

C. PCT 1598

The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents its compliments, and has the honor to refer to Note C. N 3983 dated April 2, 2020, concerning the postponement of the meetings of the principal committees and bodies of WIPO and of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) until the end of May 2020.

Note C. N 3983 notified the postponement of meetings in May, including that of the thirteenth session of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group, scheduled to take place from May 26 to 29, 2020. During the same week, the thirty-first session of the PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation (the Committee) had also been convened in order to prepare advice to the PCT Assembly concerning the application for appointment of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT in accordance with Articles 16(3)(e) and 32(3) of the PCT and the relevant understanding of the PCT Assembly, as modified at its fiftieth (29th extraordinary) session, held in Geneva from September 24 to October 2, 2018.

Consistent with Note C. N 3983, the Committee will therefore not meet physically, and the following arrangements are instead proposed for the conduct of its business:

- Members of the Committee (Offices appointed as International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities, and the PCT Contracting States whose national Offices are not so appointed) are invited to review document PCT/CTC/31/2, published on March 20, 2020.
- Questions concerning the application set out in that document should be discussed with the representative of the EAPO, noted below, prior to May 26, 2020.
- Statements concerning the application may be sent to the International Bureau of WIPO, copied to the representative of the EAPO, by close of business on May 29, 2020. The International Bureau of WIPO will make available the statements received and prepare a summary.

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- If all statements received concerning the application are positive, the Committee will be considered to offer positive advice to the PCT Assembly. If any questions remain, the International Bureau of WIPO will propose further arrangements to allow discussion of the outstanding issues and update its summary as appropriate.
- A final summary will be circulated for approval by correspondence and be considered the advice of the Committee to the Assembly.

The International Bureau of WIPO invites comments on this proposed procedure by May 8, 2020.

Comments on the procedure, as well as statements concerning the application, may be sent to the International Bureau of WIPO at: pct.wg@wipo.int.

The representative of the EAPO for the purpose of questions and statements concerning the application is Mr. Andrey Sekretov, Director, International Relations Department (e-mail: ASekretov@eapo.org, Tel: +7 (495) 606 6237).



April 29, 2020