

## Report Q109



### PCT - Patent Cooperation Treaty

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#### **Report on the last development of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) since the Executive Committee Meeting in Berlin, September 2005**

After the adoption of the restoration of the right of priority (Rule 26bis) this rule entered into force on April 1, 2007 (please see Report Q109 of December 30, 2005), however, not for all PCT-Member States because several Member States have issued a declaration of incompatibility.

The proposal for introducing a Supplementary International Search was discussed as an option for applicants to ask an additional International Searching Authority to perform this search taking into account the results of the main International Search which would already have been established. This idea did not find the support of all national delegations, it was particularly rejected by the Japanese Delegation obviously because of the fear that the Japanese Patent Office might be flooded with requests for a Supplementary International Search. The matter was left to a decision of the PCT-assembly.

The establishment of the digital access service for priority documents was discussed and adopted by the PCT-assembly. It is in preparation at the WIPO.