
The Department now finds that it is not practicable to complete the final results of the administrative review of folding metal tables and chairs from the PRC within the current deadline due to complex issues the parties have raised related to surrogate financial statements and market-economy purchases. We find that additional time is needed to complete these final results. Therefore, in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department is extending by 14 days the time period for completion of the final results of this review. This extension makes these final results due 164 days after the date on which the preliminary results were published, i.e., December 18, 2009.

This notice is published in accordance with sections 751(a)(3)(A) and 777(i) of the Act.


John M. Andersen,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Anti-dumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. E9–29361 Filed 12–8–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO–P–2009–0041]

Patent Cooperation Treaty Task Force; Notice of Public Meeting


ACTION: Notice of public meeting; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting to solicit public opinions on improvement of the USPTO’s efficiency, operation and utilization of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

DATES AND TIMES: The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Persons interested in attending the meeting must register by January 8, 2010.

Written comments must be submitted by January 8, 2009.

Location: The public meeting will be held in the South Auditorium of Madison West, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent by electronic mail message over the Internet addressed to IP.Policy@uspto.gov. Comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Mail Stop Office of International Relations, USPTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450, marked to the attention of Karin Ferriter. Although comments may be submitted by mail, submission via e-mail to the above address is preferable.

The written comments will be available for public inspection on the USPTO Web site and by appointment at the Executive Library, located in Madison West, Tenth Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Contact: Elizabeth Shaw at elizabeth.shaw2@uspto.gov or 571–272–8494.

Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that is not desired to be made public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included.

For Registration to Attend and/or to Give a Presentation in the Meeting: If you wish to attend the public meeting and/or make an oral presentation at the meeting, you must register by e-mail (see ADDRESSES) by close of business on Friday, January 8, 2010. When registering, you must provide the following information: (1) Your name, title, and, if applicable, company or organization, address, phone number, and e-mail address and (2) if you wish to make a presentation, the specific topic or issue to be addressed (e.g., suggestions to improve the quality of an International Search Report) and the approximate desired length of your presentation.

There is no fee to register for the public meeting and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Early registration is recommended because seating is limited. Registration on the day of the public meeting will be permitted on a space-available basis beginning at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

We will do our best to accommodate all persons who wish to make a presentation at the meeting. After reviewing the list of speakers, we will contact each speaker prior to the meeting with the amount of time available and the approximate time the speaker’s presentation is scheduled to begin. Speakers must then send the final electronic copies of their presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) to IP.Policy@uspto.gov by Monday, January 11, 2010 so that the presentation can be displayed in the Auditorium.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please inform the contact person (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) by Friday January 8, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karin L. Ferriter (571) 272–9300, Office of Intellectual Property Policy and Enforcement, directly by phone, by e-mail to Karin.Ferriter@uspto.gov, or by mail addressed to: Mail Stop International Relations, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313–1450.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is establishing a PCT Task Force to consider the perspectives of interested parties concerned with improving the USPTO’s activities as a receiving Office, an International Searching Authority (ISA), and an International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA), as well as of the PCT System as a whole. To support the operation of the Task Force, the USPTO will be holding a public meeting and inviting public comments. Further meetings may be announced as the Task Force develops its work.

The number of patent applications filed in the USPTO and other Offices has increased significantly over the last decade. As worldwide patent protection is increasingly requested, Patent Offices are struggling under the burden of this increasing workload. With 142 members, the PCT offers a comprehensive framework with widespread acceptance that can be used to address this challenge. To build upon this framework, the USPTO is considering how PCT applications could be included in worksharing efforts, and other process improvements such as allowing submission of prior art by applicants and third parties to further improve PCT processing.

This notice is to inform users of the PCT and others of this opportunity to help the USPTO in its strategy to improve efficiencies and optimize the usefulness of the PCT system.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) recently completed a PCT user survey. The results of this survey are posted here: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/pct/en/activity/pct_survey_2009.pdf. The survey respondents indicate that the PCT system is functioning generally well, but that there is room for improvement in the USPTO, as well as other Offices. Participants may wish to provide more detailed information regarding matters addressed in the survey, or raise new matters such as those items listed in the questions below. Comments upon one or more of the following would be helpful:

INFO
1. Please identify overall changes you recommend to the PCT system.

2. Please explain why you use the PCT system, as opposed to direct foreign filing via the Paris Convention. What benefits are applicants seeking by the use of the PCT system, in addition to the longer time to decide where to enter the national stage?

3. The USPTO has been contracting out the international search of international applications that designate the USPTO as the International Searching Authority, so as to help the USPTO improve the timeliness of the international search. From the applicant’s viewpoint, please identify the advantages and disadvantages from this contracting out of the international search.

4. In addition, please explain whether applicants have concerns with the USPTO’s use of contractors for the international search of PCT applications.

5. Please explain whether you support including PCT search and examination results in worksharing mechanisms, such as the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH).

6. Where the international search report and written opinion of the International Searching Authority are at least partially negative, please explain whether you would expect to request international preliminary examination under Chapter II of the PCT more often in order to get PPH benefit at the national phase?

7. Please explain whether you believe the USPTO should encourage early national stage entry when designated as an ISA or IPEA, and implement a system that combines the international and national phase.

8. Please identify any changes you recommend to improve the quality of the work produced under the PCT system.

9. Please explain whether delaying the issuance of the International Search Report until after publication of the international application has any significant impact on your use of the PCT?

10. Please explain whether you believe that the PCT would benefit from a third-party observation system (including submission of prior art) and/or more efficient means for applicant-submitted prior art.

11. Please explain your primary reasons for choosing an ISA.

12. Please explain how the USPTO could improve its processing as a receiving Office.

13. Please explain how the USPTO could improve its processing as a designated/elected Office.

The USPTO plans to make the meeting available via Web cast. Web cast information will be available on the USPTO’s Internet Web site before the roundtable. The written comments and list of the meeting participants and their associations will be posted on the USPTO’s Internet Web site (http://www.uspto.gov).


David J. Kappos,
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. E9–29329 Filed 12–8–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 9 a.m.–12 noon.

PLACE: Hearing Room 420, Bethesda Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

STATUS: Commission Meeting—Open to the Public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Pending Decisional Matter: (a) Tracking Labels for Drywall Notice of Inquiry.

2. Final Rule on Registration Cards.

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504–7948.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Todd A. Stevenson, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 504–7923.


Todd A. Stevenson,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–29193 Filed 12–8–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6355–01–M

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Draft Principles and Standards Sections of the “Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies”; Initiation of Revision and Request for Comments

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110–114) directs the Secretary of the Army to revise the “Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies,” (P&G) dated March 10, 1983, consistent with a number of considerations enumerated in the statute. The Administration has initiated the development of uniform planning standards for the development of water resources that would apply to water resources development programs and activities government-wide, to agencies in addition to the traditional water resources development agencies covered under the current Principles and Guidelines: the Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation (Interior), Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA), and Tennessee Valley Authority. Therefore, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), in coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, has implemented a two phase interagency process revising the planning guidance. The first phase focused on facilitating interagency revisions to the “Principles and Standards” (Chapter I of the existing P&G) of Principles and Guidelines for planning water resources.