Indication of goods and services: United States of America

1. The Patent and Trademark Office of the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as “USPTO”) has drawn the attention of the International Bureau to the following matter.

2. In connection with the wording used for the indication of goods and services, the position of the USPTO is sometimes at variance with the approach adopted by the Offices of other Contracting Parties to the Madrid Protocol.

3. In this respect, the USPTO maintains an “Acceptable Identification of Goods and Services Manual” which is available on its website (www.uspto.gov) and which may be consulted by applicants or holders in order to reduce the risk of a notification of provisional refusal by the USPTO.

4. Should the indication of goods and services in the basic application or basic registration (in the case of an international application designating the United States of America) or the indication of goods and services in an international registration (in the case of a subsequent designation of the United States of America) be expressed in broader terms than the indication of goods and services required by the USPTO, it is recalled that applicants or holders may make an appropriate limitation, with respect to the United States of America, in their international applications (heading 10(b) of the form) or subsequent designations (heading 5(c) of the form).

5. The present information notice concerns only the wording used for the indication of goods and services with respect to the United States of America. It does not affect in any way the classification of those goods and services, as determined by the International Bureau in accordance with the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services.

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