

INTERNATIONAL UNIONS

Madrid Union (Marks)

Ratification of the Nice Act

AUSTRIA

According to a communication from the Swiss Federal Political Department, dated January 8, 1970, the latter addressed, on January 8, 1970, the following notification to the Governments of the Member States of the Paris Union for the Protection of Industrial Property:

"On November 21, 1969, the Republic of Austria deposited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris an instrument of ratification of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Trademarks, of April 14, 1891, as revised at Nice on June 15, 1957.

On the occasion of the deposit of this instrument, it was stated that the Republic of Austria intended to avail itself of the right provided for in Article 3^{bis} of the said Agreement and that the protection resulting from the international registration would extend to Austria only at the express request of the proprietor of the mark.

In conformity with Article 16 (3) of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, to which Article 12 (3) of the Madrid Agreement refers, the above-mentioned ratification will take effect on February 8, 1970."

ICIREPAT

Technical Coordination Committee

Third Session

(Geneva, December 12, 1969)

Note ¹

The third session of the Technical Coordination Committee of the Paris Union Committee for International Cooperation in Information Retrieval Among Patent Offices (ICIREPAT) was held in Geneva on December 12, 1969.

The list of participants appears at the end of this Note.

The following are among the more important decisions made at the third session of the Technical Coordination Committee:

1. Officers

The meeting unanimously elected Mr. G. Borggård (Director-General, Swedish Patent Office) as Chairman and Mr.

¹ This Note has been prepared by BIRPI on the basis of the official documents of the session.

P. van Waasbergen (Technical Director, International Patent Institute) as Vice-Chairman of the Technical Coordination Committee for the first three-year term under Article 9, paragraphs (2) and (6), of the Organizational Rules of ICIREPAT.

2. Rules of Procedure

The Committee adopted its Rules of Procedure.

3. Sessions in 1970

The Committee took note of a report prepared by BIRPI containing proposals as to dates for the session of the Plenary Committee of ICIREPAT, the Technical Coordination Committee, the Technical Committees (TCs) and the Advisory Board for Cooperative Systems (ABCS) in the course of 1970, and agreed on a time-table for these sessions.

4. Suggestions of Technical Committees

A series of suggestions emanating from the six Technical Committees were discussed and a number of decisions made.

The Committee approved the establishment of a subcommittee of TC I (Retrieval Systems, Design and Testing) to study the question of mechanized, including computerized, information retrieval systems in the field of organic compounds with the aim of coordinating the activities of ICIREPAT in this field.

The Committee approved the choice of TC II (Technical Fields: Forward Planning) of four new shared systems (Moulding Plastics, Electric Relays, Fluidics, Selective Printers) to be developed in 1970, underlining once again that, in the future, any agreement on a package program should be reached on the basis of both the expressed interest of countries in certain systems and the characteristics of the systems themselves.

In this connection, the Committee asked the Secretariat to make a reassessment study of the shared systems program approach in the course of 1970. This study could then be taken as a basis for further discussion in the autumn session of the Committee in 1970.

As regards the question of the interpretation of the mandate of TC III (Advanced Computer Techniques), the Committee agreed that the mandate of TC III did include consideration of general problems of the basic design of systems that necessitate computer implementation. General questions of system design were considered to be within the province of TC I.

The Committee adopted several recommendations by TC IV (Microform) relating to the standardization of microfilm aperture cards. In particular, specific and detailed recommendations on the image resolution (image quality) and image density for disseminating and exchanging 8-up aperture cards were approved.

The Committee adopted a recommendation proposed by TC VI (Systems Implementation) concerning magnetic tape as a carrier medium for multilateral information exchange for shared system or similar information.