

May 16, 2003

Mr. Allan Roach
Chief Information Officer and
Director, IT Projects Division
World Intellectual Property Organization
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND

Re: WIPO SCIT Circular 2580 – Maintenance of the tables in the Appendix to WIPO
Standard St.10/C (Task No. 30)

Dear Mr. Roach:

Enclosed is the completed questionnaire concerning United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) entry to the Appendix of WIPO Standard ST.10/C.

As noted in the questionnaire, the USPTO updated its entry in October 2002 prior to publication of the 2002 update to the WIPO “Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation”. No further changes are necessary at this time.

Sincerely,

/Signed by/

Cheryl E. Kazenske
International Intellectual Property Program Manager
Office of External Affairs
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Enclosure

QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING THE APPENDIX TO WIPO STANDARD ST.10/C

INTRODUCTION

1. With regard to the Tables in the Appendix, as pointed out in the project brief (see Annex to document SCIT/7/5), the following problems currently exist:

(a) *Not all the member States of the Paris Convention are covered*

According to the survey conducted by the Task Force (see the Appendix 2 of the SCIT/SDWG/2/6), only 65 industrial property offices (IPOs) are listed on the current Tables of the Appendix to WIPO Standard ST.10/C although there are about 160 members of the Paris Convention. In addition, at least 44 IPOs are not listed or not appropriately listed on the Tables while their numbering systems are known. The numbering systems of approximately 50 other members of the Paris Convention are unknown.

(b) *Some numbering systems on the Tables need to be revised or updated*

There may be quite a few IPOs that have not revised or updated their presentations on the Tables. In particular, there could be changes in the numbering systems of certain countries after the year 2000.

(c) *Information on utility model application numbering system is insufficient*

As a result of the above-mentioned survey, 13 IPOs (marked with a triangle on the document) might not have reported their utility model application numbering systems. In addition, another 23 IPOs (marked with a triangle and a question mark on the document) may have utility model application systems although their numbering systems have not yet been confirmed.

(d) *Information on numbering systems of IPOs with different (regional) receiving offices is insufficient*

Some countries may receive applications from several receiving regional offices but have not established a uniform system for assigning application numbers among the different receiving offices.

2. Unless “recommended presentation in abbreviated format as a priority number” of an IPO is known, each IPO that subsequently receives an application from the IPO might inconsistently cite the priority number data based on its own judgement. This causes a significant problem when preparing patent family data. Therefore, more IPO entries in the Appendix and/or updated information are extremely important.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Information for your industrial property Office is currently provided in the Tables of the Appendix to WIPO Standard ST.10/C. You are requested to check the accuracy of the information contained in the Tables. The enclosed questionnaire will help you to provide any necessary changes or additions to the entry for your Office.

Note:

When checking the accuracy and replying to the questions, it should be noted in particular that:

- if your Office registers utility models they should be represented as a separate entity in the table;
- if the application number consists of different components, the meaning of each component should be explained in the fifth column "Remarks;" (*see the explanation of "MI" in the "Remarks" of "ITALY."* *If your Office receives applications from several receiving regional offices but has not established a uniform system for assigning application numbers among the different receiving offices, this information will be very important.*)
- it is important that the number provided in the fourth column "Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number" reflect the format of the priority number as used by your applicants in subsequent foreign filings, and in the exchange of your data with other offices and in any communications with your applicants.

Please answer the following questions:

Question 1: Does your Office need to revise or update the information contained on the Tables? (If “yes,” please go on to questions 2 and 3.)

Yes
No

USPTO comment: The USPTO updated its entry in October 2002 prior to publication of the 2002 update to the WIPO “Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation”. No further changes are necessary at this time.

Question 2: What is the reason the entry(s) for your Office need(s) to be revised or updated?

(a) Insufficient updating of the information (e.g., the latest numbers are not presented.)

Yes No

(b) No entry concerning utility models

Yes No

(c) Insufficient information on receiving (regional) offices

Yes No

(d) Other (please specify the reason)

Question 3: Which Table does your Office need to amend?

(a) Table 1 only (if “yes,” please go on to question 4.)

Yes No

(b) Table 2 only (if “yes,” please go on to question 5.)

Yes No

(c) Both of them (if “yes,” please go on to questions 4 and 5.)

Yes No

Question 4: Indicate your amended information on the Table 1, below.

Table 1: Countries or Organizations Having Annual Series of Application Numbers

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks

* Please copy and paste your entry on the sheet at first, and then amend the information by showing “strikethrough” for deletion (e.g., ~~The first two digits show~~) and “underline” for addition (e.g., New numbering system was).

Question 5: Indicate your amended information on the Table 2, below.

Table 2: Countries or Organizations Having Other Than Annual Numbering Systems

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks

* Please copy and paste your entry on the Table at first, and then amend the information by showing “~~strikethrough~~” for deletion (e.g., ~~The first two digits show~~) and “underline” for addition (e.g., New numbering system was).