

ANNEX V

IPC REFORM PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR 2000

*adopted by the IPC Committee of Experts*

AD HOC IPC REFORM WORKING GROUP

- Task No.1      Elaborate long-term goals and a strategic plan for the development of the IPC  
[completed]
- Task No. 2\*     Consider the IPC revision policy, the revision procedure and the criteria for  
[Task No. 9]    accepting new revision proposals in relation to the core and advanced levels  
of the reformed IPC
- Task No. 3\*     Consider the introduction of electronic data illustrating the contents of IPC  
entries
- Task No. 4\*     Consider the elaboration of rules for multiple classification in the IPC and  
investigate possible bearing of such rules on general principles of classifying  
disclosed in the Guide to the IPC
- Task No. 5\*     Review the hybrid systems in the IPC
- Task No. 6      Study factors influencing an insufficient level of the consistency in the  
application of the IPC and elaborate measures for increasing the consistency  
[completed]
- Task No. 7      Determine the most appropriate duration of revision cycles
- Task No. 8\*     Study the possibility of cooperation between offices in the reclassification of  
backlog patent files
- [Task No. 9      See Task No. 2]
- Task No. 14\*    Determine the most appropriate contents of the core level of the reformed IPC
- Task No. 15\*    Study the feasibility of introducing a simplified set of rules in the IPC, in  
particular a uniform precedence rule
- Task No. 16     Study ways and means for the establishment of the French version of the  
advanced level of the IPC

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\*      Priority Task

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

- Task No.10     Develop a general question and answer pamphlet on the application of the IPC
- Task No. 11\*    Establish a close cooperation between the Committee and the Standing Committee on Information Technologies  
[continuous activity]
- Task No. 12     Study automated classification and indexing tools and conduct pilot projects on their use, in particular for the reclassification of backlog patent files
- Task No. 13\*    Improve IPC training by providing modern training techniques, for example, computer-based and Internet training tools, involving, in particular, enhanced support for developing countries in the use of the IPC

[Annex VI follows]