

**AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)**

Adopted on October 11, 2017, by the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) at its Forty-Ninth (21st Ordinary) Session held from October 2 to 11, 2017, with effect from July 1, 2018

**Rule 4
The Request (Contents)**

4.1 Mandatory and Optional Contents; Signature

(a) [No change]

(b) The request shall, where applicable, contain:

(i) a priority claim, or

(ii) indications relating to an earlier search as provided in Rules 4.12(i) and 12*bis*.1(b) and (d),

(iii) a reference to a parent application or parent patent,

(iv) an indication of the applicant's choice of competent International Searching Authority.

(c) and (d) [No change]

4.2 to 4.19 [*No change*]

**Rule 41
Taking into Account Results of Earlier Search and Classification**

41 .1 [*No change*]

41.2 Taking into Account Results of Earlier Search and Classification in Other Cases

(a) [No change]

(b) Where the receiving Office has transmitted to the International Searching Authority a copy of the results of any earlier search or of any earlier classification under Rule 23*bis*.2(a) or (c), or where such a copy is available to the International Searching Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it, for example, from a digital library, the International Searching Authority may take those results into account in carrying out the international search.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Fees

Amounts

1. to 3. [No change]

[No change]

Reductions

4. [No change]

5. The international filing fee under item 1 (where applicable, as reduced under item 4), the supplementary search handling fee under item 2 and the handling fee under item 3 are reduced by 90% if the international application is filed by:

(a) [No change]

(b) [No change]

provided that, at the time of filing of the international application, there are no beneficial owners of the international application who would not satisfy the criteria in sub-item (a) or (b) and provided that, if there are several applicants, each must satisfy the criteria set out in either sub-item (a) or (b). The lists of States referred to in sub-items (a) and (b)³ shall be updated by the Director General at least every five years according to directives given by the Assembly. The criteria set out in sub-items (a) and (b) shall be reviewed by the Assembly at least every five years.

³ Editor's Note: The first of States were published in the Gazette of February 12, 2015, page 32 (see www.wipo.int/pct/en/official_notices/index.html).