

Strategic Plan

We are in basic agreement with the Draft Headings you have presented, but would like to comment on one point.

Section 4 of this Strategic Plan lists seven SCIT goals, all of which can be considered appropriate and important to achieve.

Yet as these goals are quite broad in scope for IP offices, we feel it important that the Strategic Plan provide concrete images to give IP offices a clearer understanding of the goals. It is particularly important to clearly indicate how these goals will be achieved through the use of information technologies. We therefore suggest that a new section be included in this Strategic Plan between Section 4 (SCIT Goals) and Section 5 (Governing Information Technology Strategies). This new section should specifically describe how the seven goals mentioned in Section 4 are to be achieved.

We suggest that in describing the processes to achieve these goals in detail, PCT automation be included as a concrete example of how to actually achieve these goals. We feel it most appropriate to include this example because it can illustrate that the SCIT goals are beneficial not only to the International Bureau of WIPO, but also to the IP offices of both industrialized and developing nations as well as to users.

Specifically, the following items can be offered as examples of PCT automation:

- Automation of the IB, ROs, DOs, ISAs, and IPEAs
- Introduction of PCT electronic filing system
- Exchange of applications, priority documents, ISRs, and IPERs, and other documents among offices using WIPONET
- Publication of legal status of PCT applications at each IP office and publication of PCT gazettes via IPDL