

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**IP/C/W/34/Add.3/Suppl.1**

7 November 1996

(96-4729)

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

Original: English

## TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS

### Supplement

#### Finland

The present document reproduces the updated information on Finland's technical and financial cooperation activities relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, which has been received from the Permanent Mission of Finland by means of a communication dated 31 October 1996.

---

There are no major changes in the forms of technical and financial cooperation in 1996 to those reported to the TRIPS Council in 1995. Finland has participated and continues to participate in the development cooperation activities of international organizations in the field of intellectual property rights.

Participation in annual WIPO training programmes for civil servants from various developing countries forms a significant part of Finland's multilateral cooperation activities.

As regards bilateral activities, Finland has also a great interest in assisting and supporting Russia, especially the city of St. Petersburg, in the aspirations to create a new, effective industrial property system. Finland has already successfully carried through an extensive cooperation programme with Estonia.

Summarized information concerning Finland's present cooperation activities in the fields of industrial property and copyright is given below.

#### A. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

##### 1. Multilateral cooperation

###### Cooperation through international organizations

###### *Human resources*

The National Board of Patents and Registration (Patentti -ja rekisterihallitus, hereinafter PRH) has organized and continues to organize training within the framework of the WIPO Training Programme. The training in Finland consists of courses providing information on the intellectual property system

./.

in general and especially in the Nordic countries, as well as a study of the organization and the duties of the PRH. Trainees who have participated in this training programme have been from Asia, Africa and Latin America. In 1996, PRH had nine WIPO trainees; seven from the Democratic Republic of Korea, one from Sri Lanka and one from Tanzania. The representatives of PRH have also attended industrial property courses in developing countries as lecturers.

#### *Technical assistance*

PRH has annually completed several state-of-the-art searches consisting of a compilation of published patent documents. In some cases the searches are broad reviews of a technical field and in other cases detailed reports on the recent development in a particular area of technology. The searches have been made for the developing countries' patent offices at WIPO's request. Last year the number of the completed state-of-the-art reviews was 19. In 1996, the number of reviews is 12.

#### 2. Bilateral cooperation

##### Adjacent areas cooperation programme

PRH and the Mayor's office of the city of St. Petersburg have a mutual cooperation agreement concerning industrial property rights. This cooperation agreement was concluded in order to support the further development and protection of industrial property rights. The cooperation has focused on education and exchange of information concerning industrial property rights, their legal protection and commercialization. In June 1996, a three-day seminar on the topic of intellectual property rights was organized within the framework of this cooperation. The Ministry of Trade and Industry has supported the project financially.

#### B. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COPYRIGHT AND NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS

The Ministry of Education and Culture organizes and finances, in cooperation with WIPO, training courses for officials from developing countries. These courses have been carried out jointly with Finnish public and private organizations in the field of intellectual property and copyright. The courses have been planned with a view to giving the participants an overview on Finnish and Nordic solutions concerning intellectual property legislation, collective administration of rights and enforcement questions. In recent years, the courses have been arranged on an annual basis.

In 1996, a practical training course on collective administration of copyright and neighbouring rights was arranged for two participants from Ghana and Nigeria. The course was held on 14-25 October in Helsinki.

Corresponding training courses will be arranged in Finland also in the future, subject to the undertakings of WIPO in the field of technical cooperation and the requests and factual needs of the various developing country members of the organization.