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## **WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Thirty-Second (17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary) Session**  
**Geneva, September 26 to October 5, 2005**

**MATTERS CONCERNING THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE ADOPTION  
OF A REVISED TRADEMARK LAW TREATY**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

### **I. BACKGROUND**

1. On the occasion of its thirty-first session (September 27 to October 25, 2004), the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) approved the convening of a Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) (hereinafter referred to as the “Diplomatic Conference”), in Geneva, from March 13 to 31, 2006, and decided to hold two additional sessions of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), and one session of a preparatory meeting in order to conclude the preparatory work for that Diplomatic Conference (WO/GA/31/15, paragraph 73).

2. The SCT held its thirteenth and fourteenth sessions in October 2004 and April 2005, respectively, and approved by consensus the texts of the draft revised Trademark Law Treaty and draft Regulations, which will constitute the “Basic Proposal” for discussion at the Diplomatic Conference.

3. Back-to-back with the fourteenth session of the SCT, the Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty was held in Geneva on April 25 and 26, 2005. At that meeting, the Delegation of Singapore declared that Singapore sought the privilege of hosting the Diplomatic Conference.

4. Following an exchange of views between delegations on the proposal by the Delegation of Singapore, the Chair of the Preparatory Meeting concluded that there was a consensus by the Preparatory Meeting to (i) thank the Government of Singapore for its generous offer to host the Diplomatic Conference, and (ii) request the Director General to add an item on the draft Agenda for the next session of the General Assembly, to take place in September 2005, concerning the venue for the Diplomatic Conference (TLT/R/PM/3, paragraph 30). For ease of reference, the relevant portions of the report of the Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty are reproduced in Annex II of this document.

## II. IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL BY SINGAPORE

5. The offer made by the Government of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference in Singapore is contained in Annex I of this document. In accordance with that offer, the Government of Singapore would cover, *inter alia*, all local expenses for conference logistics (including conference rooms, office facilities and administrative support), plus the costs of travel, terminal expenses and subsistence allowances according to the applicable United Nations rate for all conference interpreters, for staff from the WIPO Secretariat necessary to service the Diplomatic Conference, and for one delegate each of 111 developing countries and countries in transition Members of WIPO out of a total of 142 developing countries and countries in transition Members of WIPO.

6. In line with the decision by the WIPO General Assembly in 2004, to approve the convening of a Diplomatic Conference in early 2006, the proposed WIPO Program and Budget for the 2006-2007 biennium makes provision for the organization of that Diplomatic Conference in Geneva. In particular, Program 13 (Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications) proposes a budget that would meet the expenses for that Conference, assuming that the three-week Diplomatic Conference would be run during two weeks at the Geneva International Conference Center (“CICG”) and during one week at WIPO headquarters. The proposed Program and Budget for the 2006-2007 biennium also provides for the financing of the participation costs (air travel in economy class, terminal expenses and daily subsistence allowances according to the applicable United Nations rate) of one delegate from each of 30 countries to be selected among the developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy Members of WIPO (WO/PBC/8/3, pages 56 and 127). Such assistance would be offered to China and to a number of developing and transition countries per regional group concerned that is proportional to the overall number of countries in each group, namely to 11 countries from the African Group<sup>1</sup>, seven countries from the Asian Group<sup>2</sup>, seven countries from the Group of Countries from Latin

America and the Caribbean<sup>3</sup>, three countries from the Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European countries<sup>4</sup>, and one country from the Group of Central European and Baltic States<sup>5</sup>. The countries to receive such financial assistance would be selected by the Director General in consultation with the coordinators of the regional groups concerned.

7. In case the offer by the Government of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference in Singapore was accepted by the WIPO General Assembly, it is proposed that WIPO continue to offer financial assistance to 30 countries Members of WIPO as per the geographical distribution indicated in the previous paragraph, in order to facilitate their participation in the Diplomatic Conference by covering the participation costs (air travel in economy class, terminal expenses and daily subsistence allowances according to the applicable United Nations rate) of one delegate from each of those 30 countries. Those expenses would remain within the financial parameters foreseen for this activity in the proposed Program and Budget for the 2006-2007 biennium. The fact that Singapore would finance the participation of one representative from each of 111 developing countries and countries in transition out of the lists of 142 developing countries and countries in transition attached to its proposal, together with the proposal outlined above for WIPO to offer financial assistance to 30 countries, would mean that a total of 141 developing countries and countries in transition Members of WIPO (except Singapore) will be assisted financially, it being understood that one and the same country would be offered financial assistance only once.

8. A course of action as indicated in the above paragraph would contribute to allowing the widest possible participation in the Diplomatic Conference, by delegations from developing countries and countries in transition Members of WIPO. This would appear to be particularly important in the event of the Diplomatic Conference being held outside of Geneva. In addition, it would enable participating countries to be represented by specialists familiar with the technical subject matter of the Conference.

9. In this context, reference is made to the Diplomatic Conference for the Conclusion of a Treaty Supplementing the Paris Convention as far as Patents are Concerned, which took place in The Hague, the Netherlands, in 1991, and which was the most recent Diplomatic Conference organized under the aegis of WIPO that did not take place in Geneva. In preparation of that Conference, the Assembly of the Paris Union decided that WIPO would provide the cost of travel and subsistence allowances to one representative, in the Diplomatic Conference to be held in The Hague, of each of the 64 developing countries which were then members of the Paris Union (P/A/XVI/2, paragraphs 4 to 7, and P/A/XVI/3, paragraph 16 (approval)).

*10. The General Assembly is invited to take note of the contents of the present document and to decide*

*(i) whether it accepts the offer by the Government of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised TLT in Singapore under the conditions indicated in paragraph 5, above, and in Annex I to this document;*

*(ii) in case the decision concerning (i) above is in the affirmative, whether it approves that WIPO finance the cost of participation in the Diplomatic Conference of delegates from developing countries and countries in transition members of WIPO as proposed in paragraph 7, above;*

*(iii) in case the decision concerning (i), above, is in the negative, whether it approves that WIPO finance the participation in the Diplomatic Conference of delegates from developing countries and countries in transition Members of WIPO as indicated in paragraph 6, above.*

[Annex I follows]

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<sup>1</sup> Concerning the following developing countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe (53)

<sup>2</sup> Concerning the following developing countries: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen (36).

<sup>3</sup> Concerning the following developing countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica,

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[Endnote continued from previous page]

Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (33).

<sup>4</sup> Concerning the following countries in transition: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan (12).

<sup>5</sup> Concerning the following countries in transition: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (7).

ANNEX I

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT'S OFFER TO HOST THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A REVISED TRADEMARK LAW TREATY IN MARCH 2006

INTRODUCTION

The Singapore Government seeks the privilege of hosting the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) from March 13 to 31, 2006. This is a signal of Singapore's strong commitment and support for the aims of the proposed amendments to the TLT.

BACKGROUND

The Singapore Delegation formally made the offer at the Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, which was held in Geneva on April 25 and 26, 2005. The Preparatory Meeting subsequently requested the Director General to add an item to the draft Agenda for the next session of the General Assembly, to take place in September 2005, concerning the venue of the Diplomatic Conference.

In making this offer, the Singapore Government is guided by two key considerations. First, Singapore will ensure that there is *no additional cost* to WIPO in moving the Conference from Geneva to Singapore. Second, Singapore pledges to provide funding to facilitate the participation of developing countries (including least developed countries) and countries in transition in the Conference. The details of the support provided by Singapore are described below.

A. SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (INCLUDING LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) AND COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION

To ensure the widest possible participation, 111 (one hundred and eleven) developing countries (including least developed countries) and countries in transition will receive financial support from the Singapore Government to attend the Diplomatic Conference. Singapore will provide economy class air ticket, terminal expenses and daily subsistence allowance according to the applicable United Nations rate for the duration of the Diplomatic Conference, for one delegate from the 111 developing countries (including least developed countries) and countries in transition from the lists reproduced in the Appendix.

B. NO ADDITIONAL COST FOR WIPO

Singapore will bear the cost of travel and subsistence allowance according to the applicable United Nations rate for all WIPO staff supporting the event. This financial arrangement is also extended to the requisite number of interpreters, as specified by WIPO, to efficiently support the needs of the Conference.

### C. CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The Singapore Government will bear the costs of all conference and logistical arrangements in Singapore. These include the provision of the venue, information technology equipment, audiovisual and translation equipment, security (manpower and equipment), event management and local administrative support staff, including technical equipment for simultaneous interpretation.

The Conference would be held at the Suntec City Convention Centre, a world-class conference center adjacent to the Central Business District.

### D. SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT HOSPITALITY

Singapore would host a cocktail reception to welcome the delegates as well as a closing reception to witness the conclusion of the Conference.

In addition, Singapore International Airlines will offer all participants attractive prices for air travel to and from Singapore. Furthermore, the Singapore Government will negotiate competitive rates at a range of hotels close to the conference venue for delegates. For delegates keen on exploring Singapore, a travel agency will be appointed to offer delegates its services at competitive prices.

Further details on conference facilities, logistics and administrative arrangements will be posted shortly on the website of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) – <http://www.ipos.gov.sg>. A more detailed information note will also be made available to all delegates once a decision has been made.

### CONCLUSION

The Singapore Government requests the support of all Member States for this offer. If Singapore is honored to host the conference, the Government pledges to do its utmost to ensure a well-organized and successful meeting.

## APPENDIX

### I. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF WIPO BY REGIONAL GROUPS\* (123)

#### 1. Africa (53)

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

#### 2. Asia and the Pacific (36)

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen.

#### 3. Latin America and the Caribbean (33)

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

#### 4. China.

### II. COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION MEMBERS OF WIPO BY REGIONAL GROUPS\* (19)

#### 1. Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European countries (12)

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

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\* Lists I and II are based on the regional grouping arrangements at WIPO.



2. Central European and Baltic States (7)

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro,  
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

[Annex II follows]

## ANNEX II

Annex II reproduces paragraphs 1 to 31 of the Report on the Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, adopted by the Preparatory Meeting on April 26, 2005 (TLT/R/PM/3).

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty (hereinafter referred to as “the Preparatory Meeting”) was held in Geneva on April 25 and 26, 2005.

2. The following States members of WIPO were represented: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Yemen, Zambia (68).

3. Representatives of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the European Community (EC) took part in the meeting in an observer capacity (2).

4. The list of Participants is given in Annex I to this report.

5. On behalf of the Director General of WIPO, Mr. Ernesto Rubio, Assistant Director General, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

6. The Preparatory Meeting unanimously elected Mr. Li-Feng Schrock (Germany) as Chair and Mr. James Otieno-Odek (Kenya) and Ms. Luz Celeste Ríos de Davis (Panama) as Vice-Chairs. Mr. Marcus Höpperger (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the meeting.

7. Discussions were based on TLT/R/PM/2 (“Preparations for the Diplomatic Conference”).

### II. PREPARATIONS FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

#### Dates and Venue of the Diplomatic Conference

8. The President recalled the decision taken by the General Assembly of WIPO at the occasion of its thirty-first session (September 27 to October 5, 2004) to convene a Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, in Geneva, from March 13 to 31, 2006 (WO/GA/31/15, paragraph 73).

9. The Delegation of Singapore declared that Singapore sought the privilege of hosting the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty scheduled to take place from March 13 to 31, 2006. The Delegation indicated that, parallel to the fast economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region, intellectual property matters had grown in significance. It explained that the number of Contracting Parties to the TLT was relatively few, with only five out of the 38 countries belonging to the Asia and Pacific region. It considered it timely to bring activities such as those involving the TLT closer to new users of the system and particularly developing countries in order to encourage greater participation and involvement in the development of the international framework. The Delegation stated that Singapore would work to ensure that there were no additional cost implications in moving the venue from Geneva. It pointed out that this would include providing conference facilities, air fare and travel expenses of interpreters and WIPO staff, audiovisual and information technology equipment as well as event management, logistics and security. The Delegation expressed its willingness to look into the costs of participation of certain Member States coming from the capitals, in consultation with WIPO. It underlined that Singapore had been following closely developments concerning the TLT, and that its laws had been revised to be in line with the TLT 1994. The proposal to host the Diplomatic Conference was a signal of the strong commitment and support of Singapore for the overall aims of the TLT, particularly the simplification and harmonization of procedures and the removal of ambiguities in the best interests of the users. The Delegation stressed that Singapore provided a central location with an airport served by more than 70 airlines. Referring to the fact that the 1996 WTO Ministerial Conference was held in Singapore, and that the country would be hosting the 2006 World Bank Governing Board Meeting, it pointed out that Singapore would be prepared to provide the infrastructure and expertise necessary for hosting the Diplomatic Conference. The Delegation reiterated that there would be no additional cost implication for WIPO.

10. All delegations that took the floor subsequently to the statement by the Delegation of Singapore expressed their gratitude for the generous offer made by the Government of Singapore.

11. The Delegation of Australia held the view that the capacity of Singapore to hold the Diplomatic Conference had already been demonstrated clearly and suggested that the Preparatory Meeting convey to the General Assembly of WIPO a recommendation to hold the Diplomatic Conference in Singapore.

12. The Delegation of Cambodia pointed out that travel costs for its Delegation would be lower in case the Diplomatic Conference would be held in Singapore. It suggested that a recommendation to hold the Diplomatic Conference in Singapore be conveyed to the General Assembly of WIPO.

13. The Delegation of Kyrgyzstan indicated that, from its point of view, expenses for the participation in a diplomatic conference would be lower in Singapore. It held the view that the General Assembly should take the final decision on the venue of the Diplomatic Conference.

14. The Delegation of Panama said that the issue of the venue of the Diplomatic Conference had to be considered by the General Assembly of WIPO. The Delegation suggested that consultations be held in the regional groups and the Preparatory Meeting take a decision on whether or not a recommendation should be made to the General Assembly.

15. The Delegation of Kenya indicated that clear instructions from the capital would be needed in this question and suggested that the Delegation of Singapore submit its proposal in writing to all Member States.
16. The Delegation of Algeria stated that Singapore, as the venue of the Diplomatic Conference, would entail high travel costs, especially for representatives of poor countries. Pointing towards the need to consult with capitals, it expressed support for the suggestion by the Delegation of Kenya.
17. The Delegation of the Russian Federation expressed doubts as to the powers of the Preparatory Meeting to change the venue of the Diplomatic Conference and stressed the need to consult with capitals.
18. The Delegation of Italy stressed the need to hold consultations in the regional groups prior to making a decision on this matter.
19. The Delegation of France held the view that it could be premature to convey a recommendation to the General Assembly without further consultations.
20. The Delegation of Germany recalled that there would be no additional cost implications for WIPO if the venue for the Diplomatic Conference were Singapore. It indicated that its position was close to the view expressed by the Delegation of Australia. However, it also saw a need for consultations in the regional groups, as pointed out by the Delegation of Italy.
21. The Delegation of Austria stated that its position was similar to the views expressed by the Delegation of Australia. It took account of the need for further coordination and expressed its willingness to look into the issue favorably.
22. The Delegation of Sudan stated that governments would first have to be informed and consulted before a final decision on the venue could be taken.
23. The Chair adjourned the discussion on the proposal of the Delegation of Singapore, to hold consultations with the coordinators of the regional groups.
24. The Chair announced that he had held informal consultations with the coordinators of all regional groups concerning the venue of the Diplomatic Conference and the offer by the Government of Singapore to host that Conference. In that respect, he had proposed two possible courses of action. Option A would be that the Preparatory Meeting recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to accept the offer by the Government of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference. Option B would be that the Preparatory Meeting recommended to the Director General of WIPO to include an additional item in the Agenda for the forthcoming session of the WIPO General Assembly concerning the venue of the Diplomatic Conference. Following consultations with the group coordinators, it had become evident that consensus on option B could be achieved.

25. The Delegation of Morocco, speaking on behalf of the Group of African countries, said that it had taken note of the proposal by the Delegation of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, in March 2006 and expressed its thanks to the Delegation of Singapore for this offer. However, taking into account the time constraints, which did not allow countries of the African region to consult this matter with their capitals, and in view of the need for a more precise evaluation and a definition of the financial implications which could result from a change of venue of the Conference to Singapore, the Group of African countries held the view that this question should be included in the Agenda of the next General Assembly. That way, a decision may be taken by that Assembly, particularly since it was the latter which decided to hold the Diplomatic Conference in Geneva, in 2006. The African Group expected that a written document be made available to Member States, for consideration at the next General Assembly, containing a list of specifications and other conditions that the host country would propose. In any event, the African Group wished to call the attention of the meeting to the fact that there was a pressing need to cover the participation of delegations from all African countries, so as to allow them to effectively participate in the work of this Diplomatic Conference, to which they attach great importance.

26. The Delegation of Jamaica, speaking on behalf of the Group of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, expressed thanks to the Government of Singapore for its offer to host the Diplomatic Conference. The Group noted the interesting proposal from the Government of Singapore, including the statement that there would be no additional cost implications for the Organization in moving the venue of the Conference away from Geneva. However, the Group was concerned about the cost implications for the participation of representatives from Latin America and the Caribbean if the Conference was held outside of Geneva. The Group could not support a course of action for the Preparatory Meeting to make a recommendation to the General Assembly to change the venue. The Group could, however, support the second option, outlined by the Chairman, that the Preparatory Meeting recommend to the Director General to include an additional item on the agenda of the WIPO General Assembly concerning the offer of Singapore to host the Diplomatic Conference. Whatever decision taken by the WIPO General Assembly regarding the venue for the Diplomatic Conference, it was important that funding be made available to facilitate the full and effective participation of representatives from the Latin American and Caribbean region.

27. The Delegation of Italy, speaking on behalf of Group B expressed its warm thanks to the Delegation of Singapore for its offer and supported the proposal by the Chair to submit that offer for decision by the General Assembly. The Delegation supported the suggestion to present a document containing details on the proposal and its cost implications.

28. The Delegation of the Czech Republic, speaking on behalf of the Group of Countries of Central Europe and the Baltic States, said that the group had taken due note of the offer made by the Delegation of Singapore and that it supported the proposal to include an agenda item on this matter for consideration at the forthcoming General Assembly.

29. The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova, speaking on behalf of the Group of countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, expressed its appreciation for the proposal put forward by the Delegation of Singapore. The Delegation expressed its support for the second option outlined by the Chair and believed that it would be more expedient to discuss this subject at the next WIPO General Assembly, thus also allowing sufficient time for consultations with the capitals.

30. The Chair concluded that there was a consensus by the Preparatory Meeting to

(i) thank the Government of Singapore for its generous offer to host the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, and

(ii) request the Director General to add an item to the draft Agenda for the next session of the General Assembly, to take place in September 2005, concerning the venue for the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty.

31. The Delegation of Singapore thanked all participants in the meeting for having accepted to consider the offer by the Government of Singapore. The Delegation said that it would continue to work with the Member States and with WIPO in order to take this matter further. The Delegation expressed the hope of being able to welcome all in Singapore.

[End of Annex II and of document]