

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE 59TH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION INCLUDING THE PCT UNION ASSEMBLY

Item Agenda No. 16 - Report on the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP)

Mr. Chairman, Trinidad and Tobago wishes to commend and acknowledge the work that WIPO, through the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents has completed to date and urge that the work started be pursued in earnest. The delegation acknowledges, taking into consideration the labyrinth of matters, which the Committee's work has advanced. Trinidad and Tobago would like to commend the Committee for working through those complex issues and its attempts to attain consensus.

In this regard, we look forward to the elaborations on these working documents and proposals for future work. We also await the preparation of the commonly used "Exceptions and Limitations to Patent Rights" by member states and moreover discussions on effectiveness and implementation issues. We highly anticipate the proposal of work sharing programs as it relates to the effectiveness of the search and examination process. We still expectantly await a more common definition of the term "Quality of Patents" as a means to better gain an understanding on the inventive step.

Trinidad and Tobago also looks forward to future discussions on the proposal put forward by the Delegation of the African Group and by the United States if America at the 30th Session of

the SCP, with respect to the topic of "Patents and Health" and other preliminary studies of "transfer of technology" which should prove useful to actual IP office operations.

It is desired that the end result of the deliberations will be the genesis of an enabling environment which would seek to foster and encourage more confident use the patent system. I assure you, Mr. Chairman that Trinidad and Tobago continues to be an ardent follower of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and its work on the review of the patent system and remains ready to participate constructively in the Committee's discussion.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me the floor.