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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

Addendum

The following communication, dated 27 October 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Canada.

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1. Further to Canada's communication to the TRIPS Council (IP/C/W/613), dated 26 May 2016, Canada remains interested in engaging the membership in a conversation on relevant issues surrounding the intersection of intellectual property (IP) and electronic commerce. Canada takes note of the positive feedback on its communication received from several Members, both formally and informally, during the June 2016 meeting, and would be interested in exploring avenues to continue this discussion at the TRIPS Council. Canada has also reviewed with interest the papers that were produced this summer by various delegations on how to further the membership's efforts under the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce. Like the issues covered under para. 4.1 of the Electronic Commerce Work Programme (WT/L/274), a number of IP policy issues were raised in this context, including with respect to the protection and enforcement of copyright and related rights; protection and enforcement of trademarks; and new technologies and access to technology.
 2. These submissions, along with the interventions made during the June 2016 session of the Council under the e-commerce agenda item, reaffirm our view that Members would benefit from being able to share national experiences and practices on these issues in the TRIPS Council. Members will be aware that the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration calls for work on e-commerce to be pursued "on the basis of proposals submitted by Members in the relevant WTO bodies (such as Council for Trade in Goods, Council for Trade in Services, Council for Trade and Development, and TRIPS Council)". Continuing our exchange of experiences in the TRIPS Council will help us fulfil that Ministerial guidance.
 3. Mindful of the ongoing consultations on the broader e-commerce discussions under the current Work Programme, Canada is reflecting on themes which may be of interest to least developed, developing and developed Members with respect to IP and e-commerce, with a view to once again placing an ad hoc discussion item on the agenda during the 2017 meetings of the Council. In this regard, we would be pleased to exchange views with any interested delegations over the coming months, ahead of the first TRIPS Council meeting in 2017.
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