

C. PCT 1653

May 3, 2023

Madam,  
Sir,

*Surveys on Search Strategies*

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority and/or designated/elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) invites your Office to complete a survey for IP Offices on search strategies, and invites International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities to send a link to their users to complete a survey on search strategies made available during international search.

*Background*

At the twelfth informal meeting of the Quality Subgroup of the Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT (“the Subgroup”) that took place on June 16 and 17, 2022, the Subgroup discussed the development of surveys on search strategies, and invited the International Bureau to prepare finalized versions of the Office and user surveys. For further information, see paragraphs 7 to 10 of the Summary by the Chair of the meeting, reproduced in Annex II to document PCT/MIA/29/10.

*Survey on Search Strategies in Patent Applications for IP Offices*

The objective of the survey for Offices is to determine how IP Offices use search strategies in their capacity as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority and as a designated/elected Office, and to identify what information from search strategies is most important to Offices. You can access the survey through the following web address: <https://surveys.wipo.int/s3/Search-Strategies-Applications-Patent-Cooperation-Treaty-IP-Offices>. Your Office should submit a single response covering all relevant capacities in which it uses search strategies.

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*Survey on Search Strategies in International Patent Applications for Users of the Patent System*

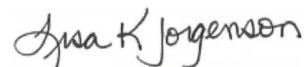
The objective of the survey for users of the patent system is to determine how they use the search strategy as documented during the international search, and to identify what information from search strategies is most important to these users. International Authorities are invited to send the link that they will receive from the International Bureau to their users to complete the survey. The International Bureau will receive the completed user surveys and send the results for a particular user to the respective International Authority that provided the link.

*Responses to the Surveys*

Offices and users are invited to submit their response to the relevant survey, by June 16, 2023. Both surveys are available in the 10 PCT publication languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish). In order to respect confidentiality, any publication of the results of the surveys will not identify or attribute responses to any particular Office or user.

If you have any questions about the surveys, please contact Mr. Michael Richardson, Director, PCT Business Development Division at: [pctbdd@wipo.int](mailto:pctbdd@wipo.int).

Yours sincerely,



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Patents and Technology Sector