November 29, 2019

Re:   WIPO Sequence 1.0 *Beta* Launch
_____

Madam,
Sir,

The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is pleased to announce the launch of WIPO Sequence 1.0 *Beta* (see document CWS/7/5).  WIPO Sequence is a global software tool that enables patent applicants and IP offices to prepare and/or verify amino acid and nucleotide sequence listings, compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26, as part of a national or international patent application.  WIPO Sequence is comprised of the WIPO Sequence application for applicants and the WIPO Sequence Validator for IP offices.  Both of these tool components are now freely available for download on the WIPO Website at:https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/sequence/.

The development of WIPO Sequence could not have been successful without the collaboration and support from IP offices and some end users.  We wish to thank the support of all of the IP offices and the users who participated in the development process.

The Member States agreed that all sequence listings being part of a patent application, submitted at national and international level, must be compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26 from January 1, 2022.  Although the big-bang implementation of ST.26 is not until January 1, 2022, WIPO Sequence 1.0 Beta has been published to support IP Offices and patent applicants to prepare for the implementation of WIPO ST.26 in time.

The International Bureau expects that IP Offices and applicants will test the *Beta* versions of the WIPO Sequence application or the WIPO Sequence Validator and provide their feedback to improve the tools.  There is a plan to provide an improved version of the beta next year 2020.

IP offices may wish to organize a training on the use of WIPO Sequence tools and WIPO Standard ST.26 for their own staff or their applicants.  The International Bureau plans to develop training materials and provide training sessions to support IP offices' activities in this regard.

34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
T +4122 338 91 11  F +4122 733 54 28
www.wipo.int

Should your Office/Organization have any questions, suggestions for improvement or training requests in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us at: standards@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,

Yo Takagi
Assistant Director General
Global Infrastructure Sector