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March 23, 2007

Madam,
Sir,

Modifications of the Administrative Instructions Under the PCT

*Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing
of International Applications: Modifications of Appendix I of Annex F*

1. In accordance with Rule 89.2(a) of the Regulations under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and the change procedure provided for in section 2.5.5 of Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT, modifications to Appendix I of Annex F to the Administrative Instructions (XML DTDs for the e-PCT Standard) are hereby promulgated with effect from April 1, 2007.
2. Part 7 and Annex F of the Administrative Instructions containing, respectively, the legal framework and the technical standard for electronic filing and processing of international applications, entered into force on January 7, 2002 (see PCT Gazette S-04/2001 dated December 27, 2001). Those provisions have since been modified on several occasions. The consolidated texts of Part 7, Annex F and Appendix I of Annex F are available on WIPO's website at <http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/index.htm>.
3. The present modifications are based on files PCT/EF/PFC 06/001 to 005 and PCT/EF/PFC 07/001, which are available on WIPO's website at http://www.wipo.int/pct/efiling_standard/en/index.html. The International Bureau took into account all comments received after consultation under Rule 89.2(b) of the Regulations under the PCT, in accordance with the change procedure provided for in section 2.5.5 of Annex F (expedited consideration of proposals for change), with the national and regional patent Offices of, or acting for, all PCT Contracting States, with PCT International Authorities and with interested intergovernmental organizations, as well as with certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system (see Circulars C. PCT 1078, dated June 2, 2006; 1086, dated July 31, 2006; 1094, dated December 22, 2006; and 1101, dated January 31, 2007).

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4. A consolidated version of Appendix I of Annex F, as modified, is published on WIPO's website as document PCT/AI/DTD/4 at <http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/index.htm>. Paper copies of this document are available from the International Bureau upon request.

5. The modified DTDs will, in principle, be used for the filing of international applications in electronic format or on paper together with a copy in electronic form, in character coded format, of the request and the abstract (PCT-EASY filings) from April 1, 2007. Where an Office or an Authority which accepts or processes fully electronic or PCT-EASY filings is not in a position to use all modified DTDs from that date, the current DTDs, to the extent that they are still applicable, may still be used for a transitional period. The modified DTDs will be used for international publications taking place from a date to be specified separately, later in 2007.

Yours sincerely,



Francis Gurry
Deputy Director General