Standing Committee on the Law of Patents

Fifteenth Session
Geneva, October 11 to 15, 2010

EXPERTS’ STUDY ON EXCLUSIONS FROM PATENTABLE SUBJECT MATTER AND EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO THE RIGHTS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its thirteenth session, held from March 23 to 27, 2009, the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) decided that the Secretariat would “commission external experts a study on exclusions, exceptions and limitations focused on, but not limited to, issues suggested by members, such as public health, education, research and experimentation and patentability of life forms, including from a public policy, socio-economic development perspective, bearing in mind the level of economic development” (document SCP/13/7, paragraph 9(c)(i)).

2. The present document contains in its Annexes the said external experts’ study commissioned to a group of academic experts as follows:

   Annex I  Professor Lionel Bently, Center for Intellectual Property and Information Law, Cambridge University, United Kingdom;
   Annex II Professor Brad Sherman, University of Queensland, Australia;
   Annex III Professor Denis Barbosa, Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil;
   Annex IV Professor Shamnad Basheer, National University of Judicial Science, India;
   Annex V Professor Coenraad Visser, University of South Africa, South Africa; and
   Annex VI Professor Richard Gold, McGill University, Canada.

3. The study was coordinated by Professor Lionel Bently. The views expressed in the study are those of the authors, and do not represent the views of WIPO.

   [Annexes follow]