TRADE IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS

The following communication has been received from the Ambassador of Colombia.

I have the honour to forward to you herewith, for circulation to the contracting parties that are participating in the Preparatory Committee for the meeting at ministerial level, copies of the notes exchanged by the Mission of Trinidad and Tobago in Geneva (in the capacity of Chairman of the Group of 77) and the Director General of WIPO concerning the competence of the latter organization in regard to counterfeit goods (Annexes I and II).
ANNEX I

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
to the Office of the United Nations

Geneva

No. 115

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the Office of the United Nations, Geneva and Specialized Agencies in Europe presents his compliments to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and in his capacity as Co-ordinator of the Group of 77 in Geneva has the honour to inform that at the meeting of the Group of 77 held on 30 June, 1982, a decision was taken to ask the Director General of WIPO whether the Organization was competent to deal with the question of counterfeit goods, and, if the answer is in the affirmative, what could be done to make the implementation of Articles 9 and 10 bis of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property more effective.

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization the assurances of his highest consideration.

30 June 1982
The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of His Excellency's Note No. 115 dated 30 June 1982, and received on 12 July 1982, informing him of a decision by the Group of 77 made on 30 June 1982, asking him whether WIPO was competent to deal with the question of counterfeit goods and, if the answer was in the affirmative, what could be done to make the implementation of Articles 9 and 10 bis of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property more effective.

The Director General is of the opinion that WIPO is competent with respect to all the industrial property aspects, including unfair competition, of the question of counterfeit goods.

Furthermore, the Director General is ready, if His Excellency expresses a desire to that effect, to propose to the next session of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union (session which will take place from 22 to 26 November 1982) the convocation of an intergovernmental working group or committee of experts in order to study, on the basis of proposals that he would prepare, measures that could make the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Paris Convention more effective.

Should His Excellency wish to express such a desire or any other suggestion in the matter, it would be helpful if His Excellency's communication could reach the Director General at the earliest possible date in order to permit him to promptly communicate such desire or other suggestion, as well as his proposals, in one of the preparatory documents for the said session of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, so that the member States of that Union should have sufficient time to prepare themselves to take decisions, in the said session, on the matter under consideration.

26 July 1982