

PCT

PATENT
COOPERATION
TREATY



Published by:
The WORLD
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Telephone:
(41-22) 338 91 11

Facsimile:
(41-22) 740 14 35

Internet:
<http://www.wipo.int>

WIPO Publication
No. 115 (E)

ISSN 1020-072 X

1998 Subscriptions
CHF 60 or USD 50
(airmail CHF 80 or
USD 65)
25% discount for
two or more
subscriptions

Binders
CHF 11 or USD 8

NEWSLETTER

February 1998

No. 02/1998

NEW PCT CONTRACTING STATE;

ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN PATENT CONVENTION

Cyprus (country code: CY)

On 1 January 1998, Cyprus deposited its instrument of accession to the PCT. Cyprus will become the 95th Contracting State of the PCT on 1 April 1998. Consequently, in any international application filed on or after 1 April 1998, Cyprus may be designated and, because it will be bound by Chapter II of the PCT, may also be elected. Furthermore, nationals and residents of Cyprus will be entitled from 1 April 1998 to file international applications under the PCT.

Cyprus will also become bound by the European Patent Convention (EPC) on 1 April 1998. Therefore, in any international application filed on or after 1 April 1998, Cyprus may be designated for the purposes of obtaining a European patent.

Under draft national legislation which is currently pending in Cyprus, it is proposed to "close the national route" so far as Cyprus is concerned—that is, it would not be possible, in an international application, to designate Cyprus for a national patent, but rather, any designation of Cyprus in an international application would have the effect of an indication of the wish to obtain a European Patent (see PCT Article 45(2)).

If the printed PCT request form is used, any international appli-

cation filed on or after 1 April 1998 and containing a designation for a European patent (EP) will include the designation of Cyprus for a European patent, unless expressly excluded, since the statement "and any other State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT" is already printed on that form. That statement should, of course, also be included if applicants prepare the request as a computer print-out rather than the printed PCT request form.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Paris Convention accession	2
Canadian Patent Office: not open for business from 8 to 19 January 1998	2
PCT materials on Internet	2
PCT statistics—1 January to 31 December 1997	2-3
Change in postal codes in Japan	3
PCT information update	3-4
PCT-related CD-ROM products	4-5
European Patent Register On-line: price reduction and new service	5
Practical advice	5-6
EPO Board of Appeal decision concerning the PCT	6
PCT seminar calendar	7-8
PCT fee tables	9-11
PCT Contracting States and two-letter codes	12
<i>Tear-out sheets:</i> table: trans- mitting documents by fax to PCT Offices	
<i>Insert:</i> Information Note: "The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1997"	

PARIS CONVENTION ACCESSION

Botswana (country code: BW)

On 15 January 1998, Botswana deposited its instrument of accession to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. Botswana will become bound by that Convention on 15 April 1998.

CANADIAN PATENT OFFICE: NOT OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 8 TO 19 JANUARY 1998

Due to a severe ice storm, the Canadian Patent Office in Hull, Quebec, was not open to the public for the purposes of the transaction of official business from 8 to 19 January 1998, inclusive.

Consequently, pursuant to PCT Rule 80.5, if the expiration of any period during which any document or fee in connection with an international application was required to reach the Canadian Patent Office fell on a day between 8 to 19 January 1998, inclusive, that period is extended so as to expire on 20 January 1998. However, mail addressed to the Canadian Patent Office which was delivered not to the Canadian Patent Office in Hull, Quebec, but to an establishment that is recognized as an establishment to which correspondence addressed to the Canadian Patent Office may be delivered (see Rule 5(2) of the Canadian Patent Rules) is considered to be received by the Canadian Patent Office on the day of delivery to the establishment in question.

PCT MATERIALS ON INTERNET (<http://www.wipo.int>)

PCT Information Line
About the Treaty
Basic Facts about the PCT
The PCT in 1997*
Text of the PCT
Text of the Regulations under the PCT
PCT Assembly documents (16 September–1 October 1997), including Report containing rule changes
PCT Applicant's Guide
PCT request and demand forms
PCT Newsletter (Nos. 01/1997–02/1998)
Recent PCT press releases

*New since last issue of the *PCT Newsletter*

As regards other possible excuses of delay or loss in the mail, due to the ice storm, of documents or letters addressed to the Canadian Patent Office, see PCT Rules 82.1. and 82.2.

PCT STATISTICS — 1 January to 31 December 1997

In 1997, the International Bureau of WIPO received 54,422 international applications, filed with PCT receiving Offices worldwide, which is 7,131 (15.1%) more than in 1996. The figure on page 3 shows the number of international applications received each year since 1978.

The 54,422 international applications received in 1997 had the effect of 1,791,471 national applications, and of 130,217 regional applications, which in turn had the effect of 1,671,676 applications for patent protection in the member States of the regional patent systems, that is, a total equivalent effect of 3,463,147 national applications.

The table below shows the top 10 countries of origin of those international applications.

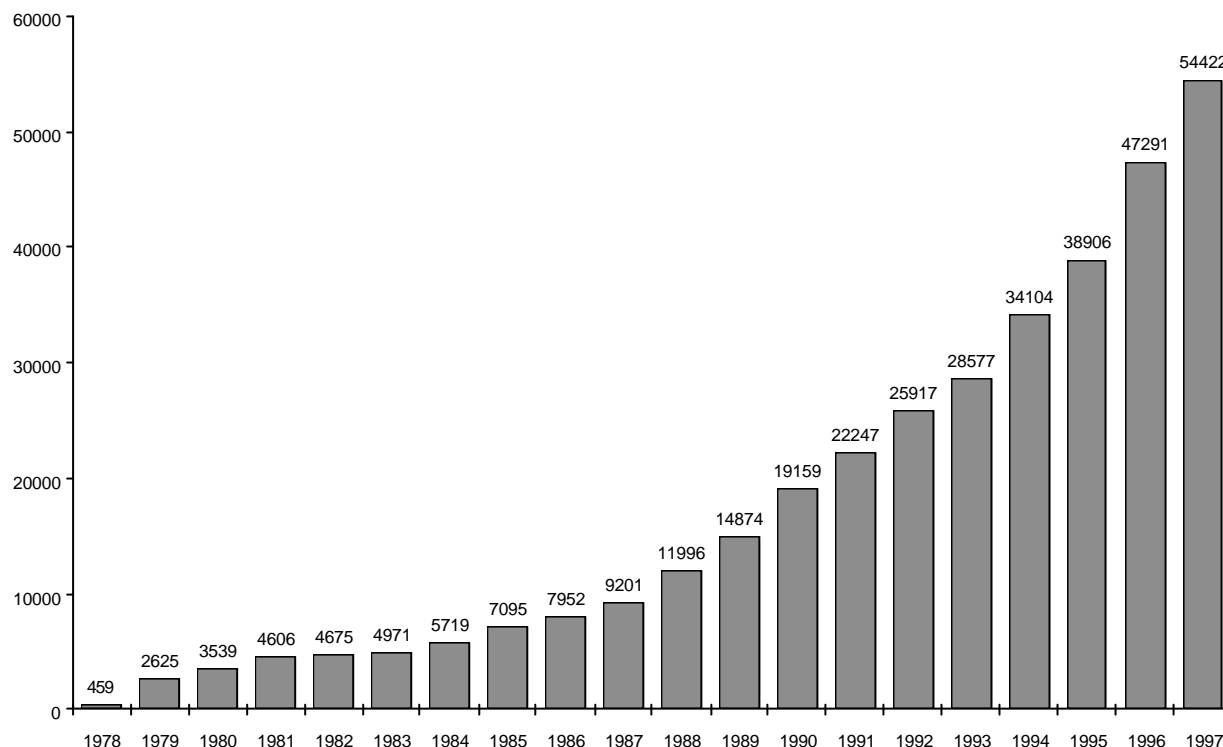
PCT filings by country of origin (1997)

Country of origin	Applications received	% of total
US	22,736	41.8
DE	7,436	13.7
JP	4,845	8.9
GB	3,939	7.2
FR	2,496	4.6
SE	2,188	4.0
NL	1,749	3.2
CH (incl. LI)	1,101	2.0
CA	1,075	2.0
AU	881	1.6
Other States* bound by the PCT	5,976	11.0
	54,422	100.00

*83 at the end of December 1997

(Note that 14.7% of the applications received were filed with either the European Patent Office or the International Bureau as receiving Office; those filings, as well as filings received from the other regional patent Offices as receiving Offices, are included in the figures relating to the country of residence of the applicant.)

Number of international applications received since 1978



The number of demands for international preliminary examination also increased in 1997. The total received was 40,382, which represents an increase over 1996 of 22.2%.

Further statistics, as well as information on the main events which occurred in 1997 in relation to the PCT, are contained in the Information Note "The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1997," which is inserted in this issue, and which can also be viewed on the WIPO Internet site.

CHANGE IN POSTAL CODES IN JAPAN

On 2 February 1998, a new postal code system will be introduced in Japan whereby postal codes of seven digits will be required instead of the currently required three or five-digit codes. The Japanese Patent Office has informed the International Bureau that the old postal code may continue to be used for correspondence relating to international applications **received before the enforcement of the new system** and that any Japanese addresses included in such applications will not be subject to any change. For the new postal code of the Japanese Patent Office, see PCT information update, below.

PCT INFORMATION UPDATE

EP European Patent Office (EPO) (Internet address)

The Internet address of the EPO is now as follows:

<http://www.european-patent-office.org>

Note that this address is indicated in the January 1998 update sheets for the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

ES Spain (fees)

The amounts of the following fees, payable to the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office as receiving Office, have changed:

transmittal fee: see Table I(a)

fee for priority document: ESP 4,015

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (ES))

IB International Bureau (competent International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities)

There has been a change in the list of International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities competent for international

applications filed by nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau with the International Bureau as receiving Office, as follows:

competent International Searching Authority:

for nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau: Russian Patent Office or European Patent Office

competent International Preliminary Examining Authority:

for nationals and residents of Guinea-Bissau: Russian Patent Office or, for international applications for which the European Patent Office has established the international search report, European Patent Office

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (IB))

JP Japan (location and mailing address)

The location and mailing address of the Japanese Patent Office has changed, as follows:

4-3, Kasumigaseki 3-chome
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8915, Japan

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/A, Annex B1 (JP))

KR Republic of Korea (fees)

There has been a change in the equivalent amounts of the following fees payable in KRW to the Korean Industrial Property Office as receiving Office:

basic fee, supplement per sheet over 30 and designation fee: see Table I(a)

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (KR))

Search fee (Australian Patent Office, Austrian Patent Office, Japanese Patent Office, Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, United States Patent and Trademark Office)

Due to the frequent fluctuations in exchange rates between the Korean Won (KRW) and other currencies, the amounts of the fees for international searches carried out by the Australian Patent Office, the Austrian Patent Office and the Japanese Patent Office are no longer fixed in KRW. The amounts to be

paid are now the equivalent amounts in KRW of the corresponding amounts in ATS, AUD and JPY, respectively.

As from 15 February 1998, there will be a change in the amount payable in ESP, and in the equivalent amounts payable in CHF and USD, for an international search carried out by the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, as indicated in Table I(b).

As from 1 March 1998, there will be a change in the equivalent amount payable in SGD for an international search carried out by the Austrian Patent Office, as indicated in Table I(b).

As from 15 March 1998, there will be a change in the equivalent amount payable in NZD for an international search carried out by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, as indicated in Table I(b).

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex D (AT, AU, ES, JP and US))

Fees relating to international search (Spanish Patent and Trademark Office)

There has been a change in the amount of the following fee payable to the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office as International Searching Authority:

additional search fee	ESP 76,520
-----------------------	------------

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex D (ES))

PCT-RELATED CD-ROM PRODUCTS

SPACE-WORLD CD-ROMS: availability

The SPACE-WORLD CD-ROMs contain, in facsimile form, the full text and the drawings of all international applications and international search reports published each week, as well as the corresponding bibliographic data in coded, searchable form. Up until now, there has been a slight delay, for technical reasons, in the furnishing of the CD-ROMs to SPACE-WORLD subscribers. A change in CD-ROM production techniques is under preparation to make the SPACE-WORLD CD-ROMS available as early as on, or very shortly after, the international publication date. The new production technique is being tested now and will be implemented as soon as possible. Subscribers to SPACE-WORLD will be informed in due course by the EPO (EPIDOS).

SPACE-WORLD, SPACE-FIRST and SPACE-ACCESS: reduction in subscription prices

In addition to a more prompt delivery of the CD-ROMs, the prices for subscriptions to SPACE-WORLD, as well as other CD-ROM products, such as SPACE-FIRST and SPACE-ACCESS, have also been reduced significantly, as follows:

CD-ROM PRODUCT	1998 PRICE IN DEM (not including p&p)	
	(Previous price)	New reduced price
SPACE-WORLD ¹	(3,000)	1,700
SPACE-FIRST ²	(490)	350
SPACE-ACCESS ³	(950)	300
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete published PCT applications and international search report. 2. Title pages of published European applications with the text of the abstract in English, French or German, and of published PCT applications with the text of the abstract in English, French and, where available, German or Spanish. 3. Bibliographic data and abstracts of all published European and PCT applications 		

Note that the CD-ROM SPACE-FIRST is now being published monthly. Further details about the above-mentioned price reductions and the price of other SPACE CD-ROM products available from the EPO can be viewed on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.european-patent-office.org/epidos/espace.htm>

or obtained from:

European Patent Office (EPO)
Schottenfeldgasse 29
Postfach 82,
A-1072 Vienna
Austria

e-mail: infowien@epo.e-mail.com
tel: (43-1) 521 26 4051/406
fax: (43-1) 521 26 4192

EUROPEAN PATENT REGISTER ON-LINE: PRICE REDUCTION AND NEW SERVICE

The EPO has reduced the price for the use of the European Patent Register On-line (EPIDOS Register) from DEM 2.50 to DEM 1.00 per question.

A new service is now available to users of the EPIDOS Register who hold deposit accounts at the EPO—they can now obtain up-to-date information on the balance of their account on-line via the EPIDOS Register. A written request, indicating the user identification, the EPO deposit account number and, if required, an additional password, should be sent to the attention of Mrs. Elena Sereix at the EPO in Vienna (see address above), or by fax or e-mail:

fax: (43-1) 521 26 3292
e-mail: sereix@epo.e-mail.com

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Filing international applications by fax

Q: I intend to file an international application, claiming the priority of an earlier application filed on 26 February 1997, with the International Bureau as receiving Office. If, for some reason, I cannot file the application until the last day of the 12-month priority period (that is, 26 February 1998) and the application is sent by fax before midnight from New York, will it be considered that I filed my application within the priority period, or must the fax be sent early enough to be received by the International Bureau by midnight in Geneva?

A: According to PCT Rule 80.4(b), the date on which any period expires is the date prevailing in the locality in which the required document must be filed or the required fee must be paid. Therefore, it is not the date and time at the **place of transmittal** or payment, but rather the date and time at the **place of receipt** of the document or of the amount paid, which determines whether a time limit has been met.

Therefore, you must be aware of the time differences which exist between the place from which you are transmitting your fax and the place to which you are transmitting your fax. Geneva, Switzerland, is, for most

of the year, six hours ahead of New York, (but this may vary slightly due to regional differences in the commencement and ceasing of daylight savings time). Thus, if your fax is transmitted at 11.30 p.m., New York time, on 26 February 1998, it would be received by the International Bureau in Geneva at about 5.30 a.m. on 27 February 1998, that is, after the expiration of 12 months from the priority date.

Some fax machines are programmed to make repeated attempts to transmit a fax if transmission fails because, for example, the fax machine at the destination is busy at the time. Care should be taken that the transmission, when it eventually succeeds, is not outside the time limit concerned.

For details about the consequences of a fax transmission being only partially received or partially legible, see *PCT Newsletter* No. 07/1997, page 5.

Remember that not all Offices accept the transmittal of documents by fax, and of those which do accept transmittals by fax, not all accept the filing of the international application itself by fax. Also, note that most Offices which do accept documents by fax require, depending on the nature of the transmitted document, that the original of the document be furnished, usually within 14 days, but in some cases some other period, from the date of transmission of the fax. These requirements vary from Office to Office; details appear in Annexes B1 and B2 of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/A, and are summarized in the table inserted in this issue.

Applicants should avoid, wherever possible, filing documents at the last minute, in order to avoid missing important time limits due to unforeseeable circumstances which may arise, for example, due to technical problems with a fax machine, which may prevent a fax from being received in time.

EPO BOARD OF APPEAL DECISION CONCERNING THE PCT

Objections of lack of unity

As indicated in the following headnote, an EPO Technical Board of Appeal has decided that:

"I. An objection of lack of unity may be raised "a posteriori" in regard to all categories of grouping of alternatives of chemical compounds.

"II. The requirement of a technical relationship as defined in Rule 13.2, 1st sentence, PCT, may be met when all claimed alternatives belong to a class of compounds which may be expected to behave in the same way in the context of the claimed inventions ("Markush claims"). The technical relationship involves those common special technical features that define a contribution over the state of the art (Rule 13.2, 2nd sentence, PCT). However, such contribution cannot be recognized on the basis of this expectation if members of the class have already been shown in the prior art to behave in the manner disclosed in the application."

(Decision W 4/96 - 3.3.2; *Official Journal of the EPO* (OJ/EPO), No. 12/1997, page 552)

PCT SEMINAR CALENDAR			
Dates and Location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
26–27 February 1998 San Francisco (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Maassel	Intellectual Property International (Ms. Virginia H. Meyer) Tel: (1-415) 289 74 71 Fax: (1-415) 331 60 68 E-mail: VHMeyerEsq@aol.com
2–3 March 1998 Chicago (US)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mrs. Coeckelbergs and Mr. Maassel	John Marshall Law School (Mr. Gary T. Watson) Tel: (1-312) 987 14 20 Fax: (1-312) 427 71 28 E-mail: 6cangian@jmls.edu
3–4 March 1998 Milan (IT)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mr. Matthes and Mr. Baron	Italian Association of Patent Attorneys in Industry (AICIPI) and the Ordine dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale (Mr. Francesco Macchetta) Tel: (39-2) 2778 51 97 Fax: (39-2) 2778 51 99
9 March 1998 Copenhagen (DK)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle (CEIPI) and the Danish Patent Office (Ms. Inge-Lise Høybye) Tel: (45-43) 50 80 00 Fax: (45-43) 50 80 01
10 March 1998 Copenhagen (DK)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators and legal assistants WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Danish Patent Office (Ms. Inge-Lise Høybye) Tel: (45-43) 50 80 00 Fax: (45-43) 50 80 01
24 March 1998 Paris (FR)	French	PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Fondation Nationale pour le Droit de l'Entreprise (FNDE) and Association Française des Spécialistes en Propriété Industrielle de l'Industrie (ASPI) (Mme Heuzé) Tel: (33-1) 42 66 18 19 Fax: (33-1) 42 66 17 37
26–27 March 1998 Oslo (NO)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speakers: Mr. Wolff and Mr. Baron	Norwegian Patent Office (Mrs. Toril Foss) Tel: (47) 22 38 74 72 Fax: (47) 22 38 73 31
30–31 March 1998 Novo Mesto (SI)	English	Advanced PCT seminar for patent attorneys and industry representatives WIPO speaker: Mr. Bryan	Slovenian Intellectual Property Office (Mrs. Alenka Bitenc) Tel: (386-61) 178 30 80 Fax: (386-61) 178 31 10
2 April 1998 Ecully (FR)	French	PCT seminar for patent attorneys WIPO speaker: Ms. Boutillon	Centre Paul Roubier (Mrs. Audi) Tel: (33-478) 33 07 08 Fax: (33-478) 33 58 96

[continued on next page]

PCT SEMINAR CALENDAR [continued]			
Dates and Location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact numbers
6–7 April 1998 London (GB)	English	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators	Management Forum Ltd Tel: (44–1483) 57 00 99 Fax: (44–1483) 53 64 24 E-mail: management_forum@psilink.co.uk
15–17 April 1998 Beijing (CN)	Chinese/ English	International Symposium on the PCT System in the 21st Century WIPO speakers: Mr. Curchod, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wang	WIPO and the Chinese Patent Office (Ms. Zhang Yan) Tel: (86–10) 62 09 32 88 Fax: (86–10) 62 01 96 15 E-mail: cpoicd@public.bta.net.cn
19–21 April 1998 Naples, Florida (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys “Basic Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice” WIPO speakers: Mr. Bartels, Ms. Boutillon and Mr. Maassel Other speaker: Mr. Welch (Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc.)	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
23–25 April 1998 Naples, Florida (US)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys “Advanced Patent Cooperation Treaty Practice” WIPO speakers: Mr. Bartels, Ms. Boutillon and Mr. Maassel Other speaker: Mr. Welch (Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc.)	Patent Resources Group, Inc. Tel: (1–804) 296 39 00 Fax: (1–804) 296 39 99
24 April 1998 Dresden (DE)	German	PCT seminar for patent attorneys and patent administrators WIPO speaker: Mr. Matthes	Arzneimittelwerk Dresden GmbH (Mr. Erich Geissler) Tel: (49–351) 834 14 79 Fax: (49–351) 834 19 45
15 May 1998 London (GB)	English	PCT seminar for patent attorneys	Management Forum Ltd Tel: (44–1483) 57 00 99 Fax: (44–1483) 53 64 24 E-mail: management_forum@psilink.co.uk
27–28 May 1998 (originally scheduled for 6–7 May 1998) Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent administrators	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49–6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
29 May 1998 (originally scheduled for 8 May 1998) Munich (DE)	German	Basic PCT seminar for patent attorneys	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49–6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de
25–26 June 1998 Chiemsee (DE)	German	Advanced PCT seminar for patent administrators	Forum Institut für Management GmbH Tel: (49–6221) 50 05 00 Fax: (49–6221) 50 05 55 E-mail: Management@Forum-Institut.de

PCT FEE TABLES

The following Tables show the amounts (including currencies—see the key to currency abbreviations following Table II) of the main PCT fees which are payable to the receiving Offices (ROs) and the International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs) during the international phase under Chapter I (Tables I(a) and I(b)) and under Chapter II (Table II). Fees which are payable only in particular circumstances are not shown; nor are details of certain reductions and refunds which may be available; such information can be found in the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annexes C, D and E. Note that all amounts are subject to change due to variations in the fees themselves or fluctuations in exchange rates. A 75% reduction in the basic fee, the supplement per sheet over 30, the designation and confirmation fees and the handling fee, as well as the transmittal fee payable to the International Bureau as receiving Office, is available to applicants from certain States; see footnote 2 for details. Footnotes to all Tables follow Table II.

Table I(a) — TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES

(as at 1 February 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 150)	Competent ISA(s) ⁴
AL	ALL 9,000	CHF 650	15	150	EP
AM	AMD 32,000	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
AP	USD 70 (or equiv in local currency)	USD 455	10	105	AT EP SE
AT	ATS 700	ATS 5,600	130	1,300	EP
AU	AUD 100	AUD 640	14	150	AU
AZ	AZM ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
BA	DEM 50	DEM 800	19	184	EP
BE	BEF 1,500	BEF 16,500	380	3,800	EP
BG	BGL 60,000	BGL equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP RU
BR	BRR 236	BRR equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT EP SE US
BY	BYR equiv of USD 70	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
CA	CAD 200	CAD 632	15	146	EP
CH	CHF 100	CHF 650	15	150	EP
CN	CNY 500	CNY equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	CN
CU	USD (or CUP equiv) 200	USD (or CUP equiv) 455	10	105	AT EP ES RU
CZ	CZK 1,500	CZK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
DE	DEM 150	DEM 800	19	184	EP
DK	DKK 1,500	DKK 3,050	70	710	EP SE
EA	RUR equiv of USD 100	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
EE	EEK 1,500	EEK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
EP ⁶	DEM 200	DEM 800	19	184	EP
ES	ESP 10,040	ESP 68,000	1,600	16,000	EP ES
FI	FIM 800	FIM 2,400	55	550	EP SE
FR	FRF 400	FRF 2,690	60	620	EP
GB	GBP 55	GBP 285	6	65	EP
GE	GEL ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
GH	GHC ⁷ 2,500 or 5,000	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
GR	GRD 39,500	GRD 127,000	3,000	30,000	EP
HU	HUF ⁸ 10,000	HUF equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP RU
IB	CHF ² 300 or USD ² 200	CHF 650 or USD 455	15 10	150 105	See footnote ⁹
ID	IDR 300,000	IDR equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AU EP RU
IE	IEP 60	IEP 300	7	70	EP
IL	ILS 399	USD 455	10	105	EP US
IS	ISK 5,500	ISK 32,000	700	7,400	EP SE
IT	ITL 60,000	ITL 783,000	18,000	181,000	EP
JP	JPY 18,000	JPY 55,000	1,300	12,700	EP JP
KE	USD (or KES equiv) 30	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
KG	KGS equiv of USD 60	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
KP	KPW equiv of CHF 50	KPW equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT RU
KR	KRW 45,000	KRW equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT AU JP

[continued on next page]

Table I(a) — TRANSMITTAL, BASIC AND DESIGNATION FEES [continued]

(as at 1 February 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

RO	Transmittal fee ¹	Basic fee ^{1,2} (CHF 650)	Supplement per sheet over 30 ^{1,2} (CHF 15)	Designation fee ^{1,2,3} (CHF 150)	Competent ISA(s) ⁴
KZ	KZT ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
LR	USD 45	USD 455	10	105	AT AU CN EP SE
LS	LSM ⁵ —	LSM equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT EP
LT	LTL equiv of USD 80	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
LU	LUF/BEF 800	LUF/BEF 16,500	380	3,800	EP
LV	LVL 40	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
MC	FRF 300	FRF 2,690	60	620	EP
MD	MDL ⁵ 180	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
MK	MKD 2,750	MKD equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
MN	None	CHF 650	15	150	EP RU
MW	MWK 8	MWK 8,100	200	1,900	EP
MX	MXP ² equiv of USD 200	MXP equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP ES SE US
NL	NLG 110	NLG 900	21	208	EP
NO	NOK 500	NOK 3,300	75	770	EP SE
NZ	NZD 155	NZD 720	16	165	AU EP US
PL	PLZ 240	PLZ equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
PT	PTE 3,600	PTE 82,000	1,900	19,000	EP
RO	ROL 10,000	CHF 650	15	150	AT EP RU
RU	RUR 294,000	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
SD	SDP 50	SDP equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
SE	SEK 1,000	SEK 3,500	80	800	EP SE
SG	SGD 135	SGD 690	16	160	AT AU EP
SI	SIT <i>See footnote¹⁰</i>	SIT equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
SK	SKK 1,600	SKK equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	EP
TJ	TJR ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
TM	USD ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
TR	CHF 100	CHF 650	15	150	AT AU CN EP RU
TT	TTD 750	USD 455	10	105	AT EP SE US
UA	UAH 255	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
US	USD 240	USD 455	10	105	EP US
UZ	USD ⁵ —	USD 455	10	105	EP RU
VN	VND equiv of USD 150	VND equiv of CHF 650	equiv of CHF 15	equiv of CHF 150	AT AU EP RU SE
YU	YUD 200	CHF 650	15	150	EP
ZW	ZWD 550	ZWD equiv of USD 455	equiv of USD 10	equiv of USD 105	AT AU EP RU

Table I(b) — SEARCH FEES

(as at 1 February 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

ISA	Search fee ¹											
AT	ATS	2,200	CHF	250	SGD*	275	USD	180	*(from 1.3.98:SGD 320)			
AU	AUD	800	CHF	820	NZD	910	SGD	875	USD	570		
CN	CNY	800	CHF	140	USD	100						
EP ¹¹	DEM	2,200	CHF	1,850	FRF	7,590	ISK	87,300	MWK	22,400	PTE	227,800
	ATS	15,710	DKK	8,640	GBP	780	ITL	2,222,000	NLG	2,510	SEK	9,950
	BEF	46,100	ESP	189,700	GRD	358,300	JPY	152,000	NOK	9,200	SGD*	1,890
	CAD	1,740	FIM	6,770	IEP	846	LUF	46,100	NZD	1,980	USD	1,250
	*(from 15.2.98: SGD 2,100)											
ES	ESP*	72,190	CHF*	695	USD*	480						
	*(from 15.2.98: ESP 76,520 CHF 724 USD 494)											
JP	JPY	77,000	CHF	910	USD	640						
RU ¹²	USD	300	CHF	430								
SE	SEK	6,200 ¹³	6,800 ¹⁴	FIM	4,200 ¹³	4,600 ¹⁴	USD	815 ¹³	895 ¹⁴			
	CHF	1,180 ¹³	1,290 ¹⁴	ISK	58,500 ¹³	64,000 ¹⁴						
	DKK	5,300 ¹³	5,800 ¹⁴	NOK	5,750 ¹³	6,300 ¹⁴						
US	USD	700	450 ¹⁵	CHF	1,000	640 ¹⁵	NZD*	1,110	710 ¹⁵			
	*(from 15.3.98: NZD 1,207 776 ¹⁵)											

Table II — PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FEES

(as at 1 February 1998, unless otherwise indicated)

IPEA	Preliminary examination fee¹⁶			Handling fee^{2,16} (CHF 233)			
AT	ATS	2,200		ATS	2,020		
AU	AUD	450		AUD	230		
CN	CNY	800		CNY equiv of CHF 233			
EP¹¹	DEM	3,000	FIM 9,230	DEM	285	FIM 860	ITL 281,000
	ATS	21,430	FRF 10,340	NLG	2,020	FRF 960	LUF 5,900
	BEF	62,900	GBP 1,064	PTE	5,900	GBP 100	NLG 320
	CHF	2,520	GRD 488,600	SEK	233	GRD 46,000	PTE 29,000
	DKK	11,790	IEP 1,154	DKK	1,000	IEP 110	SEK 1,250
	ESP	258,600	ITL 3,030,000	ESP	25,000		
JP	JPY	28,000		JPY	19,700		
RU¹²	USD	200 ¹⁷	300 ¹⁸	USD	162		
SE	SEK	4,200		SEK	1,250		
US	USD	490	750 ¹⁹	USD	162		

Key to currency abbreviations for all fee tables:

ALL Albanian lek	CZK Czech koruna	IEP Irish pound	LVL Latvian lat	SEK Swedish krona
AMD Armenian dram	DEM Deutsche mark	ILS New Israel shekel	MDL Moldovan leu	SGD Singapore dollar
ATS Austrian schilling	DKK Danish krone	ISK Icelandic krona	MKD Macedonian denar	SIT Slovenian tolar
AUD Australian dollar	EEK Estonian kroon	ITL Italian lira	MWK Malawian kwacha	SKK Slovak koruna
AZM Azerbaijani manat	ESP Spanish peseta	JPY Japanese yen	MXP Mexican peso	TJR Tajik rouble
BEF Belgian franc	FIM Finnish markka	KES Kenyan shilling	NLG Netherlands guilder	TTD Trinidad and Tobago dollar
BGL Bulgarian lev	FRF French franc	KGS Kyrgyz som	NOK Norwegian krone	
BRR Brazilian real	GBP Pound sterling	KPW KP won	NZD New Zealand dollar	UAH Ukrainian hryvnia
BYR Belarussian rouble	GEL Georgian lari	KRW KR won	PLZ Polish zloty	USD US dollar
CAD Canadian dollar	GHC Ghanaian cedi	KZT Kazakh tenge	PTE Portuguese escudo	VND Vietnamese dong
CHF Swiss franc	GRD Greek drachma	LSM Lesotho loti	ROL Romanian leu	YUD Yugoslav dinar
CNY Yuan renminbi	HUF Hungarian forint	LTL Lithuanian litas	RUR Russian rouble	ZWD Zimbabwe dollar
CUP Cuban convertible peso	IDR Indonesian rupiah	LUF Luxembourg franc	SDP Sudanese pound	

Footnotes for all fee tables:

¹ Payable to the receiving Office in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.

² This fee is reduced by 75% where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is a natural person and is a national of and resides in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Niger, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia or Zimbabwe. For further details, see *PCT Newsletter* No. 10/1995, cover page, No. 11/1995, page 6, and No. 05/1996, cover page.

³ The confirmation fee payable under PCT Rules 4.9(c) and 15.5 is 50% of the designation fee.

⁴ For the search fee payable to the receiving Office, consult the entry in Table I(b) for the competent International Searching Authority.

⁵ The amounts are not yet known or, where known, are subject to periodical revision. The Office or the agent should be consulted for the latest applicable schedule of fees.

⁶ The amounts of the transmittal fee in currencies other than DEM are as follows: ATS 1,430, BEF/LUF 4,200, CHF 170, DKK 790, ESP 17,200, FIM 620, FRF 690, GBP 71, GRD 32,600, IEP 77, ITL 202,000, NLG 230, PTE 20,700, SEK 900. The amounts in those currencies of the basic fee, supplement per sheet over 30 and designation fee are the same as those indicated for the receiving Offices of the respective States, that is RO/AT, BE, CH, etc.

⁷ The first amount of the transmittal fee is applicable to individuals or entities employing less than 25 persons. The second amount is applicable to entities employing 25 persons or more.

⁸ A supplement of HUF 500 is also payable for each claim in excess of 10.

⁹ The competent International Searching Authority(ies) for an international application filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office is (are) the Authority(ies) which would have been competent if the international application had been filed with the receiving Office of, or acting for, the Contracting State of which the applicant (or any of the applicants) is a resident or national. See also *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C (IB).

¹⁰ 5% of the total value of the basic fee, supplement per sheet over 30, designation fee and search fee.

¹¹ Nationals (natural or legal persons) of States which fulfill the requirements for the corresponding reduction of certain PCT fees as specified in the Schedule of Fees annexed to the PCT Regulations (see also footnote 2), or of countries in transition ("reform States") (until 1 April 1998), may be eligible for reductions in the search and preliminary examination fees. For details, including the amount of the fee reduction, the countries concerned and applicable conditions, see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annexes D (EP) and E (EP).

¹² The applicant may, instead of paying the USD amount, pay the equivalent amount in RUR at the exchange rate applicable on the date of payment at the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, provided that, in the case of the search fee, the receiving Office accepts payment in RUR.

¹³ If, on an earlier application, the priority of which is claimed, a search report has been issued by the Swedish Patent Office, the Danish Patent Office, the National Board of Patents and Registration (Finland), the Norwegian Patent Office or the Icelandic Patent Office.

¹⁴ In all cases where footnote 13 does not apply.

¹⁵ Payable when a corresponding prior US national application has been filed and the basic national fee for that US application has been paid.

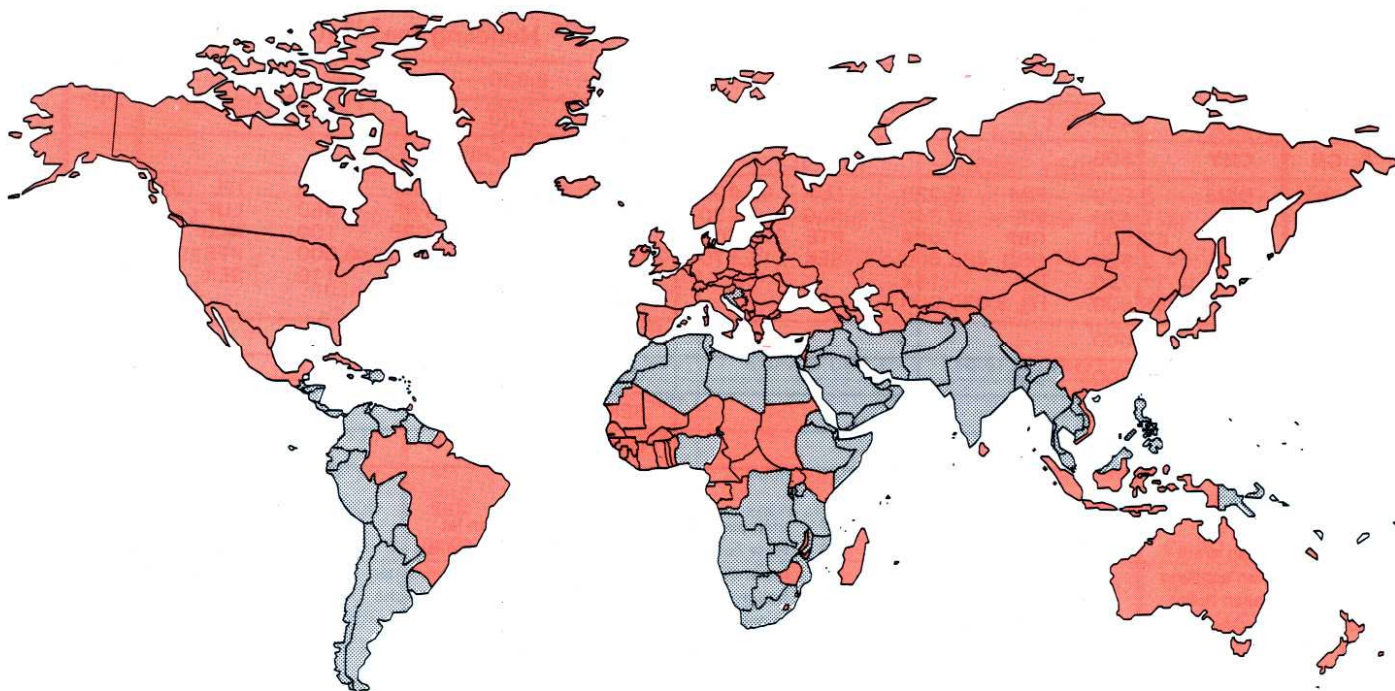
¹⁶ Payable to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in the currency or one of the currencies prescribed by it.

¹⁷ Payable when the international search report was established by the Russian Patent Office.

¹⁸ In all cases where footnote 17 does not apply.

¹⁹ Payable when the international search was not carried out by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (provided that the USPTO is a competent International Preliminary Examining Authority in the particular case—see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol. I/B, Annex C.)

PCT CONTRACTING STATES AND TWO-LETTER CODES (95 on 1 February 1998)



AL Albania ¹	CN China	IE Ireland (EP) ²	MD Republic of Moldova (EA)	SG Singapore
AM Armenia (EA)	CU Cuba	IL Israel	MG Madagascar	SI Slovenia ¹
AT Austria (EP)	CY Cyprus (EP) (from 1 April 1998)	IS Iceland	MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹	SK Slovakia
AU Australia	CZ Czech Republic	IT Italy (EP) ²	ML Mali (OA) ²	SL Sierra Leone
AZ Azerbaijan (EA)	DE Germany (EP)	JP Japan	MN Mongolia	SN Senegal (OA) ²
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina	DK Denmark (EP)	KE Kenya (AP)	MR Mauritania (OA) ²	SZ Swaziland (AP) ²
BB Barbados	EE Estonia	KG Kyrgyzstan (EA)	MW Malawi (AP)	TD Chad (OA) ²
BE Belgium (EP) ²	ES Spain (EP)	KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	MX Mexico	TG Togo (OA) ²
BF Burkina Faso (OA) ²	FI Finland (EP)	KR Republic of Korea	NE Niger (OA) ²	TJ Tajikistan (EA)
BG Bulgaria	FR France (EP) ²	KZ Kazakhstan (EA)	NL Netherlands (EP) ²	TM Turkmenistan (EA)
BJ Benin (OA) ²	GA Gabon (OA) ²	LC Saint Lucia	NO Norway	TR Turkey
BR Brazil	GB United Kingdom (EP)	LI Liechtenstein (EP)	NZ New Zealand	TT Trinidad and Tobago
BY Belarus (EA)	GE Georgia	LK Sri Lanka	PL Poland	UA Ukraine
CA Canada	GH Ghana (AP)	LR Liberia	PT Portugal (EP)	UG Uganda (AP)
CF Central African Republic (OA) ²	GM Gambia (AP)	LS Lesotho (AP)	RO Romania ¹	US United States of America
CG Congo (OA) ²	GN Guinea (OA) ²	LT Lithuania ¹	RU Russian Federation (EA)	UZ Uzbekistan
CH Switzerland (EP)	GR Greece (EP) ²	LU Luxembourg (EP)	SD Sudan (AP)	VN Viet Nam
CI Côte d'Ivoire (OA) ²	GW Guinea-Bissau	LV Latvia ¹	SE Sweden (EP)	YU Yugoslavia
CM Cameroon (OA) ²	HU Hungary	MC Monaco (EP) ²		ZW Zimbabwe (AP)
	ID Indonesia			

¹ Extension of European patent possible.

² May only be designated for a regional patent (the "national route" via the PCT has been closed).

Where a State can be designated for a regional patent, the two-letter code for the regional patent concerned is indicated in parentheses (AP = ARIPO patent, EA = Eurasian patent, EP = European patent, OA = OAPI patent).

Important:

This list includes all States that have adhered to the PCT by the date shown in the heading. Any States indicated in **bold italics** have adhered to the PCT but were not yet bound by the PCT on the date of issue of the latest version of the request form. If the applicant wishes to designate any States which are bound by the PCT on the date on which the international application is filed but which are not listed in the request form, he must add them in Box No. V of the request form and mark the corresponding check-box. Where a State has adhered to but is not yet bound by the PCT, the date on which it will become bound is shown in parentheses; it cannot be designated in international applications filed before that date.

Applicants should always use the latest versions of the request form (PCT/RO/101) and demand form (PCT/IPEA/401), new versions of which are normally issued twice yearly. The latest versions are dated January 1998. The forms are reproduced in Annexes X and Y, respectively, in Vol. I/B of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* (January 1998 update), and can be printed from the WIPO Internet site, in PDF format, at: <http://www.wipo.int/eng/pct/forms/index.htm>. The request form can also be obtained from receiving Offices or the International Bureau. The demand form can also be obtained from receiving Offices, International Preliminary Examining Authorities or the International Bureau.

TRANSMITTING DOCUMENTS BY FAX TO PCT OFFICES

(information taken from *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Vol I/A, Annexes B1 and B2)

Office	Does the Office accept the transmittal of documents by fax? (for exceptions see footnotes)	Must the original of the document be furnished, and if so, when?	
		International application or replacement sheet containing corrections or amendments of an international application	Other documents
AL	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
AM	No		
AP	Yes ¹	Yes, within 60 days from the date of transmission	
AT	Yes	No, only upon invitation	
AU	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
AZ	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
BA	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
BB	No		
BE	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
BG	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	
BR	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
BY	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
CA	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
CH + LI	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
CN	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
CU	No		
CY	To be announced		
CZ	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
DE	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
DK	Yes	No, only upon invitation	
EA	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
EE	No		
EP	Yes ¹	In the case of the filing of an international application, the original should be filed preferably simultaneously, but in any event no later than one month from the date of the invitation by the EPO Other documents: only upon invitation by the EPO	
ES	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
FI	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
FR	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
GB	Yes ²	No, only upon invitation	
GE	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
GH	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission in the case of a power of attorney or deed of assignment No, only upon invitation, in the case of other documents
GR	No		
GM	No		
GW	No		
HU	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
IB	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
ID	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
IE	No		
IL	No		
IS	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
IT	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
JP	Yes ³	No, only upon invitation	
KE	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
KG	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
KP	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	

[continued]

TRANSMITTING DOCUMENTS BY FAX TO PCT OFFICES [continued]			
Office	Does the Office accept the transmittal of documents by fax? (for exceptions see footnotes)	Must the original of the document be furnished, and if so, when?	
		International application or replacement sheet containing corrections or amendments of an international application	Other documents
KR	Yes ³	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
KZ	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
LC	To be announced		
LK	No		
LR	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
LS	No		
LT	No		
LU	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
LV	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
MC	No		
MD	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
MG	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	
MK	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
MN	No		
MW	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
MX	No		
NL	Yes	No, only upon invitation	
NO	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
NZ	No		
OA	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
PL	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
PT	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
RO	No		
RU	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
SD	No		
SE	Yes	No, only upon invitation	
SG	Yes ⁴	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	
SI	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
SK	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
SL	To be announced		
TJ	No		
TM	No		
TR	No		
TT	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
UA	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
UG	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
US	Yes ⁵	Note that it is not possible to file the international application by fax. For replacement sheets, the original is only required upon invitation	See footnote 5. No, only upon invitation
UZ	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
VN	No		
YU	Yes	Yes, within 14 days from the date of transmission	No, only upon invitation
ZW	Yes	Yes, within one month from the date of transmission	

¹ All kinds of documents are accepted by fax except authorizations and priority documents.

² Detailed provisions have been set out by the United Kingdom Patent Office for applicants wishing to make use of the fax filing facilities. Details can be obtained from the Office at the following address: Fax Filing, Concept House, Cardiff Road, Newport, South Wales NP9 1RH; tel. (44-1633) 81 45 70.

³ All kinds of documents are accepted by fax except the translation to be furnished under PCT Article 22 or 39.

⁴ All kinds of documents are accepted by fax except documents accompanied by fees.

⁵ All kinds of documents are accepted by fax except certified documents including priority documents; drawings; documents needed to be accorded an international filing date under PCT Article 11; authorizations charging the basic national fee to a deposit account; when necessary, a copy of the international application for entry into the national phase; documents directly related to a secrecy order.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

世界知识产权组织

ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL
DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL



ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

المنظمة العالمية للملكية الفكرية

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ

Geneva, January 30, 1998

INFORMATION NOTE

The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1997

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, announces the main events which occurred in 1997 in relation to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and the results of operations under the PCT for that year.

— * —

1. Since 1978, the PCT system has offered inventors and industry an advantageous route for obtaining patent protection internationally. By filing one “international” patent application under the PCT, protection for an invention can be sought simultaneously in each of a large number of countries.

2. *Developments in 1997.* The International Bureau of WIPO received 54,422 international applications filed worldwide,¹ which is 7,131 (15.1%) more than in 1996. In July 1997, the International Bureau received 5,580 international applications—the largest number of applications received in any month since PCT operations began. The 54,422 international applications received in 1997 had the effect of 1,791,471 national applications, and of 130,217 regional applications, which in turn had the effect of 1,671,676 applications for patent protection in the member States of the regional patent systems, that is, a total equivalent effect of 3,463,147 national applications.

1. Figures based on the number of copies of international applications sent, under PCT Article 12, to the International Bureau by PCT receiving Offices (including by the International Bureau itself as a receiving Office).

3. During 1997, seven new Contracting States became bound by the PCT (on the dates shown in parentheses):

Yugoslavia (February 1, 1997);
Ghana (February 26, 1997);
Zimbabwe (June 11, 1997);
Sierra Leone (June 17, 1997);
Indonesia (September 5, 1997);
Gambia (December 9, 1997);
Guinea-Bissau (December 12, 1997).

4. The 94 States party to the PCT on December 31, 1997, were the following:

Albania	Denmark	Lithuania	Sri Lanka
Armenia	Estonia	Luxembourg	Sudan
Australia	Finland	Madagascar	Swaziland
Austria	France	Malawi	Sweden
Azerbaijan	Gabon	Mali	Switzerland
Barbados	Gambia	Mauritania	Tajikistan
Belarus	Georgia	Mexico	The former Yugoslav
Belgium	Germany	Monaco	Republic of
Benin	Ghana	Mongolia	Macedonia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Greece	Netherlands	Togo
Brazil	Guinea	New Zealand	Trinidad and Tobago
Bulgaria	Guinea-Bissau	Niger	Turkey
Burkina Faso	Hungary	Norway	Turkmenistan
Cameroon	Iceland	Poland	Uganda
Canada	Indonesia	Portugal	Ukraine
Central African Republic	Ireland	Republic of Korea	United Kingdom
Chad	Israel	Republic of Moldova	United States of
China	Italy	Romania	America
Congo	Japan	Russian Federation	Uzbekistan
Côte d'Ivoire	Kazakhstan	Saint Lucia	Viet Nam
Cuba	Kenya	Senegal	Yugoslavia
Czech Republic	Kyrgyzstan	Sierra Leone	Zimbabwe
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Latvia	Singapore	
	Lesotho	Slovakia	
	Liberia	Slovenia	
	Liechtenstein	Spain	

5. In June 1997, the Government of the United Kingdom informed WIPO that, as from July 1, 1997, it would “cease to be responsible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the [PCT] to Hong Kong,” and the Government of the People’s Republic of China informed WIPO that, as from July 1, 1997, it would “assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Treaty to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region” (HKSAR). Where China is designated in an international application for the purposes of either a patent or a utility model, such an application may, subject to certain conditions, also seek protection of a standard patent or a short-term patent, respectively, from the Patents Registry, Intellectual Property Department of the HKSAR.

6. On September 6, 1997, Spain became bound by Chapter II of the PCT (International Preliminary Examination), following the withdrawal of its declaration under PCT Article 64(1)(a). Consequently, nationals and residents of Spain are now entitled to file demands for international preliminary examination of their international applications, and it is now possible to elect Spain for the purpose of a national patent and/or a European patent. As a result of the withdrawal by Spain of its reservation, all PCT Contracting States are now bound by Chapter II.

7. *Summary of the procedure under the PCT.* The system of patent cooperation established by the PCT means that, by filing only one international application with one Office, the PCT applicant can obtain the effect of regular national filings in any or all PCT Contracting States without initially having to furnish a translation of the application or pay national fees. The national patent granting procedure and the related high expenses are postponed, in the majority of cases, by up to 18 months (or even longer in the case of some Offices).

8. In addition to designations of PCT Contracting States for the purpose of obtaining national patents, an international application may include designations for regional patents: ARIPO (African Regional Industrial Property Organization) patents having effect in those States party to the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs which are also Contracting States of the PCT, Eurasian patents having effect in States party to the Eurasian Patent Convention, European patents having effect in States party to the European Patent Convention, and OAPI (African Intellectual Property Organization) patents having effect in States party to the Bangui Agreement.

9. Each international application is subjected to an international search carried out by one of the major patent Offices of the world acting as an International Searching Authority under the PCT which establishes an international search report setting out the relevant prior art. That report is received by the applicant about 16 months from the priority date. The international application is published, along with the international search report, by the International Bureau 18 months after the priority date and is then transmitted to the designated Offices and to the applicant.

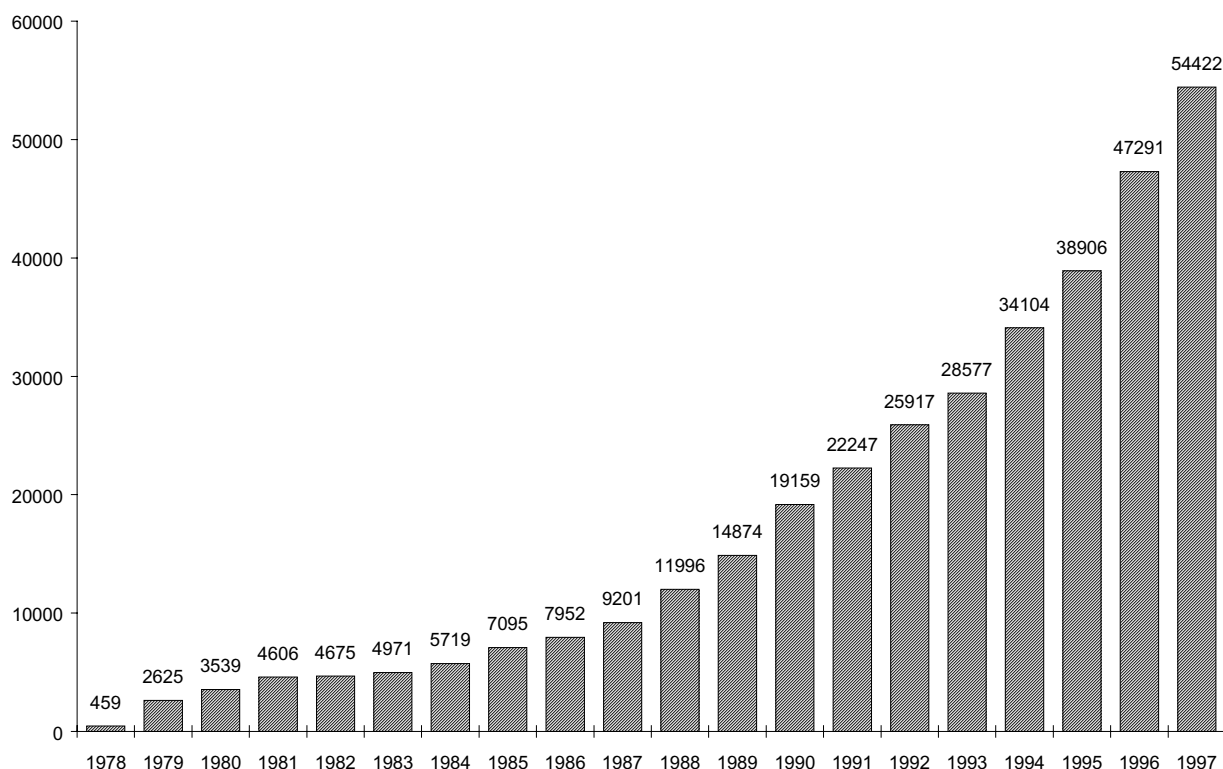
10. If the applicant so requests, and most do (see paragraph 20, below), the international application is also subjected to international preliminary examination under Chapter II of the PCT carried out by one of the Offices which act as International Preliminary Examining Authorities under the PCT, and the entry into the national phase is postponed by a further 10 months. That examination results in a report which includes an opinion as to whether the claimed invention fulfills the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability.

The international preliminary examination report is usually received by the applicant about 28 months from the priority date.

11. With the international search report, and, where it has been requested, the international preliminary examination report, the applicant is in a much better position to decide whether to initiate the national patent granting procedure before the various designated patent Offices. If the applicant is convinced, in the light of such reports, that it is worthwhile to seek patent protection in several countries, he may then decide to pay national fees, professional fees for patent agents abroad, and incur the cost of preparing translations. This need not be done until 20 months from the priority date (that is, eight months later than under the traditional system whereby separate national or regional patent applications have to be filed in all countries and for all regions of interest), or, if the applicant has filed a demand for international preliminary examination, it need not be done until 30 months from the priority date (that is, 18 months later than under the traditional system). At that later time, the applicant is also in a much better position to decide about the need for patent protection having regard to increased knowledge of the technical and economic prospects of the invention.

12. **Statistics.** The following graph shows the number of international applications received by the International Bureau in each calendar year since the beginning of PCT operations:

Number of international applications received since 1978



13. The following table shows, by country of origin, the number of international applications received by the International Bureau, and the corresponding percentages of the total, in 1997 as compared with 1996:

<i>Country of origin</i> ²		<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
		1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
US	United States of America	22,736	(20,828)	41.8	(44.0)
DE	Germany	7,436	(5,695)	13.7	(12.0)
JP	Japan	4,845	(3,861)	8.9	(8.2)
GB	United Kingdom ³	3,939	(3,440)	7.2	(7.3)
FR	France	2,496	(2,307)	4.6	(4.9)
SE	Sweden	2,188	(1,844)	4.0	(3.9)
NL	Netherlands	1,749	(1,589)	3.2	(3.4)
CH&LI	Switzerland and Liechtenstein ⁴	1,101	(1,075)	2.0	(2.3)
CA	Canada	1,075	(940)	2.0	(2.0)
AU	Australia	881	(873)	1.6	(1.8)
FI	Finland	873	(703)	1.6	(1.5)
IT	Italy	797	(652)	1.5	(1.4)
DK	Denmark	642	(580)	1.2	(1.2)
IL	Israel	445	(203)	0.8	(0.4)
RU	Russian Federation	419	(366)	0.8	(0.8)
AT	Austria	373	(335)	0.7	(0.7)
NO	Norway	367	(312)	0.7	(0.7)
ES	Spain	340	(273)	0.6	(0.6)
KR	Republic of Korea	304	(260)	0.6	(0.5)
BE	Belgium	294	(291)	0.5	(0.6)
NZ	New Zealand	166	(153)	0.3	(0.3)
CN	China	157	(114)	0.3	(0.2)
IE	Ireland	115	(119)	0.2	(0.2)
HU	Hungary	93	(77)	0.2	(0.2)
BR	Brazil	91	(57)	0.2	(0.1)
SG	Singapore	71	(25)	0.1	(<0.1)
GR	Greece	52	(28)	0.1	(<0.1)
CZ	Czech Republic	50	(31)	<0.1	(<0.1)
LU	Luxembourg	48	(41)	<0.1	(<0.1)
MX	Mexico	44	(24)	<0.1	(<0.1)
SI	Slovenia	37	(32)	<0.1	(<0.1)
PL	Poland	35	(19)	<0.1	(<0.1)
TR	Turkey	26	(4)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BG	Bulgaria	15	(21)	<0.1	(<0.1)
SK	Slovakia	14	(21)	<0.1	(<0.1)
RO	Romania	13	(13)	<0.1	(<0.1)
UA	Ukraine	12	(14)	<0.1	(<0.1)
YU	Yugoslavia	12	(n.a.)	<0.1	(n.a.)
BY	Belarus	10	(11)	<0.1	(<0.1)
PT	Portugal	9	(11)	<0.1	(<0.1)

[continued on next page]

2. Figures are based on the receiving Offices with which international applications were filed, except that applications filed with regional Offices as receiving Offices or with the International Bureau as receiving Office are included under the applicant's country of residence. Of the total, 6,376 (= 11.7%) were filed with the European Patent Office (EPO) as receiving Office and 1,619 (= 3%) were filed with the International Bureau as receiving Office.

3. Includes figures for the Isle of Man and, until June 30, 1997, Hong Kong, since the national Office of the United Kingdom also acts as receiving Office for residents of the Isle of Man and acted, until June 30, 1997, for residents of Hong Kong.

4. The national Office of Switzerland also acts as receiving Office for nationals and residents of Liechtenstein.

[number of international applications received by the International Bureau in 1997 and 1996, continued]

<i>Country of origin</i>		<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
		1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
IS	Iceland	6	(5)	<0.1	(<0.1)
CU	Cuba	5	(4)	<0.1	(<0.1)
EE	Estonia	5	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
KZ	Kazakhstan	5	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
LV	Latvia	5	(5)	<0.1	(<0.1)
MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
GE	Georgia	3	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
ID	Indonesia	3	(n.a.)	<0.1	(n.a.)
LT	Lithuania	3	(3)	<0.1	(<0.1)
MC	Monaco	3	(7)	<0.1	(<0.1)
UZ	Uzbekistan	3	(1)	<0.1	(<0.1)
LK	Sri Lanka	2	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
AM	Armenia	1	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
BB	Barbados	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
KE	Kenya	1	(0)	<0.1	(0)
OA	OAPI States	1	(2)	<0.1	(<0.1)
AL	Albania	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
KG	Kyrgyzstan	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
LS	Lesotho	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
MD	Republic of Moldova	0	(4)	0	(<0.1)
MW	Malawi	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
SZ	Swaziland	0	(1)	0	(<0.1)
TOTAL		54,422	(47,291)	100.00	(100.00)

The table above shows that in 1997 there was a notable increase in the number of international applications received from the following major user countries: Germany (1,741 more than in 1996 (30.6% increase)), Japan (984 more than in 1996 (25.5% increase)), Sweden (344 more than in 1996 (18.7% increase)), the United Kingdom (499 more than in 1996 (14.5% increase)) and the United States of America (1,908 more than in 1996 (9.2% increase)).

14. In 1997, the average number of designations made per international application was 35.3 (1996: 30.3), having the effect, on average, of national or regional applications in 63.6 (1996: 56.2) Contracting States. This figure is much higher than the number of States for which patent protection will eventually be sought, because the applicants in respect of 47.8% (1996: 45.2%) of all international applications received by the International Bureau in 1997 used the possibility of paying the maximum of 11 designation fees while designating any number of (and frequently all) PCT Contracting States. Such applicants thus extend the effects of their international applications to as many States as might be of interest to them, retaining the option of deciding at a later stage in which States they wish to proceed. The difference between the number of designations and the number of States in which they have effect as national or regional applications is due to the fact that each designation for a regional (ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI) patent covers several States. Many applicants make such designations for regional patents; for example, in 1997, a European patent was sought in 96.4% of all international applications.

15. In 1997, the International Bureau of WIPO as receiving Office received 1,642 international applications (1996: 1,500) from applicants from 41 countries, including 329 which benefited from the safeguard procedure under which international applications that are filed with a “non-competent” receiving Office are transmitted to the International Bureau in its capacity as receiving Office, allowing applicants to retain the date of receipt by the “non-competent” receiving Office as the international filing date.

16. A copy of every international application is sent to the International Searching Authority competent for carrying out the international search. Where more than one Authority is competent, the applicant chooses the one he prefers. The number of international applications sent to each International Searching Authority is indicated below:

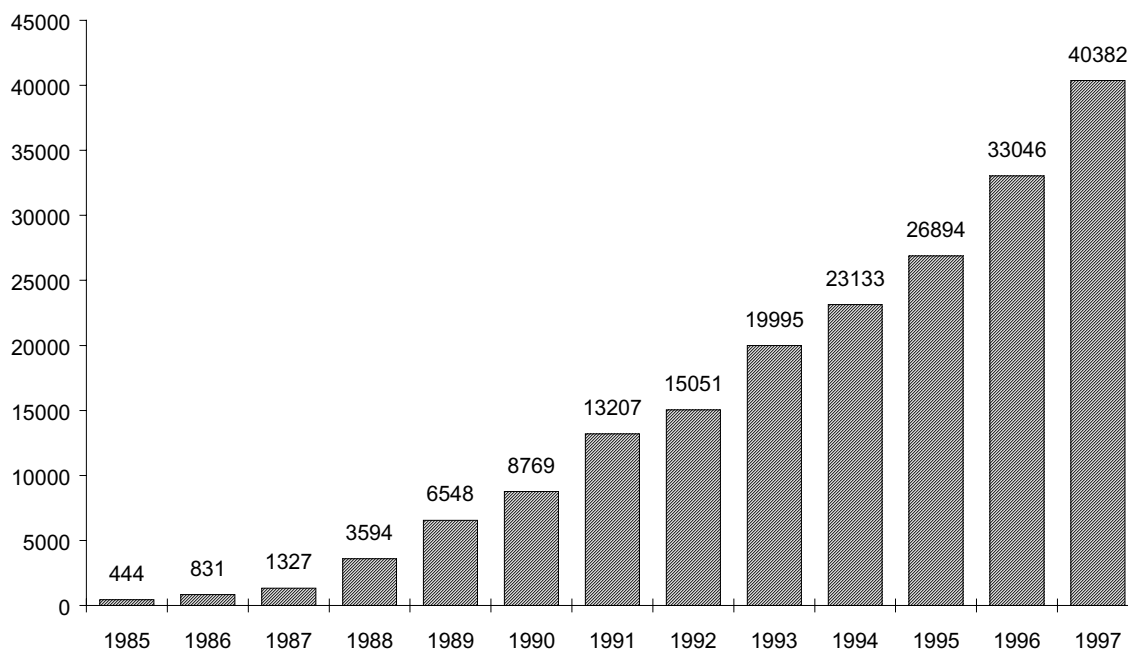
<i>International Searching Authority</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
European Patent Office	30,604	(26,029)	56.2	(55.0)
United States of America	12,717	(11,889)	23.4	(25.1)
Japan	4,522	(3,562)	8.3	(7.5)
Sweden	4,341	(3,791)	8.0	(8.0)
Australia	1,003	(999)	1.8	(2.1)
Russian Federation	410	(383)	0.7	(0.8)
Austria	363	(283)	0.7	(0.6)
Spain	305	(240)	0.6	(0.5)
China	157	(115)	0.3	(0.2)
	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	54,422	(47,291)	100.0	(100.0)

17. The international applications received by the International Bureau from receiving Offices in 1997 were filed in the following languages:

<i>Language of filing</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
English	35,953	(32,130)	66.1	(67.9)
German	8,304	(6,558)	15.3	(13.9)
Japanese	4,521	(3,566)	8.3	(7.5)
French	2,618	(2,434)	4.8	(5.1)
Swedish	968	(862)	1.8	(1.8)
Finnish	419	(320)	0.8	(0.7)
Russian	404	(364)	0.7	(0.8)
Spanish	370	(270)	0.7	(0.6)
Dutch	349	(335)	0.6	(0.7)
Norwegian	209	(175)	0.4	(0.4)
Danish	173	(168)	0.3	(0.4)
Chinese	134	(109)	0.2	(0.2)
	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	54,422	(47,291)	100.0	(100.0)

18. The number of demands for international preliminary examination received by the International Bureau from the International Preliminary Examining Authorities in 1997 amounted to 40,382, which represents an increase over 1996 of 22.2%. The number of demands filed in each calendar year since 1985 is indicated below:

Number of demands received since 1985



19. The number of demands received by the International Bureau from each International Preliminary Examining Authority is indicated below:

<i>International Preliminary Examining Authority</i>	<i>Number of demands</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
European Patent Office	22,103	(18,213)	54.7	(55.1)
United States of America	12,412	(9,569)	30.7	(29.0)
Sweden	2,447	(2,478)	6.1	(7.5)
Japan	2,046	(1,563)	5.1	(4.7)
Australia	896	(893)	2.2	(2.7)
Russian Federation	183	(138)	0.5	(0.4)
Austria	173	(117)	0.4	(0.4)
China	122	(75)	0.3	(0.2)
TOTAL	40,382	(33,046)	100.0	(100.0)

20. The demands for international preliminary examination received in 1997 relate mainly to international applications filed in 1996. Applicants are increasingly (in about 80% of applications) taking advantage of the benefits of the procedure under Chapter II of the PCT.

21. **Meetings.** The Meeting of International Authorities under the PCT (PCT/MIA) held its sixth session from February 17 to 21, 1997, in Canberra, Australia. Matters discussed included: possible modifications of the PCT Search Guidelines and the PCT Preliminary Examination Guidelines; establishment of a (PCT) standard for the presentation of nucleotide and amino acid sequence listings in international applications; the confidential nature of the international preliminary examination procedure; and possible amendments to the PCT Regulations.

22. The Assembly of the PCT Union held its twenty-fourth (11th ordinary) session in Geneva from September 16 to October 1, 1997. The Assembly considered proposed amendments of the PCT Regulations which had been discussed earlier in the year, in April and June, at meetings of an ad hoc Advisory Group in Geneva. The Assembly decided, with effect from January 1, 1998, to reduce the amounts of the basic fee and designation fee by approximately 15% and 19%, respectively. The Assembly also adopted a number of amendments of the PCT Regulations, in order to make procedures for the filing and processing of international applications simpler, safer, more flexible and more accessible to applicants, and to take into account rapidly changing technology. The following are some of the most important amendments adopted:

Amendments which entered into force on January 1, 1998:

- as soon as possible after January 1, 1998, the *PCT Gazette* will be made available in two forms:
 - (a) in a single, bilingual (English and French) paper form, containing only the bibliographic data included on the front page of the pamphlet and other information referred to in PCT Rule 86.1, which will replace the present two separate language editions; and
 - (b) in electronic form, containing the bibliographic data, any drawing appearing on the front page of the pamphlet, and the abstract; the electronic version will be made accessible, in English and French at the same time, by any electronic ways and means specified in the Administrative Instructions under the PCT (which may, for example, be on the Internet or on CD-ROM);
- fee reductions, as indicated in paragraph 22.

Amendments which will enter into force on July 1, 1998:

- the provisions as to the languages in which international applications may be filed are broadened;
- the requirements relating to the making of, and the correction of mistakes in, priority claims are liberalized, and certain provisions relating to the furnishing of priority documents are amended;
- a new procedure, similar to that which has already been introduced under PCT Rule 19.4, in respect of the filing of an international application with a receiving Office which is not competent to receive it, is introduced in respect of the filing of a demand with an International Preliminary Examining Authority which is not competent to carry out international preliminary examination, or the filing of a demand with a receiving Office, an International Searching Authority or the International Bureau;

- copies of documents in the files of the International Bureau and the International Preliminary Examining Authority become more readily available to third parties after international publication; for international applications filed on or after July 1, 1998, express authorization is given to elected Offices to provide access to documents in the international preliminary examination file (as held by the International Preliminary Examining Authority), if permitted under the applicable national or regional law;
- the time limits for payment of the different fees during the international phase are made more uniform, and amendments are made to clarify what amount is payable where the amount of a fee changes before payment, to provide for refunds in certain cases, and to align the approach in relation to (late) payment of fees relating to the procedure under Chapter II with that followed in relation to (late) payment of fees relating to the procedure under Chapter I;
- a new legal framework comes into force for the implementation of a standard for the presentation of nucleotide and amino acid sequence listings in international applications;
- the scope of PCT Rule 13*bis*, which contains provisions concerning deposited microorganisms, is broadened so as to cover deposits of biological materials.

Amendments which will enter into force at a time other than January 1 or July 1, 1998:

- the Regulations are amended by including broad enabling provisions which will give applicants the option of electronically filing international applications and other documents and correspondence with those receiving Offices which are prepared to accept such filings; the amended Regulations relating to this matter will enter into force at the time of the promulgation of details providing for electronic filing.

23. The Assembly of the PCT Union appointed the Korean Industrial Property Office as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority, extended the appointment of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office as an International Searching Authority, and extended the appointment as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities of the Australian Patent Office, the Austrian Patent Office, the Chinese Patent Office, the European Patent Office, the Japanese Patent Office, the Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks, the Swedish Patent and Registration Office, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The Agreements concluded under PCT Articles 16(3)(b) and 32(3) with the International Bureau of WIPO in respect of the functioning of those Offices as International Searching and/or Preliminary Examining Authorities under the PCT, with the exception of that concluded with the Korean Industrial Property Office, entered into force on January 1, 1998, and will remain in force until December 31, 2007. The Agreement with the Korean Industrial Property Office will enter into force one month after the date on which the Authority notifies the Director General of WIPO that it has in its possession the minimum documentation referred to in PCT Rule 34, properly arranged for search purposes, including both patent documents and non-patent literature, and will remain in force until December 31, 2007.

24. In 1997, officials of the International Bureau participated in 86 seminars which dealt with the use and advantages of the PCT. In the course of those seminars, which were held in Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Yemen and Yugoslavia, presentations were

given in Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian or Spanish to about 5,700 users and potential users of the PCT system.

25. ***PCT Information Line.*** On June 1, 1997, the International Bureau started a new service for PCT users—the PCT Information Line—to answer general inquiries about the filing of international applications and the procedure during the international phase under the PCT. Where necessary, the person on duty on the PCT Information Line will refer inquiries to the authorized officer responsible for the particular application, or to the PCT Legal Division. The PCT Information Line can be contacted as follows:

telephone: (41–22) 338 83 38
 fax: (41–22) 338 83 39
 e-mail: pct.infoline@wipo.int

26. ***Publications under the PCT.*** The weekly publication of the *PCT Gazette*, in separate English and French editions, continued in 1997. It included entries relating to the 50,282 international applications (1996: 42,186) which were published in 1997 in the form of PCT pamphlets (in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian or Spanish, depending on the language of filing) on the same day as the relevant issue of the *PCT Gazette*. The *PCT Gazette* also included, in Section IV, a substantial volume of information of a general character concerning new Contracting States and the requirements of the various Offices and International Authorities. In June, a bilingual (English/French) index of the *PCT Gazette* was published for 1996, containing a consolidated version of the indexes published in Section III and an index to Section IV. The following special issues of the *PCT Gazette* were published in 1997:

- Nos. 01/1997 (January) and 28/1997 (July)—consolidated general information relating to Contracting States, national and regional Offices and International Authorities;
- No. 48/1997 (November)—PCT Minimum Documentation – List of Periodicals;
- No. 56/1997 (December)—International Searching Authorities and International Preliminary Examining Authorities: Agreements with the International Bureau of WIPO.

27. The number of international applications published in each of the languages of publication was as follows:

<i>Language of publication</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1997	(1996)	1997	(1996)
English	35,384	(30,878)	70.4	(73.2)
German	7,676	(6,023)	15.3	(14.3)
Japanese	3,950	(2,768)	7.8	(6.5)
French	2,523	(1,987)	5.0	(4.7)
Russian	338	(240)	0.7	(0.6)
Spanish	282	(200)	0.5	(0.5)
Chinese	129	(90)	0.3	(0.2)
	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	50,282	(42,186)	100.0	(100.0)

28. The *PCT Applicant's Guide*, which contains information on the filing of international applications and the procedure during the international phase as well as information on the national phase and the procedure before the designated (or elected) Offices, was updated twice in 1997 to include the many changes that had occurred during the year in respect of the PCT. About 460 updating sheets were sent to each subscriber in 1997.

29. Twelve issues of the *PCT Newsletter* were published in 1997. This monthly publication provides up-to-date news for users of the PCT. It contains information on the essential items included in Section IV of the *PCT Gazette* and supplements the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, with practical advice for applicants and agents, a list of forthcoming PCT seminars, consolidated tables of PCT fees in various currencies, and other items of general interest. It also includes tear-out provisional sheets permitting easy inclusion of certain important changes in the *PCT Applicant's Guide* prior to the issuance of six-monthly updates.

30. In 1997, the International Bureau continued, in cooperation with the European Patent Office, the weekly production of ESPACE WORLD CD-ROMs, each disk containing, in facsimile form, the full text and the drawings of all international applications and international search reports published each week, as well as the corresponding bibliographic data in coded, searchable form. All international applications published since 1978 are available in CD-ROM format (on about 720 CD-ROMs).

31. **Ordering of PCT publications.** PCT publications may be ordered from WIPO, Information Products Section, P.O. Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, facsimile no. (41-22) 740 18 12 or 733 54 28. Publications of particular interest include:

- the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, a five-binder loose-leaf publication of more than 1,000 pages (available in English and French from WIPO, also available from other sources in Chinese, German and Japanese—contact WIPO for details);
- PCT pamphlets containing published international applications (in various languages—see paragraph 26, above—and containing the title and the abstract in both the language of publication and English);
- the *PCT Gazette* (available in English and French; soon to be available in electronic form as well as on paper—see paragraph 22, above);
- the *PCT Newsletter* (available in English);
- booklets containing the text of the PCT and the PCT Regulations (in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish);
- special issues of the *PCT Gazette* (see paragraph 26, above) (in English and French).

32. A leaflet entitled *Basic Facts about the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)* is available free of charge in English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish.

33. The ESPACE WORLD CD-ROMs containing published international applications may be ordered from the European Patent Office, Schottenfeldgasse 29, Postfach 82, A-1072 Vienna, Austria. However, CD-ROMs containing the international applications published between 1978 and 1989 can be obtained only from WIPO, at the address indicated in paragraph 31, above.

34. **Internet.** During 1997, recognizing the importance of the Internet as a means for communicating information, the International Bureau made significant progress in mounting PCT materials on the Internet. The following PCT materials may now be viewed, free of charge, on WIPO's Internet site (<http://www.wipo.int>):

- Information about the Treaty
- *Basic Facts about the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)*
- The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1997 (this document)
- Text of the PCT
- Text of the Regulations under the PCT
- *PCT Applicant's Guide*
- *PCT Newsletter*
- PCT request and demand forms (in PDF format)
- PCT meeting documents and reports
- PCT press releases
- PCT seminar calendar

[End]