



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

Resolution of the Executive Committee, Zurich, Switzerland, 10-14 April 2016

“Examination of applications for design protection”

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee held in Zurich, Switzerland, 10-14 April 2016, passed the following Resolution:

Observing that delays in both the formal and substantive examination of applications for design protection give rise to legal uncertainty and enforcement difficulties, and result in an increased possibility that applicants either abandon their pending applications or even do not file an application;

Noting that very few national and regional IP offices have established and published targets for the time taken to carry out any required examination of applications for design protection;

Observing that an absence of published guidelines for Examiners as to how examination of applications for design protection should be performed can make it difficult for applicants to file applications which meet the required conditions for registration;

Noting that some national and regional IP offices lack such published examination guidelines;

Urges national and regional IP offices to adopt, publish and implement reasonable targets for the time taken to examine applications for design protection, even when there is no substantive examination prior to grant of the design right;

Further urges national and regional IP offices to adopt, publish and implement examination guidelines for applications for design protection.