

Standing Committee on the Law of Patents

Twenty-Fourth Session
Geneva, June 27 to June 30, 2016

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The twenty-fourth session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) was opened by Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, who welcomed the participants. The session was chaired by Mrs. Bucura Ionescu (Romania). Mr. Marco Aleman (WIPO) acted as Secretary.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2. The SCP adopted the draft agenda (document SCP/24/1 Prov.) with an addition of the words "see document SCP/24/3" under agenda item 6.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

3. The Committee adopted the draft report of its twenty-third session (document SCP/23/6 Prov.2) as proposed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT SYSTEM

4. Discussions were based on document SCP/24/2.

5. The SCP agreed that the information concerning certain aspects of national/regional patent laws [http://www.wipo.int/scp/en/annex_ii.html] would be updated based on input received from Member States.

AGENDA ITEM 5: EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO PATENT RIGHTS

6. Discussions were based on documents SCP/14/7 and SCP/19/6.
7. The Committee continued discussion on the issues under this agenda item. Some delegations suggested other activities to be carried out by the Committee under this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 6: QUALITY OF PATENTS, INCLUDING OPPOSITION SYSTEMS

8. Discussions were based on documents SCP/17/7, 8 and 10, SCP/18/9, SCP/19/4, SCP/20/11 Rev., SCP/23/4 and SCP/24/3.
9. The Secretariat made a presentation on its webpage concerning work sharing and collaborative activities with respect to search and examination of patent applications, including WIPO CASE. The Delegation of Mexico made a presentation on CADOPAT.
10. The Delegation of Spain introduced its proposal regarding additional studies on the assessment of inventive step (document SCP/24/3). The Committee continued discussion on the issues under this agenda item. Some delegations suggested activities to be carried out by the Committee with respect to quality of patents, including opposition systems.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PATENTS AND HEALTH

11. Discussions were based on documents SCP/16/7 and 7 Corr. and SCP/17/11.
12. The Delegation of Nigeria, speaking on behalf of the African Group, submitted and introduced its proposal regarding patents and health (document SCP/24/4), which updated its previous proposal (documents SCP/16/7 and 7 Corr.). The Committee continued discussion on the issues under this agenda item. Some delegations suggested activities to be carried out by the Committee with respect to patents and health.

AGENDA ITEM 8: CONFIDENTIALITY OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN CLIENTS AND THEIR PATENT ADVISORS

13. The Committee continued discussion on confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors. Some delegations suggested activities to be carried out by the Committee under this agenda item. Some other delegations suggested that discussion on this agenda item be discontinued.

AGENDA ITEM 9: TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

14. The Committee continued discussion on the issues under this agenda item. Some delegations suggested activities to be carried out by the Committee with respect to transfer of technology.

AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER ISSUES – PROPOSAL BY THE GROUP OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES (GRULAC)

15. Discussions were based on document SCP/22/5.

16. The Delegation of Bahamas on behalf of the Group of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) presented the proposal. The Committee continued discussions on the proposal. Some delegations expressed their support on the proposal, while some other delegations expressed their opposition. [...]

AGENDA ITEM 11: FUTURE WORK

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

18. The Committee decided its future work as follows:

[...]

19. The Secretariat informed the SCP that the dates of its twenty-fifth session, to be held in Geneva, would be announced in due course.

20. The SCP noted that the present document was a summary established under the responsibility of the Chair and that the official record would be contained in the report of the session. The report would reflect all the interventions made during the meeting, and would be adopted in accordance with the procedure agreed by the SCP at its fourth session (see document SCP/4/6, paragraph 11), which provided for the members of the SCP to comment on the draft report made available on the SCP Electronic Forum. The Committee would then be invited to adopt the draft report, including the comments received, at its following session.

21. The SCP noted the contents of this summary by the Chair.

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AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER ISSUES – PROPOSAL BY THE GROUP OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES (GRULAC)

1. Discussions were based on document SCP/22/5.
2. The Delegation of Bahamas on behalf of the Group of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) presented the proposal. The Committee continued discussions on the proposal. Some delegations expressed their support on the proposal, while some other delegations expressed their opposition. Following some discussions, the Chair suggested continuing discussing the issue at the next session and that the interested delegations may make contributions.