

## **Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

### **First Session**

**Geneva, October 25 to 29, 2010**

## **PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REVISION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.36**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. Since the eleventh session of the former Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), held in October 2009, the ST.36 Task Force discussed the following four Proposals For Revision (PFRs) which were proposed for consideration by the ST.36 Task Force from November 2009 to August 2010:
  - PFR ST.36/2009/005 regarding the modifications to enable applicants to take advantage of digital libraries for priority documents and to request the storage of their application in digital library for later use as a priority document (proposed by the PCT/International Bureau on November 5, 2009);
  - PFR ST.36/2009/006 regarding the modifications to reflect fee sheet updates allowing a payment contact e-mail address to be specified and adding credit card to the list of payment modes (proposed by the PCT/International Bureau on November 5, 2009);
  - PFR ST.36/2009/007 regarding the modifications to mark up corrections or changes in patent documents, e.g., correction of obvious mistakes, amendments after the search report or during examination, corrections and changes in published patent documents (proposed by the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 9, 2009); and
  - PFR ST.36/2010/001 regarding the modification to capture new data elements for supplementary search report (proposed by the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 22, 2010).

2. The ST.36 Task Force revised the proposed PFRs ST.36/2009/005 and ST.36/2009/006 after discussions and adopted the revised PFRs, respectively, on December 22, 2009 and on February 22, 2010. The adopted PFRs including the revised information are available on the ST.36 PFR website at: <http://www.wipo.int/cws/en/taskforce/st36/pfr-already-adopted.html>.
3. The ST.36 Task Force revised Annexes A and C to WIPO Standard ST.36 to incorporate the agreed PFRs ST.36/2009/005 and ST.36/2009/006 in March 2010. The latest version, 2.3, of Annexes A and C to WIPO Standard ST.36 are available on the WIPO's website at: [http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml\\_material/st36/](http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml_material/st36/). The release notes of the version 2.3 and previous versions of the Annexes A and C are also available on the WIPO's website at: [http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml\\_material/st36/revision-history/index.html](http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml_material/st36/revision-history/index.html).
4. The PFRs ST.36/2009/007 and ST.36/2010/001 are under discussion at the moment of the preparation of this document. The PFRs under discussion are available on the ST.36 PFR website at: <http://www.wipo.int/cws/en/taskforce/st36/pfr-files.html>. The PFRs suggest not only adding new data elements but also modifying or deprecating existing data elements, which may incur backward compatibility issues in the data operation using WIPO Standard ST.36.
5. The discussion on the PFR ST.36/2009/007 takes longer time than usual because of the difficulty to reach a conclusion on the issue related to the paragraph numbering for patent document amendment. The ST.36 Task Force agreed that it is necessary, first, to prepare common business practice of paragraph numbering for patent document amendment, in order to find a solution in XML format, which is beyond the scope of the Task Force. Recently, the PCT International Authorities, at the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT (MIA) held in February 2010, discussed the paragraph amendment of PCT applications in XML format and referred to the PFR ST.36/2009/007 (see paragraphs 83 to 88 of PCT/MIA/17/12). However, the business agreement on the paragraph numbering for patent document amendment had not reached to stimulate the discussion of the Task Force at the session of the MIA. The ST.36 Task Force still looks forward to hearing the agreement on the paragraph numbering for patent document in business. The PFR ST.36/2009/007 may remain open until the business agreement would be reached.

6. *The CWS is invited to note the results of the work of the ST.36 Task Force and the report of the Task Force leader, as set out in this document.*

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