

WIPO



IPC/CE/40/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: January 16, 2008

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

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

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

**Fortieth Session
Geneva, February 6 to 8, 2008**

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE REFORM IN THE IPC

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The present document contains a status report on several tasks on the program of the IPC Revision Working Group (Working Group) with respect to the implementation of the results of the reform in the IPC.

Removal of References from Guidance Headings and Informative References from the Scheme

2. The Working Group, at its seventeenth session, noted that the International Bureau had prepared a complete set of proposals relating to the removal of references from guidance headings and informative references from the scheme, and decided to establish a Task Force for these two tasks. Following an invitation by the United States of America, the meeting of the Task Force took place at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, on September 24 to 28, 2007.

3. The Task Force considered and approved, with amendments, the consolidated proposals that had been prepared by the International Bureau following a round of comments on the initial proposals (for the Task Force meeting report, see Annex 31 to project M 031).

E

4. The Working Group, at its eighteenth session, approved, with amendments, the decisions of the Task Force (see the Technical Annexes relating to projects M 031 and M 032 to document IPC/WG/18/4). The Working Group has therefore completed the task of removal of references from guidance headings (see Task No. 4 of the IPC Development Program 2006 to 2008 in Annex III to document IPC/CE/37/9) and has removed informative references from the scheme of 32 subclasses (see Task No. 3 thereof).

Renumbering of Pre-Reform Residual Main Groups Being Residual to the Whole Subclass

5. At its seventeenth session, the Working Group discussed the rapporteur proposal of Annex 37 to project file WG 111, relating to residual main groups with references. The Working Group agreed to delete the following residual main groups and to transfer them to new approved standardized residual main groups: A47H 33/00, C07G 17/00 and H03F 21/00. It was also agreed to include the reference of deleted main group A47H 33/00 in the title of subclass A47H amended as proposed in Annex 39, and the references in the titles of deleted main groups C07G 17/00 and H03F 21/00 in the respective subclass titles according to the proposal of Annex 37 (see Technical Annexes 19 to 21 to document IPC/WG/17/2).

6. At the eighteenth session of the Working Group, discussions were based on the Rapporteur proposal of Annex 44 relating to residual main groups with subgroups. The Working Group agreed that the residual main groups of the following subclasses should not be renumbered: B08B, B09B, B28D, B61K, B66F, C05B, C05C, C05D, C05F, D01D, D04B, F01P, F02P, F03D, F28C, F41B, F41G, G01B, G03D, G10D and G10G. The Working Group also agreed to delete the following residual main groups and to transfer them to new standardized residual main groups: B07C 9/00, B21L 17/00 and B62J 39/00.

7. It was further agreed to delete the following residual main groups and their subgroups, and to transfer the deleted main groups to new standardized residual main groups and the deleted subgroups to new main groups (see Technical Annexes 158 and 162 to document IPC/WG/18/4): A63J 23/00 and F04F 11/00. Regarding the two secondary classification schemes of subclasses A61P and A61Q, the Working Group agreed that specific titles of the residual main groups would be necessary to prevent undesirable secondary classification of applications with no specific therapeutic or cosmetic use in these main groups. It was also agreed to renumber the existing residual main group A61Q 99/00 to A61Q 90/00 in view of its specific title.

8. The Working Group finally agreed to continue the consideration of the remaining residual main groups being residual to the whole subclass at its next session and accepted an offer by the Secretariat to prepare a consolidated proposal. The current status of this task with respect to each subclass is summarized in Annex 51 to project file WG 111.

Introduction of Residual Main Groups in IPC Subclasses

9. The Working Group continued, at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, consideration of the remaining subclasses without residual main groups in the framework of definition projects (five subclasses) and core level revision projects (two subclasses) and decided that no residual main groups would be needed for six subclasses (A01N, B65D, C07C, C07D, F21S and G01C). A new specific residual main group was created in subclass D06F. The current status of this task with respect to each subclass is summarized in Annex 51 to project file WG 111.

IPC Definitions Program

10. Consideration of definition projects continued at the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Working Group. At those sessions, 19 definition projects were approved in English and 24 definition projects were completed in both English and French. In total, 97 definition projects have been completed so far. In view of several further definition projects being close to completion, the target of a total of 100 subclass definitions by end of 2008, as set forth in Task 1(b) of the IPC Development Program 2006 to 2008 (see Annex III to document IPC/CE/37/9), will be achieved. Annex IV to the report of the eighteenth session of the Working Group (see document IPC/WG/18/4) contains a table summarizing the status of each definition project on the program.

11. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the contents of this document, and to make decisions as necessary.

[End of document]