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ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL
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ORGANISATION MONDIALE
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المنظمة العالمية للملكية الفكرية

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ

C. SCIT 2605
03

December 14, 2004

Re. Questionnaire on the Harmonization and Identification of the Parts
of Patent Specifications (SDWG Task No. 36)

Madam,
Sir,

At its fifth session, held from November 8 to 11, 2004, the Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) approved a Questionnaire on the Harmonization and Identification of the Parts of Patent Specifications for its distribution for completion by industrial property offices. This questionnaire is to be utilized in carrying out the survey concerning SDWG Task No. 36, which reads as follows:

“Task No. 36: Prepare a questionnaire and carry out a survey in order to clarify the different practices by industrial property offices regarding the difficulties in citing specific parts of the description of the invention text in a patent document. Prepare a proposal regarding this matter for consideration by the SDWG”.

The Task Force established by the SDWG to handle this Task will analyze the replies to the questionnaire and prepare the proposal for consideration by the Working Group.

(See paragraphs 76 to 79 of document SCIT/SDWG/4/14, and 72 to 82 of SCIT/SDWG/5/13.)

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Task No. 36 addresses a problem users of patent information are faced with, namely the difficulties in referring to citations and in locating specific parts of a patent document (e.g., when a patent document is available on electronic media, the identification of specific parts of the description text may become difficult if the document layout depends on the software settings of the users). This problem is related to the diverse forms of media on which patent documents are now made available.

Further background information concerning the questionnaire can be found in documents SCIT/SDWG/4/10 and SCIT/SDWG/5/8, which are available on WIPO's website (http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=120).

An electronic form containing the questionnaire is being sent to you along with the electronic copy of this Circular, which will be available on paper only on request. The electronic form can also be downloaded from WIPO's website (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/mastcirc.htm>).

It would be appreciated if your Office/Organization could complete and return to the International Bureau, by February 11, 2005, the electronic form containing the questionnaire, by e-mail to scit.mail@wipo.int. Please refer to this SCIT circular number in your reply and do not submit a paper copy of the questionnaire (unless you are unable to send it by e-mail).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Wilson', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Neil Wilson
Director and Chief Information Officer
IT Division