

**9. IPEA file**

The EPO as IPEA promptly establishes the file when the conditions under Rule 69.1(a) are fulfilled, using the existing ISA file or creating a new file if the EPO was not the ISA.

*PCT AI section 605*

**10. Correction of deficiencies**

Certain defects might be corrected *ex officio* by the IPEA; for others, the EPO as IPEA invites the applicant to correct the defects within one month of the date of the invitation. If the applicant complies with the time limit, the demand is deemed to have been received on the actual filing date, provided that the demand as submitted sufficiently identified the international application. If the applicant does not comply with the invitation in due time, the demand is deemed not to have been submitted.

*Art. 31(3)*

*Rules 53, 55 and 60*

*GL/ISPE 22.37-22.41*

**11. Payment and refund of fees**

Both the preliminary examination fee and the handling fee must be received at the EPO as IPEA one month from the date of receipt of the demand or 22 months from the earliest priority date, whichever expires later. See GL/PCT-EPO A-III, 7.1 and 7.2.

*Rules 57 and 58*

*GL/ISPE 22.42-22.48*

For the conditions for refunding the handling fee and the international preliminary examination fee, see GL/PCT-EPO A-III, 9.6 and 9.7, respectively.

**12. Transmission of demand to the International Bureau**

The transmission of the demand to the International Bureau should be effected not later than one month after receipt of the demand.

*Rules 61.1 and*

*90bis.4(a)*