

WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

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

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TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM OTHER
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Addendum

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

At its meeting of 24 May 1995, the Council for TRIPS agreed to request certain intergovernmental organizations to provide information on their technical and financial cooperation programmes in the area of intellectual property relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement (IP/C/M/2, paragraph 53).

This addendum reproduces the information which has been received from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in response to this request.

In the accompanying letter, dated 11 August 1995, by which the information was communicated, it is pointed out that, apart from the two types of technical assistance identified, the Bank is not believed to undertake any other such activities.

Intellectual Property - Bank Role in Latin America

- Mexico: As part of a Science and Technology Project in 1992, the Bank financed a small component to finance the institution-building of the Patent office in collaboration with WIPO.
- Argentina: The Bank has made an oral presentation to the Argentine Congress on draft intellectual property legislation based on a special paper.
- El Salvador: As part of a proposed new loan on Competitiveness Enhancement the Government has requested assistance for the financing of the establishment of intellectual property registries and perhaps broader support. WIPO collaboration is envisaged.
- Colombia: As a part of a loan in FY95 for Competitiveness Enhancement, a component was included to support institution-building for intellectual property protection.
- Peru: A special institutional assessment of INDECOPI (which has responsibility, amongst other things, for competition policy and intellectual property protection) is being conducted by Bank staff.
- Mercosur: The Bank, as part of a larger piece of sector work on Mercosur, is conducting a study of policy harmonization in the area of competition policy and its interface, amongst other things, with intellectual property protection.

Seed Varieties

In response to requests from very many client countries, the Bank provides technical advice on seed policies in general, including specific advice to assist countries to draft legislation establishing or strengthening IPRs in plants. In recent years, the Bank has undertaken steps to put some governments (e.g., China, Ukraine, Russia and Kenya) in touch with UPOV for advice on these matters.