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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP

**Eighth Session
Geneva, March 19 to 22, 2007**

SURVEY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH 12(A) OF WIPO STANDARD ST.10/C

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its seventh session, held from May 29 to June 1, 2006, the Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) considered a first version of the survey of industrial property offices (IPOs) to determine their compliance with the provisions of paragraph 12(a) of WIPO Standard ST.10/C. The said survey had been prepared by the International Bureau (IB) on the basis of the replies of IPOs to the questionnaire distributed along with Circular SCIT 2619, dated January 31, 2006. In the Circular, IPOs were also invited to provide copies of filing notifications and priority certificates of patent applications, so that other IPOs could be informed as to how to proceed with regard to the priority application numbers of each office. The SDWG agreed that IPOs should be encouraged to provide updates to the survey whenever possible. The SDWG also agreed that the Secretariat would send out a reminder to complete the survey to offices that had not replied to Circular SCIT 2619 and, when applicable, would invite IPOs to provide updated information regarding the survey, including updated copies of first filing notifications and priority certificates of patent documents. (See document SCIT/SDWG/7/3 and paragraph 19 of document SCIT/SDWG/7/9.)

2. As a follow-up to the above-mentioned decision by the SDWG, the IB prepared a revised provisional version of the survey on the basis of information received from IPOs during and after the seventh session of the SDWG. Subsequently, the IB issued Circular SCIT 2631, dated November 15, 2006, inviting offices and organizations to provide either the information requested in the above-mentioned Circular SCIT 2619 if they had not replied to it, or to provide updated information for the survey, if applicable to the office.

3. The current version of paragraph 12(a), was revised by the SDWG at its fifth session, held in November 2004, and is reproduced in paragraph 3 of the Annex to this document. The two circulars and the questionnaire referred to above, as well as the responses from 47 IPOs to the circulars received by the IB, are available on WIPO's website (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ06.htm>).

4. The revised survey on the implementation of paragraph 12(a) of WIPO Standard ST.10/C, which is reproduced as the Annex to this document, for consideration by the SDWG, has been prepared by the IB on the basis of the replies by IPOs to the above-mentioned questionnaire. The Appendix of the Annex contains the sample copies of filing notifications and priority certificates of patent applications provided by the IPOs along with their responses to the questionnaire. The Appendix is available only in electronic form on the web page containing the working documents for the eighth session of the SDWG (http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=12446, document *scit_sdwg_8_3-appendix1.pdf*).

5. *The SDWG is invited:*

- (a) *to consider the information given in the survey on the implementation of paragraph 12(a) of WIPO Standard ST.10/C, reproduced as the Annex to this document; and*
- (b) *to decide whether the survey, including the Appendix referred to in paragraph 4, above, should be published in the WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation.*

[Annex follows]