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Mr Willem Geert Lagemaat
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06-12-2004

Re: Comments to the letter of the "Trilateral Alliance of Intellectual Property Information and Services Companies" Dated 15th September 2004

Dear Mr. Lagemaat

With reference to your letter dated 15 September sent to the Presidents of the Trilateral Offices I would like to answer to you as follows:

After discussing the letter of the Trilateral Alliance of Intellectual Property Information and Services Companies dated 15. September 2004 during the Trilateral Conference in Washington the Offices confirmed the following:

The Trilateral Offices considered the letter of the Trilateral Alliance of Intellectual Property information and Services Companies addressed to the heads of the Trilateral Offices and confirmed the following for the acceleration of patent information dissemination:

- The Trilateral Offices acknowledge that they each have a process in place that encourages continuing dialog and communications with private sector organizations involved with the dissemination of patent information.
- The Trilateral Offices share the opinion that the key dissemination tool for patent information in the future will be the Internet.

- Each office will continue to use the Internet in such ways as are determined to be appropriate in their individual policies regarding legal, technological, and data requirements.
- The Trilateral Offices appreciate the contribution of the private sector in their information dissemination efforts and look forward to having continued discussions on this topic.

You can find details on the Website of the Trilateral Offices.

Mr Lagemaat, I would like to underline the importance of a continued dialogue between the PatCom group and the European Patent Office. The European Patent Office intends to continue this dialogue during the upcoming meeting with the PatCom group already scheduled for 4. March 2005.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curt Edjäll', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Curt Edjäll
Vize-president DG 4