

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

SWITZERLAND

Addendum

The following communication, dated 31 August 2004, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Switzerland.

Following documents IP/C/W/12/Add.3 of 13 September 1995, IP/C/W/34/Add.2 of 17 September 1996, IP/C/W/77/Add.3 of 30 September 1997, IP/C/W/109/Add.1 of 4 September 1998, IP/C/W/154/Add.2 of 8 October 1999, IP/C/W/203/Add.1 of 13 September 2000, IP/C/W/306/Add.3 of 18 September 2001, IP/C/W/377/Add.9 of 24 January 2003 and IP/C/W/408/Add.4 of 14 November 2003 in which much of the description of the aims and organizational aspects of technical cooperation remains relevant, this report describes the activities of the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (hereafter "the Institute") in the field of technical cooperation between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004¹. Drafted along the same lines as the preceding reports, this document draws a distinction between multilateral activities and bilateral activities. It should be recalled that the concern of the Swiss authorities is to ensure optimum coordination of available resources, both at the multilateral and bilateral level, while avoiding duplication or overlapping of programmes.

I. MULTILATERAL ACTIVITIES

1. Technical cooperation in the framework of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

(a) Annual basic training programme at WIPO

From 2 June to 2 July 2004, two experts, one from India and one from Viet Nam, took part in a training course which was held at WIPO in Geneva and at the Institute in Berne. At WIPO, the experts attended the Interregional Seminar on Industrial Property from 2 to 4 June 2004. The programme at the Institute from 7 June to 2 July 2004 covered the entire field of intellectual property, focusing in particular on patents, trademarks, industrial designs and copyright. Emphasis was put on the practical, administrative and organizational work. As in the past, the Swiss Federal Agency for Development and Cooperation of the Federal

¹ Unless otherwise indicated.

Department (Ministry) of Foreign Affairs financed the entire programme. Costs related to teaching and other guidance for the two experts in Berne were covered by the Institute.

(b) Information and/or training visits

At the request of WIPO, the Institute received delegations from the following countries:

- Morocco: on 3 October 2003, a visit of senior officials of the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property took place. The Institute presented its training system in the field of patents, trademarks, designs and copyright, treating both the protection titles and the information contained. An emphasis was put on how to best foster and support small and middle-sized enterprises with regard to their intellectual property.
- African, Asian, Latin and South American and Eastern European Countries: on 9 December 2003, a visit took place in the framework of the "WIPO Workshop on Services for the Promotion of Innovation and their Management", including representatives from Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, El Salvador, Madagascar, Mali, Peru, Romania, Togo, Tunisia and Viet Nam. The workshop included several presentations on the promotion of innovation and its management and was held at WIPO (Geneva), the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Lausanne), the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (Berne) and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Zurich).

(c) Free-of-charge searches on the state of the art for WIPO in favour of developing countries

Between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004, the Institute conducted, upon request of WIPO, free-of-charge searches on the state of the art for the following countries (the searches were financed through the Institute's ordinary budget):

Country	Number of searches
Argentina	2
Costa Rica	1
Egypt	1
Jamaica	4
Mexico	10
Morocco	1
Trinidad and Tobago	14
Total	33 searches

(d) Other WIPO Seminars

- African Countries: from 8 to 12 September 2003, a seminar took place in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in the field of "Acquisition, Management and Dissemination of Technical Information", organized by OAPI and WIPO, including representatives from Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and Togo. An expert from the Institute participated as a speaker on the following topics: sources of technical information in patent matters, patent documentation, establishment of

research of technical information, research in the field of trademarks, and industrial designs and presentation of supporting tools for research.

- India: from 18 to 20 November 2003, a WIPO regional symposium took place in New Delhi for Asia and the Pacific on the protection of geographical indications for representatives of intellectual property offices from 20 countries. A speaker from the Swiss Federal Office of Agriculture held two presentations on the protection of geographical indications: "The Experience of Switzerland" and "The Specification, Use and Control of Geographical Indications: the Example of Gruyère Cheese."

2. Participation in technical cooperation programmes of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

- The WTO Secretariat organized from 27 to 29 April 2004 a regional workshop for Asia and Pacific economies on certain topical issues in regard to intellectual property in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as the first of a number of such regional workshops. An expert from the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property participated as speaker in the workshop held in Kuala Lumpur in order to present the Swiss perspective on the topical issues addressed.
- Jointly with WIPO, the WTO organized from 28 June to 2 July 2004 at the WIPO Academy in Geneva a colloquium for teachers of intellectual property law originating from developing countries. An expert from the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property contributed to the colloquium by presenting presentations on several intellectual property issues in the WTO/TRIPS context.

II. BILATERAL ACTIVITIES

Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: the "Special Programme of Cooperation" based on the Agreement on the Protection of Intellectual Property and Co-operation in the Field of Intellectual Property between Switzerland and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam continued for the third year with the implementation of several important tasks and programmes:

- The new Vietnamese intellectual property draft legislation or legislation already in force was translated. The translated legislation has been published in the form of a binder for regular up-dates.
- Enforcement training with the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property and the Swiss Federal Customs Authority was organized at the Berne and Zurich Airport. 13 Vietnamese officials of various national enforcement agencies participated in the training. This was followed by an intellectual property training course at the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property for another group of 20 Vietnamese officials (courses arranged separately for officials concerned with either industrial property or copyright matters).
- The modernization of IP administration of the National Office of Industrial Property (NOIP) and the Copyright Office of Viet Nam (COV) was also integrated as an element of the ongoing programme.
- Additional English language courses for intellectual property officials were organized and intellectual property teaching material for universities and other educational institutions prepared.
- The promotion of the use and exploitation of traditional knowledge continued, the focus being on compiling data (in particular of plants for medicinal use) to be inserted into a new Vietnamese database for the protection of traditional knowledge.

- Finally, a compilation of guidelines for drafting applications for industrial property rights is currently being elaborated.
