

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

### INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Fourth Session: Geneva, November 14 to 19, 1974

MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION: NON-PATENT LITERATURE  
PROGRESS REPORT ON THE INSPECT PROJECT

prepared by the International Bureau

#### Introduction

1. General background information on the PAL Project is to be found in documents PCT/TCO/III/7 and INSPEC PAL/7, which were discussed at the third session of the Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "the Interim Committee") in October 1973, (see document PCT/TCO/III/13, paragraphs 27 to 34).

Progress made since the third session of the Interim Committee (November 1973 to September 1974)

2. Before the end of 1973 contracts were signed between INSPEC and the Patent Offices of Brazil, Germany (Federal Republic of), Japan and the United States of America.

3. On January 8, 1974, INSPEC informed the Patent Offices of Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Soviet Union, United States of America and Yugoslavia, and the International Patent Institute (IIB), that the PAL Full-Text Copy Service would be implemented on February 1, 1974, and that the first batch of selected PAL material would be dispatched to the subscribing Patent Offices in March 1974.

4. Consequently, for the purposes of the contracts, March 1, 1974 was set as the date at which the PAL Project would become operational. Since then the subscribing Patent Offices receive the PAL Full-Text Copy Service on a regular basis.

5. In May 1974, INSPEC, upon consultation with WIPO, sent a random sample of the PAL material supplied under the PAL Full-Text Copy Service to the subscribing Patent Offices of Brazil, Germany (Federal Republic of), Japan and the United States of America, to the Heads of the Industrial Property Offices of Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and to the Director General of the IIB in order to provide a broader group of interested Offices with the possibility of testing the new service.

6. Also in May 1974, an exchange of views took place between representatives of INSPEC and WIPO regarding ways and means to improve the record keeping and the access to the PAL material. The International Bureau has been informed that INSPEC is at the disposal of interested countries to discuss this question in more detail at the fourth session of the Interim Committee.

7. INSPEC will, at the fourth session of the Interim Committee, provide further information on the PAL operations in general (copyright clearance, number of articles selected, etc.) and answer any questions which interested countries might wish to raise in this context.

8. The Interim Committee is invited  
(i) to examine and review the progress  
made to date with the PAL Project;  
(ii) suggest further steps to be taken  
for monitoring and expanding the Project.

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