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Page: 1/2

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

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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS****NORWAY***Addendum*

The following communication, dated 14 October 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Norway.

THE NORWEGIAN INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE

1. The Norwegian Industrial Property Office, in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy, has since the year 2000 on an annual basis conducted training courses of one week on intellectual property rights. The courses gather up to 15 participants from national industrial property offices in developing countries and countries in transition from all over the world (countries listed on OECD's DAC list). The courses are free of charge for the participants and are financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Travel costs are covered by WIPO, which also handles applications from the participants.
2. The target group are officials who deal with intellectual property rights at a practical level. The aim of the courses is to achieve among the participants a better understanding of different intellectual property rights, with a focus on the practical work and administrative management of industrial property applications. While the topics of 2015 concerned patents, the course in 2016 dealt with trademarks. Employees of the Norwegian Industrial Property Office and the WIPO Academy gave the lectures in English.
3. From 2015, the Norwegian Industrial Property Office has expanded the activities with a new programme for developing countries and countries in transition (countries listed on OECD's DAC list). By expanding the activities Norway wants to contribute to WIPO's development agenda and offer demand-driven technical assistance.
4. The topic of the new programme is patent quality, and the target group is senior personnel and management in national industrial property offices with mandate to initiate and implement specific projects.
5. The new programme consists of four phases, and gathers up to 15 participants. It is free of charge for the participants and is fully financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
6. In the first phase, the participants identify a patent-quality related project of interest for their country.
7. The second phase consists of two weeks training in Oslo, where the Norwegian Intellectual Property Office together with representatives from private sector and academia carry out lectures, study visits, and guide the practical preliminary work on the participant's country-specific projects.

8. The third phase takes place in the participant's home country where they implement their project with support from a Norwegian colleague, who is available by telephone and email.

9. The fourth phase is a one-week follow-up session in a developing country, where representatives from WIPO Academy and the Norwegian Industrial property Office evaluate the projects together with the participants.

10. The Norwegian Industrial Property Office cooperates also with WIPO and delivers Patent Information Services for Developing Countries. More information can be found at this address: http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/data/developing_countries.html

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