

## Contents

Acknowledgements	5
Further information	5
Key numbers for 2021	7
Special theme: How the COVID-19 crisis affected PCT application filings	8
A. Statistics on the international phase: PCT applications	12
Highlights	12
Global trends in PCT applications	18
PCT applications by receiving office	20
PCT applications by origin	21
PCT applications by applicant type	24
Top PCT applicants	27
PCT applications by field of technology	32
Participation of women inventors in PCT applications	35
Top clusters of inventors in PCT applications	39
Statistical table	41
B. Statistics on PCT national phase entries	44
Highlights	44
Global trends in PCT national phase entries	48
National phase entries by origin	50
National phase entries by office	53
Patent applications by filing route	57
Top applicants in foreign-oriented patent families	60
Statistical table	62
C. Statistics on the performance of the	
PCT System	66
Highlights	66
PCT applications by publication language and filing medium	70
PCT applications filed using ePCT	71
Timeliness in processing PCT applications by the International Bureau	72
Efficiency in processing PCT applications by the	
INTERNATIONAL BURGALI	7/

Receiving offices	76
International Searching Authorities	79
Supplementary International Searching Authorities	83
International Preliminary Examining Authorities	84
PCT-Patent Prosecution Highway pilots	86
Annexes	88
A brief presentation of the Patent Cooperation Treaty	88
Data description	92
Acronyms	93
Glossary	94
PCT Contracting States	98