



ExCo MEETING
Turin, IT
30 March – 4 April, 2019

WORKING DOCUMENT

TITLE:	Questionnaire on Internet Disclosures		
DRAWN UP BY:	Johan Örtenblad, CET 6		
PURPOSE:	For approval		
CONFIDENTIALITY:	confidential (accessible only to FICPI ExCo attendees):	<input type="checkbox"/>	{select one box only}
	restricted (accessible to all ExCo attendees):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
POST-ExCo	access to remain restricted post-ExCo:	<input type="checkbox"/>	{select one box only}
AVAILABILITY:	document to be made openly-available post-ExCo:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather information regarding the current status of disclosures made available using electronic means, and notably on the Internet. This includes, for example, how publication dates and public availability is determined, and how dynamic information sources are treated. Of specific interest is how such information is viewed by authorities such as the courts and patent offices in various jurisdictions, as well as how and to what extent such views may differ between jurisdictions.

Depending on the results gathered from this survey, possible next steps will be an information paper, a FICPI position paper, resolution, or further topics of study. One desired outcome of this questionnaire is to map the so called “blank spots” – that is areas of uncertainty where users of the patent system will face uncertainty as to how authorities will view or apply such prior art in practise. FICPI may have an important role to play in proposing ways to fill such blank spots as the use of information technology continues to evolve.

Attachments: - Annex 1 (Copy of Questionnaire)

[End of working document]