

# WIPO



SCIT/4/3

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 14, 1999

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

### PLENARY Fourth Session Geneva, December 6 to 10, 1999

#### REQUESTS TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS IN MEETINGS OF THE SCIT

*Document prepared by the International Bureau*

#### *World Patent Information, The Copyright Group*

1. By Circular letter SCIT 2450 of May 28, 1999, the International Bureau had invited intellectual property offices to agree to the granting of observer status, within the Standing Committee on Information Technologies, to:

- (a) the Publishers of the journal *World Patent Information*, and
- (b) The Copyright Group.

2. By the end of July 1999, the International Bureau had received replies to Circular 2450 from the following 14 Offices: Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Mexico, Netherlands, Oman, Slovakia, Sweden, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom, United States of America and ARIPO.

3. With regard to *World Patent Information* (WPI), 10 Offices (Austria, Belarus, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Oman, Slovakia, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom) were in favor of granting observer status.

As regards The Copyright Group (TCG), six Offices (Belarus, Hungary, Oman, Slovakia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, ARIPO) supported the granting of observer status.

4. As no consensus had been reached by correspondence concerning the requests of both institutions, the International Bureau suggests that the matter be considered during the fourth session of the SCIT Plenary to be held during the week of December 6 to 10, 1999.

5. It should be noted that WPI already has observer status in the meetings of the IPC Reform Working Group and attended a meeting in May of this year (see Annex I to document IPC/REF/1/2).

*6. The SCIT Plenary is invited to consider the two requests and to take a decision as to the granting of observer status for WPI and TCG within the SCIT.*

[End of document]