

Resolution of the Executive Committee, Sorrento, Italy, 29 September – 02 October 2013

"National Phases of PCT applications"

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee held Sorrento, Italy, 29 September to 02 October 2013, passed the following Resolution:

Noting that some countries where patent protection can be obtained either via national procedures before their national offices or via a centralized procedure before a regional office such as the EPO, have ratified the PCT but adopted provisions not to allow national phases of PCT applications, thus enabling only regional phases of PCT applications for obtaining patent protection in these countries from a PCT application,

Observing that the procedure before some Regional Offices, such as the EPO, involves substantial cost, complexity and duration for applicants interested in obtaining patent protection in a limited number of countries, and that national phases of PCT applications in such a limited number of countries should be an additional option,

Urges such PCT member states where national phases of PCT applications are not allowed, to authorize such national phases.