

If the requirements under Rule 91 are fulfilled, the rectification will be authorised and will be considered effective from the international filing date. Otherwise, the respective sentences or fragments of the description and/or claims may not be further considered for the purpose of international search and/or preliminary examination.

This scenario only applies where a few words or sentences are in a language other than the language of the proceedings.

1.2.3.2 Technical or non-technical terms used in the description and/or the claims in a language other than the language of the proceedings

If the description and/or claims contain(s) technical or non-technical terms in a language other than the language of the proceedings, the EPO will assess whether the use of these terms is common or standard in the relevant technical field. In such a case, no translation will be required.

Art. 6
Art. 84 EPC
T 0061/03

Otherwise, the applicant will be invited by the EPO as receiving Office to submit a request for rectification under Rule 91 (see GL/PCT-EPO A-VII, 1.2.3.1).

R. 91

2. Language of the proceedings

If an international application is filed with the receiving Office in one of the EPO official languages, that language will be the language of the proceedings before the EPO and may not be changed either during the international phase or on entry into the European phase (G 4/08).

R. 12.3
R. 55.2
OJ 2010, 572

If the international application is not filed with the receiving Office in one of the EPO official languages, the language of the proceedings before the EPO as International Authority will be the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of the search or, as the case may be, for the international preliminary examination.

3. Derogations from the language of the proceedings in written proceedings

3.1 Written submissions

With the exception of amendments and corrections to the application, for which the language of the proceedings must be used, any other correspondence with the EPO can be in any of the EPO official languages.

The EPO as receiving Office will, however, reply in the language of the proceedings.

R. 92.2(b)
AI 104(a)
OJ EPO 1993, 540

3.2 International applications filed in Dutch

See GL/PCT-EPO B-XI, 2.2.

3.3 Priority documents

See GL/ISPE 6.17.