

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

"IP5 Observer Status"

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:

Noting that discussions in the IP5 are building momentum;

Being aware that the IP5 offices have invited industry NGOs from their respective regions to be involved in the work being conducted by the IP5;

Further noting that the members of the IP5 are currently considering involving these NGOs as observers to the IP5 meetings;

Also noting that the filing statistics provided by WIPO show that the IP5 offices are the recipients of applications from all users of the IP system, not only from the IP5 countries;

Emphasising that cooperation between IP offices and the IP profession is vital to the development of the IP system;

Pointing out that FICPI has members in more than 80 countries and regions and represent users from all these countries and regions in filing and obtaining patents at the IP5 offices;

Further pointing out that FICPI members represent all types of users of the IP system, including individuals, SMEs, public research organizations, universities, and larger corporations, whether they are the holders or potential holders of IP rights including patents or they may be affected by the IP rights of third parties;

Believing that FICPI, for these reasons, is recognized for making unique and valuable contributions to the work and discussions of IP bodies, on an international level;

Urges that the IP5 considers inviting FICPI as a permanent observer of its work.