form PCT/ISA/210) to be transmitted to the applicant and to the International Bureau contains two main sheets to be used for all searches. These two main sheets are for recording the important features of the search, such as the fields searched, and for citing documents revealed by the search. Two optional supplemental sheets and one extra sheet are also part of the search report form for use where necessary.

Paragraph No. 9.1 - The International Searching Authority should attach copies of all references cited to the copy of the international search report which is sent to the applicant. The preparation of copies may be the subject of a separate request and payment of a separate fee for copies may be required (Rule 44.3). For the invitation for payment of fees Form PCT/ISA/221 may be used.

Paragraph No. 9.2 - In the first line after "upon request" add -- and receipt of the required payment, if any, --.

EPO comments on PCT/GI/2 Prov.
(PCT Search Guidelines)

Chapter II, 8

The EPO suggests deleting the phrase ", or because they are generally accepted not to be patentable subjects or susceptible of industrial application" (lines 8 to 10 of the draft) which - although it also appears in the current Guidelines - is misleading.

The PCT stipulates that the ISA is not obliged to search subject-matter in two situations:

- (a) According to Article 17(2)(a)(i) PCT in connection with Rule 39.1 there is no obligation to search certain subject-matter which is excluded in many patent systems from protection.

This covers subject-matter which under the EPC

- is not regarded as an invention (Article 52(2) EPC),
- is not regarded as susceptible of industrial application in the case of therapeutic treatment (Article 52(4) EPC),
- is excluded because it is related to certain developments in biotechnology (Article 53(b) EPC).

- (b) According to Article 17(2)(a)(ii) PCT there is no obligation to search if the application documents fail to comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that a meaningful search is not possible.

There is no basis in the PCT for the statement in the draft that subjects are not required to be searched "because they are

.../...

generally accepted not to be patentable subjects or susceptible of industrial application". Such subject-matter has to fall into one of the alternatives in Article 17(2)(a) PCT in order to be excluded from the obligation to search.

Chapter II, 10

Administrative Instruction 509 should make it clear that the ISA must discontinue or not start the international search if it is informed that Rule 16bis proceedings are pending.

Chapter IV, 1.2

According to Rule 91.1(d) PCT the competent authority may invite the applicant to request rectification of an obvious error. This is strengthened in the draft which says the ISA should invite the applicant to request rectification.

Search and examination are two stages of proceedings clearly separated in the PCT. The search examiner should not try to do the substantive examiner's job. In particular this applies to the examination of the content of the application. In principle it is not up to the search examiner to put the description, claims and drawings in order. Any impression should be avoided that there is an obligation on the ISA in this direction. The word "may" used in Rule 91.1(a) is flexible enough to cover all situations and is clearly preferable.

The same applies to the invitation to correct the application voluntarily in view of Rule 9.1 PCT (subject-matter contrary to public order).

.../...

- 3 -

Chapter IV, 1.6

The proposed changes strengthen the requirement addressed to the search examiner ("must" instead of "will have to"); they can be approved.

Regarding the procedure under Rules 37.2 and 38.2(a) PCT, we suggest relieving the ISA from having to invite the applicant to comment on amendments made by the search examiner to the abstract as filed or on an abstract drawn up by the ISA.

Firstly, only exceptionally does the applicant not give his assent; secondly, sending out Forms 204 and 205 is time-consuming and - given that they are issued shortly before publication - any comments actually made frequently arrive too late.

Doing away with the invitation stage would harmonize PCT and EPC procedure (see Rule 47 EPC).

The above applies to the title as well as the abstract.

Chapter VI, 3.1

The guideline is correct, but Rule 33.1(c) PCT requires amendment.

Chapter VII, 7

The EPO suggests replacing "features" by "embodiments" in line 2; "features" is misleading because it is generally used for elements or characteristics of a combination.

.../...

- 4 -

Chapter VII, 12

The last sentence should be deleted because it contradicts the very spirit of "a posteriori" objection to lack of unit of invention, as presented in VII, 9.

Until such time as the question of "a posteriori" objection is decided by the EPO Enlarged Board of Appeal, when acting as an ISA the Office will continue to make "a posteriori" objections when necessary.

Chapter VII, 13

Although the suggested guideline merely repeats Administrative Instruction 502, the EPO is of the opinion that both should be deleted.

The reason is that in practice protests are brought before the EPO Boards of Appeal shortly before expiry of the time limit under Rule 42 PCT and are normally not dealt with in time for this time limit to be observed.

Nor is there any practical reason to hold on to the search report and not to send it to the applicant and the International Bureau until a decision on the protest has been taken.

Having said that, the EPO is of course aware of the need for the ISA to deal with any protest as quickly as possible.

Chapter X, 7.1

Indicating on the report itself the date of mailing would seem to be superfluous, given that this date appears on transmittal form PCT/ISA/220.

[Annex II follows]

PCT/MIA/I/3
ANNEX II

PCT/GL/2 Prov.
page 4 *REV.*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. These Guidelines were elaborated by the PCT Interim Committee for ~~H90~~ Technical Cooperation and amended in 1989 by the International Bureau after consultation with the International Searching Authorities. *taking into account over ten years of experience in carrying out international searches* (SU)
2. The Guidelines constitute elaborations and clarifications of the provisions of the Treaty and the Regulations thereunder and their relevant Articles and Rules and Sections of the Administrative Instructions thereunder with respect to international search.
3. In order to ensure uniform practice, the International Searching Authorities are expected to adhere to these Guidelines in accordance with the Basic Obligations laid down in the Agreement under Article 16(3)(b) of the PCT. Nevertheless, the application of the Guidelines to, and the interpretation thereof in respect of, individual international applications is the responsibility of the International Searching Authorities and it may be necessary for search examiners to depart from the general instructions given here in exceptional cases.
4. These Guidelines were drafted for, and apply to, international searches and, where appropriate, international-type searches.
5. References in the Guidelines to Articles are to those of the Treaty, to Rules to those of the Regulations under the PCT, to Sections to those of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, and to Chapters and paragraphs to those of these Guidelines.

CHAPTER II

GENERAL

1. The procedure through which an international application proceeds from the filing of the application to the granting of a patent (or the refusal thereof) comprises two clearly separated basic stages, i.e., the international search and the substantive examination by a regional or national Office, *and possibly an international preliminary examination on the one hand* on the other hand (SU)
2. The objective of the international search is to discover the prior art which is relevant for the purpose of determining whether, and if so to what extent, the claimed invention to which the international application relates is or is not new and does or does not involve an inventive step (Article 15(2), Rule 33.1(a)).
3. The international search is essentially a documentary search in a document collection that is systematically arranged (or otherwise systematically accessible) for search purposes according to the subject matter contents of the documents (Rule 36.1(ii)). These are primarily patent documents of various countries, supplemented by a number of articles from periodicals and other non-patent literature.
4. An international search report will be prepared containing the results of the international search, in particular by identifying the documents constituting the relevant prior art (Article 16(1), Rule 43.5).

[Chapter III, continued]

3.14 In certain circumstances, it may be desirable to extend the subject matter of the international search to include the "technological background" of the claimed invention (see Chapter IV, paragraph 2.7). This would include:

- the preamble to the first claim, i.e., the part preceding the expression "characterized by";
- the state of the prior art which is deemed to be known in the introduction of the description of the international application but not identified by specific citations;
- the general technological background of the invention (often called "general state of the art").

4. Types of searches

4.1 International searches. The task of the International Searching Authority is primarily to carry out international searches and to draw up international search reports on international applications (Article 16(1)).

4.2 International-type searches. Under the PCT, an International Searching Authority may be entrusted with carrying out "international-type searches" for national applications. These searches are by definition similar to international searches, and the same considerations and time limits for establishing the search report will apply (Article 15(5)).

CHAPTER IV

SEARCH PROCEDURE AND STRATEGY

1. Procedure prior to searching

1.1 When taking up an international application to be searched, the search examiner should first consider the application in order to determine the subject of the claimed invention, taking account of the guidance given in Chapter III, paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3. For this purpose, he should make a critical analysis of the claims in the light of the description and drawings. Although he need not study all details of the description and drawings, he should consider these sufficiently to identify the problem underlying the invention, the insight leading to its solution, the totality of the means essential to the solution as particularly reflected in the technical features thereof found in the claims, and the results and effects obtained.

1.2 If the search examiner notices any obvious error in the international application, the International Searching Authority should invite, with Form PCT/ISA/216, the applicant to request the rectification of the error (Rule 91.1(d)). Similarly, if the International Searching Authority notes matter contrary to public order ("ordre public") or morality or disparaging statements which ought to be omitted from the international application as published, it should suggest to the applicant, with Form PCT/ISA/218, that he voluntarily correct his international application and should notify the receiving Office and the International Bureau accordingly (Rule 9.2). Any decision on a rectification under Rule 91.1 (Form PCT/ISA/217) or any correction aimed at complying with Rule 9.1 must be transmitted to the ~~receiving Office and the~~ International Bureau (Sections 501 and 511(a)).

HQ

^; corrections aimed at complying with Rule 9.1 must also be transmitted to the receiving Office (AU/IB)

P(v) (us)

[Chapter IV, continued]

1.3 Documents cited in the international application under consideration should be examined if they are cited as the starting point of the invention, or as showing the state of the art, or as alternative solutions to the problem concerned, or when they are necessary for a correct understanding of the application; however, when such citations clearly relate only to details not directly relevant to the claimed invention, they may be disregarded. If the international application cites a document that is not published or otherwise not accessible to the International Searching Authority and the document appears essential to a correct understanding of the invention to the extent that a meaningful international search would not be possible without knowledge of the content of that document, the International Searching Authority may postpone the search and request the applicant to provide first a copy of the document, if possible to do so within the time limits for the preparation of the international search report under the PCT. If no copy of the document is received, the International Searching Authority shall first attempt to carry out the international search and then, if necessary, indicate that no meaningful search could be carried out in total (Article 17(2)(a)(ii)) or that the search needed to be restricted (Article 17(2)(b)).

piv 1.4 The search examiner should then consider the abstract (together with the title of the invention and the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract) in relation to the requirements of the Regulations under the Treaty (see Chapter XI). Since the abstract should relate to the international application as filed, the search examiner should consider it and determine its definite content before carrying out the international search, in order to avoid being inadvertently influenced by the results of the search. However, if there are initial obscurities, which are cleared away in the course of the search, he may have to return to the abstract after the search is completed. Under certain circumstances (see Chapter XI), the search examiner will himself have to establish the abstract and/or title, and/or select the figure to accompany the abstract for publication purposes. Whenever the search examiner modifies the abstract supplied by the applicant, he shall inform the applicant and invite him to comment within one month (Rule 38.2(a)).

1.5 The search examiner, after having considered the abstract, if any, will then classify the international application according to at least the International Patent Classification (IPC) (see Chapter V).

1.6 If publication of the international application is due before international search, the search examiner must establish the classification of the application much earlier than he carries out the search (see Chapter V, paragraph 2); he must then, at the same time, briefly examine the abstract (together with the title and selected figure) for the purpose of publication. This examination of the abstract will not go beyond ensuring that it relates to the application concerned and that no conflict exists with the title of the invention or with the classification of the application. If at that time no abstract, title or figure selection has been provided by the applicant, the search examiner will have to do so (Rules 37.2 and 38.2(a)). No abstract or title needs to be established where the International Searching Authority received a notification from the receiving Office to the effect that the applicant has been invited to furnish an abstract and/or title.

AU/18

[Chapter IV, continued]

2. Search strategy

2.1 Having determined the subject of the invention, as outlined in Chapter IV, paragraph 1.1, it may be desirable for the search examiner to prepare first a written search statement, defining the subject of his search as precisely as possible. In many instances, one or more of the claims may themselves serve this purpose, but they may have to be generalized in order to cover all aspects and embodiments of the invention. At this time, the considerations relating to the exclusion from international search (see Chapter VIII) and to lack of unity of invention (see Chapter VII, paragraph 1) should be borne in mind. The search examiner may also have to restrict the subject of the international search because of obscurities (see Chapter VIII, paragraph 2.1); but he should not do this if it can be avoided and he should subsequently adjust his search if such obscurities are cleared away during the search. Any restrictions of the international search on these grounds should be indicated in the international search report. If no search is made, a declaration should be issued under Article 17(2)(a).

2.2 Next, the search examiner should select the units of the classification to be consulted for the international search, both in all directly relevant fields and, if necessary, in analogous fields. Documents may be further selected by the use of, for example, mechanized search systems or abstracting journals, internal and/or external online data bases. In searches made by using the IPC, the selection of classification units in ~~related~~ fields should be limited to:

(i) higher subdivisions allowing searching by abstraction (generalization) inasmuch as this is justified from a technical viewpoint, and

(ii) parallel subdivisions, bearing in mind the fact that the fields in question will become increasingly unrelated.

2.3 Often various search strategies are possible, and the search examiner should exercise his judgment based on his experience and knowledge of the search files, to select the search strategy most appropriate to the case in hand, and establish the order in which various classification units are to be consulted accordingly. He should give precedence to the units in which the probability of finding relevant documents is highest. Usually, the main technical field of the international application will be given precedence, starting with the classification units most relevant to the specific example(s) of the claimed invention.

2.4 The search examiner should then carry out the international search, directing his attention primarily to novelty, but also at the same time paying attention to any prior art likely to have a bearing on inventive step. He should also note any documents that may be of importance for other reasons, such as documents putting doubt upon the validity of any priority claimed, contributing to a better or more correct understanding of the claimed invention, or illustrating the technological background; but he should not spend time in searching for these documents, nor in the consideration of such matters unless there is a special reason for doing so in a particular case.

2.5 The search examiner should concentrate his search efforts on the classification units in which the probability of finding highly relevant documents is greatest. He should always take account of the search results already obtained in considering whether to extend the search to other areas.

[Chapter IV, continued]

3.3 Finally, the search examiner should prepare the international search report (see Chapter X).

3.4 It may happen occasionally that, after completion of an international search report, the International Searching Authority discovers further relevant documents (e.g., in a later search for a related application). These should be added to the international search report up to the time that preparations for its publication by the International Bureau are completed. An amended international search report should be sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau promptly. Thereafter, if within two years from the priority date of the international application the International Searching Authority should discover any particularly relevant document, it should amend the international search report^P and inform the applicant and the International Bureau for subsequent communication to the designated Offices and the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

p, mark the report clearly as "amended"

US/IB

3.5 Where the International Searching Authority, after transmittal of the international search report, receives from the applicant by mistake amendments to the claims under Article 19(1), it should transmit them promptly to the International Bureau, with which they should have been filed.

and informs the applicant accordingly

CHAPTER V

US/IB

CLASSIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS

1. Definition

1.1 Classification involves the assigning of one or more classification symbols to a particular international application, whereby the technical subject of the invention of that application is identified. Every international application must be classified by the International Searching Authority at least according to the IPC (Rule 43.3), and this Chapter deals only with such classification. This involves the assigning of the appropriate IPC symbols identifying the technical subject(s) of the claimed invention (or of each of the claimed inventions, if there are more than one), such identification being as precise and comprehensive as the classification permits. Also, it is recommended to assign non-obligatory indexing codes relating to the claimed invention, as well as non-obligatory classification symbols and/or indexing codes relating to the "additional information" contained in the international application. The assigned IPC symbols and codes appear on the published international application.

2. Definitive classification of the international application

2.1 The classification of the international application will be determined by the search examiner, who must apply all classification symbols in respect of the claimed invention ("Obligatory Classification"), according to the rules of the IPC, and, preferably, should also apply indexing codes in respect of the claimed invention as well as classification symbols and/or indexing codes in respect of the additional information ("Non-Obligatory Classification and Indexing"), as defined in the Guide to the IPC. Preferably this should be done when the search examiner has studied the content of the application in order to carry out the international search. However, if, exceptionally, publication of the application is due before the search, it will be necessary

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[Chapter V, continued]

for the search examiner to study the application sufficiently to determine the classification at this earlier stage. The search examiner should first of all identify and classify the technical subject(s) of the invention in accordance with the guidance given under "Obligatory Classification." Further guidance, if required, is found in Chapter III, paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2.

2.2 If the international application requires classification in more than one subclass, or more than one main ("00") group within a subclass, then all such classifications should be assigned. The classification of the invention itself should be distinguished from any non-obligatory classification or indexing. Where it is necessary to assign more than one symbol for the invention itself, that symbol which in the search examiner's opinion most adequately identifies the invention, or, when this presents difficulties, that symbol which identifies the invention for which most information is given, should be indicated first, e.g., in order to facilitate subsequent allotment of the applications.

2.3 The classification should be determined without taking into consideration the probable content of the international application after any amendment, since this classification should relate to the disclosure in the published international application, that is, the application as filed. If, however, the search examiner's understanding of the invention, or of the content of the application as filed, alters significantly as a result of the search (e.g., as a result of prior art found, or because of the clarification of apparent obscurities), he should amend the classification accordingly.

3. Amended classification in the case of later published international search report

3.1 In case the international search report is not available in time for publication with the international application, and therefore is published separately, and the search examiner finds it necessary to amend the original classification for the reasons given in paragraph 2.3 of this Chapter, he should include the amended classification in the international search report, indicating that it replaces the one published on the international application. Such amendment of the classification should not be made unless the search examiner is quite certain that it is necessary.

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4. Classification when scope is obscure

4.1 When the scope of the invention is not clear, the classification will have to be based on what appears to be the invention in so far as this can be understood. It may then be necessary to amend the classification, at a later stage, if obscurities are removed by the search, as discussed in paragraph 2.3 of this Chapter.

5. Lack of unity of invention

5.1 All claimed inventions must be fully classified, whether or not there is lack of unity of invention, since all will be disclosed in the published international application. Each invention claimed is to be classified as set out in paragraphs 2.1 to 4.1 of this Chapter.

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[Chapter VI, continued]

4.4 The international search will mainly take into consideration documents published before the international filing date of the international application. However, some extension may be necessary for specific purposes, as is apparent from Chapter VI, paragraphs 1.2 and 3.1.

4.5 Certain other situations may occur in which a document published on or after the international filing date is relevant: examples are a later document containing the principle or theory underlying the invention, which may be useful for a better understanding of the invention, or a later document showing that the reasoning or the facts underlying the invention are incorrect. The international search should not be extended for this purpose, but documents of this nature known to the search examiner could be selected for citation in the international search report (see Section 507(f)).

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5. Contents of prior art disclosure

5.1 As a general rule, the search examiner will select for citation only documents which are present in the search files of the International Searching Authority or to which he has access in some other manner; in that way no doubt will exist about the contents of the documents cited, since the search examiner will generally have physically inspected each document cited.

5.2 However, under certain circumstances a document whose contents have not been verified may be cited, provided there is justification for the assumption that there is identity of contents with another document which the search examiner has inspected and cited. Both documents should then be mentioned in the international search report (see Section 507(h)). For example, instead of the document published before the international filing date in an inconvenient language and selected for citation, the search examiner may have inspected a corresponding document (e.g., another member of the same patent family (see Section 507(g)), or a translation of an article) in a more convenient language and possibly published after the international filing date (see also Chapter III, paragraph 2.3); also the search examiner may assume that, in the absence of explicit indications to the contrary, the contents of an abstract are contained in the original document. Also the search examiner should assume that the contents of a report of an oral disclosure are in agreement with that disclosure.

5.3 Before citing documents in a language with which he is not familiar, the search examiner should satisfy himself that the document is relevant (e.g., through translation by a colleague, through a corresponding document or abstract in a familiar language, through a drawing, or chemical formula in the document).

6. Matters of doubt regarding relevant prior art

6.1 Since decisions with respect to novelty are not the responsibility of the International Searching Authority but of the designated Offices, the International Searching Authorities should not discard documents because of doubt as regards, for example, the exact date of publication or public availability, or the exact contents of an oral disclosure, exhibition, etc., to which such documents may refer. The International Searching Authority should try to remove any doubt that may exist and should cite the documents concerned in the international search report unless the date of publication or of public availability of the document concerned is clearly the same as, or later than, the filing date of the international application. Additional documents providing evidence in matters of doubt may be cited.

[Chapter VII, continued]

11. Reasons of economy may make it advisable for the search examiner, while making the search for the main invention, to search at the same time, despite the non-payment of additional fees, the additional inventions in the classification units consulted for the main invention if this takes little or no additional search effort. The international search for such additional inventions will then have to be completed in any further classification units which may be relevant, when the additional search fees have been paid. This situation may occur when the lack of unity of invention is found either "a priori" or "a posteriori."

12. Occasionally in cases of lack of unity of invention, especially in an "a posteriori" situation, the search examiner will be able to make a complete international search for both or all inventions with negligible additional work, in particular, when the inventions are conceptually very close and none of them requires search in separate classification units. In those cases, the search examiner may decide to complete the international search for the additional invention(s) together with that for the invention first mentioned. All results should then be included in the international search report without inviting the applicant to pay an additional search fee but stating objection to lack of unity of invention. Such statement should only be made, however, where the lack of unity is beyond doubt; it should not be made where non-compliance with the requirement of unity of invention would only result from any amendment to the claim^{for} which might become necessary in view of the references cited in the international search report. *claims*

13. Where the applicant paid additional search fees under protest (Rule 40.2(c)), he must be informed (Form PCT/ISA/212 may be used for that purpose) of any decision about the compliance with the requirement of unity of invention, at the latest together with the international search report. At the same time the International Searching Authority must transmit to the International Bureau a copy of the protest and of the decision thereon as well as any request by the applicant to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to any of the designated Offices (Section 502). *(AU)*

CHAPTER VIII

EXCLUSIONS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH

1. Subjects

1.1 Rule 39 specifies certain subjects which an International Searching Authority is not required to search. The subjects which a particular International Searching Authority will not search under Rule 39 are set forth in the agreement between that International Searching Authority and the International Bureau. Therefore, the subjects excluded from the international search under Rule 39 may vary between the various International Searching Authorities. Furthermore, the International Searching Authorities are not required to search subjects that are generally accepted not to be patentable subjects or susceptible of industrial application.

1.2 Where the subject matter of only some of the claims is a subject excluded from the search (see paragraph 1.1), this will be indicated in the international search report (Article 17(2)(b)). Search should of course be made in respect of the other claims.

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CHAPTER X

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

1. General

1.1 The results of the international search will be recorded in the international search report (Form PCT/ISA/210), which is transmitted with Form PCT/ISA/220 to the applicant and to the International Bureau and serves as a basis for publication and for examination of the international application by the designated Offices and the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

1.2 The search examiner is responsible for seeing that the international search report is drawn up in such a way that it can subsequently be typed or printed in final form.

1.3 This Chapter contains information which is necessary to enable the search examiner to complete the form correctly. Further information is contained in the following Sections of the Administrative Instructions:

- for the indication of dates: Section 110
- for the classification of the international applications: Section 504
- for the identification of the cited documents: Section 503
- for the indication of special categories of documents: Sections 505 and 507
- for the indication of the claims to which cited documents are relevant: Section 508.

1.4 The international search report must contain no matter, in particular, no expressions of opinion, reasoning, arguments or explanations, other than as required by the form (Rule 43.9).

2. Different types of international search reports

2.1 The International Searching Authority shall draw up the following types of search reports:

- (a) International search report (see Chapter III, paragraph 4.1);
- (b) International-type search report (see Chapter III, paragraph 4.2).

3. Form and language of the international search report

3.1 The printed international search report form (Form PCT/ISA/210) to be transmitted to the applicant and to the International Bureau contains two main sheets to be used for all searches for recording the important features of the search such as the fields searched and for citing documents revealed by the search, two optional supplemental sheets and one extra sheet. One of these supplemental sheets is to be used only when the space available on the first main sheet is insufficient for the totality of the information which it is required to record (for example, the abstract can be continued on this supplemental sheet). The other supplemental sheet is to be used only when the space available on the second main sheet is insufficient for the totality of

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? These two sheets are
are also part of the search report form for use when necessary

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[Chapter X, continued]

the information which it is required to record or when observations have to be made concerning claims which were found unsearchable or concerning lack of unity of invention. The extra sheet is to be used when the space available for citing documents on the second main sheet is insufficient. The extra sheet or a separate sheet may be added for the mentioning of members of a patent family (Section 507(g)).

3.2 The international search report shall be drawn up in the language in which the international application to which it relates is published (Rule 43.4). /w

3.3 It is to be noted that only the second main sheet, its supplemental sheet (if any) and the extra sheet, if used, as well as any separate sheet with information on members of patent families, will be the subject of international publication, as the first sheet and its supplemental sheet (if any) contain only information which will already appear on the front page of the pamphlet.

3.4 If an international-type search has been carried out, Form PCT/ISA/201 may be used for the report.

4. Areas of technology searched

4.1 The international search report shall list the classification identification of the fields searched. If the IPC is not used for this purpose, the classification used has to be published (Rule 43.6(a)).

4.2 Where the international search report is entirely or partly based on a previous search made for an application relating to a cognate subject, the search files consulted for this previous search must also be identified in the report as having been consulted for the international application in question.

5. Abstract and title

5.1 In the international search report, the search examiner must indicate approval or amendment of the text of the abstract, the title of the invention, and the selection of the figure which is to accompany the abstract (Rules 8, 44.2) (see Chapter XI). If amendment is desired, the details thereof should be indicated.

6. Restriction of the subject of the international search

6.1 The report must indicate whether the search was restricted or not for any of the reasons indicated in paragraph 6.2 of this Chapter.

6.2 If any such restrictions were applied, the claims in respect of which a search has not been carried out must be identified and the reasons for this should be indicated.

[Chapter X, continued]

The three categories where such restrictions may arise are:

- (a) lack of unity of invention (see Chapter VII);
- (b) claims drawn to subject matter excluded from the search (see Chapter VIII);
- (c) claims in respect of which a meaningful search cannot be carried out (see Chapter VIII).

7. Authentication and dates

7.1 The identification of the International Searching Authority which established the international search report and the date on which the report was drawn up should be indicated in the search report. This date should be that of the drafting of the report by the search examiner who carried out the search (Rule 43.1, 43.2). In addition to the date of actual completion of the international search, the international search report shall also indicate the date on which it was mailed to the applicant, which is important for the computation of the time limit for filing amendments to the claims under Article 19 (Rule 46.1).

7.2 The international search report should be signed by an authorized officer of the International Searching Authority (Rule 43.8).

8. Time limit for establishing the international search report

8.1 The international search must be carried out in time to allow the final establishment of the international search report or of a declaration under Article 17(2) (see Chapter VIII) before the expiration of three months from the receipt of the search copy by the International Searching Authority which is notified to the applicant on Form PCT/ISA/202, or nine months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later (Rule 42.1). If in case of lack of unity the time limit cannot be met, the international search report must be established promptly after the receipt of additional search fees or after the expiration of the time limit for payment of such fees, if no payment is made.

9. Copies of references cited in the international search report

9.1 The International Searching Authority should attach copies of all references cited to the international search report which is sent to the applicant. The preparation of copies may be subject of a separate request and payment of a separate fee for copies (Rule 44.3). For the invitation for payment of fees Form PCT/ISA/221 may be used. ^{preferably (AU)} ^{copy of the House Ft such} ^{limit for payment of such fees, if no payment is made} ^(US) ^{6 may be required}

9.2 The International Searching Authority must send, upon request, copies of all references cited in the international search report to the designated Office or the applicant (Article 20(3)). Such a request may be presented any time during seven years from the international filing date under the conditions laid down in Rule 44.3. Copies of the references cited may be transmitted with Form PCT/ISA/211.

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CHAPTER XI

THE ABSTRACT AND THE TITLE OF THE INVENTION

1. The international application must contain an abstract (Article 3(2)). The purpose of the abstract is to give brief technical information about the disclosure as contained in the description, the claims and any drawings.
2. The search examiner has the task of determining the definitive content of the abstract which is initially supplied by the applicant, and which will subsequently be published with the international application or later (Rule 38.2(b)). In doing this, he should consider the abstract in relation to the application as filed (see Chapter IV, paragraph 1.4). If the international search report is published later than the international application, the abstract published with the application will be as filed, subject to the results of the examination referred to in Chapter IV, paragraph 1.6, and the definitive abstract will be published together with the search report.
3. In determining the definitive content of the abstract the search examiner should take into consideration the fact that the abstract is merely for use as technical information and, in particular, must not be used for the purpose of interpreting the scope of the protection sought. The abstract should be so drafted that it constitutes an efficient instrument for the purpose of assisting the scientist, engineer or researcher in searching in the particular technical field and should in particular make it possible to assess whether there is need for consulting the international application itself (Rule 8.3).
4. The abstract must meet the requirements of Rule 8. The Guidelines for the Preparation of Abstracts of International Applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) are applicable.
5. The search examiner should consider not only the text of the abstract but also the selection of the figures for publication with it. He should alter the text to the extent that this may be necessary in order to meet the requirements set out in Rule 8. It is important that the abstract is as concise as the disclosure permits and that it should not exceed 150 words if it is in English or when translated into English. He shall select a different figure, or figures, of the drawings if he considers that they better characterize the invention and note it in the international search report (Rule 8.2). In determining the definitive content of the abstract, the search examiner should concentrate on conciseness and clarity, and refrain from introducing alterations merely for the purpose of embellishing the language. If the search examiner establishes an abstract which differs from the abstract filed by the applicant the International Searching Authority shall invite the applicant to comment on the abstract established by it with Form PCT/ISA/204 (Rule 38.2(a)). Upon receipt of comments or, where no comments have been received, (after the expiration of the time limit fixed for comments,) the search examiner will establish the definitive contents of the abstract and notify thereof the applicant and the International Bureau with Form PCT/ISA/205. If the International Searching Authority finds that none of the figures of the drawings is useful for the understanding of the abstract, it shall notify the International Bureau accordingly (Rule 8.2 (b)).

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[Annex III follows]

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ANNEX III

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

FROM the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TO

INVITATION TO PAY ADDITIONAL FEES

pursuant to PCT Article 17(3)(a) and Rule 40.1

DATE OF MAILING																	
APPLICANT'S OR AGENT'S FILE REFERENCE																	
IDENTIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION																	
International Application No.	International Filing Date																
INVITATION																	
<p>The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention under PCT Rule 13.1.¹⁾</p> <p>The international application contains inventions, divided among the claims as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>First invention:</td><td>Claims</td><td>Fifth invention:</td><td>Claims</td></tr><tr><td>Second invention:</td><td>Claims</td><td>Sixth invention:</td><td>Claims</td></tr><tr><td>Third invention:</td><td>Claims</td><td>Seventh invention:</td><td>Claims</td></tr><tr><td>Fourth invention:</td><td>Claims</td><td colspan="2"><input type="checkbox"/> Further inventions specified on additional sheet</td></tr></table> <p>Reasons:</p>		First invention:	Claims	Fifth invention:	Claims	Second invention:	Claims	Sixth invention:	Claims	Third invention:	Claims	Seventh invention:	Claims	Fourth invention:	Claims	<input type="checkbox"/> Further inventions specified on additional sheet	
First invention:	Claims	Fifth invention:	Claims														
Second invention:	Claims	Sixth invention:	Claims														
Third invention:	Claims	Seventh invention:	Claims														
Fourth invention:	Claims	<input type="checkbox"/> Further inventions specified on additional sheet															
<p>A search has been made of only the invention first mentioned in the application and is enclosed as a partial international search report. The international search report will only be established on the additional inventions if for each invention an additional fee has been paid. If the applicant does not pay any additional fees the international search report will contain only the references cited in the annexed partial international search report.⁵⁾</p> <p>The amount required for <u>each</u> additional invention is</p> <p>The total amount of additional fees is</p> <p>THE APPLICANT IS INVITED TO PAY THE ADDITIONAL SEARCH FEE(S) WITHIN DAYS FROM THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS INVITATION.⁴⁾</p> <p>THE PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL FEE(S) MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY.^{2), 3)}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Claims number(s) have been found unsearchable (see notes, item 6)</p>																	
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY																	
Name and Mailing Address	Authorized Officer																

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/206

1. The International Searching Authority has established that the international application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention under PCT Rule 13.1. According to this Rule the international application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. As applicant you can now choose between:

- a) paying all the additional fees;
- b) paying only some of the additional fees;
- c) not paying any additional fees at all.

2. If you choose to pay, the fees have to be paid directly to the International Searching Authority within the time limit indicated on this Form. The time limit starts to run on the day following the mailing of the invitation (PCT Rule 80.3). The date of mailing is indicated in the top left-hand corner of this Form.

3. If you choose to pay only for some of the further inventions indicated, the International Searching Authority must be informed for which invention the additional fee is paid.

4. Any payment of additional fees can be made under protest if the applicant does not accept the finding of the International Searching Authority with regard to the requirement of unity of invention. If the payment is accompanied by a protest, including a reasoned statement, a three-member board or other special instance of the Interna-

tional Searching Authority will examine such protest to determine whether it was justified. If the protest was justified the reimbursement of the additional fee(s) will be ordered (see PCT Rule 40).

5. If the applicant chooses not to pay additional fees or to pay for only some inventions this will have no effect on the international application as such, i.e. the applicant is not deemed to have abandoned part of his international application. In case a demand for international preliminary examination is filed, the International Preliminary Examining Authority will normally examine only the claim for which an international search has been carried out. It is only in the national phase that the application may have to be restricted or divided. Some national Offices require the payment of additional national search fees (see the national Chapter in Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide).

6. If this box on the Form is checked the International Searching Authority has established that certain claims of the international application are either relating to subject matter not searched by the Authority (PCT Article 17(2)(a)(i)) or that the enumerated claim fails to comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that a meaningful search could not be carried out (PCT Article 17(2)(a)(ii)). Therefore no international search report will be established in relation to the claims indicated.

**ANNEX TO FORM PCT/ISA/206
PARTIAL INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

This Annex contains the result of the search carried out on the invention first mentioned in the international application. This Annex is not the international search report. That report will be issued later.

International Application No		
I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) *		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ⁹		
Category ⁹	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>⁹ Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁰</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"A" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search		Date of Mailing of this International Search Report
International Searching Authority		Signature of Authorized Officer