



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS  
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION  
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

## Resolution of the Executive Committee, Seville, Spain, 4-7 November 2007

### “IP Information Services and Helpdesks Provided by Public Authorities”

**FICPI**, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee held in Seville, Spain, from 4-7 November 2007, passed the following Resolution:

**Considering** that information of all kinds is becoming available on-line via the Internet, including information on intellectual property (IP),

**Noting** that such information about IP often includes not only the full texts of statute law, treaties and case law, but also advice and even tutorials,

**Noting** the recent appearance of information services such as so-called “helpdesks” provided by public authorities offering business-oriented IP information aimed at providing assistance to the public,

**Believing** that such helpdesks might lead the public to neglect or overlook the intricacies of intellectual property and thus to take poor decisions that they would certainly not take if properly advised by qualified IP professionals,

**Resolves** that any public authority providing such an information service should include in the information provided a clear indication<sup>1</sup> of the existence of the IP attorney profession, the importance of obtaining advice from a qualified IP attorney, and how members of that profession may be contacted, for example, via their professional association(s).

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<sup>1</sup> for instance : "the information provided in this website is not meant to replace the assistance or advice you may wish to seek from a qualified and experienced IP practitioner in assessing, securing or defending your IP rights"