Homework Topic 2 – Family relations - Solutions

Let us assume that you have to examine the following PCT applications in your national phase:
PCT/IB2018/001084, PCT/AU2017/050096, PCT/EP2015/051981, PCT/US2015/020529

- Research the patent family information of each application and check if there are further PCT applications in the family and how many. Are they in the same simple family?

PCT/IB2018/001084: There is a total of 2 PCT applications in the extended family (additional application: PCT/IB2018/001089); linked via 3 US priorities
PCT/AU2017/050096: no additional PCT application in family
PCT/EP2015/051981: There is a total of 2 PCT applications in the simple family (additional application: PCT/EP2014/068755); linked via 2 EP priorities
PCT/US2015/020529: There is a total of 4 PCT applications in the simple family (additional applications: PCT/US2015/020514, PCT/US2015/020535, PCT/US2015/020543); linked via 4 US priorities

- If you have found cases where several PCT applications are in the same family, compare the inventions claimed by each PCT application and determine how different they are. You may, for example, compare titles or main claims; and use the compare document function of WORD to compare claims, if useful.

i)   PCT/IB2018/001084 compared to PCT/IB2018/001089: very similar urban beach entertainment complexes; '89 having additionally a surf portion and a non-surf portion and including an artificial surf wave generator

ii)   PCT/EP2015/051981 compared to PCT/EP2014/068755: Similar gaming systems; however, '55 is directed to cash information and cash payout while '81 does not cover cash but refers to account information.

iii)   PCT/US2015/020529 title: *COLOR-SPACE INVERSE TRANSFORM BOTH FOR LOSSY AND LOSSLESS ENCODED VIDEO*

PCT/US2015/020514 title: *BLOCK ADAPTIVE COLOR-SPACE CONVERSION CODING*

PCT/US2015/020535 title: *MODIFYING BIT DEPTHS IN COLOR-SPACE TRANSFORM CODING*

PCT/US2015/020543 title: *QUANTIZATION PARAMETERS FOR COLOR-SPACE CONVERSION CODING*

- If you want to use examination work products from members of a family which includes more than one PCT application, which family members are most likely more suitable and why?

The work products of those family members which are from the same PCT family, i.e. which share the same PCT application number. For example, for PCT/IB2018/001084 it is EP3596693 and not EP3596694; …..

- Check if any of these applications is/was indeed pending with your office.
Pending in BD: PCTIB2018001084 (according to India Form 3)