Choice Between USPTO and EPO for International Search and Preliminary Examination

Advantages of using ISA/US

- Less expensive initially when filing the international application
- Lower fee for searching additional invention in case of lack of unity
- Reduced basic national fee when entering US national phase

Wider search — i.e. computer programs etc.

Advantages of using ISA/EP

- Second search before international publication if the US application was filed first
- International patent classification system (different from US)
- Additional language capabilities
- In case of lack of unity, partial international search carried out on first claimed invention and results provided to applicant together with invitation to pay additional fees for search of other claimed inventions
- European search fee waived 100% in the regional phase
- Permits use of IPEA/EP, which will result in:
  - early opinion by IPEA/EP on the chances of obtaining a European patent
  - 50% reduction of European examination fee in regional phase
  - early grant of European patent if IPER is positive

Extension of International Applications to Successor States

International filing dates of PCT applications eligible for extension to successor States (Rule 32)

Successor State	For PCT applications filed during the period starting on	ending on
Ukraine	25 December 1991	23 November 1992
Czech Republic	1 January 1993	21 February 1993
Slovakia	1 January 1993	6 March 1993
Kazakstan	25 December 1991	16 April 1993
Belarus	25 December 1991	22 June 1993
Uzbekistan	25 December 1991	18 October 1993
Georgia	25 December 1991	18 March 1994
Kyrgyzstan	25 December 1991	14 April 1994
Republic of Moldova	25 December 1991	14 April 1994
Tajikistan	25 December 1991	14 April 1994
Armenia	25 December 1991	18 July 1994
Turkmenistan	25 December 1991	1 May 1995

(Not available for Azerbaijan)

CRITICAL DATES FOR SUCCESSOR STATES (cont.)

(as of 24 May 1995--Note that dates in parentheses have been superseded. Where a date has been superseded, the date currently in force is indicated in the penultimate column)

MD	Republic of Moldova	14 Feb. 1994	25 Dec. 1991 to 14 Apr. 1994	30 Dec. 1994 or 21 months from priority date	30 Dec. 1994 or 31 months from priority date		
SK	Slovakia	01 Jan. 1993	01 Jan. 1993 to 06 Mar. 1993	21 months from priority date	30 months from priority date		26 Apr. 1993 10 May 1993 08 Jul. 1993 12 Oct. 1993 21 Jan. 1994
TJ	Tajikistan	14 Feb. 1994	25 Dec. 1991 to 14 Apr. 1994	31 Dec. 1994 or 21 months from priority date	31 Dec. 1994 or 31 months from priority date		
TM	Turkmenistan	1 March 1995	25 Dec. 1991 to 1 May 1995	31 Dec. 1995 or 21 months from priority date	31 Dec. 1995 or 31 months from priority date		
UA	Ukraine	21 Sep. 1992	25 Dec. 1991 to 23 Nov. 1992	(18 Mar. 1993) or 21 months from priority date	(18 Mar. 1993) or 31 months from priority date	(18 Sep. 1993) 31 Dec. 1993 or 21/31 months from priority date	20 Jan. 1993 25 Feb. 1993 10 May 1993 28 Jun. 1993 11 Oct. 1993
UZ	Uzbekistan	18 Aug. 1993	25 Dec. 1991 to 18 Oct. 1993	(01 Jan. 1994) or 21 months from priority date	(01 Jan. 1994) or 31 months from priority date	01 Oct. 1994 or 21/31 months from priority date	10 Feb. 1994 29 Apr. 1994 29 June 1994

* Note that the applicable time limit for national phase entry will be either the Chapter I/Chapter II time limit, the Chapter I/Chapter II time limit as extended under Rule 32.2(c), or three months from the date of the request for extension (Rule 32.2(a)(ii)), whichever expires later.

Notices on newly independent States (States of the former Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia) (continued)

Code	Country	Gazette No.	Published on	Subject
TJ	Tajikistan	8/1994 9/1994 21/1995	31.03.94 14.04.94 18.05.95	Declaration of continuation Protection of industrial property Extension of time limit
TM	Turkmenistan	15/1995	06.04.95	Protection of industrial property
UA	Ukraine	26/1992 32/1992 9/1993 15/1993	15.10.92 23.12.92 01.04.93 24.06.93	Effects of international applications Provisional regulations concerning patent protection Extension of time limit Protection of industrial property - provisional regulations
UZ	Uzbekistan	22/1993 27/1993 13/1994	16.09.93 11.11.93 09.06.94	Declaration of continuation Protection of industrial property Extension of time limit

Notices on newly independent States
(States of the former Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia)

Code	Country	Gazette No.	Published on	Subject
AM	Armenia	13/1994	09.06.94	Declaration of continuation
		22/1994	29.09.94	Protection of industrial property
		5/1995	26.01.95	Protection of industrial property (22/1994)--corrigendum
AZ	Azerbaijan	9/1994	14.04.94	Protection of industrial property
BY	Belarus	3/1993	21.01.93	Protection of industrial property
		15/1993	24.06.93	Protection of industrial property (including declaration of continuation)
		2/1994	06.01.94	Extension of time limit
CZ	Czech Republic	3/1993	21.01.93	Effects of international applications
		4/1993	04.02.93	Protection of industrial property
EE	Estonia	13/1994	09.06.94	Accession
		17/1994	21.07.94	Protection of industrial property
GE	Georgia	12/1993	13.05.93	Protection of industrial property
		5/1994	17.02.94	Declaration of continuation
		9/1994	14.04.94	Protection of industrial property
KZ	Kazakhstan	11/1993	29.04.93	Protection of industrial property (including declaration of continuation)
KG	Kyrgyzstan	8/1994	31.03.94	Declaration of continuation
		9/1994	14.04.94	Protection of industrial property
LV	Latvia	17/1992	09.07.92	Protection of industrial property - provisional regulations
		16/1993	08.07.93	Accession
LT	Lithuania	17/1992	09.07.92	Protection of industrial property - provisional regulations
		10/1994	28.04.94	Accession
		17/1994	21.07.94	Extension of European patents to Lithuania
MD	Republic of Moldova	8/1994	31.03.94	Declaration of continuation
		9/1994	14.04.94	Protection of industrial property
RU	Russian Federation	12/1993	13.05.93	Protection of industrial property - new legislation
SK	Slovakia	3/1993	21.01.93	Effects of international applications
		4/1993	04.02.93	Protection of industrial property

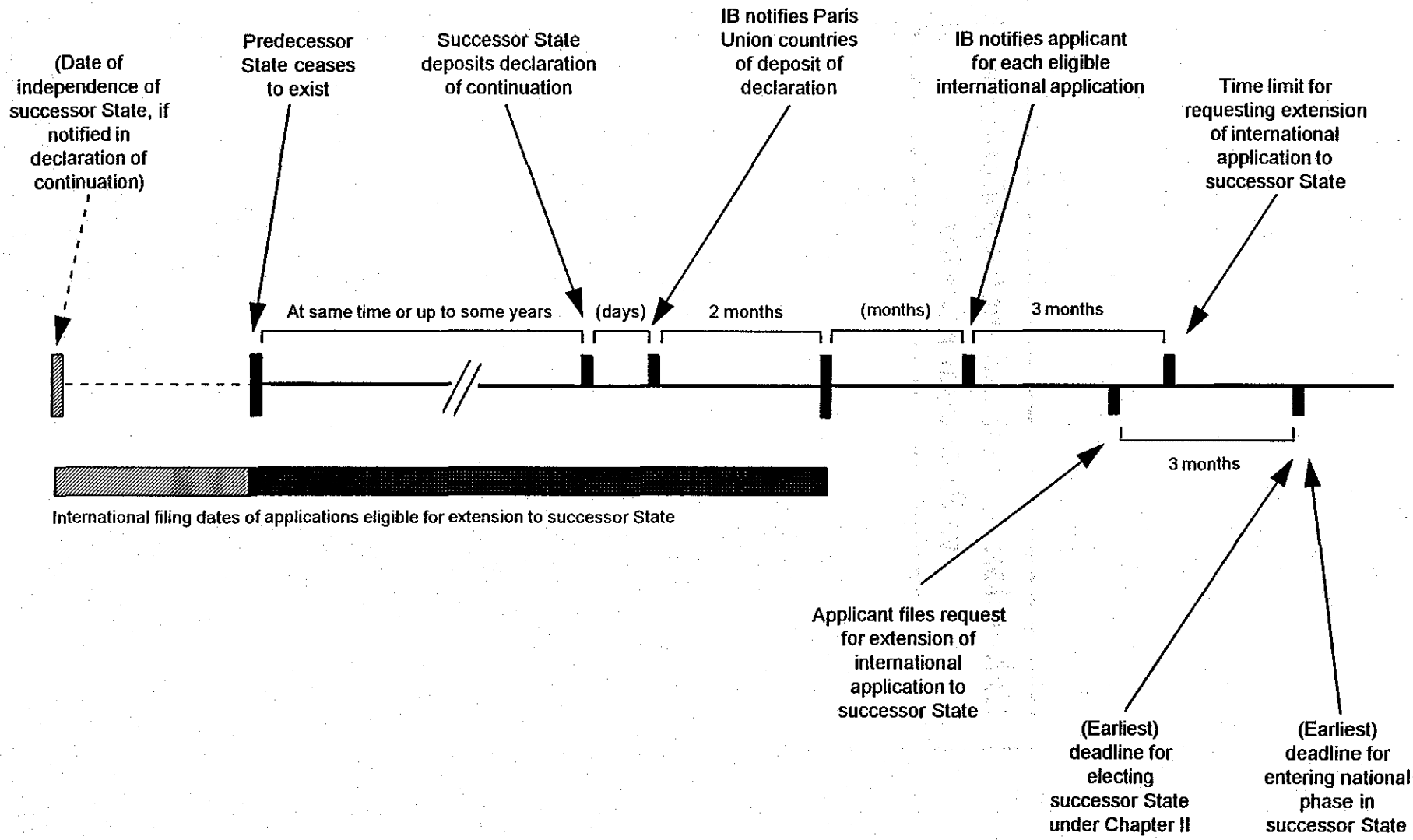
CRITICAL DATES FOR SUCCESSOR STATES

(as of 24 May 1995--Note that dates in parentheses have been superseded. Where a date has been superseded, the date currently in force is indicated in the penultimate column)

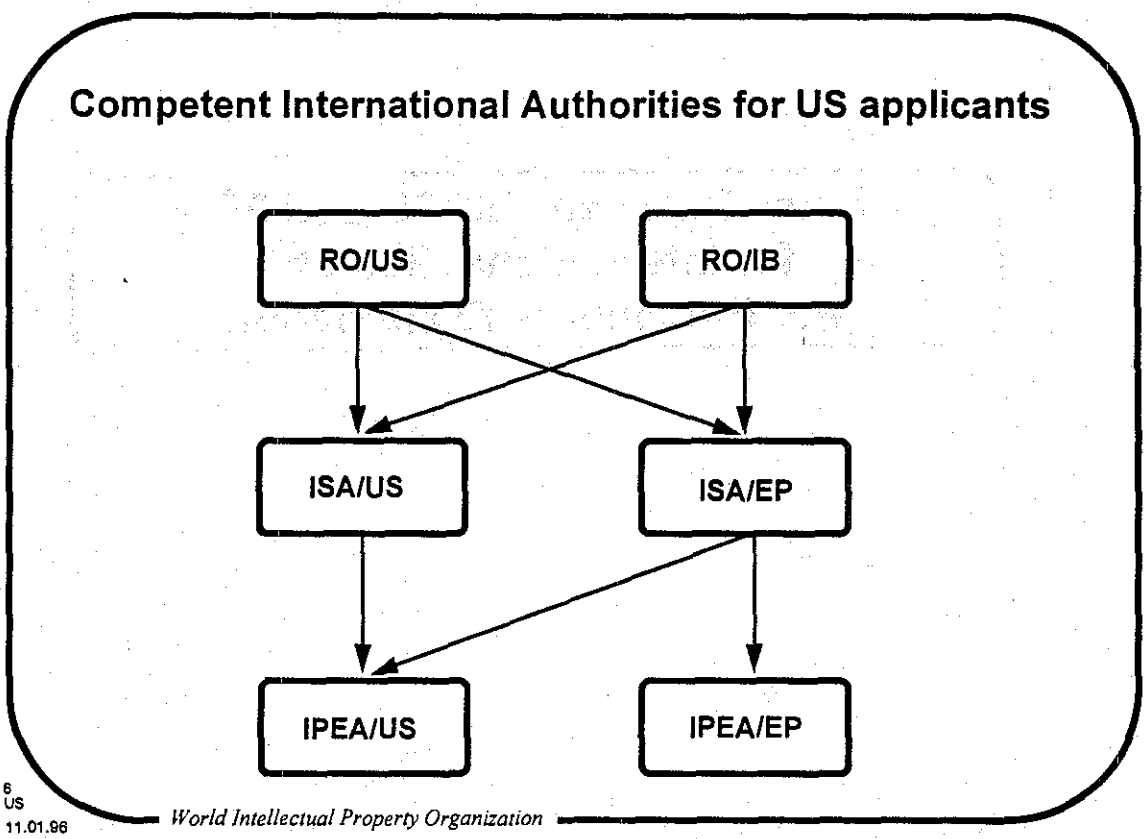
CODE	COUNTRY	EFFECTIVE DATE OF DECLARATION OF CONTINUATION	FILING DATE PERIOD ELIGIBLE FOR EXTENSION	CHAPTER I NATIONAL PHASE TIME LIMIT*	CHAPTER II NATIONAL PHASE TIME LIMIT*	EXTENSION OF NATIONAL PHASE TIME LIMIT (IF ANY)* (Rule 32.2(c))	NOTIFICATIONS OF EXTENSION SENT ON:
AM	Armenia	17 May 1994	25 Dec. 1991 to 18 Jul. 1994	1 Jan. 1995 or 21 months from priority date	1 Jan. 1995 or 31 months from priority date		
BY	Belarus	14 Apr. 1993	25 Dec. 1991 to 22 Jun. 1993	(5 Aug. 1993) or 21 months from priority date	(5 Aug. 1993) or 31 months from priority date	5 Aug. 1994 or 21/31 months from priority date	01 Dec. 1993 19 May 1994
CZ	Czech Republic	01 Jan. 1993	01 Jan. 1993 to 21 Feb. 1993	21 months from priority date	30 months from priority date		06 Apr. 1993 10 May 1993 28 Jun. 1993 11 Oct. 1993
GE	Georgia	18 Jan. 1994	25 Dec. 1991 to 18 Mar. 1994	30 Sep. 1994 or 21 months from priority date	30 Sep. 1994 or 31 months from priority date		21 Nov. 1994 27 Feb. 1995
KG	Kyrgyzstan	14 Feb. 1994	25 Dec. 1991 to 14 Apr. 1994	(01 Aug. 1994) or 21 months from priority date	(01 Aug. 1994) or 31 months from priority date	31 Oct. 1994 or 21/31 months from priority date	
KZ	Kazakhstan	16 Feb. 1993	25 Dec. 1991 to 16 Apr. 1993	01 Dec. 1993 or 21 months from priority date	01 Dec. 1993 or 31 months from priority date		28 Jun. 1993 06 Oct. 1993 22 Dec. 1993 27 Jun. 1994

* Note that the applicable time limit for national phase entry will be either the Chapter I/Chapter II time limit, the Chapter I/Chapter II time limit as extended under Rule 32.2(c), or three months from the date of the request for extension (Rule 32.2(a)(ii)), whichever expires later.

Extension of international applications to successor States (Rule 32)



XIX.2


Competent International Authorities for US applicants
RO/US
RO/IB
ISA/US
ISA/EP
IPEA/US
IPEA/EP
6
US
11.01.96
World Intellectual Property Organization