

Industrial Property

Published monthly
Annual subscription:
Sw.fr. 110.—
Each issue:
Sw.fr. 10.—

17th year - No. 6
June 1978

Monthly Review of the
World Intellectual Property Organization

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International Unions

Nice Agreement (Classification/Marks)

Accession to the Geneva Act (1977)

BENIN

The Government of Benin deposited, on April 3, 1978, its instrument of accession to the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks of June 15, 1957, as revised at Stockholm on July 14, 1967, and at Geneva on May 13, 1977.

The date of entry into force of the said Geneva Act (1977) will be notified when the required number of ratifications or accessions is reached.

Nice Notification No. 37, of April 25, 1978.

International Patent Classification (IPC) Union

Accession

PORTUGAL

The Government of Portugal deposited on April 28, 1978, in accordance with the provisions of Article 16(5) of the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification of March 24, 1971, its instrument of accession to the said Agreement.

The Strasbourg Agreement will enter into force with respect to Portugal on May 1, 1979.

Strasbourg Notification No. 31, of May 1, 1978.

WIPO Meetings

International Patent Cooperation (PCT) Union

Assembly

First Session
(First Extraordinary)
(Geneva, April 10 to 14, 1978)

NOTE*

The Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation (PCT) Union held its first (extraordinary) session in Geneva from April 10 to 14, 1978. The members of

the Assembly were the 18 States which had deposited their instruments of ratification of, or accession to, the PCT with the Director General of WIPO prior to the opening of the session. The following 12 members were represented: Brazil, Cameroon, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Luxembourg, Madagascar, Senegal, Soviet Union, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America. The Central African Empire, Chad, the Congo, Gabon, Malawi and Togo were not represented.

The following States and international organizations participated as special observers: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain; African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), European Patent Office (EPO) (14). In addition, the following five States and eleven intergovernmental

* This Note has been prepared by the International Bureau.

and international non-governmental organizations were represented by observers: Algeria, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Portugal, Uruguay; Secretariat of the Interim Committee of the Community Patent, Committee of National Institutes of Patent Agents (CNIPA), Council of European Industrial Federations (CEIF), European Federation of Agents of Industry in Industrial Property (FEMIP), Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIPI), International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (IAPIP), International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA), International Federation of Patent Agents (FICPI), Pacific Industrial Property Association (PIPA), Union of European Patent Attorneys and Other Representatives Before the European Patent Office (UNEPA), Union of Industrial of the European Community (UNICE). A list of participants follows this Note.

The session was opened by the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Arpad Bogsch, who also presided during the adoption of the agenda and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and the election of its officers. In welcoming the participants, including seven guests of honor (whose names appear in the list of participants following this Note), Dr. Bogsch underlined the great significance of the first session of the Assembly in the history of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. A large number of delegations expressed their satisfaction at the entry into force of the PCT and the convening of the first session of the Assembly, paying tribute to the excellent preparatory work which had been completed in the period following the adoption of the PCT in 1970 and underlining the importance of the PCT for inventors and patent offices and for the promotion of technological progress in all countries, particularly developing countries. The Delegations of Japan, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, Finland and Norway made statements concerning the expected ratification of the PCT by their countries in 1978 and 1979. The Delegations of Japan, Austria, Italy and the Netherlands all expected ratification to occur in 1978, the Delegation of Japan indicating October 1, 1978, as the date on which it expected Japan to become bound by the PCT.

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly. The Assembly adopted its Rules of Procedure.

Admission of Observers. The Assembly decided to admit to its sessions as special observers the States not members of the PCT Union but which contribute to the budget of the PCT Union (at present, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Romania, Spain, Yugoslavia), the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Office of the African Intellectual Property

Organization (OAPI), and to admit to its sessions as observers the States members of the Paris Union which are not members of the PCT Union and which do not have special observer status, as well as several intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations.

Date From Which International Applications May be Filed and From Which Demands for International Preliminary Examination May Be Submitted. The Assembly fixed June 1, 1978, as the date from which applicants may file international applications under the PCT and may submit demands for the international preliminary examination of such applications.

Amendments to the Regulations under the PCT. The Assembly amended several Rules of the Regulations under the PCT and also adopted several new Rules.

Appointment of International Searching Authorities and International Preliminary Examining Authorities. After having approved the requisite Agreements with the International Bureau, the Assembly appointed (i) as *International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities*: the Patent Office of Austria, the Patent Office of Japan, the State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries of the USSR Council of Ministers, the Royal Patent and Registration Office of Sweden and the European Patent Office; (ii) as *International Searching Authority*: the United States Patent and Trademark Office; and (iii) as *International Preliminary Examining Authority*: the Patent Office of the United Kingdom.

In connection with the appointment of the European Patent Office and the Agreement relating thereto, the Assembly noted "that in respect of international applications, for which the European Patent Office would be the only competent International Preliminary Examining Authority, demands for international preliminary examination will be accepted by the European Patent Office as from the dates which result from the application of the provisions of the said Agreement."

Establishment of Committees. The Assembly adopted decisions establishing the PCT Committees for Technical Cooperation (PCT/CTC), for Technical Assistance (PCT/CTA) and for Administrative and Legal Matters (PCT/CAL), as well as the Rules of Procedure of each of those Committees.

Administrative Instructions. The Assembly was informed by the Director General of his intention to promulgate and publish the Administrative Instructions in the light of the favorable advice he had received in consultations with the receiving Offices

and the International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities. The Administrative Instructions will enter into force on June 1, 1978.

“Minimum Documentation.” The Assembly noted a statement by the Director General informing it of the agreement, reached at a meeting of the International Searching Authorities convened by him, on the items of non-patent literature to form part of the PCT “minimum documentation” under Rule 34.1(b)(iv).

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS*

I. Member States

Brazil: U. Q. Cabral. **Cameroon:** D. Ekani. **France:** G. Vianès; F. Savignon; P. Guérin; A. Nemo. **Germany (Federal Republic of):** A. Krieger; E. Häusser; M. Deiters; U. C. Hallmann; A. Schäfers; N. Haugg; A. Mühlen. **Luxembourg:** J.-P. Hoffmann. **Madagascar:** S. Rabearivelo. **Senegal:** P. Crespin. **Soviet Union:** L. Komarov; E. Buryak; S. Egorov. **Sweden:** G. Borggård; L. Jonsson; U. Jansson. **Switzerland:** P. Braendli; R. Kämpf. **United Kingdom:** R. Bowen; E. F. Blake; D. Cecil. **United States of America:** L. F. Parker; H. D. Hoinkes; D. W. Banner; G. R. Clark; L. O. Maassel; W. E. Schuyler, Jr; I. A. Williamson, Jr.

II. Special Observers

Australia: F. J. Smith; D. B. Fitzpatrick. **Austria:** O. Leberl; H. Querner. **Canada:** E. W. Bown. **Denmark:** K. Skjødt; D. Simonsen. **Finland:** E. Tuuli; P. Salmi. **Hungary:** E. Tasnádi; G. Pusztai. **Ireland:** J. Quinn. **Japan:** Z. Kumagai; H. Iwata; Y. Hashimoto; K. Hatakawa. **Netherlands:** J. Dekker; S. de Vries. **Norway:** A. Gerhardsen; O. Os. **Romania:** V. Tudor. **Spain:** A. Villalpando Martínez; J. Delicado Montero-Ríos. **European Patent Office (EPO):** J. B. van Benthem; J. Staehelin; U. Schatz; J. A. H. van Voorthuizen; J.-F. Mézières. **Office of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI):** D. Ekani.

III. Observers

States

Algeria: L. Zebdji; F. Bouzid. **German Democratic Republic:** C. Micheel. **Italy:** S. Samperi; I. Papini; M. F. Pini. **Portugal:** R. Serrão. **Uruguay:** A. Moerzinger.

Intergovernmental Organizations

Interim Committee of the Community Patent: G. A. U. M. van Grevenstein; K. Mellor.

International Non-Governmental Organizations

Committee of National Institutes of Patent Agents (CNIPA): C. G. Wickham. **Council of European Industrial Federations (CEIF):** M. van Dam. **European Federation of Agents of Industry in Industrial Property (FEMIP):** C. Gugerell. **Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIPI):** D. Merrylees. **International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (IAPIP):** G. R. Clark. **International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA):** S.-E. Angert; P. Feldmann. **International Federation of Patent Agents (FICPI):** E. Gutmann; G. E. Kirker.

* A list containing the titles and functions of the participants may be obtained from the International Bureau.

Pacific Industrial Property Association (PIPA): D. J. Mugford. **Union of European Patent Attorneys and Other Representatives Before the European Patent Office (UNEPA):** U. Kador. **Union of Industries of the European Community (UNICE):** R. Kockläuner.

IV. Guests of Honor

Mr. J. Bob van Benthem; Professor George H. C. Bodenhausen; Mr. Denis Ekani; Dr. Kurt Haertel; Dr. Albrecht Krieger; Professor François Savignon and Mr. William E. Schuyler, Jr.

V. Officers

Chairman: D. Ekani (Cameroon). **Vice-Chairmen:** P. Braendli (Switzerland); L. Komarov (Soviet Union). **Secretary:** E. M. Haddrick (WIPO).

VI. International Bureau of WIPO

A. Bogisch (*Director General*); K. Pfanner (*Deputy Director General*); F. A. Sviridov (*Deputy Director General*); E. M. Haddrick (*Head, PCT Division*); J. Franklin (*Head, Administrative Section, PCT Division*); V. Trousov (*Senior Counsellor, PCT Division*); N. Scherrer (*Counsellor, PCT Division*); D. Bouchez (*Technical Counsellor, PCT Division*); Y. Gyrdymov (*Technical Counsellor, PCT Division*); A. Okawa (*Consultant, PCT Division*).

Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure

Interim Advisory Committee

First Session
(Geneva, April 25 to 28, 1978)

NOTE*

In accordance with a decision taken by the Executive Committee of the Paris Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, the Interim Advisory Committee for the entry into force of the Budapest Treaty held its first session in Geneva from April 25 to 28, 1978.

Seventeen of the 30¹ States members of the Paris Union that had signed the Budapest Treaty and/or participated in the Budapest Diplomatic Conference

* This Note has been prepared by the International Bureau.

¹ The 30 States are as follows: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

were represented on the Committee, while two other States, one intergovernmental organization (special observer) and eight international non-governmental organizations participated as observers. A list of participants follows this Note.

On the basis of the documents prepared by the International Bureau, the Committee examined and fixed its tasks and proceeded to an exchange of views on the prospects for ratification of and accession to the Treaty.

The Committee considered as desirable that the International Bureau should undertake a survey of the interested industrial property offices concerning the depositary institutions which might be proposed as international depositary authorities charged with the tasks provided for under the Treaty. This survey will cover, in particular, questions which are important for further planning and international cooperation related to the execution of the Treaty, namely: the locations of these institutions; the language or languages used by them; their personnel and installations; the kinds of microorganisms accepted for deposit; the procedure for acceptance, storage and furnishing of microorganisms, including the fees levied. The Committee also felt that it would be useful for the survey to deal with certain types of existing restrictions on exporting microorganisms from and importing them into the interested countries.

Moreover, the International Bureau will prepare an information document for the depositary institutions setting out the conditions to be met by the international depositary authorities under the Treaty and explaining the procedure to be followed by them.

The Committee examined the International Bureau's proposals concerning the inventory of forms to be used in an obligatory or optional manner by the depositors, the international depositary authorities or industrial property offices for the purposes of the procedure established by the Treaty or its Regulations. These forms will be discussed, in the form of drafts, during the next session of the Committee.

During an exchange of views on the prospects for ratification or accession to the Treaty, the delegations emphasized the interest that their countries had in the principle of the Treaty as well as in its entry into force. According to the interventions of several delegations, the procedure for ratification in their respective countries had begun or will begin in the fairly near future in such a way that several ratifications could take place in 1979.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS*

I. Member States

Austria: J. Fichte; H. Querner. **Denmark:** D. Simonsen; G. Lütken. **Finland:** H. Lommi. **France:** P. Guérin; D. Darmon. **Germany (Federal Republic of):** U. Hallmann. **Hungary:** E. Parragh. **Italy:** M. Bellenghi. **Japan:** S. Horiuchi; K. Hatakawa. **Netherlands:** J.D. Tak. **Norway:** P. Lossius. **Philippines:** F. Santillan. **Soviet Union:** G. Gudkov; V. Dementiev. **Spain:** J. Delicado Montero-Ríos. **Sweden:** R. Walles. **Switzerland:** J.-L. Comte; R. Kämpf. **United Kingdom:** A. Needs. **United States of America:** S. Schlosser; A. Leavitt.

II. Observer States

Iraq: T. Salman. **Libyan Arab Jamahiriya:** A. El-Bishti.

III. Intergovernmental Organization (Special Observer)

European Patent Organisation (EPO): B.I. Cawthra.

IV. International Non-Governmental Organizations

Committee of National Institutes of Patent Agents (CNIPA): P. Mars; R.S. Crespi. **Council of European Industrial Federations (CEIF):** H. Becker. **European Federation of Agents of Industry in Industrial Property (FEMIP):** G. Tasset. **International Federation of Patent Agents (FICPI):** A. Braun. **International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA):** C. Trugenberg. **Pacific Industrial Property Association (PIPA):** T. Simada. **Union of Industries of the European Community (UNICE):** P. Mars; R.S. Crespi. **World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC):** R. Donovan; I.J. Bousfield.

V. Officers

Chairman: J.-L. Comte (Switzerland). *Vice-Chairmen:* E. Parragh (Hungary); S. Schlosser (United States of America). *Secretary:* F. Curchod (WIPO).

VI. International Bureau of WIPO

K. Pfanner (*Deputy Director General*); L. Baeumer (*Director, Industrial Property Division*); F. Curchod (*Head, Special Projects Section, Industrial Property Division*); D. Januszkiewicz (*Consultant, Industrial Property Division*); A. Ilardi (*Legal Officer, Special Projects Section*).

* A list containing the titles and functions of the participants may be obtained from the International Bureau.

General Studies

The New Swiss Patent Law

P. BRAENDLI*

News from Patent Offices

FRANCE

Activities of the National Institute for Industrial Property in 1976*

National Institute for Industrial Property

INPI is a public establishment enjoying a legal personality and financial autonomy, reporting to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Crafts. Its task is to implement the laws, regulations and international agreements on industrial property, to keep the central registers of commerce and trade and to record industrial awards.

The Head of the Industrial Property Service, the Director of INPI, is assisted in the management of the Institute by the INPI Administrative Council. As regards the tasks of drawing up legislation and regulations, he consults the Council for Industrial Property attached to the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Crafts.

At the national level, INPI has institutional links with numerous bodies in order both to coordinate activities in industrial property and to improve the integration of industrial property into technical policy:

1. Liaison with technical development policy is ensured by INPI's attachment to the Directorate of Mines of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Crafts, which supervises the Institute. In addition, the Head of the Industrial Property Service reports to the Director of Mines.

2. Liaison with research development is achieved by the fact that the Director of INPI is an administrator of the National Research Development Agency (*Agence nationale de valorisation de la recherche (ANVAR)*) and, conversely, the Director of that Agency is an administrator of INPI.

3. Links with teaching and research in industrial property are numerous, including: the National Center for Scientific Research (*Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)*) of which the Director

of INPI is a member of the National Committee for Scientific Research (Section for Legal and Political Sciences); the Center for the International Study of Industrial Property (*Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle (CEIPI)*) of which the Director of INPI is an administrator; the Group for Research and Teaching in Industrial Property (*Groupe pour la recherche et l'enseignement en propriété industrielle (GRPI)*) of which INPI is a member; and the Association for the Research and Development of Pedagogical Means Encouraging the Creation and Development of Small, Medium-Size and New Undertakings (*Association pour la recherche et le développement des moyens pédagogiques favorisant la création et le développement de petites, moyennes et nouvelles entreprises (ARDIM)*) of which INPI is a member.

4. INPI maintains permanent official contacts with: the prefectures, for the filing of patent applications; the registries of the civil and commercial courts, for the filing of requests for the registration of marks and their entry in the Register of Commerce; the secretariats of the industrial conciliation boards, for the registration of industrial designs; and the chambers of trade, for entries in the Directory of Trades.

5. INPI supervises the National Company of Patent Agents (*Compagnie nationale des conseils en brevets d'invention*), which reports to the Institute.

6. Finally, INPI maintains permanent contacts with all the organizations and associations concerned with the protection of industrial property: International and French Associations for the Protection of Industrial Property; National Federation of French Inventors' Associations; International League Against Unfair Competition; International Chamber of Commerce; Chambers of Commerce and Industry; etc.

At the international level, INPI maintains close relations with: the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), at which INPI represents France in industrial property meetings; the International Patent Institute (IIB), at which INPI represents France in the Administrative Council; the European Patent Organisation (EPO), at which INPI represents France in the Interim Committee of the Organisation; and numerous States, as regards bilateral relations affecting industrial property.

* This report is excerpted from the INPI *Activities Report* for 1976.

Patents

(a) General

With the exception of the formal examination and of a limited number of cases of non-patentable inventions, INPI grants patents on a systematic basis—except where the application is withdrawn—but with the requirement that they be accompanied by a “documentary report on the novelty of the invention.” The purpose of this report is to inform both the inventor and any third parties of “anticipations” which could oppose the patentability of the invention. Such anticipations may be constituted by anything which has been made public prior to the date of filing the application, particularly the content of French or foreign patents.

The documentary report is drawn up as the result of an *audita altera parte* procedure involving INPI, the inventor—or his representative—and any interested third parties, where appropriate. Beforehand, two draft reports are drawn up and communicated to the applicant who has the possibility, on examining their content, of modifying the “claims” in his application (extent of protection that he claims) or of submitting comments contesting the administration’s point of view. The second draft is made public so as to enable any third party action to be taken. The content of such action is communicated, where appropriate, to the patent applicant who enjoys a final option to submit comments prior to establishment of the final report issued at the same time as the patent.

Since the documentary report procedure may be initiated at the request of the applicant any time within a period of two years from the date of the patent application, the latter is automatically published 18 months after its filing date, whatever the status of the proceedings. The public may therefore, as from that moment, obtain knowledge of the content of the invention and submit comments.

State-of-the-art searches for the purposes of granting the patent demand considerable classified technical documentation and a highly qualified staff. The high cost involved led various States, including France, to set up the International Patent Institute (IIB) in The Hague in order to conduct such searches jointly. The searching required for INPI’s documentary report is therefore carried out by that body.

(b) Administrative and Technical Patent Services

The *Administrative Office* is responsible for the practical and administrative management of the files during proceedings.

The *Central Medicinal Products Service* is responsible for administrative processing and file management during the documentary report procedure in respect of patent applications concerning medical products.

The *Central Technical Service* comprises:

- an Engineers’ Section dealing more particularly with applications for patents or utility certificates filed by individual inventors and requiring special examination;
- a Documentary Report Section responsible for contacts with the International Patent Institute in The Hague in respect of the documentary report on the novelty of the invention.

The *examining engineers* carry out the technical examination of the patent applications and draw up the documentary reports. They are divided into 18 groups depending on their technical speciality: mechanical engineering (six groups); physics (two groups); electrical engineering (five groups); chemical engineering (three groups); and chemistry (medicinal products) (two groups).

The advisers, of whom there are five (one for each sector), intervene in the course of the examination proceedings to assist the examiners.

(c) Committees

Two committees have been set up to study and prepare the decisions the Director of INPI is required to take in implementing the law.

An *Examination Committee* pronounces on cases referred to it by the administrative and technical patent services, particularly where they may lead to the patent being refused.

The *Patents Committee* comprises: a General Section (which takes decisions on the application by INPI of legislative and regulatory texts); and a Procedural Section (which pronounces on individual cases met with during examination of patent applications, particularly those referred to it by the Examination Committee).

(d) Statistics

Patent examination activities may be summarized by the following figures:

	1976	1975	%
Patent filings	39,890	40,436	- 1.35
including utility certificates	410	365	+ 12.32
Documentary searches (referred to IIB)	30,851	29,046	+ 6.21
Notification of preliminary draft documentary reports	27,744	27,544	+ 0.73
Notification of second draft documentary reports	28,900	23,850	+ 21.17
Publication of applications	39,164	38,316	+ 2.21
Grant of patents	29,754	14,320	+ 107.78
including utility certificates	6,361	2,331	+ 172.88
(applied for or resulting from the conversion of patent applications)			

The curve of filings has been dropping since 1971, and more markedly since 1973. Filings of French origin began to drop, in fact, as from 1971, whereas the lower number of foreign filings did not take effect until 1973.

The number of patents maintained in force, whatever their year of filing, has also dropped. The number at the close of 1976 was approximately 350,000 patents.

Trademarks and Service Marks

(a) General

Trademarks are signs used by manufacturers, tradesmen and service undertakings to distinguish their products or services from those of their rivals. By their very nature and function, such signs must therefore be covered by exclusive rights to ensure their owners a monopoly of use.

The Law of December 31, 1964, lays down the conditions for acquiring and exercising such rights and also their content. Exclusive rights may only be obtained by filing and registering the mark and not by simple use. Protection is afforded for a term of ten years on expiry of which the filing formality must be renewed. There is no limit to the number of subsequent renewals. Registration of the mark is preceded by an examination of the intrinsic validity of the sign which has been filed, as required by law and carried out by INPI.

French nationals may normally obtain exclusive rights in their marks abroad in accordance with the conditions and procedures laid down by the corresponding national laws. There are, however, two exceptions to this rule: the Franco-Italian Agreement of January 8, 1955, under which French and Italian nationals may obtain registration of their marks in the other country by means of a simple extension of the filing made in their country of origin; and the Madrid Agreement of April 14, 1891, which provides for a single filing for the protection of marks in the 24 member countries of the corresponding Union.

INPI's three basic functions in this area are: receipt and examination of applications for registration and publication of marks; contacts with the Italian Office and with WIPO in respect of filings made abroad by French nationals under the above-mentioned agreements; and administration for the benefit of the public of the documentary files constituted by the marks already registered.

(b) Trademarks Division

The Trademarks Division employs 60 officials in five offices.

The *General Affairs and Liaison Office* is responsible for filing and routing files.

The *International Trademark Registration Office* is responsible for formalities relating to the protection of French marks abroad and marks of foreign origin filed in France under the Madrid Agreement.

The *Anticipation Search Office* carries out, on request, searches of the marks previously registered in France. The search covers word marks but not figurative marks; it is effected manually (the time required is currently six weeks) and concerns only identical marks; however, the use of automatic data processing in 1978 will enable this period to be reduced and the field of searching to be expanded to related or similar denominations.

The Division also includes the *Administrative Examination Office* and the *Trademark Examination and Disputes Office*.

(c) Registration Procedure

Applications for the registration of a mark are subjected, on reception, to a preliminary examination as to their distinctiveness and the absence of any deceptive element. This examination does not concern the availability of the signs and it is for the applicant to conduct the corresponding search on his own initiative, making use, where appropriate, of INPI's services. All applications are subjected to this substantive examination, including renewals. As a result of this examination, between 4% and 5% of the applications give rise to a notification prior to refusal.

On receipt of the notification, the applicant may submit his comments. The file of the mark is then submitted to the Marks Committee, which issues an opinion addressed to the Director of INPI.

Decisions to refuse marks may be appealed against. As of September 23, 1976, competence to hear such appeals was transferred from the administrative tribunals to the Court of Appeals of Paris. The effect of this reform was, in fact, to suppress the free appeal phase. In order to reintroduce into the procedure an element of dialogue between the Office and the applicant, the effects of which could be comparable to that of the free appeal, the Director of INPI took the initiative of making a prior communication to the applicant of the draft decision normally addressed to him.

(d) Statistics

The activities concerning marks are reflected in the following figures:

MARKS FILED

	1975	1976	%
1. Marks filed by persons resident in France	22,807	28,096	+ 23.2
2. Marks filed by persons resident abroad	5,275	7,426	+ 40.77
3. Total of filings made directly in France (lines 1 and 2)	28,082	35,522	+ 26.49
4. Marks protected in France following registration with the International Bureau of WIPO under the Madrid Agreement ..	5,276	7,957	+ 50.81
5. Marks filed in Italy (Franco-Italian Agreement of January 8, 1955) transmitted by the Italian Office	0	125	
6. Total of filings resulting from international agreements (lines 4 and 5)	5,276	8,082	+ 53.18
7. Overall total	33,358	43,604	+ 30.71

MARKS OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY INPI

	1975	1976	%
Marks examined	22,793	35,976	+ 57.83
Marks notified	1,365	1,546	+ 13.26
Marks rejected	810	1,923	+ 137.40
Marks registered	22,986	31,609	+ 37.51
Marks published	21,515	25,978	+ 20.74

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE MARKS DIVISION

	1975	1976	%
Anticipation searches	5,394	7,377	+ 36.76
International marks transmitted to WIPO	1,927	1,944	+ 0.88

Industrial Designs

(a) General

The creators of new forms enjoy a "copyright" afforded to them by the Law of March 11, 1967, on literary and artistic property, without it being necessary for them to satisfy any formality. Concurrently with this Law, authors of industrial designs may, in order better to ensure their rights, enjoy the provisions of the Law of July 14, 1909, as amended, and file their creations with the secretariats of the Conciliation Boards (*Conseils de Prud'hommes*) or, failing that, with the registries of the civil or commercial courts.

The filing, which constitutes a means of proof, is kept secret for five years in the secretariat or registry. The objects deposited are made public at the request of the depositor and are transmitted to INPI for this purpose. The term of the deposit at INPI may be extended beyond the five years for a first additional

period which may not exceed 25 years as from deposit, and for which secrecy may be maintained or the deposit made public. A final extension of 25 years may be required by the depositor but in such case the objects deposited must of necessity be made public.

(b) Industrial Designs Office

The Industrial Designs Office is responsible for the following operations:

- receipt and registration of deposited industrial designs transmitted by the secretariats of the Conciliation Boards or the registries of the courts;
- verification that formalities have been fulfilled and that the files are in order;
- publication of the designs and provision of identity certificates;
- preservation of deposit documents and originals of the designs for communication to the courts.

(c) Statistics

In 1976, the total number of designs deposited with the secretariats or registries was 12,199, covered by 4,145 filings. One deposit may in fact contain up to 100 designs. The number of designs filed has remained practically stable from one year to the next over the last ten years (12,886 in 1966). Most deposits are made with the Conciliation Boards (in 1976: 9,576 designs with the Boards, 2,004 with the registries of the commercial courts and 619 with the registries of the civil courts).

	1976	1975	%
Deposits transmitted to INPI	3,274	3,287	
Designs published	6,309	5,368	+ 15
Designs kept secret for 25 years ...	1,015	1,227	- 20
Identity certificates	1,129	1,673	- 30
Perforated Soleau envelopes	8,966	8,123	+ 10

National Patent and Marks Registers

(a) General

The National Patent and Trademark Registers are governed by the Patent Law of January 2, 1968, and the Trademark Law of December 31, 1964, respectively, and various implementing texts. They are public registers which contain the entries of instruments transmitting, assigning or modifying rights deriving from patents or marks. Entries are made either at the request of the owner of the rights or, *ex officio*, following a court decision. They have effect with respect to third parties.

Disputes arising from entries in the Registers are heard by the Court of Appeals of Paris.

Entries are brought to the attention of the public by weekly publication of notices in the Official Bulletin of Industrial Property. The text of the full entry may be obtained on request by any third party.

In addition to keeping the National Patent and Trademark Registers, the Service is also responsible for notifying the owners of patent applications or of patents of any decisions laying down the lapse of their rights for nonpayment, in good time, of the annual renewal fees for maintaining their validity. Reinstatement proceedings may be brought before the Court of Appeals of Paris. There are a large number of such actions in which the Service is required to provide information to the court.

(b) Statistics

In 1976, 8,424 entries were made in the National Patent Register (7,728 on request and 696 *ex officio*), which represents an increase of 3% over 1975. 15,245 entries were made in the National Trademark Register (15,235 on request and 19 *ex officio*), which represents an increase of 12% over the preceding year. There were 47,776 notifications of the lapse of patentees' rights, that is to say 20% more than in 1975. Furthermore, 2,342 copies of patent entries, 2,923 copies of trademark entries and 5,915 identity certificates were issued.

International Technical Transfer Service

(a) General

The task of this Service is to receive statements by French firms having concluded contracts in respect of industrial property with foreign firms: acquisition or assignment of patents, marks, designs, manufacturing licenses, payment of the costs for studies and technical assistance, etc. The purposes of these statements are:

- to inform the administration on international technical exchanges, particularly as regards the competitiveness of French undertakings, broken down by industrial sector;
- to establish yearly statistics, particularly as regards the balance of payments in this field.

The declaration of such contracts and the annual notification of corresponding transactions (before March 31 of the following year) were made obligatory by Decree No. 70-441 of May 26, 1970. Proof that the Service has registered the contracts has to be provided to the approved agents before any currency can be made available.

The Service draws up statistics each year covering these operations on the basis of information provided by the firms concerned.

Copies of the contracts, annual statements of payments and statistics are sent to the various directorates of the Ministry of Finance and to the Bank of France.

The following statistics enable the trend of technical exchanges to be examined over recent years. As can be seen from the graphs and tables given below, revenue from studies and technical assistance abroad continues to develop regularly but the amount of expenditure is growing more rapidly.

(b) Statistics

PATENTS AND LICENSES

	Expenditure	Revenue	Deficit	Coverage (%)
1971	1,058	482	576	45.6
1972	1,147	552	595	48.1
1973	1,340	570	770	42.5
1974	1,562	819	743	52.4
1975	1,650	845	805	51.2
1976	2,092	870	1,222	41.6

STUDIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

	Expenditure	Revenue	Surplus (except 1971)	Coverage (%)
(in millions of francs)				
1971	414	388	-26	93.72
1972	539	556	17	103.15
1973	548	731	183	133.39
1974	730	1,065	335	145.89
1975	705	1,120	415	158.87
1976	1,104	1,658	554	150.18

FILES PROCESSED

Although the size of operations varies greatly from one file to the other, information is given below for 1976 on the number of files dealt with, broken down by sector of industry and by country.

Number of files	1,553 of which	1,024 (procurement abroad)	529 (sales abroad)
Mechanical engineering, metallurgy	482	291	191
Electronics, data processing ..	138	100	38
Chemical engineering	440	264	176
Textiles and sundries	289	229	60
Building materials	28	20	8
Fuels	27	24	3
Agriculture, food industries ..	49	29	20
Building, public works	37	10	27
United States	355	296	59
Switzerland	203	174	29
Germany (Federal Republic of)	144	118	26
United Kingdom	142	110	32
Belgium	94	57	37
Japan	75	28	47
Italy	67	32	35
Spain	43	6	37

Documentation

(a) General

INPI's task is not only to publish industrial property instruments but also to centralize, preserve and make available to the public all technical and legal documentation concerning industrial property.

For this purpose, the Institute produces—apart from the documents themselves—a number of publications. It centralizes and presents to the public, together with the French documentation, numerous collections of foreign patents in the framework of its international exchanges. It has set up search indexes which facilitate access to the documents and it also provides the public with a very full set of information and legal and economic documents relating to industrial property, to inventions in France and abroad and a basic technical documentation.

In the execution of its task, INPI cooperates with the professional associations and national technical research bodies.

Internationally, INPI regularly transmits to IN-PADOC—an organization located in Vienna which processes by computer the bibliographic data taken from patent documents—magnetic tape containing the data from French publications relating to patent applications and makes available to the public, in the form of COM microfiches, patent documents classified in accordance with the International Patent Classification (IPC) supplied in exchange by IN-PADOC. Furthermore, it participates actively in the work on standardization of the layout of patent documents and of the means of searching such documentation carried on by ICIREPAT under the auspices of WIPO. Finally, INPI has taken an active part in elaborating the publication system of the European Patent Office.

(b) Publications

INPI's publications are the following:

1. The texts of the applications and granted patents, which are reproduced in two forms: as printed specifications; and as microreproductions on film (35 mm film and aperture cards).

2. The *Official Bulletin of Industrial Property (BOPI)*, which consists of a number of editions:

- BOPI "Lists"—a weekly publication giving a summary of the applications for patents, utility certificates and certificates of addition which have been published and also the instruments issued;
- BOPI "Abstracts"—a weekly publication of abstracts relating to applications for patents, utility certificates and certificates of addition;

- BOPI "Trademarks and Service Marks"—a weekly publication giving all the marks registered in France;
- BOPI "Industrial Designs"—a quarterly publication giving the references of those industrial designs for which publication has been requested; and
- BOPI "Statistics"—an annual publication giving a large number of statistical data on patents and utility certificates, industrial designs, trademarks and service marks, the register of commerce and the schedule of professions.

3. *Propriété industrielle — Bulletin documentaire (PIBD)* (Industrial Property—Documentary Bulletin), a bi-monthly review edited by INPI and published by *la Documentation française*, which reflects current legal and economic events in the fields of industrial property and innovation, both in France and throughout the world.

The PIBD comprises four parts: Part 1 — official texts; Part 2 — general information (in addition to analyses of legal writings published in France and abroad, information is given on industrial property events, INPI's activities and those of other patent offices, and on foreign legislation); Part 3 — case law (between 75% and 80% of the decisions collected and kept at INPI are analyzed); and Part 4 — documentation (a press review informs readers of the political and economic events of interest to industrial property and searching circles; bibliographical analyses of French and foreign works received by the library and a monthly review of the summaries of foreign periodicals supplement the practitioners' information).

4. *The Tables*, which report on published patent applications, marks and industrial designs.

(c) The INPI Library

The library contains the work and periodicals required by industrial property practitioners in the fields of law, economy and technology.

Of a total of 15,500 works, more than 2,000 concern French, foreign and international industrial property law; the legal and economic sciences are dealt with in over 7,500 works; the collection of 4,500 scientific and technical works is for the most part constituted by treatises, encyclopedias, memoranda and indexes.

(d) Technical Libraries

The technical libraries open for public consultation basically contain the INPI publications together with all or some of the official industrial property publica-

tions of 39 countries, including all the large industrial countries.

The following technical libraries are open to the public in Paris: the French patent consulting room (some 2,000,000 documents, and search files facilitating access to the collection); the foreign patent consulting room (official publications received by INPI through complete exchanges with the patent offices of 23 countries and with a further 16 countries as regards the official gazettes only, i.e. altogether some 13,000,000 documents); the trademark consulting room (including specimens of all marks registered for practically the last 50 years, exhaustive documentation on international marks, the industrial designs for which publication has been requested and various search files); and the international searching room (comprising the international file and, since 1973, the INPADOC file, which gives the bibliographic references of patent documents published in 40 countries, classified in accordance with the IPC).

(e) *The Legal File*

This complete legal documentation concerning industrial property literature, case law and legislation includes some 90,000 references. It is composed of a manual file and a computerized file entitled "Industrial Property Law Data Bank."

The *Manual File* is divided into four parts: patents; trademarks and service marks; industrial designs; and headings common to all three categories.

The *Industrial Property Law Data Bank* contains the patent case law since 1825 (about 6,000 decisions) and the trademark case law since 1922 (about 2,400 decisions).

Regional Activities

The regional activities of INPI are oriented in three directions: decentralization of the documentation available to the public; public information; and the teaching of industrial property.

(a) *Regional Documentation Centers*

INPI has undertaken the decentralization and regionalization of its documentary facilities by developing the use of patent collections kept in the prefectures (departmental archives) which have not always been in a position, for lack of sufficient means, to provide users with all the services they were justified to expect. Two regional documentation and information centers directly managed by INPI were therefore set up in Marseilles in 1963 and Lyons in 1967.

INPI has also undertaken activities together with local partners: chambers of commerce and industry, departmental archives and universities. Eight documentation centers of this type have been set up and, although they do not have the same searching facilities as the centers in Lyons and Marseilles, they nevertheless render valuable services to research and industry in their regions.

(b) *Public Information*

INPI has endeavored to develop public information in respect of industrial property by regularly participating, particularly in conjunction with the National Research Development Agency (ANVAR), in numerous industrial exhibitions in Paris and the provinces and in various regional events.

(c) *Teaching of Industrial Property*

INPI played a major role in the establishment in 1964 of the Center for the International Study of Industrial Property (CEIPI) within the University of Strasbourg. CEIPI is an institution of an unusual kind and is based on collaboration between the University and industry. It is probably the largest body of its kind, if not the only one, providing teaching in Europe especially intended for those wishing to take up careers in industrial property.

Other universities, which likewise provide teaching in industrial property law, have also organized highly successful colloquia and seminars at which INPI has either been represented or has participated in the form of papers (particularly Grenoble, Lyons, Montpellier and Dijon).

Legislative Activities

The most important aspects of INPI's legislative activity in 1976 have been the work undertaken in respect of:

- the entry into force of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) done at Washington in 1970 and of the Conventions instituting a European Patent and a Community Patent, signed in Munich in 1973 and at Luxembourg in 1975, respectively; and
- the amendments to be made to French domestic legislation on patents (Law of January 2, 1968).

Already in November 1976, four draft laws had been adopted by the Senate (to which they had been initially submitted), authorizing ratification and laying down the conditions for implementing the PCT and the Munich Convention.

In the case of the Luxembourg Convention, the interministerial procedure which precedes submission of the corresponding texts was initiated at the close of 1976, after consultation with the Industrial Property Council in September.

International Activities

(a) *World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)*

The 1883 Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, which constitutes the basis of international law on the protection of industrial property, is to undergo a new revision at a diplomatic conference.

To prepare this revision, a group of government experts was set up and its third session, under the chairmanship of Mr. Vianès, Director of INPI, was held in Lausanne from June 8 to 15, 1976. In addition to the meeting of the Expert Group, groups of countries held unofficial consultations. Following the meeting of experts, a Preparatory Intergovernmental Committee on the Revision of the Paris Convention was set up along the same lines. Its first session was held in Geneva from November 23 to 30, 1976.

The Interim Committee for the Application of the PCT held its annual session in November 1976. The purpose of the PCT is to set up an international procedure for filing patent applications, which is also taken into account by the procedure for issuing European patents set up by the 1973 Munich Convention.

The final session of the Committee of Experts on the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure was held in Geneva from April 26 to 30, 1976. The meetings of this Committee, regularly attended by INPI, were motivated by the developments in technology using microorganisms and have resulted in a draft international agreement setting up a system of obligatory deposit to be recognized for national patent granting procedures. This draft will be submitted to a Diplomatic Conference to be held in Budapest in April 1977.

INPI has also been represented in the Working Group on Scientific Discoveries whose fourth session was held in Geneva from May 10 to 14, 1976. This Group studied the measures to be taken for the possible setting up of an international system for recording scientific discoveries.

Within the framework of aid to the developing countries, WIPO has set up a Permanent Committee, on which INPI is represented, with responsibility for the application of its legal-technical program for the acquisition by developing countries of technology related to industrial property. The Permanent Committee held its third session in March 1976, at which, in particular, examination was made of the guidelines

in respect of licensing agreements and the Model Law on Inventions and Know-How. These two questions have been examined by two Working Groups which met a number of times during 1976.

As regards trademarks and industrial designs, activity within WIPO has also been considerable. Mention may be made of INPI's participation in the work of the first session held in Geneva from March 1 to 5, 1976, of the Committee of Experts on the Revision of the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, and in the Working Groups and Committees which held four one week meetings in Geneva in February, May, September and October 1976.

Within WIPO, there also exists a Working Group on the Use of Computers in Trademark Operations in which INPI actively participates and which held a meeting in September 1976.

INPI was also represented at a meeting in February 1976 of the Working Group on the Regulations of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs.

From the administrative point of view, it should be recalled that INPI finances the French participation in WIPO out of its own budget. For this reason, INPI is regularly represented at the General Assemblies and Conferences of the Paris Union and of the other Agreements administered by WIPO, of which the most recent was held in Geneva from September 27 to October 5, 1976. France was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union and of the WIPO Coordination Committee.

Finally, it may be noted that on May 17, 1976, France ratified the Agreement signed in Vienna on June 12, 1973, for the Protection of Type Faces and their International Deposit.

(b) *European Conventions*

1976 saw the completion of the basic work of the Interim Committee of the *European Patent Organisation*. This Interim Committee set up at the time of signature of the European Patent Convention in Munich on October 5, 1973, to prepare the opening of the European Patent Office, comprises seven Working Groups which have, in turn, given birth to subgroups. France is represented in six of these groups, in the main by members of INPI, and Mr. Fressonnet, Deputy Director of INPI, holds the chair of Group VI responsible for legal questions, which is also one of the groups whose activity is to extend into 1977. Mr. Vianès, Director of INPI, is the Deputy Chairman of the Interim Committee.

For the last three years, these Groups have demanded a considerable amount of work for the preparation of meetings, for the most part held in

Brussels. The amount of work involved can be judged if it is borne in mind that during 1976, although that year was a little quieter than the previous two, there were 33 meetings of Working Groups, 16 meetings of subgroups and of the Interim Committee or of its Executive Committee, and that the meetings lasted for three to four days on average.

December 3, 1976, saw the setting up in Brussels of the Interim Committee for the Community Patent responsible for all preparatory measures towards the implementation of the *Community Patent Convention* signed in Luxembourg on December 13, 1975, particularly as regards the start of activities of the special departments of the European Patent Office which are to be set up under the Convention. The Committee is to have three working groups, including one on disputes relating to the Community patent under the chairmanship of Mr. Balmory, Counsellor at the Court of Appeals (*Cour de Cassation*).

Finally, it should be noted that the Commission of the European Communities adopted a memorandum on the creation of a Community trade mark, relating to the institution of a Community trade mark law, on July 6, 1976. The Commission's memorandum is based on previous work, particularly a preliminary draft of the *European Trade Mark Convention* drawn up in 1964, done by a working party in which INPI was represented. Already in 1973, the French Government spoke out in favor of this work being resumed and on July 9, 1976, stated its possible intention of submitting France's candidature for the location of the future Community Trade Mark Office. An initial meeting of a working party comprising government experts from the nine member countries and officials of the Commission was held in Brussels from November 3 to 5, 1976. Mr. Vianès, Director of INPI, was appointed Deputy Chairman of this working party, which is chaired by Mr. Armitage, Comptroller-General of the United Kingdom Patent Office.

(c) Patent Documentation

International activities concerning patent documentation principally take place within ICIREPAT and the IPC Union.

ICIREPAT held a number of meetings in 1976 in which INPI participated, particularly its Plenary Committee (8th and 9th sessions in February and September 1976) and of its Technical Committee for Standardization (TCST), for which France provides the Deputy Chairman, in May and October 1976. It should be noted in this connection that INPI was represented at the meeting of March 9 to 12, 1976, held in Geneva by a Group of Experts on the Access of Developing Countries to Information Published in Patent Documents. This Group of Experts met as part of the WIPO permanent legal-technical program for developing countries referred to above.

Considerable activity was also deployed by the Steering Committee of the IPC Union and its Committee of Experts responsible, in particular, for updating the International Patent Classification used by the majority of patent offices in searching for novelty and in the official publications of patents and patent applications, together with their abstracts. These Committees and their Working Groups, in which INPI regularly participates and in one of which France holds the chair, held 11 meetings of from one to two weeks in 1976, in Geneva, at the IIB in The Hague and at the Patent Offices in Washington, Munich, London and Stockholm.

It is noteworthy that the structure of WIPO is currently undergoing reorganization in order to coordinate the Organization's technical activities currently executed within the framework of ICIREPAT, of the IPC and with a view to the application of the PCT. An ad hoc committee set up for that purpose held two three-day sessions in 1976, at which INPI was represented. Recommendations were made with a view to the concentration of ICIREPAT and IPC activities within a Permanent Committee on Patent Information.

At the European level, INPI participated in the Working Party on Patent Documentation of the *Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation Committee* (STIDC) of the European Communities, which held three two-day meetings in Luxembourg in May, September and December 1976. This Working Party, in which industry was represented, drew up recommendations for the dissemination and promotion of information contained in patents to industry in the Community countries, particularly the small and medium-sized undertakings.

Finally, it should be mentioned that INPI is represented on the Board of Administration of the *International Patent Institute* (IIB) of which France is a founder member and which carries out, on behalf of France, state-of-the-art searches in respect of patent applications filed under the Law of 1968. The IIB Board of Administration held six meetings during 1976, between February and December, at which the numerous and important problems posed by the integration of the IIB within the European Patent Office as a Directorate General for Searching were examined.

(d) Cooperation

In the context of relations with Socialist countries, it should be noted that work has continued within the joint Franco-Soviet Committee on Patents and Licenses, which held a meeting in Strasbourg from May 4 to 11, 1976, and that INPI participated in December 1976 in a meeting with representatives of the People's Republic of China with a view to studying

the protection of trademarks and inventions in the two countries on a reciprocal footing. In addition, INPI has received a trainee from the Romanian Patent Office.

As regards cooperation with the developing countries, INPI has given its support to the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), whose headquarters are in Yaoundé (Cameroon) and which has administered the common industrial property system of a certain number of French-speaking African States since its creation in 1962. In 1976, a technical assistance project in respect of documentation was undertaken and INPI participated, as an observer, at the meeting of OAPI's Administrative Council held in Dakar in March of that year. INPI received trainees from Madagascar, Senegal and Zaire.

As regards patent documentation, INPI has assisted in the establishment and maintenance of patent documentation at the Brazilian Institute of Industrial Property.

Administration

(a) Budget

Despite the fact that a large part of its activities are pursued to fulfill public authority tasks, the National

Institute for Industrial Property is required to balance its expenditure with its own resources, which almost entirely originate in procedural fees whose amounts are fixed by interministerial decisions.

The 1976 financial year has shown a slight surplus. The final result was 155.6 million francs of revenue and 151.1 million francs of expenditure, resulting in a positive balance of 3.5 million francs.

(b) Personnel

The manpower covered by the budget for 1976 totalled some 710 officials, of whom 46 belonged to the Industrial Property Service and 664 to the National Institute for Industrial Property.

(c) Training

The evolution of tasks has led to greater financial efforts being made in the field of in-service training. Training in 1976 has still been basically focused on supplementing the legal, technical and linguistic knowledge of the engineers, either on the spot, in The Hague or at CEIPI, to enable them to fulfill their tasks as examiners or because they are scheduled to take up posts with the European Patent Office.

Calendar

WIPO Meetings

(Not all WIPO meetings are listed. Dates are subject to possible change.)

1978

June 26 to July 7 (Tokyo) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Steering Committee

July 3 to 11 (Geneva) — Berne Union, Universal Convention and Rome Convention — Subcommittees of the Intergovernmental Committees on Cable Television (convened jointly with ILO and Unesco)

July 19 to 21 (Geneva) — Development Cooperation (Industrial Property) — Working Group on Promotion of Domestic Inventive and Innovative Capacity

September 4 to 8 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Committee of Experts

September 13 to 15 (Geneva) — Permanent Committee on Patent Information (PCPI) — Working Group on Planning

September 13 to 22 (Paris) — Berne Union, Universal Convention and Rome Convention — Subcommittees of the Intergovernmental Committees on Videocassettes (convened jointly with ILO and Unesco)

- September 18 and 19 (Geneva) — ICIREPAT — Plenary Committee
 September 19 to 22 (Geneva) — Permanent Committee on Patent Information (PCPI) and PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation
 September 25 to October 3 (Geneva) — Governing Bodies (WIPO Coordination Committee, Executive Committees of the Paris and Berne Unions, Assembly and Conference of Representatives of the Hague Union, and Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation (PCT) Union)
 September 27 to 29 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revision of the Guide
 October 2 to 6 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Working Group I
 October 23 to 27 (Hull, Canada) — ICIREPAT — Technical Committee for Standardization (TCST)
 October 23 to 27 (Geneva) — Nice Union — Preparatory Working Group on International Classification
 October 23 to 27 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Working Group IV
 November 13 to 17 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Working Group II
 December 4 to 8 (Geneva) — Development Cooperation (Industrial Property) — Working Group on the Model Law for Developing Countries on Marks and Trade Names
 December 4 to 8 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Working Group III
 December 4 to 8 (Paris) — Berne Union and Universal Convention — Working Group on questions concerning access to protected works for developing countries, including the implementation of the 1971 revised texts of the Berne Convention and of the Universal Convention (tentative title) (convened jointly with Unesco)
 December 17 to 22 (New Delhi) — Development Cooperation (Copyright) — Copyright Seminar (convened jointly with Unesco)

1979

- January 8 to 12 (Geneva) — International Patent Classification (IPC) — Committee of Experts
 January 29 to February 2 (Geneva) — Rome Convention — Subcommittee of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Administration of Rights under the Rome Convention (convened jointly with ILO and Unesco)
 September 24 to October 2 (Geneva) — Governing Bodies (WIPO General Assembly, Conference and Coordination Committee; Assemblies of the Paris, Madrid, Hague, Nice, Lisbon, Locarno, IPC, International Patent Cooperation (PCT) and Berne Unions; Conferences of Representatives of the Paris, Hague, Nice and Berne Unions; Executive Committees of the Paris and Berne Unions; Committee of Directors of the Madrid Union; Council of the Lisbon Union)

UPOV Meetings

1978

- September 5 to 7 (Florence) — Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
 September 11 to 15 (Geneva) — Ad Hoc Committee on the Revision of the UPOV Convention
 September 19 to 21 (Melle, Belgium) — Technical Working Party for Forest Trees
 October 9 to 23 (Geneva) — Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the UPOV Convention
 November 13 to 15 (Geneva) — Technical Committee
 November 16 and 17 (Geneva) — Administrative and Legal Committee
 December 5 and 8 (Geneva) — Consultative Committee
 December 6 to 8 (Geneva) — Council

Meetings of Other International Organizations Concerned with Industrial Property

European Patent Organisation: July 4 to 6 (Bordeaux) — Administrative Council

European Communities:

Expert Group of the Commission of the European Communities for the Community Trade Mark:

September 18 to 22 and December 11 to 15, 1978 (Brussels) — Examination of draft provisions relating to the Community Trade Mark — restricted meetings

Interim Committee for the Community Patent:

September 12, 1978 (Brussels) — Working Group I
 October 2 to 4, 1978 (Brussels) — Interim Committee
 October 23 and 24, 1978 (Brussels) — Working Group II

November 13 to 15, 1978 (Brussels) — Working Group III
 December 4, 1978 (Brussels) — Working Group I

International Federation of Patent Agents: October 1 to 7, 1978 (Santiago de Compostela) — Congress

International League Against Unfair Competition: September 6 to 10, 1978 (Strasbourg) — Congress