

IPOS as the receiving Office under the PCT will be accepting International Applications in Chinese from 1 January 2017

[Circular No. 6/2016, dated 23 December 2016]

As part of IPOS' continuous effort to bring convenience to nationals and residents of Singapore filing international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), IPOS in its capacity as the receiving Office will be accepting Chinese as a language from 1 January 2017 for

- a) International Application and
- b) Request Form (PCT/RO/101)

2 This is aligned with our extension of search and examination services to include international applications filed in the Chinese language as a competent International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA)¹ under the PCT.

3 This business-friendly service is aimed to convenient companies who have filed or will be filing their patent applications in Chinese, an option to defer patent translation cost from Chinese into English until the national phase deadline. Applicant can thus stand to gain time and make a conscious decision at a later stage without accruing patent cost for translation that may be substantial depending on the technology.

4 In view of this, Section 116 of the Patents Rules will also be amended to introduce Chinese as a language for international application filed at IPOS as the receiving Office. This will be brought into force on 1 January 2017.

5 The Patents Rules is currently pending publication in the Government Gazette. Copies will be made available on the legislation webpage of the IPOS website after they have been published in the Government Gazette.

Enquiries and for more information

6 Should you have any enquiries, please direct them to www.ipos.gov.sg → Contact → Enquiry Form or contact us at 6339 8616.

7 For more information on the relevant form and fees for filling a PCT application via IPOS as the receiving Office, You may also refer to www.ipos.gov.sg → About IP → What is Intellectual Property and what are the different types → What is a patent? → Forms and Fees → PCT Fees.

¹ For International Application filed in Chinese language, the final report issued by the ISA and IPEA will be in Chinese. Applicant can inform IPOS by way of a cover letter if they prefer to receive the report in English.