

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group

Sixteenth Session
Geneva, February 6 to 8, 2023

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Chair of the Working Group, Ms. Aleksandra Mihailović (Serbia), opened the session. Ms. Lisa Jorgenson, Deputy Director General, Patents and Technology Sector, welcomed the participants on behalf of Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of WIPO. Mr. Michael Richardson (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the Working Group.

2. The list of participants is set out in document PCT/WG/16/INF/1.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The Working Group adopted the revised draft agenda as set out in document PCT/WG/16/1 Prov. 2.

AGENDA ITEM 3: SPECIAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

4. The Secretariat announced that, following consultations with Group Coordinators, the proposal contained in document PCT/WG/16/5 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS

5. The Working Group elected Ms. Liliana Palomino (Peru) to fill one of the vacant positions as Vice-Chair for the present session.

6. The Working Group elected Ms. Dong Cheng (China) as Chair and Ms. Ann Edillon (Philippines) as Vice-Chair to take office following the end of the present session and act for the seventeenth session. The Working Group also noted the nomination of Ms. Aleksandra Mihailović (Serbia) for Chair in the election to be held at the seventeenth session.

AGENDA ITEM 5: LANGUAGES OF COMMUNICATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

7. Discussions were based on document PCT/WG/16/2.

8. The Working Group invited the International Bureau to consider the comments made at this session and bring a revised proposal to a future session of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 6: FORMALITIES CHECKING IN THE PCT

9. Discussions were based on document PCT/WG/16/3 Rev.

10. The Working Group invited the International Bureau to consider the comments made and whether to bring further revised proposals to a future session of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PCT MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION

11. Discussions were based on documents PCT/WG/16/6 and 7.

12. The Working Group noted the contents of documents PCT/WG/16/6 and 7 and approved the proposed amendments to PCT Rules 34, 36 and 63 as set out in Annex I to document PCT/WG/16/6 and the draft Understanding with regard to the Interpretation of Rules 36.1(ii) and 63.1(ii), with a view to their submission to the Assembly for consideration at its session in July 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 8: MIXED-LANGUAGE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS

13. Discussions were based on document PCT/WG/16/8.

14. The Working Group approved the proposed amendments to PCT Rules 26 and 29 as set out in Annex I to document PCT/WG/16/8, with a view to their submission to the Assembly for consideration at its session in July 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 9: WIPO FEE TRANSFER SERVICE

15. Discussions were based on document PCT/WG/16/4.

16. The Working Group invited the International Bureau to consider the comments made and whether to bring further revised proposals to a future session of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER MATTERS

17. The Working Group noted that the Delegation of Brazil intended to bring a revised proposal concerning the filing medium of international applications and related documents to the seventeenth session, based on previously considered document PCT/WG/15/13. The Working Group also noted that the Delegation of Japan intended to bring a further proposal concerning amendment to Rule 26 regarding the need for translations.

18. The Secretariat indicated that it would offer an opportunity for informal discussion of certain draft proposals that it intended to bring to the next session of the Working Group to facilitate understanding and identify any concerns at an early stage. Similarly, members of the Working Group wishing to bring future proposals were invited to consider sharing drafts in advance of the session, for example, through the PCT Working Group wiki.

AGENDA ITEM 11: SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

19. The Working Group noted the present summary, established under the responsibility of the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 12: CLOSING OF THE SESSION

20. The Chair closed the session on February 8, 2023.

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