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Common Application Format

Japan Patent Office
April 7-9, 2008

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Common Application Format

- Purpose: Providing a Common Application Format (Description, Claims, Abstract and Drawings) that could be accepted by any offices
- Providing CAF will reduce burden on applicants, cutting out the need of re-drafting applications caused by the difference among the offices.

2

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■ Progress

Nov. 2005

Establishment of a Working Group on CAF in Response to a Request by the Industry Trilateral

2006 - 2007

Working Group meetings with the Participation of the Industry Trilateral

Nov. 2007

The Trilateral Offices agreed on finalization of CAF.

3

Common Application Format

Main Headings in the Common Application Format

Description

Title of Invention
Technical Field
Background Art
Summary of Invention
Brief Description of Drawings
Description of Embodiments

Claims

Claim 1

Abstract

Drawings

For details, see PCT/MIA/15/8, Annex I, page 14.

4

Common Application Format

Current Recommendation of Headings under the PCT ("The headings ... should be as follows:")

Description

Technical Field
Background Art
Disclosure of Invention

Brief Description of Drawings
Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention
or Mode(s) for Carrying out the Invention

Claims

Abstract
Drawings

5

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Proposed Recommendation of Headings ("The headings ... shall preferably be as follows:")

Description

Title of Invention
Technical Field
Background Art
Disclosure of Invention
or **Summary of Invention**
Brief Description of Drawings
Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention
or Mode(s) for Carrying out the Invention
or **Description of Embodiments**

Claims

Claim 1

Abstract
Drawings

6

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Draft Amendments of the PCT AI

Section 204
Headings of the Parts of the Description

PCT/MIA/15/8
Annex II, page 2

- (a) The headings of the parts of the description **shall preferably** ~~should~~ be as follows:
- (i) and (ii) [No change]
 - (iii) for matter referred to in Rule 5.1(a)(iii), “Disclosure of Invention” **or “Summary of Invention”**;
 - (iv) [No change]
 - (v) for matter referred to in Rule 5.1(a)(v), “Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention,” or, where appropriate, “Mode(s) for Carrying out the Invention” **or “Description of Embodiments”**;
 - (vi) [No change]
 - (vii) **for matter referred to in Section 208(b), “Sequence Listing Tables”**;
 - (viii) ~~(vii)~~ for matter referred to in Rule 5.2(a), “Sequence Listing”;
 - (ix) ~~(viii)~~ for matter referred to in Rule 5.2(b), “Sequence Listing Free Text.”

7

Draft Amendments of the PCT AI

[Section 204, continued]

PCT/MIA/15/8
Annex II, page 2-3

(b) Where the description states the title of the invention under Rule 5.1(a), the heading “Title of Invention” shall preferably precede the title of the invention.

Section 204bis
Numbering of Claims

The number of each claim referred to in Rule 6.1(b) shall preferably be preceded by the expression “Claim” (for example, Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3).

8

Thank you.