



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

Resolution of the Executive Committee, Seville, 4-9 February 2001

“Simplification of Guidelines in Patent Grant Procedures”

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession of more than 70 countries, assembled its Executive Committee meeting held in Seville from February 4 to 9, 2001, passed the following Resolution :

Having participated in the discussions on the simplification of formalities in relation to patents, as reflected in the conclusion of the Patent Law Treaty,

Having participated in the discussions on patent cost containment to examine causes of and ways of reducing the costs of obtaining patent protection,

Noting the criticism directed by Government bodies and others to the patent profession for the level of fees charged in handling formal matters involved in the patenting process,

Having considered, for example, recent amendments made to the rules of practice of the USPTO and welcoming those measures that have been introduced to simplify procedural matters,

Nevertheless notes that certain measures, in particular those relating to amendment procedure, patent term adjustment and provisional protection not only introduce complexity but also significant potential liability for the patent practitioner (that will inevitably increase the costs associated with the handling of patent applications), and therefore

Resolves that Governments have an obligation to ensure that the spirit of the provisions of the PLT are carried into practice by adoption wherever possible of well-established practices of other countries and that Governments must recognise that the profession has no option but to respond to potential liabilities by introducing measures that fulfil the obligations to its clients, and that there may be increased costs to its clients, as a result

and **Urges** all Authorities to review their procedures at the earliest possible opportunity.