

## STANDARD ST.3

### RECOMMENDED STANDARD ON TWO-LETTER CODES FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

*Revision adopted by the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)  
at its reconvened fourth session on March 24, 2016, by correspondence on March 26, 2016 and  
further updated by the International Bureau*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. This Recommended Standard provides two-letter alphabetic codes which, for the purpose of improving the access to industrial property information, represent, in particular, the names of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations the legislation of which provides for the protection of industrial property rights or which organizations are acting in the framework of a treaty in the field of industrial property.
2. The designation of States or other entities in this Recommended Standard does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any State or territory, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers.
3. This Recommended Standard is aligned with the universally recognized ISO Alpha-2 Codes listed in International Standard ISO 3166-1, "Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries and their Subdivisions – Part 1: Country Codes", which are available on the [Online Browsing Platform](#) of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

#### RECOMMENDED STANDARD CODE

4. This Recommended Standard is intended to be implemented for any use by industrial property offices requiring the identification of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations, in coded form.
5. The recommended codes are contained in Annex A in two sections, organized as follows:
  - (i) Section 1 presents a list of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations, in alphabetic sequence of their short names and their corresponding codes;
  - (ii) Section 2 presents the codes referred to in (i) in alphabetic order and the corresponding (short) names of States, other entities and intergovernmental organizations.
6. In addition to the said recommended codes, the two-letter alphabetic code "XX" is recommended to refer to unknown states, other entities or organizations.

#### MAINTENANCE

7. ISO has entrusted a Maintenance Agency with the management of International Standard ISO 3166.
8. WIPO has been granted associate-member status in the Maintenance Agency and is therefore closely associated with its work. The International Bureau updates this Recommended Standard at intervals following the decisions of the Maintenance Agency and of the respective WIPO body with regard to the inclusion of new two-letter alphabetic codes or the amending of existing two-letter alphabetic codes.

#### IMPLEMENTATION AND GUIDELINES FOR USERS

9. To assist users of documents relating to industrial property titles and/or applications therefor, Annex B, Section 1, to this Recommended Standard lists those States for which the code in force prior to January 1, 1978, was subsequently replaced by a new code. A list of States or organizations, with their respective codes, that ceased to exist is given in Annex B, Section 2.
10. The codes contained in Annex A to this Recommended Standard should be used in all documents relating to industrial property titles and/or applications therefor, even when referring to documents for which a different code existed before January 1, 1978.

11. The letter combinations AA, QM to QY, XA to XM, XO to XT, XW, XY, XZ and ZZ are available for individual use and for provisional codes.

[Annexes follow]

**ANNEX A, SECTION 1**

LIST OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS,  
IN ALPHABETIC SEQUENCE OF THEIR SHORT NAMES,  
AND THEIR CORRESPONDING CODES

AFGHANISTAN .....	AF	CONGO (see Congo, below; Democratic Republic of the Congo)	
AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (OAPI) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	OA	CONGO .....	CG
AFRICAN REGIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (ARIPO) <sup>(1)</sup> ....	AP	COOK ISLANDS .....	CK
ALBANIA .....	AL	COSTA RICA .....	CR
ALGERIA .....	DZ	CÔTE D'IVOIRE .....	CI
ANDORRA .....	AD	CROATIA .....	HR
ANGOLA .....	AO	CUBA .....	CU
ANGUILLA .....	AI	CURAÇAO.....	CW
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA .....	AG	CYPRUS .....	CY
ARGENTINA .....	AR	CZECHIA .....	CZ
ARMENIA .....	AM	DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA .....	KP
ARUBA .....	AW	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO .....	CD
AUSTRALIA .....	AU	DENMARK .....	DK
AUSTRIA .....	AT	DJIBOUTI .....	DJ
AZERBAIJAN .....	AZ	DOMINICA .....	DM
		DOMINICAN REPUBLIC .....	DO
BAHAMAS .....	BS		
BAHRAIN .....	BH	ECUADOR .....	EC
BANGLADESH .....	BD	EGYPT .....	EG
BARBADOS .....	BB	EL SALVADOR .....	SV
BELARUS .....	BY	EQUATORIAL GUINEA .....	GQ
BELGIUM .....	BE	ERITREA .....	ER
BELIZE .....	BZ	ESTONIA .....	EE
BENELUX OFFICE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (BOIP) <sup>(2)</sup> .....	BX	ETHIOPIA .....	ET
BENIN .....	BJ	EURASIAN PATENT ORGANIZATION (EAPO) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	EA
BERMUDA .....	BM	EUROPEAN UNION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (EUIPO).....	EM
BHUTAN .....	BT	EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE (EPO) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	EP
BOLIVIA, PLURINATIONAL STATE OF .....	BO		
BONAIRE, SINT EUSTATIUS AND SABA .....	BQ	FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS) .....	FK
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA .....	BA	FAROE ISLANDS .....	FO
BOTSWANA .....	BW	FIJI .....	FJ
BOUVET ISLAND .....	BV	FINLAND .....	FI
BRAZIL .....	BR	FRANCE .....	FR
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM .....	BN		
BULGARIA .....	BG	GABON .....	GA
BURKINA FASO .....	BF	GAMBIA .....	GM
BURUNDI .....	BI	GEORGIA .....	GE
		GERMANY <sup>(3)</sup> .....	DE
CAMBODIA .....	KH	GHANA .....	GH
CAMEROON .....	CM	GIBRALTAR .....	GI
CANADA .....	CA	GREECE .....	GR
CABO VERDE .....	CV	GREENLAND .....	GL
CAYMAN ISLANDS .....	KY	GRENADA .....	GD
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC .....	CF	GUATEMALA .....	GT
CHAD .....	TD	GUERNSEY .....	GG
CHILE .....	CL	GUINEA .....	GN
CHINA .....	CN	GUINEA-BISSAU .....	GW
COMMUNITY PLANT VARIETY OFFICE (EUROPEAN UNION) (CPVO).....	QZ		
COLOMBIA .....	CO		
COMOROS .....	KM		

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GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL (see Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf)		MAURITIUS .....	MU
GUYANA .....	GY	MEXICO .....	MX
HAITI .....	HT	MOLDOVA (see Republic of Moldova)	
HOLY SEE .....	VA	MONACO .....	MC
HONDURAS .....	HN	MONGOLIA .....	MN
HONG KONG (See The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China)		MONTENEGRO .....	ME
HUNGARY .....	HU	MONTSERRAT .....	MS
		MOROCCO .....	MA
ICELAND .....	IS	MOZAMBIQUE .....	MZ
INDIA .....	IN	MYANMAR .....	MM
INDONESIA .....	ID	NAMIBIA .....	NA
INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO) <sup>(4)</sup> .....	IB, WO	NAURU .....	NR
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV) .....	XU	NEPAL .....	NP
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF .....	IR	NETHERLANDS .....	NL
IRAQ .....	IQ	NEW ZEALAND .....	NZ
IRELAND .....	IE	NICARAGUA .....	NI
ISLE OF MAN .....	IM	NIGER .....	NE
ISRAEL .....	IL	NIGERIA .....	NG
ITALY .....	IT	NORDIC PATENT INSTITUTE (NPI) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	XN
		NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS .....	MP
JAMAICA .....	JM	NORWAY .....	NO
JAPAN .....	JP	OMAN .....	OM
JERSEY .....	JE	PAKISTAN .....	PK
JORDAN .....	JO	PALAU .....	PW
		PANAMA .....	PA
KAZAKHSTAN .....	KZ	PAPUA NEW GUINEA .....	PG
KENYA .....	KE	PARAGUAY .....	PY
KIRIBATI .....	KI	PATENT OFFICE OF THE COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF (GCC) .....	GC
KOREA (see Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Republic of Korea)		PERU .....	PE
KUWAIT .....	KW	PHILIPPINES .....	PH
KYRGYZSTAN .....	KG	POLAND .....	PL
		PORTUGAL .....	PT
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ...	LA	QATAR .....	QA
LATVIA .....	LV	REPUBLIC OF KOREA .....	KR
LEBANON .....	LB	REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA .....	MD
LESOTHO .....	LS	ROMANIA .....	RO
LIBERIA .....	LR	RUSSIAN FEDERATION .....	RU
LIBYA .....	LY	RWANDA .....	RW
LIECHTENSTEIN .....	LI	SAINT HELENA, ASCENSION AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA .....	SH
LITHUANIA .....	LT	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS .....	KN
LUXEMBOURG .....	LU	SAINT LUCIA .....	LC
		SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES .....	VC
MACAO .....	MO	SAMOA .....	WS
MACEDONIA (see The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)		SAN MARINO .....	SM
MADAGASCAR .....	MG	SÃO TOME AND PRÍNCIPE .....	ST
MALAWI .....	MW	SAUDI ARABIA .....	SA
MALAYSIA .....	MY	SENEGAL .....	SN
MALDIVES .....	MV	SERBIA .....	RS
MALI .....	ML	SEYCHELLES .....	SC
MALTA .....	MT	SIERRA LEONE .....	SL
MAURITANIA .....	MR	SINGAPORE .....	SG
		SINT MAARTEN (Dutch part) .....	SX

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SLOVAKIA .....	SK	TURKMENISTAN .....	TM
SLOVENIA .....	SI	TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS .....	TC
SOLOMON ISLANDS .....	SB	TUVALU .....	TV
SOMALIA .....	SO		
SOUTH AFRICA .....	ZA	UGANDA .....	UG
SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS .....	GS	UKRAINE .....	UA
SOUTH SUDAN .....	SS	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES .....	AE
SPAIN .....	ES	UNITED KINGDOM .....	GB
SRI LANKA .....	LK	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA .....	TZ
SUDAN .....	SD	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA .....	US
SURINAME .....	SR	URUGUAY .....	UY
SWAZILAND .....	SZ	UZBEKISTAN .....	UZ
SWEDEN .....	SE		
SWITZERLAND .....	CH	VANUATU .....	VU
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC .....	SY	VATICAN CITY STATE (See Holy See)	
		VENEZUELA, BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF ...	VE
TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA .....	TW	VIET NAM .....	VN
TAJIKISTAN .....	TJ	VIRGIN ISLANDS, BRITISH .....	VG
TANZANIA (see United Republic of Tanzania)			
THAILAND .....	TH	VISEGRAD PATENT INSTITUTE (VPI) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	XV
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA .....	MK	WESTERN SAHARA <sup>(5)</sup> .....	EH
THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA .....	HK	WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO) (INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF) <sup>(4)</sup> .....	WO, IB
TIMOR-LESTE .....	TL		
TOGO .....	TG	YEMEN .....	YE
TONGA .....	TO		
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO .....	TT	ZAMBIA .....	ZM
TUNISIA .....	TN	ZIMBABWE .....	ZW
TURKEY .....	TR		

[Section 2 follows]

**ANNEX A, SECTION 2**

LIST OF CODES, IN ALPHABETIC SEQUENCE, AND THE CORRESPONDING (SHORT) NAMES  
OF STATES, OTHER ENTITIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

AD	Andorra	DE	Germany <sup>(3)</sup>
AE	United Arab Emirates	DJ	Djibouti
AF	Afghanistan	DK	Denmark
AG	Antigua and Barbuda	DM	Dominica
AI	Anguilla	DO	Dominican Republic
AL	Albania	DZ	Algeria
AM	Armenia		
AO	Angola	EA	Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) <sup>(1)</sup>
AP	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) <sup>(1)</sup>	EC	Ecuador
AR	Argentina	EE	Estonia
AT	Austria	EG	Egypt
AU	Australia	EH	Western Sahara <sup>(5)</sup>
AW	Aruba	EM	European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)
AZ	Azerbaijan	EP	European Patent Office (EPO) <sup>(1)</sup>
		ER	Eritrea
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	ES	Spain
BB	Barbados	ET	Ethiopia
BD	Bangladesh		
BE	Belgium	FI	Finland
BF	Burkina Faso	FJ	Fiji
BG	Bulgaria	FK	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
BH	Bahrain	FO	Faroe Islands
BI	Burundi	FR	France
BJ	Benin		
BM	Bermuda	GA	Gabon
BN	Brunei Darussalam	GB	United Kingdom
BO	Bolivia, Plurinational State of	GC	Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)
BQ	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	GD	Grenada
BR	Brazil	GE	Georgia
BS	Bahamas	GG	Guernsey
BT	Bhutan	GH	Ghana
BV	Bouvet Island	GI	Gibraltar
BW	Botswana	GL	Greenland
BX	Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP) <sup>(2)</sup>	GM	Gambia
BY	Belarus	GN	Guinea
BZ	Belize	GQ	Equatorial Guinea
		GR	Greece
CA	Canada	GS	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
CD	Democratic Republic of the Congo	GT	Guatemala
CF	Central African Republic	GW	Guinea-Bissau
CG	Congo	GY	Guyana
CH	Switzerland		
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	HK	The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China
CK	Cook Islands	HN	Honduras
CL	Chile	HR	Croatia
CM	Cameroon	HT	Haiti
CN	China	HU	Hungary
CO	Colombia		
CR	Costa Rica	IB	International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) <sup>(4)</sup>
CU	Cuba	ID	Indonesia
CV	Cabo Verde	IE	Ireland
CW	Curaçao	IL	Israel
CY	Cyprus	IM	Isle of Man
CZ	Czechia		

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IN	India	NP	Nepal
IQ	Iraq	NR	Nauru
IR	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	NZ	New Zealand
IS	Iceland		
IT	Italy	OA	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) <sup>(1)</sup>
		OM	Oman
JE	Jersey		
JM	Jamaica	PA	Panama
JO	Jordan	PE	Peru
JP	Japan	PG	Papua New Guinea
		PH	Philippines
KE	Kenya	PK	Pakistan
KG	Kyrgyzstan	PL	Poland
KH	Cambodia	PT	Portugal
KI	Kiribati	PW	Palau
KM	Comoros	PY	Paraguay
KN	Saint Kitts and Nevis		
KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	QA	Qatar
KR	Republic of Korea	QZ	Community Plant Variety Office (European Union) (CPVO)
KW	Kuwait		
KY	Cayman Islands		
KZ	Kazakhstan		
		RO	Romania
LA	Lao People's Democratic Republic	RS	Serbia
LB	Lebanon	RU	Russian Federation
LC	Saint Lucia	RW	Rwanda
LI	Liechtenstein		
LK	Sri Lanka	SA	Saudi Arabia
LR	Liberia	SB	Solomon Islands
LS	Lesotho	SC	Seychelles
LT	Lithuania	SD	Sudan
LU	Luxembourg	SE	Sweden
LV	Latvia	SG	Singapore
LY	Libya	SH	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
		SI	Slovenia
MA	Morocco	SK	Slovakia
MC	Monaco	SL	Sierra Leone
MD	Republic of Moldova	SM	San Marino
ME	Montenegro	SN	Senegal
MG	Madagascar	SO	Somalia
MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	SR	Suriname
ML	Mali	SS	South Sudan
MM	Myanmar	ST	Sao Tome and Principe
MN	Mongolia	SV	El Salvador
MO	Macao	SX	Sint Maarten (Dutch part)
MP	Northern Mariana Islands	SY	Syrian Arab Republic
MR	Mauritania	SZ	Swaziland
MS	Montserrat		
MT	Malta	TC	Turks and Caicos Islands
MU	Mauritius	TD	Chad
MV	Maldives	TG	Togo
MW	Malawi	TH	Thailand
MX	Mexico	TJ	Tajikistan
MY	Malaysia	TL	Timor–Leste
MZ	Mozambique	TM	Turkmenistan
		TN	Tunisia
NA	Namibia	TO	Tonga
NE	Niger	TR	Turkey
NG	Nigeria	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
NI	Nicaragua	TV	Tuvalu
NL	Netherlands	TW	Taiwan, Province of China
NO	Norway	TZ	United Republic of Tanzania

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UA	Ukraine	WS	Samoa
UG	Uganda	XN	Nordic Patent Institute (NPI) <sup>(1)</sup>
US	United States of America	XU	International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)
UY	Uruguay	XV	Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) <sup>(1)</sup>
UZ	Uzbekistan	YE	Yemen
VA	Holy See	ZA	South Africa
VC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	ZM	Zambia
VE	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	ZW	Zimbabwe
VG	Virgin Islands (British)		
VN	Viet Nam		
VU	Vanuatu		
WO	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (International Bureau of) <sup>(4)</sup>		

[Annex B follows]



**ANNEX B, SECTION 1**

LIST OF STATES IN RESPECT OF WHICH CODES HAVE CHANGED

Country	Code used before 1.1.1978	New Code used from 1.1.1978	Country	Code used before 1.1.1978	New Code used from 1.1.1978
Albania	AN	AL	Japan	JA	JP
Algeria	AG	DZ	Kuwait	KU	KW
Austria	OE	AT	Liechtenstein	FL	LI
Bahrain	BB	BH	Madagascar	MD	MG
Bangladesh	BA	BD	Mali	MJ	ML
Barbados	BD	BB	Malta	ML	MT
Benin	DA	BJ	Mauritania	MT	MR
Bhutan	BH	BT	Mauritius	MS	MU
Botswana	BT	BW	Mongolia	MO	MN
Burkina Faso	UV	HV/BF <sup>(6)</sup>	Myanmar	BU	MM <sup>(8)</sup>
Burma (see Myanmar)			Nicaragua	NA	NI
Cambodia	CD	KH	Niger	NI	NE
Cameroon	KA	CM	Nigeria	WN	NG
Central African Republic	ZR	CF	Oman	MU	OM
Chad	TS	TD	Panama	PM	PA
Chile	CE	CL	Papua New Guinea	PP	PG
China	RC	CN	Paraguay	PG	PY
Congo	CF	CG	Poland	PO	PL
Democratic Kampuchea (see Cambodia)			Republic of Korea	KS	KR
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	KN	KP	Romania	RU	RO
Democratic Republic of the Congo	CB	ZR/CD <sup>(7)</sup>	Sierra Leone	WL	SL
Dominican Republic	DR	DO	Sri Lanka	CL	LK
East Timor (see Timor-Leste)	–	–	Sweden	SW	SE
Egypt	ET	EG	Syrian Arab Republic	SR	SY
El Salvador	SL	SV	Timor-Leste	TP	TL <sup>(9)</sup>
Ethiopia	EA	ET	Togo	TO	TG
Finland	SF	FI	Tonga	TI	TO
Gambia	GE	GM	Trinidad and Tobago	TD	TT
Germany	DT	DE	United Republic of Tanzania	TA	TZ
Guatemala	GU	GT	Zaire (see Democratic Republic of the Congo)		
Guinea	GI	GN	Zambia	ZB	ZM
Haiti	HI	HT			
Holy See	CV	VA			
Honduras	HO	HN			
Ireland	EI	IE			

[Section 2 follows]

## ANNEX B, SECTION 2

### LIST OF STATES OR ORGANIZATIONS THAT EXISTED ON JANUARY 1, 1978, BUT THAT NO LONGER EXIST

Czechoslovakia	CS
Democratic Yemen	SY/YD <sup>(10)</sup>
German Democratic Republic	DL/DD <sup>(11)</sup>
International Patent Institute	IB
Soviet Union	SU
Yugoslavia/Serbia and Montenegro	YU <sup>(12)</sup>

[End of Annex B and of Standard]

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- (1) Intergovernmental organizations (regional patent offices) acting for certain Contracting States under the PCT (Patent Cooperation Treaty). In the case of the European Patent Office, it is the operational organ of the European Patent Organization.
- (2) The Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP) (former Benelux Trademark and Designs Offices) have replaced the national Offices of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands with regard to actions relating to marks and industrial designs.
- (3) In the electronic database of the International Register of Marks, the International Bureau of WIPO uses the following additional codes, not part of the active codes of Standard ST.3: "DD" to designate Germany without the territory that, prior to October 3, 1990, constituted the Federal Republic of Germany; "DT" to designate Germany without the territory that, prior to October 3, 1990, constituted the German Democratic Republic.
- (4) The code "WO" is used in relation to the international publication under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) of international applications filed with any PCT receiving Office, as well as in the publication of international deposits of industrial designs under the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs. In this regard, reference is made to INID code (33) given in WIPO Standards [ST.9](#) and [ST.80](#). The code "WO" is also the appropriate code to be used with respect to international registrations of marks under the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks. The code "IB" is used in relation to the receipt of international applications under the PCT filed with the International Bureau of WIPO in its capacity as a PCT receiving Office.
- (5) Provisional name.
- (6) Code BF adopted in 1984.
- (7) Code CD adopted in 1997.
- (8) Code MM adopted in 1989.
- (9) Code TL adopted on May 20, 2002.
- (10) Code SY used before 1.1.1978.
- (11) Code DL used before 1.1.1978.
- (12) Subsequent to the country name change of "Yugoslavia" to "Serbia and Montenegro", that took effect on February 4, 2003, and to the decision by the ISO 3166/MA to use the new country name and new two-letter code "CS" (to replace "YU"), which was announced on July 23, 2003, the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group agreed, at its fifth session, in November 11, 2004, to recommend that the two-letter code "YU" continue to be used for "Serbia and Montenegro" in the industrial property field because code "CS" raised certain problems due to its former use to represent "Czechoslovakia" until 1993.