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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
GENEVA

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE

(Fourth Session, Geneva, April 25 to 30, 1973)

INTERNATIONAL PATENT DOCUMENTATION CENTER

Progress Report by the International Bureau

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this document is to inform the Standing Subcommittee of the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation of the progress made with establishing the International Patent Documentation Center, Vienna, Austria, hereinafter referred to as "INPADOC", since the last session of the Standing Subcommittee.

AGREEMENTS OF COOPERATION

2. On the basis of the Draft Model Agreement submitted by INPADOC to the Standing Subcommittee at its last session, negotiations for the conclusion of agreements of cooperation were held between INPADOC and the following Patent Offices as well as the International Patent Institute:

- (i) the Australian Patent Office, Canberra, from November 20 to 22, 1972
- (ii) the Canadian Patent Office, Ottawa, on October 26 and 27, 1972
- (iii) the French Patent Office, Paris, on October 30 and 31, 1972
- (iv) the German Patent Office, Munich, on October 19 and 20, 1972, and from April 3 to 5, 1973
- (v) the Japanese Patent Office, Tokyo, from November 14 to 17, 1972
- (vi) the United Kingdom Patent Office, London, on November 6 and 7, 1972
- (vii) the United States Patent Office, Washington, on October 24 and 25, 1972

- (viii) the Soviet Patent Office, Moscow, on November 28 and 29, 1972
- (ix) the International Patent Institute, The Hague, on November 2 and 3, 1972, and from March 26 to 29, 1973

3. In all these negotiations, WIPO was represented as well. A summary of the results of these negotiations is given in the following paragraphs.

Australian Patent Office

4. With the Australian Patent Office, the negotiations led to full agreement on the draft of an Agreement of Cooperation which will be signed shortly through diplomatic channels. The draft provides for the delivery to INPADOC in machine-readable form of the ten bibliographic data¹⁾ pertaining to all patent documents²⁾ laid open for public inspection by the Australian Patent Office from January 1, 1973, onwards. The number of patent documents per year is roughly 27,000. The data carrier will be punched cards. INPADOC will deliver in exchange the accumulated data tape³⁾ on a monthly basis. As soon as possible, the Australian Patent Office will also deliver the three additional bibliographic data⁴⁾.

Canadian Patent Office

5. With the Canadian Patent Office, the negotiations led to full agreement on the draft of an Agreement of Cooperation which will be signed shortly through diplomatic channels. The draft provides for the delivery to INPADOC

- 1) Throughout this document, the term "ten bibliographic data" means:
- (1) the country of publication
 - (2) the kind of document (patent, inventors' certificate, first publication of patent application, second publication of patent application, etc.)
 - (3) the number of the document
 - (4) the number of the application (unless such number is identical with the number of the document)
 - (5) the date of filing the application
 - (6) the date of publication of the document or, if such date is not available, the date of the document
 - (7) the International Patent Classification (IPC) symbol, if any (if several, all)
 - (8) the country of the priority)
 - (9) the number of the application which is the) where priority is claimed;
basis of the priority) where several priorities
 - (10) the date of priority) are claimed, all
- 2) Throughout this document, the term "patent documents" means published patents, inventors' certificates and utility certificates, as well as published applications for the same, unless otherwise indicated.
- 3) Throughout this document, the term "accumulated data tape" means the machine-readable data carrier produced by INPADOC containing the ten bibliographic data concerning the patent documents of all countries whose bibliographic data are stored in machine-readable form by INPADOC.
- 4) Throughout this document, the term "three additional bibliographic data" means:
- (11) the name of the inventor
 - (12) the name of the owner
 - (13) the title of the invention.

in machine-readable form of the ten bibliographic data (except the IPC symbols) and the three additional bibliographic data pertaining to all patent documents issued by the Canadian Patent Office from January 1, 1973, onwards. The number of patent documents per year is roughly 30,000. The data carrier will be punched paper tape initially and probably, as of July 1973, magnetic tape. INPADOC will, under conditions agreed upon on the basis of the Draft Model Agreement, provide the Canadian Patent Office with credit for the data delivered.

French Patent Office

6. With the French Patent Office, the negotiations and later contacts between that Office and INPADOC led to full agreement on the draft of an Agreement of Cooperation which will be signed in May 1973 in Vienna. The draft provides for the delivery of the ten bibliographic data and the three additional bibliographic data to INPADOC in machine-readable form pertaining to all patent documents published by the French Patent Office from January 1, 1973, onwards. The number of patent documents per year is roughly 74,000. The data carrier will be magnetic tape. INPADOC will, under conditions agreed upon on the basis of the Draft Model Agreement, provide the French Patent Office with credit for the data delivered.

German Patent Office

7. With the German Patent Office, the negotiations led to full agreement on the draft of an Agreement of Cooperation which will be signed in May 1973 in Vienna. The draft provides for the delivery of the ten bibliographic data to INPADOC in machine-readable form pertaining to all patent documents published by the German Patent Office from January 4, 1973, onwards and as soon as possible also for the delivery of the three additional bibliographic data. The number of patent documents per year is roughly 121,000. The data carrier will be magnetic tape. During an initial period, INPADOC will, under conditions agreed upon on the basis of the Draft Model Agreement, provide the German Patent Office with credit for the data delivered for all patent documents exceeding 40,000 per year. As soon as the German Patent Office so requests, INPADOC will deliver to that Office on a monthly basis an accumulated standardized data tape⁵⁾. As of the delivery of that tape, INPADOC will credit the German Patent Office for the data delivered for all patent documents exceeding 70,000 per year. INPADOC will charge the German Patent Office the amount of \$ 8,000 as a contribution to cover the cost of standardization of the said tape.

Japanese Patent Office

8. With the Japanese Patent Office, the negotiations led to the signature and entry into force of an Agreement of Cooperation. The Agreement provides for the delivery of the ten bibliographic data to INPADOC in machine-readable form of all patent documents issued by the Japanese Patent Office from April 1, 1973, onwards. IPC data will, however, only be delivered from May 1, 1974, onwards for published examined patent applications and from May 1, 1975, onwards for published unexamined patent applications. The number of patent documents per year is roughly 190,000. The data carrier will be magnetic tape. INPADOC will deliver in exchange the accumulated data tape on a monthly basis. In order to fulfill its tasks under the Agreement, the Japanese Patent Office will work in close cooperation with the Japan Patent Information Center (JAPATIC) which will also have a certain role in the marketing of INPADOC's services in Japan.

5) Throughout this document, the term "accumulated standardized data tape" means the machine-readable data carrier produced by INPADOC containing in standardized form the ten bibliographic data concerning the patent documents of all countries whose bibliographic data are stored in machine-readable form by INPADOC.

Soviet Patent Office

9. With the Soviet Patent Office, the negotiations led to the signature and entry into force of Terms of Exchange. The Terms of Exchange provide for the delivery of the ten bibliographic data to INPADOC in machine-readable form of all patent documents issued by the Soviet Patent Office from January 1, 1973, onwards and those issued by the Patent Offices of

Bulgaria
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
German Democratic Republic
Hungary
Mongolia
Poland
Romania

from July 1, 1973, onwards. The number of the patent documents per year is roughly 46,000 for the Soviet Patent Office and 30,000 for the other Patent Offices per year. The data carrier will be, from July 1, 1973, magnetic tape and until then punched cards. INPADOC will deliver in exchange the accumulated data tape on a monthly basis. INPADOC will receive from the Soviet Patent Office a backlog punched card data base containing bibliographic data of about 400,000 patent documents from all PCT minimum documentation countries except Switzerland.

International Patent Institute

10. With the International Patent Institute (IIB), the negotiations led to full agreement on the draft of an Agreement of Cooperation which will be signed as soon as possible, but not later than by July 15, 1973. The draft provides for the delivery of the ten bibliographic data to INPADOC in machine-readable form pertaining to all patent documents published from January 1, 1973, onwards by

- the Belgian Patent Office (roughly 17,000 patent documents per year),
- the Luxembourg Patent Office (roughly 2,000 patent documents per year),
- the Netherlands Patent Office (roughly 31,000 patent documents per year),
- the Swiss Patent Office (roughly 16,500 patent documents per year), and
- the United Kingdom Patent Office (roughly 42,000 patent documents per year).

The number of the patent documents per year indicated above totals 108,500. The draft further provides, to the extent possible, for the delivery of the three additional bibliographic data. The data carrier will be magnetic tape. INPADOC will deliver in exchange the accumulated standardized data tape on a monthly basis. INPADOC will not charge the IIB with the amount of \$ 8,000 fixed as a contribution to cover the cost of standardization of the said tape, as the amount of standardization work to be performed by the IIB in producing its magnetic tape containing the data to be delivered to INPADOC is valued at the same amount. In view of the data exchanged by both parties, the IIB will receive additionally a global credit of \$ 4,000 for the ten bibliographic data and a credit for the three additional bibliographic data, as far as delivered, under conditions agreed upon on the basis of the Draft Model Agreement. In view of the agreement reached with the IIB, the conclusion of separate agreements with the above-mentioned Patent Offices is no longer envisaged.

United States Patent Office

11. The preliminary discussions held with the United States Patent Office have not yet led to the conclusion of an Agreement of Cooperation.

Negotiations Planned

12. Negotiations with a view to concluding an Agreement of Cooperation, providing for the delivery of bibliographic data in machine-readable form to INPADOC, are planned to be held with the Swedish Patent Office in the near future. More-

over, discussions with the Italian Patent Office will take place in May 1973 with the aim of finding ways and means to provide INPADOC with rapid access to the bibliographic data contained in the patent documents of that Office. Similar discussions with other Offices, the patent documents of which INPADOC intends to process itself for the inputting of the relevant bibliographic data, may become necessary.

13. INPADOC will, on May 7, 1973, at the Headquarters of WIPO, resume its conversations with Derwent Publications Ltd., London, with a view to exploring possibilities for cooperation.

COUNTRY COVERAGE OF INPADOC SERVICES

14. According to INPADOC, their services will cover, by the end of 1973, in part through the delivery of machine-readable data and in part through INPADOC's own inputting of data, at least the patent documents of the following countries:

- Austria
- Australia
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Cuba
- Czechoslovakia
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- German Democratic Republic
- Germany, Federal Republic of
- Hungary
- Japan
- Luxembourg
- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Romania
- Soviet Union
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

15. In addition to that, INPADOC intends, subject to a satisfactory arrangement as referred to in paragraph 12, to cover by that time also the patent documents of Italy.

COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF INPADOC

16. On February 7, 1973, INPADOC, through a decision of its competent organ and on a proposal by the Director General of WIPO, appointed Mr. K. Pfanner, Senior Counsellor, WIPO, as member of the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat). Accordingly, the Board of Directors has now the following membership:

- Dr. Friedrich Gehart, Legationssekretär, Ministry of Trade and Industry (Chairman of the Board)
- Dr. Dipl.-Kfm. Karl Roch, Ministerialrat, Ministry of Finance (Vice-Chairman of the Board)
- Dr. Arpad Bogsch, First Deputy Director General, WIPO
- Dr. Roland Jiresch, Sektionschef, Bundeskanzleramt
- Dr. Erik Nettel, Ambassador, Ministry of External Affairs
- Dr. Klaus Pfanner, Senior Counsellor, Head of the Industrial Property Division, WIPO.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON INPADOC

17. The Director General of INPADOC is Dr. Otto Auracher, the Technical Director of INPADOC is Mr. Erich Werner, and the Head of Commercial Operations of INPADOC is Mr. Gustav Rubitschka. At present, the staff of INPADOC comprises 18 persons.

18. In March 1973, INPADOC started to move into its new premises at Möllwaldplatz 4, 1040 Vienna. The move will be completed by the end of April 1973 with the transfer of the Technical Division. The new premises are of sufficient capacity to allow for the necessary gradual expansion of INPADOC's staff.

19. Further information on INPADOC, in particular as regards the state of its technical preparations and the envisaged time schedule for its further work, will be provided to the Standing Subcommittee during its fourth session through an oral report to be given by the Director General of INPADOC.

20. The basic capital (Stammkapital) has been raised from 1 to 20 million Austrian Schilling. The Republic of Austria, as the sole owner of INPADOC, has so far made available to INPADOC 12 million Schilling of the said capital. Further payments will be made, as need arises.

21. The Austrian Government has in the meantime, after approval of the Agreement between the Republic of Austria and WIPO Concerning the Establishment of an International Patent Documentation Center of May 2, 1972, by the Parliament, completed the necessary internal procedure for the ratification of the Agreement. The ratification through an exchange of notes between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Director General of WIPO, necessary for the entry into force of the Agreement, is expected to take place shortly.

22. The Standing Subcommittee is invited
- (i) to take note of this report
 - (ii) if it so desires, to make comments on the future plans of INPADOC.

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