

**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

**ELEMENTS PAPER ON THE EXTENSION OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD
UNDER ARTICLE 66.1 OF THE TRIPS AGREEMENT**

Communication from Bangladesh on behalf of the LDC Group

The following communication, dated 11 November 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Bangladesh.

Recall the request from the Least Developed Country Members of 13 October 2005 for an extension of their transition period under Article 66.1 of the TRIPS Agreement (document IP/C/W/457);

Recall also the Decision of the TRIPS Council of 29 November 2005 to extend the transition period under Article 66.1 for the Least Developed Country Members, which will expire on 30 June 2013;

Recognise that Least Developed Country Members continue to face serious economic, financial and administrative constraints in their efforts to bring their domestic legal system into conformity with the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement, and as such the continued relevance of the previous request made for an extension of the transition period under Article 66.1;

Also take note of the challenges faced by the majority of Least Developed Country Members to submit their priority needs for technical and financial cooperation under the Decision of 29 November 2005 and the lack of resource mobilisation to support the individual priority needs identified by the Least Developed Country Members that have made their submission under the same decision;

Recall the commitment by Developed Country Members to provide enhanced technical and financial cooperation in favour of Least Developed Country Members to assist Least Developed Country Members in implementing the TRIPS Agreement and develop a viable technological base in line with their special needs and requirements;

In view of the above,

Recognise the need to further extending the transition period in favour of Least Developed Country Members; and

Instruct the TRIPS Council to take a favourable decision in this regard and report thereon to the WTO ninth Ministerial Conference to be held in December 2013.
