

C. PCT 1639

March 10, 2022

Madam,
Sir,

This Circular is addressed to your Office in its capacity as a receiving Office, International Searching Authority, International Preliminary Examining Authority and/or designated or elected Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). It is also being sent to interested intergovernmental organizations as well as certain non-governmental organizations representing users of the PCT system.

This Circular concerns the conclusion of consultations, notified in Circular C. PCT 1632, regarding proposals for change to the Standard for the Electronic Filing and Processing of International Applications under the PCT (Annex F of the Administrative Instructions).

Description of changes

Proposed changes to Annex F and its appendices are set out in the following Proposal for Change (PFC) files
(see https://www.wipo.int/efiling_standard/en/pfc_files_already_processed.htm):

- PCT/EF/PFC 20/003 (Modification of Annex F and Appendix I in respect of ST.26)

Conclusion of consultations

Consultations under PCT Rule 89.2 have been conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 2.5 of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions.

The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in light of the comments received regarding the modification of the Document Type Definitions (DTDs) referenced in the PFC files, has concluded that there were no comments regarding the proposals that required changes to be made to the draft DTDs. The International Bureau has adopted a suggestion from the German Patent and Trademark Office regarding the consistency of the terminology for ST.26 XML files in the main text of Annex F.

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Further process

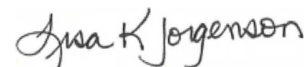
The modifications to Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions are hereby promulgated with effect from July 1, 2022.

A consolidated, revised Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions and Appendix I of Annex F of the PCT Administrative Instructions can be found on the WIPO website at: https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ai_anf_7.pdf and https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ai_dtd_16.pdf respectively.

The International Bureau requests receiving Offices providing electronic filing client software and receiving Offices operating electronic filing servers to update the relevant software installations with the latest DTDs and stylesheets made available by the International Bureau. The DTDs and stylesheets provided in this version include the updates to the Forms that have been modified in the revised version of the Administrative Instructions promulgated in Circular C. PCT 1636 with effect from July 1, 2022.

Any questions on the implementation of these changes to Annex F of the Administrative Instructions should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to Mr. Peter Waring, Senior Counsellor, PCT Business Development Division, at: pctbdd@wipo.int.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Jorgenson
Deputy Director General
Patents and Technology Sector