

# WIPO



IPC/CE/34/9

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: January 19, 2004

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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION  
(IPC UNION)**

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS**

**Thirty-Fourth Session  
Geneva, February 23 to 27, 2004**

**PUBLICATION OF THE EIGHTH EDITION OF THE IPC (IPC-2005)  
AND RELATED MATERIAL**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. At its thirty-second session, held in February 2003, the IPC Committee of Experts considered provisional proposals by the International Bureau regarding the publication of the eighth edition of the IPC (IPC-2005) and related material (see document IPC/CE/32/12, paragraphs 92 to 100). The Committee took several decisions and made certain remarks concerning this publication.
2. Based on the decisions and remarks made by the Committee, the International Bureau has prepared a detailed plan of the publication of the eighth edition of the IPC (IPC-2005) and related material, which is described below.
3. The International Bureau will publish, in June 2004, the core level of the eighth edition in the printed form. The publication will contain five volumes, as follows: Volume 1 – Sections A and B, Volume 2 – Sections C and D, Volume 3 – Sections E and F, Volume 4 – Sections G and H, and Volume 5 – Guide to the IPC. This publication will be intended for industrial property offices wishing to use the core level of the IPC for classifying their published patent documents and for the general public.

4. Also in June 2004, the Internet version of the eighth edition will be published on the WIPO IPC website. The Internet version will be considered as an official publication of the IPC. Compared with the printed version, the Internet version will contain a complete text of the Classification and will incorporate the electronic layer including supplementary information facilitating the use of the Classification, such as classification definitions, illustrating chemical formulae and main groups in a standardized sequence.
5. The International Bureau will publish, in September 2004, the updated Official Catchword Indexes to the eighth edition in the printed form and on the Internet. References in the Catchword Indexes to the core level of the IPC will be distinguished from references to the advanced level. No further updating of the Catchword Indexes will be made in the course of the next IPC revision period with regard to amendments of the advanced level of the IPC.
6. Also in September 2004, the Revision Concordance List between the seventh and eighth editions will be published on the Internet. It will consist of two parts relating, respectively, to the core and to the advanced levels of the IPC.
7. The International Bureau will publish, in November 2004, a new version of the IPC:CLASS CD-ROM (Version 5). This version will contain a complete text of the eighth edition in English and French, including the electronic layer, and will incorporate facilities enabling downloading of amendments to the advanced level from the Internet. Various IPC explanatory and teaching material may be included on the CD-ROM.
8. *The Committee of Experts is invited to adopt the proposed plan of the publication of the eighth edition of the IPC and related material.*

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