

INFORMAL NON-PAPER

SCP/21: FUTURE WORK PROPOSAL (REVISED)

November 7, 2014

1. The non-exhaustive list of issues will remain open for further elaboration and discussion at the next session of the SCP.

2. Without prejudice to the mandate of the SCP, the Committee agreed that its work for the next session (SCP/22) be confined to fact-finding and not lead to harmonization at this stage, and would be carried out as follows:

(1) *Exceptions and Limitations to Patent Rights*

- Compilation of Member States' experiences and case studies on the effectiveness of exceptions and limitations, in particular, in addressing development issues

(2) *Quality of Patents, including Opposition Systems*

- Seminar on quality of patents to address perspectives on what quality means, and to identify needs and requirements for developing capacity for patent search and examination
- Seminar on work sharing and collaboration to share experiences
- Studies on inventive step and sufficiency of disclosure as agreed at SCP/20

(3) *Patents and Health*

- Seminar on the relationship between patent systems and availability of medicines, in particular, in developing countries and LDCs
- Continue discussions on disclosure of INN (document SCP/21/9)

(4) *Confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors*

- Compilation of information from Member States concerning applying confidentiality protection to non-lawyers and equal treatment to national and foreign patent advisors

(5) *Transfer of Technology*

- Compilation of information from Member States on national/regional regulations, guidelines, and practices and jurisprudence regarding voluntary licenses.

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