

Summary upon the WIPO-PatCom Meeting in Geneva, 28.01.2005, 09:30 am – 11:30 am

WIPO Participants:

Francis Gurry, Deputy Director General
Neil Wilson, Director and Chief Information Officer
Mikhail Makarov, Deputy Director, Technology Retrieval Systems Service
David Muls, Deputy Director and Head, PCT Operations Support, PCT Operations Division
William Guy, Head, Technology Documentation Section
Vladimir Vlossifov, Director, Division for Infrastructure Services and Innovation Promotion
Dr. Ing. José Luis Herce, Deputy Director and Head, Industrial Property Information Services Section
Yumiko Hamano, Administratrice principale, Division de la logistique et de la promotion des innovations
William Meredith, Head, PCT Statistics Section

PatCom Participants:

Gert Frackenhohl, Incom, PatCom Treasurer, PatCom Executive Committee
Pierre Buffet, Questel Orbit, PatCom Executive Committee
Robert Willows, Thomson Scientific, PatCom Executive Committee
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Georg F. Schultheiss, PatCom Honorary Secretary

Francis Gurry, Deputy Director General of WIPO welcomes the PatCom delegation and opened the meeting.

Gert Frackenhohl gave an overview on the PatCom development and the PatCom activities and thanks for the interest shown by WIPO to improve contacts to the commercial information providers.

Francis Gurry then stressed the importance of WIPO with its 125 member states and the challenges for the patent system with the steady increase of data and the fast development in the technical environment.

Neil Wilson gave some details on the paperless processing and its development in small steps:

74% from Japan is electronic
65% from Korea
EPO and USPTO are slow and more in pdf than XML
WIPO provides its Electronic Gazette

He sees a changing geographical demand e.g. from Korea and China.

Francis Gurry explained the role of WIPO with its continuous growth rate of 3 to 4%/year (135000 by 2004). The PCT access is very important; together with economical statistics data the target is to create business related information. The second task is to provide legal information and the third task is to make PCT data available at the broadest basis possible and use the data for political purposes e.g. for education and training, for public interest (laicisation?) and for biodiversity. He also made very clear that WIPO does not intend to be in competition with PatCom or the EPO. In particular WIPO does not intend to go beyond the PCT central file.

Vladimir Yossifov explained, that the main track for training in developing countries is via the universities but also with the assistance of governmental institutions. He was named as one of the contact persons for SME Training; the other one is *Mikhail Makarov* for training of developing countries and PCT, IPC. It was emphasized that

WIPO is very interested to participate in customer meetings organized by the private sector.

William Meredith mentioned the WIPO web page with respect to PCT/IPC-statistics. One target is to make it timelier the other is to aggregate statistics with non-PCT data to combine applicants and national phase data. For six nations WIPO has already the numbers of applications and like to create information about the technology flow. The question was, if commercials can provide national data. In the discussion only Thomson saw some possibilities in the legal sector.

Gert Frackenpohl pointed out that this kind of linked and added economical data as well as the intention of the WIPO to set up file inspection services in the future (Project with 6 national offices) may cause competition between the office and the commercial providers. Cooperation between the WIPO and the commercial providers should take into account the roles that they should play: WIPO supplying basic data and Patcom members adding value by adding and linking data, data access functionality and services. The data preparation and evaluation services for governments following the WIPO intention raises the "Return of Investment" question immediately.

Francis Gurry finally wanted to discuss three issues:

- Raw PCT Data, where the change from DVD to FTP service is envisaged to be "on time" with at least three streams (tiff, XML and character coded data). The contact here is *David Muls*.
- The business statistical information, where global data are need. Contact here is *William Meredith*.
- The File Inspection, which is postponed for 3-6 months. Here *Robert Willows* and *Neill Wilson* will be in contact.

In general the discussion showed that WIPO needs more and detailed knowledge upon their customer basis; the same as PatCom has observed in other contacts with national and international offices.

The next meeting with WIPO is envisaged for the 2.week of June 2005. *William Guy* and the *Georg F. Schultheiss* will prepare it.

Georg F. Schultheiss
Secretary of PatCom

02.02.2005