

C. PCT 1489

December 15, 2016

Madam,  
Sir,

In accordance with Rule 89.2(a) of the Regulations under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), modifications to the Administrative Instructions under the PCT (AIs), the PCT Receiving Office Guidelines (ROGLs) and the PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines (ISPEGLs) are hereby promulgated with effect from December 15, 2016.

The promulgation follows consultation under Rule 89.2(b) of the Regulations under the PCT with your Office in its capacity as RO, ISA, SISA and IPEA and/or designated/elected Office (DO/EO) and also with certain intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The modifications are as proposed in Circular C. PCT 1480, dated August 15, 2016, except where further changes have been made as a result of the consultation, as indicated below (editorial and minor drafting changes are not specifically mentioned).

/...

*Modifications of certain AIs*

Sections 218 and 413 are modified as proposed in Circular C. PCT 1480.

As a result of the consultation, Section 315 of the AIs has been further modified to clarify the procedure in cases where the receiving Office finds that “a part of a document” meets the requirements of Rule 26*bis*.3(h-*bis*) but it has not received a replacement sheet from the applicant in which that particular part of the document has been removed. Since some Offices wish to have the option to request the applicant to prepare replacement sheets in those circumstances while other Offices prefer not to use that option, new Section 315 was further revised to provide for such flexibility.

*Modifications of certain paragraphs of the ROGLs and ISPEGLs*

The paragraphs in the ROGLs and ISPEGLs are modified as proposed in Circular C. PCT 1480.

*Availability of Modified AIs, ROGLs and ISPEGLs*

The consolidated versions of the modified AIs, ROGLs and ISPEGLs (*as in force from December 15, 2016*) are available on the WIPO website at: [www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/).

Offices which need marked-up copies and/or electronic files of the AIs, ROGLs or ISPEGLs should contact the PCT Legal Division at [pct.legal@wipo.int](mailto:pct.legal@wipo.int).

Yours sincerely,



John Sandage  
Deputy Director General