



PCT/MIA/16/5

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL PATENT COOPERATION UNION (PCT UNION)

MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

Sixteenth Session Seoul, March 16 to 18, 2009

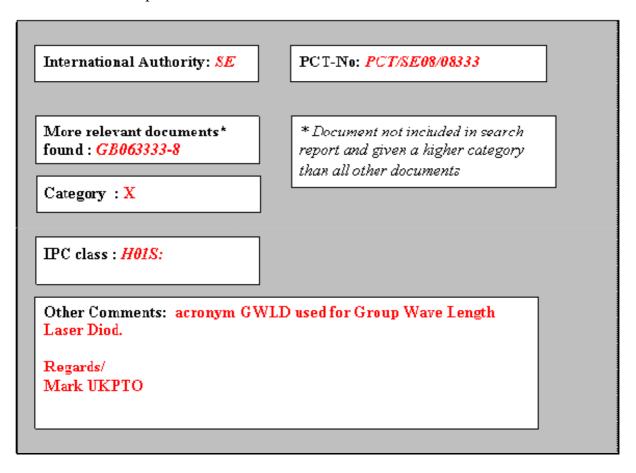
QUALITY FRAMEWORK: COMPLEMENTARY PROPOSAL

Proposal by the Swedish Patent and Registration Office

- 1. This is a complementary proposal to the European Patent Office's proposal for revision of Chapter 21 of the PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines (Annex to document PCT/MIA/16/2). In Section 5 of that proposal (Communication), paragraph 21.17 makes provisions relating to inter-Authority communication and paragraph 21.19 makes provisions relating to communication with WIPO and designated and elected Offices.
- 2. Paragraph 21.19 of that proposal states that Authorities need "to allow prompt feedback from them so that potential systematic issues can be elevated and addressed". This requires that the Authorities must provide for effective communication with other Authorities, the International Bureau and designated and elected Offices.
- 3. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office therefore suggests that in order to enhance this communication the International Bureau could provide an e-based feedback system accessible from their homepage www.wipo.int/pct.
- 4. The feedback system could contain an easy electronic fill-out form where it would be possible to inform on: Country to which the feedback is directed, PCT file number(s), etc., for example.

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5. As the feedback is sent, only the Authority addressed can access the information. Of course it would be optional both to send and receive feedback.



- 6. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office also proposes the introduction of a quality subgroup under the Meeting of International Authorities with the task to put together a common quality report, from the different initial or annual (21.29-21.30) reports submitted by the different offices, and also make some general recommendations on improvements. The group should be chaired by the International Bureau and consists of all International Authorities' quality contact persons (21.17).
 - 7. The Meeting is invited to comment on the proposals contained in this document.

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