



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS
INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

Resolution of the Executive Committee, Copenhagen, Denmark 7-12 September 1997

“PCT Development”

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee and World Congress held in Copenhagen, Denmark, 7-12 September 1997, passed the following Resolution:

Considering

- the amendments to the PCT Regulations proposed for adoption by the PCT Union Assembly at its session from September 16 to October 1, 1997;
- the initiatives taken by major patent offices towards the development of advanced searching tools and improved information exchange; and
- the lack of harmonisation of important substantive provisions of patent law, in particularly assessment of patentability, that has led to differences in practice between the Patent Offices;

Expresses its support in principle for the proposed amendments which will serve to facilitate the use of the PCT system and, in particular, welcomes the proposed reduction of fees payable in the PCT International phase;

Reiterates the resolution on "PCT Supplementary Search" adopted by its Executive Committee in Greece in June 1996 which called for the facility of requesting, at the applicants' option, a search by another searching authority in the international phase; and

Notes that, because of continuing differences in law and practice, any such development of advanced searching tools will not lead to a universally-acceptable international search so that there will continue to be a need for a supplementary search on entry into the national/regional phase in any state or region whose office was not the original International Searching Authority;

Resolves that a supplementary international search would be of great benefit to applicants, in evaluating the scope of protection available before incurring the cost of entering the national phase;

And therefore continues to urge that such a supplementary search should be provided for in the International phase.