

AGENDA ITEM 13(ii)
REPORTS FROM WIPO COMMITTEES
CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALTIC STATES GROUP (CEBS)

WO/GA/56/6 – SCP

Chair,

1. The CEBS Group welcomes the work of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and would like to thank the Chair of the SCP 34 Mr. Leopoldo Soriano (Spain). We would also like to express our gratitude to the Secretariat for their work over the past year including the preparation for the 64th series of Assemblies.
2. The CEBS Group notes that Standing Committee on the Law of Patents met only once during last year, but the Member States had the opportunity to resume discussions on the subject matters and to provide the exchange of experiences and share best practices within all the five areas of its agenda (*exceptions and limitations; quality of patents and opposition systems; patents and health; the confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors; transfer of technology*). We are also grateful for the presentation of new documents, including Draft reference Document on the Exception Regarding the Exhaustion of Patent Rights and Further Study on the Sufficiency of Disclosure – Part I. Our Group considers SCP as a main platform to discuss both current trends and future developments of the patent system.
3. As in the past, the quality of patents, especially on Artificial Intelligence, as well as the confidentiality of communications between clients and their attorneys/patent advisors, remain the main focus of CEBS interest. We support the proposal made by Switzerland to prepare a study on how jurisdictions around the world address the issue of AI Inventorship through jurisprudence, legislation and practice. We support the enhancement of cooperation among the Member States, as we believe that the exchange of knowledge and work-sharing can further improve patent grant processes. In this regard, it is of our special interest to share experiences and exchange information on the use of Artificial Intelligence for the patentability of inventions and in order to examine patent

applications. High-quality patents are essential to ensure that the patent system incentivizes innovation, facilitates knowledge transfer, and rewards new developments. A well-functioning patent system is a priority and facilitates the socio-economic development of the countries and regions.

4. In our opinion the work of this committee enhances the international cooperation and enables to find the solutions for cross-border challenges, including cross-border aspects of confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors.
5. The issue of Patents&Health is at the centre of the CEBS group attention. We would like to commend WIPO for strengthening of close/well-established cooperation with other UN Organizations, especially with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) as a response to the pandemic. In addition, the CEBS Group would like to express gratitude for presentations and information provided by WIPO, WTO and WHO representatives about trilateral cooperation activities related to COVID-19 pandemic and patents.
6. On exceptions and limitations, we are of the view that future discussions are needed as the proper balance between the interests of society or public in general and on the other hand of patent right holders should be achieved. We look forward to the draft reference document on the exception regarding the use of articles on foreign vessels, aircrafts and land vehicles, which will be the subject of discussion during SCP 35. The Group is looking forward to sharing the session on SCP under Technology Transfer.
7. I would like to conclude by reiterating the CEBS Group expectations that SCP will be able to find more synergies and common lines by building upon the existing positions of Member States and to move closer to discussions about harmonization of substantive patent law in the near future.
8. Let me reassure you, Madam Chair, once more of the constructive engagement and support of CEBS Group in the work of this Committee.

Thank you.