

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
ORGANIZATION**

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**ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL  
DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE**

المنظمة العالمية للملكية الفكرية

**ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ  
ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ**

C. SCIT 2540

06

July 6, 2001

Re: SCIT Task Force on Revision of WIPO Standard ST.6 (ST.6 Task Force)

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Madam,  
Sir,

At its first session, held in May 2001, the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) agreed to set up a task force in order to discuss the revision of WIPO Standard ST.6. The SDWG requested the task force to consider in particular:

- (a) the maximum number of digits that should be allowed for the publication number of patent documents;
- (b) the implications of having a code for each kind of industrial property right mentioned in this Standard included in the format of the publication numbers; and
- (c) better guidance for defining publication numbers in view of electronic data processing and use by the public.

The task force was also requested to carry out a preliminary study and prepare a written project brief, which would include the following: a clear indication of the needs to be addressed, the objectives of the task and options for solutions. This paper should be submitted to the International Bureau for consideration by the SCIT Plenary at its next meeting, in December 2001, along with a progress report of the work carried out by the task force.

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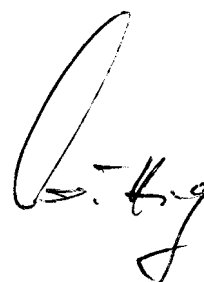
In addition, the task force was requested to consider in its discussions the impact of the revision of WIPO Standard ST.6 on other WIPO standards, as well as an appropriate delay for the implementation of the revisions agreed upon. The USPTO was appointed as leader of the task force.

(See document SCIT/SDWG/1/9 Prov., paragraphs 18 to 22.)

In accordance with the above-mentioned decision by the SDWG, the International Bureau invites those Offices wishing to participate actively in the discussions to nominate a representative to work as part of the ST.6 Task Force. The International Bureau would appreciate it if the participants in the ST.6 Task Force are technical specialists from industrial property offices who have appropriate experience in the elaboration of WIPO standards. This would enable them to make an active contribution to the work to be carried out. It should be noted that, as part of the Task Force, any nominee will be committed to being work during the period beginning August 2001 via e-mail and in the English language. The project brief is expected to be completed no later than October 2001 with the task force discussions on the merits of the task beginning immediately thereafter, with a possible carry over into 2002.

Please send your reply with details of the nominated expert (name, title and e-mail address) to the International Bureau at the address [scit.mail@wipo.int](mailto:scit.mail@wipo.int) before July 30, 2001. The number of this circular should be included as a reference on all correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Wittig', written in a cursive style.

Klaus-Peter Wittig  
Deputy Director  
Standards and Documentation Service