



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS  
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION  
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

## Resolution of the Executive Committee, Cartagena, Colombia, 20-24 January 2013

### "Cooperative Patent Classification"

**FICPI**, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee held in Cartagena, Colombia, passed the following Resolution:

**Emphasizing** that FICPI is supportive of a quality patent system having a quality search, including a main search, and supplementary searches available from offices which did not conduct the main search;

**Noting** that an International Patent Classification (IPC) exists, but that in reality a number of major offices use their own classification system;

**Observing** that the EPO and USPTO have entered into a partnership to develop and maintain a Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) that both offices will use, and which is based on the IPC;

**Recognizing** that the use of the CPC should give rise to an increased efficiency of the searching activities by the EPO and USPTO, and therefore contribute to the overall harmonisation and efficiency of patent examination;

**Urges** national and regional patent offices having patent searching resources, whether they currently use the IPC or not, to consider adopting the CPC as soon as practically possible.