

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group

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CRITERIA FOR FEE REDUCTIONS: CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

1. Item 5(a) of the Schedule of Fees provides for fee reductions for international applications filed by a natural person who is a national of and resides in a State listed as meeting certain criteria based on per capita gross domestic product (GDP) and numbers of patent filings by nationals and residents of those countries. Directives require the list to be updated at least every five years and for the criteria to be reviewed (see Annex II to document PCT/A/46/6).
2. Contracting States have informally asked for details of the source and methodology for the calculated figures.
3. The GDP-related part of the criteria is:

“... a State whose per capita gross domestic product is below US\$ 25,000 (according to the most recent 10-year average per capita gross domestic product figures at constant 2005 US\$ values published by the United Nations).
4. The calculated 10-year averages are listed in the Annex to document PCT/WG/17/5 Rev. The methodology for the calculation is as follows.
5. The source of the data is the United Nations Statistics Division¹, using the figures for 2013 to 2022, as updated in January 2024. The constant 2005 US\$ values referred to in the Schedule of Fees are no longer directly published and so are calculated from the following sources:
 - (a) GDP, Per Capita GDP at constant YYYY prices – US Dollars (where YYYY is the year for which constant prices are directly provided, at present 2015);
 - (b) GDP, Implicit Price Deflators – US Dollars.

¹ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/Basic>

6. The implicit price deflators provide a correction factor, allowing the values that would have been shown for constant dollar prices according to any other year for which the data is available. The correction factor is 100% for the year at which the current constant dollar values are provided (2015). Percentages will differ for each country and year. For example, the values for Switzerland and selected years are as follows²:

Country/Area	Year	Unit	GDP Index at current prices	GDP Index at constant 2015 prices	Implicit Price Deflator
Switzerland	2005	US\$	60.3	81.7	73.7
Switzerland	2015	US\$	100	100	100
Switzerland	2022	US\$	117.9	113.9	103.5

7. The 2005 and 2022 constant dollar values can be determined by taking the GDP data at constant 2015 values for the relevant year and multiplying by the implicit price deflator for the year whose constant price values are required. This calculation is shown for 2005, 2015 and 2022 GDP at 2015 (taken from the database) and calculated 2005 and 2022 prices.

Country/Area	Year	Unit	GDP, Per Capita constant 2015 prices	GDP, Per Capita constant 2005 prices	GDP, Per Capita constant 2022 prices
Switzerland	2005	US\$	76,372	56,310	79,088
Switzerland	2015	US\$	83,813	61,796	86,794
Switzerland	2022	US\$	90,421	66,668	93,636

8. The calculated 2005 value at 2005 prices and 2022 value at 2022 prices can be seen to correspond correctly to the values shown in the actual GDP per capita for those years, as extracted from the “GDP Per Capita GDP – US Dollars” dataset.

Country/Area	Year	Unit	GDP, Per Capita GDP - US Dollars
Switzerland	2005	US\$	56,310
Switzerland	2015	US\$	83,813
Switzerland	2022	US\$	93,636

² The deflator figures shown in the table below are rounded as shown in the HTML view on the website; the calculated figures in the following tables are based on multiplication using the higher precision deflator figures included if the database figures are extracted, accounting for apparent differences in the least significant figures shown from multiplying the 2015 value figures shown by 0.737 or 1.035.

9. To calculate the figure required by the Schedule of Fees, the 2005 deflator is applied to each of the constant 2015 values for the 10 year period concerned and a mean taken.

Country/Area	Year	Unit	GDP, Per Capita GDP at constant 2015 prices	GDP, Per Capita GDP at constant 2005 prices
Switzerland	2013	US\$	82,490	60,820
Switzerland	2014	US\$	83,403	61,494
Switzerland	2015	US\$	83,813	61,796
Switzerland	2016	US\$	84,616	62,388
Switzerland	2017	US\$	84,969	62,648
Switzerland	2018	US\$	86,756	63,965
Switzerland	2019	US\$	87,121	64,235
Switzerland	2020	US\$	84,633	62,400
Switzerland	2021	US\$	88,654	65,365
Switzerland	2022	US\$	90,421	66,668
	<i>Mean</i>			63,178

[End]