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**ProQuest Dialog Offices, St Andrew House, 11:00 am**

**Participants:**

Willem-Geert Lagemaat, Lighthouse IP Group, President  
Armin Förderer, FIZ Karlsruhe, Treasurer  
Ann Chapman, Minesoft (arrived at 11:25 am)  
Jane List, Dialog  
Christa Deinum, Scipat  
Elke Müller, FIZ Karlsruhe  
Rob Willows, Thomson Reuters  
Pierre Buffet, Questel  
Jurjen Dijkstra, LEXIS NEXIS  
Richard Garner, LEXIS NEXIS  
Matt Toussant, CAS  
Barry Dunne, CAS  
Georg Schultheiss, Hon. PatCom Secretary

**Apologies:**

Christoph Haxel, Dr. Haxel Consult

**1. Welcome and Approval of the Agenda**

The PatCom President Willem-Geert Lagemaat welcomed all participants, stated quorum and thanked Dialog for the hospitality. The proposed agenda was unanimously approved.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the London AGM**

There were no objections against the minutes from the London AGM 2009 and they were unanimously approved. They will be signed by the President and the Rapporteur and stored with the official PatCom documents.

**3. Annual Report of the President**

Willem-Geert Lagemaat gave his 2010 topic "Walking on the Chinese Wall" and stated that PatCom has seen another year of change in the vendor and authority landscape. He expects more ahead. The PatCom membership decreased.

PatCom delegations visited WIPO and twice EPO. The WIPO developments show rapid changes together with CIPO in “the year of the tiger”. The dialog with EPO is good. EPO has restrained by budget and stopped the MT project which might be continued together with the EU. Google translates EPO patent claims! The USPTO outsources activities and uses its Google connection.

The former trilateral offices (EPO, USPTO and JPO) try to work together with CIPO and KIPO, but the later ones seem to have their own agenda. CIPO will be the biggest office looking like EPO about 15 years ago.

PatCom delegations also visited the national offices ES, UK , SE, DE and F.

In 2011 PatCom may look for links to India, China and Korea without backing competitors from those countries. In Japan the Council no longer exists.

Finally the President asked all members to look out for potential new members also to strengthen the PatCom financial situation.

In a short discussion Richard Garner noted the CIPO pricing and customer treatment as well as the fact that Google is on the agenda of EPO. Willem Lagemaat reminded that this might finally not a service for free. Rob Willows added that advertising over patents does not really work and that there are differences between US and EU.

#### **4. Report of the Treasurer and Financial Issues**

The new Treasurer Armin Förderer distributed his detailed report (**see Annex 1**) and summarized that the financial situation of PatCom is stable. There is a surplus each financial year. PatCom has ten Full Members and two Associated Members. He sees no necessity of a fee increase.

#### **5. Report of the Board and the Executive Board**

The Secretary explained shortly the report which was distributed (**see Annex 2**).

#### **6. Report of the Technical Working Group**

Rob Willows, chairman of the TWG, sees the mayor event in the EPO XML-Day where also IPC issues are presented and discussed. In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011 the new MCD is expected without core level classification. Following the strong advice by PatCom and industry at Geneva there will only the advanced IPC level stay active.

He also asked the members to send messages of support by December 15 to be added to his second letter to EPO esp@cenet availability to commercials.

At WIPO its help to small offices for digitizing and adding the material to Patentscope generates the problem of ownership of the digital data. That means who can give them away to commercial services?

The US Coalition is now run by ACG. Jane List and Willem Lagemaat will try to organize a meeting alongside the 2011 PIUG Meeting.

## 7. ICIC

For this topic Christoph Haxel (victim of bad flight conditions at Düsseldorf) send the following e-mail:

*Dear all,*

*I arrived this morning at 6:00 a.m. at Düsseldorf Airport and got the message that my British Airways flight was cancelled. Too much snow in Düsseldorf. The next flight is 10:50 a.m. and there is now way to participate the PatCom AGM.*

### ***Please discuss topic 7 (ICIC) without me***

*ICIC 2010 was well on the road. The programme and exhibition received good feedback. For the exhibition in 2011 I received yesterday order number 11 and that is the best feedback. Nearly 50 % of the Barcelona exhibition in October 2011 is sold ...*

*Total sponsoring from PATCOM members was around 6000 EUR in 2010. Running a conference without sponsors is not only a challenge it is a financial problem. If I compare ICIC with other conferences in the IP area there is room for improvement. Sponsoring during ICIC was always a option for information providers and never obligatory for large information providers ... And I will not change this in future but I need more support. If not I have to reduce the networking programme or to charge for the networking programme. But I think that is not good for the ICIC and and not good for our business.*

- *During the next ICIC conference in October 2011 I could offer all PATCOM members the floor for product presentations and workshops at Wednesday afternoon (26 October 2011), if PATCOM Member sponsor for ICIC or this additional event. PATCOM could chair and run the afternoon session.*
- *I could post on my Website ... In Cooperation with PATCOM (with PATCOM logo)*
- *I could offer one Patent-Day only with Patent Topics and and and ...*

*I am open for every constructive feedback. If British Airways works at 10:50 I will be at the Online Exhibition this afternoon and I am open for every recommendation you discussed during the meeting. I am very sorry that I can not participate.*

*Best regards from Düsseldorf  
Christoph Haxel*

The discussion showed clearly that PatCom cannot and will not interfere with company policy and company finances. For the program oriented part the needs and the interest of participants will be of main importance. Pierre Buffet explained the program procedure and said that the bussword is "Trends". For further actions the member companies are asked to use their possibilities. In principle the ICIC could be one of "the" European IP conferences!

After this the IPI ConfEx issue has been discussed. The event should be barrier-free, its pricing policy transparent and all together it should be a plane level field. A voting if the President shall write a respective letter to Ford Korsandian resulted in 6 pro, 2 opposing and 1 abstention. The President will write the letter.

### **8. Proposed New Members**

The Secretary asked the AGM to continue to make proposals for potential members for PatCom.

### **9. AOB**

The next AGM will again be alongside London Online 2011. Ann Chapman offered to host it at the Minesoft Offices. The President thanked and adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Willem-Geert Lagemaat  
President of PatCom

Georg F. Schultheiss  
Hon. Secretary of PatCom

## **Annex 1**

## Annex 2

### Report of the PatCom Board and the PatCom Executive Board for the PatCom AGM 2010 on November 30, at London

alongside Online London 2010

(Agenda 5)

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The majority of the meetings continuously are planned in a way that they take place upfront a mayor meeting, either with WIPO, EPO, DPMA, INPI, or alongside international conferences and exhibitions. The agenda of the following regular meeting with offices is always one of the topics in the respective ExCo meeting.

Since the last AGM at London **four** PatCom ExCo meetings and **two** Board meetings took place with the following main topics:

- **14. Board** on February 18, 2010 has been held as conference call only for the topics: Next Meetings and Participation
- **22. ExCo** on February 22, 2010 at Geneva, Trilateral Development, Italian Office Contact, Meetings in 2010.
- **23. ExCo** on March 21, 2010 at Vienna: Trilateral Development, Meetings in 2010, EPO East meets West, Patinfo Ilmenau.
- **15. Board** on June 7-8, 2010 at Scheveningen: Organizational and Work Issues of ExCo, Financial Issues and Balance Sheet, Change of Treasurer, PatCom Website and Meetings in 2010.
- **24. ExCo** on September 20, 2010 at Vienna: New ExCo Members, Financial Issues, Trilateral Situation, Next Term Situation, AGM at London.
- **21. ExCo** on November 29, 2010 at London: Trilateral Situation, AGM 2010, Next Term Situation, Meetings in 2011.

Following the recommendation of the London AGM 2006 drafts of the minutes or summaries of all meetings have been presented to the members in the "For Members only" section of the PatCom web page. They have been actualized after approval if necessary.

Georg F. Schultheiss,

Hon. Secretary of PatCom

10.10.2010