

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

"Harmonization"

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 progress made in the harmonisation of laws by International Conventions including the Patent Co-operation Treaty and TRIPS;

Considering the various bilateral agreements and unilateral initiatives which have led and will lead to increased harmonisation of Intellectual Property laws between some countries and to a welcome improvement in co-operation between Intellectual Property Offices of some countries;

Considering that such initiatives might not take into account the desires and opinions of many countries and could lead to a reduction in the financial viability of Intellectual Property Offices in such countries; and

Resolves that Governments of all nations be encouraged to seek the harmonisation of Intellectual Property laws through international co-operation facilitated by the international bodies established for that purpose and taking into account the needs and wishes of all countries.