

8.1.1.2 PDF reduction

This reduction applies if the request form (PCT/RO/101) is filed in character-coded format (XML), while the specification (description, claims and abstract) is filed in PDF.

8.1.1.3 XML reduction

This reduction applies if both the request form (PCT/RO/101) and the specification (description, claims and abstract) are filed in character-coded format (XML).

8.1.2 Reductions for applicants from certain states

Point 5 PCT Schedule of Fees

The international filing fee is reduced by 90% if the requirements stipulated in point 5 of the PCT Schedule of Fees are met.

For filings at the RO/EP, the reduction applies only if the applicant is a natural person who is a national of and resides in an EPC contracting state complying with the criteria under point 5(a) PCT Schedule of Fees (an updated list can be found in the Euro-PCT Guide, point 2.25.019).

If the application is filed with the RO/EP by more than one applicant, only one of them needs to be a national and resident of one of the EPC contracting states in question, but each applicant must fulfil the criteria mentioned under point 5 of the PCT Schedule of Fees.

The 90% reduction is calculated after deduction of the electronic filing reduction, if applicable (see GL/PCT-EPO A-III, 8.1.1).

8.2 Reduction of the international search fee

*OJ EPO 2020, A4
OJ EPO 2020, A91
R. 18
PCT AG I 5.190*

The fee for the international search on an international application is reduced by 75% where the applicant or, if there are two or more applicants, each applicant is

- a natural person who is a national and resident of a state not party to the EPC which on the date of filing of the application is classified as a low-income or lower-middle-income economy by the World Bank;
- or
- a natural or legal person who is a national and resident of a state in which a validation agreement with the EPO is in force.

The list of these states can be found on the EPO website (epo.org, under *Applying for a patent → Fees → International (PCT) fees → Decisions and notices relating to PCT fees → Reduction in international search and preliminary examination fees*).

8.2.1 Reduction of the additional search fee

If the applicant fulfils the requirements for reduction of the international search fee, any additional search fee is validly paid upon payment of the reduced amount.