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

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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

AUSTRALIA

Addendum

The following communication, dated 12 October 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Australia.

1. Australia is committed to sharing information with other WTO Members on its technical and financial cooperation activities in the area of intellectual property rights in fulfilment of Article 67 of the TRIPS Agreement. This is a full report on Australia's intellectual property-related technical cooperation activities with developing and least developed countries. It builds upon annual update reports provided in 2012 (IP/C/W/582/Add.2), 2013 (IP/C/W/593/Add.7), 2014 (IP/C/W/601) and 2015 (IP/C/W/610/Add.4), 2016 (IP/C/W/617/Add.1) and 2017 (IP/C/W/632/Add.1).

2. Australia fulfils its Article 67 technical cooperation commitment through multilateral, regional and bilateral programmes and activities. Many activities are focused on developing and least developed countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Australia works closely with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat and other partners to assist developing and least developed countries to build their intellectual property capacity and systems.

3. Many of the technical cooperation activities implemented under Article 67 of the TRIPS Agreement align with Australia's strategic focus on using aid as a catalyst to promote economic growth and poverty reduction, including through a strong emphasis on aid for trade. This is embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals and our future investments, including activities under the WIPO-Australia Funds in Trust programme will in turn be influenced by these goals.

4. Websites containing information on Australia's intellectual property regime, which may be considered a technical cooperation resource, include the IP Australia website covering patents, designs, trademarks and plant breeders' rights (www.ipaustralia.gov.au); the Department of Communications and the Arts website on copyright developments (www.communications.gov.au/what-we-do/copyright); and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website on international IP developments (www.dfat.gov.au/ip).

1 AUSTRALIAN ACTIVITIES WITH THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

1.1 Australia-WIPO Funds in Trust

5. In February 2016, the Australian Government and WIPO agreed to a second iteration of the Australia-WIPO Funds in Trust (FiT2) with the commitment of an additional AUD 3 million of aid for trade funding. The Australian-funded FiT2 programme runs until June 2019. The Australian Government has previously provided AUD 2 million to WIPO from 2012 to 30 June 2016. This funding promotes economic growth in developing and least developed countries by helping these countries build their intellectual property regimes and capabilities in facilitating innovation, creativity, investment and technology transfer. There are four themes under Australia's FiT2 programme: development of the intellectual property system; technology transfer (knowledge transfer and commercialisation); addressing neglected tropical diseases; and copyright and related rights to assist the blind, visually impaired and other persons with print disabilities. Programmes implemented under this funding arrangement are developed in consultation with WIPO and the recipient countries. Beneficiaries are involved in project planning to ensure the programmes are well suited to their needs.

6. The review period of this report (October 2017 – September 2018) has been dedicated to implementing a workplan of activities under the second iteration of funding. National IP strategies have been completed or are progressing, and capacity building activities have been undertaken for trademarks, copyrights and patents. An IP toolbox has been created and is being translated into Indonesian and Vietnamese. Workshops on IP marketing, commercialisation, women and IP and patent law drafting, have been held in Indonesia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and South Africa. Nine researchers have successfully been matched to undertake sabbaticals in Australian research institutions. More than 600 books have been translated to android devices to assist visually impaired students with their studies. WIPO showcased the FiT2 programme at the WIPO General Assembly in October 2017.

2 OTHER MULTILATERAL AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

2.1 Economic Cooperation Support Programme under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA)

7. The AANZFTA's Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP) consists of the Economic Cooperation Work Programme and the AANZFTA Support Unit located in the ASEAN Secretariat. The AECSP was established in 2010 as a five-year programme with funding of AUD 20-25 million. The Programme, which was subsequently extended further, aims to support the ASEAN Secretariat in servicing the AANZFTA Joint Committee and its subsidiary bodies to assist ASEAN Member States, particularly least developed countries, with AANZFTA's implementation. Intellectual property is a vital component of the AECSP, with the objective being to 'provide comprehensive support for the development of sound and balanced intellectual property systems in the AANZFTA region'. The following paragraphs outline some of the intellectual property outcomes achieved under the AECSP with further detail provided in the annex to this report.

8. IP Australia's Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Programme delivers intensive competency-based patent examination training to examiners of ASEAN Intellectual Property Offices that conduct substantive patent examination, to enable them to meet international Patent Cooperation Treaty standards. This programme has trained number of patent examiners that can assist with improving patent examination outcomes within the region. A case study conducted in one intellectual property office in the Indo-Pacific region demonstrated that the RPET Programme helped to improve the quality of patent examination reports produced by graduates and RPET graduates expressed greater confidence in conducting patent examinations consistent with international best practices and standards.

9. To date, the 18 participants from the ASEAN region have graduated from the two-year programme from the first (2013), second (2014) and third (2015) intakes. There are currently an additional 12 participants progressing through the fourth (2016) intake from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

10. In 2017, IP Australia designed a second phase of RPET to deliver sustainable results in embedding the RPET learnings and best practice into internal patent examination training. Experienced IP Australia Mentors have been assigned to each participating office, with the support of the AECSP, to provide tailored guidance to RPET graduates and local supervisors to deliver training to new examiners within their offices.

ANNEX¹

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH TRIPS IMPLEMENTATION FROM OCTOBER 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 2018

Activities undertaken under the Australia-World Intellectual Property Organization Funds in Trust Arrangement

Activity	Date	Beneficiary or beneficiaries	Brief Description
Arrangement of placements of scientists from developing countries through WIPO Research	Throughout 2017	Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Indonesia and Kenya.	Place eight scientists from developing and least developed countries with public and private sector institutions/companies with a view to ensuring the technical cooperation in the area of research into neglected tropical diseases.
Translation of a technology transfer tool box into Vietnamese and Indonesian	Throughout 2017	Vietnam, Indonesia	The technology transfer toolbox that has been developed under the WIPO-Australia Funds-in-Trust has been translated into Vietnamese and Indonesian to enhance diffusion of knowledge nationwide.
Developing IP Systems	October 2017	Indonesia, Papua New Guinea	Supporting National Workshop on Patent Examination practices
Elaboration of an exercise book -Patent Law Division	Ongoing		<p>Elaboration of an exercise book on patent drafting, which includes theoretical and real examples of claims and exercises on claim construction techniques, in different fields of the technology.</p> <p>This exercise book will complement the WIPO manual on patent drafting as the material to be used in regional and national training courses.</p> <p>Translation to other languages is not foreseen during the first two-years of its use, while further improvements are made.</p>
National seminar on substantive patent law issues	13 to 17 November 2017	South Africa	Our training target is "technology intermediaries" who assist inventors (scientists and researchers) to protect their inventions. They may include staff of technology management offices in universities and public research institutions, public innovation support bodies, TISCs and patent agents. Such a systematic approach would contribute to efficient training of IP professionals whose task would be to transform inventions to patents.

¹ In English only.

Activities undertaken on behalf of or in consultation with WIPO outside the Funds in Trust Arrangement

Activity	Date	Beneficiary or beneficiaries	Brief Description
Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Programme	Completed May 2018	Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Kenya and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (Zimbabwe)	<p>During the period, trainees from the third intake of RPET graduated from the two-year programme while the fourth intake continued in the programme. RPET is an intensive distance learning patent examination training programme. Fifteen trainees participate in each intake of the programme.</p> <p>In May 2018 the Regional Patent Examination Training programme was completed. 45 ASEAN trainees will have been trained to PCT standards and the majority of these people have moved into training roles within their respective offices.</p>
Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Trainee Workshop (4 th intake)	Completed May 2018	Australia hosts and manages the RPET Programme. Kenya and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (Zimbabwe) participation funded by WIPO.	The RPET programme aims to enhance patent examination standards in participating offices. WIPO financially supports participation of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization and the Kenyan Industrial Property Institute in the RPET programme. These workshops were also attended by ASEAN participants funded under the ASEAN Economic Support Cooperation Programme.

Activities undertaken under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP)

Activity	Date	Beneficiary or beneficiaries	Brief Description
Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Programme	Completed May 2018	Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Viet Nam,	During the period, trainees from the third intake of RPET graduated from the two-year programme while the fourth intake continued through the programme. RPET is an intensive distance learning patent examination training programme. A total of 13 trainees from ASEAN offices usually participate in each intake of the programme.
Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Trainee Workshop (fourth intake)	Completed May 2018	Funding from the AECSP supported participation of trainees from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam	The RPET programme aims to enhance patent examination standards in participating offices. The workshops are hosted in Australia and are designed to reinforce the online learning process and consolidate online community building.
Regional Patent Examination Training Mentoring (RPET Mentoring)	June 2017- December 2019	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Viet Nam and Thailand	The main aim of the programme is to assist with internal capacity development so offices are able to train their own patent examination cohort.

Activity	Date	Beneficiary or beneficiaries	Brief Description
			An experienced IP Australia Mentor/ RPET trainer has been assigned to each of the 5 ASEAN RPET offices and will mentor a training team to develop and implement a sustainable training programme within each office
