



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

Resolution of the Executive Committee, Newport Beach, USA, 10-14 March 2002

“Multiple Invention Disclosures and Complex Applications”

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession throughout the world, assembled at its Executive Committee held in Newport Beach, California, in the USA from 10-14 March 2002, passed the following Resolution:

Noting the establishment of a Working Group on Multiple Invention Disclosures and Complex Applications by WIPO’s Standing Committee on the Law of Patents in connection with a draft Substantive Patent Law Treaty, and in particular noting the Working Group’s mandate to consider *inter alia* unity of invention and special procedures for treating complex applications;

Appreciating the practical difficulties and financial issues faced by patent offices that are associated with the processing of some complex patent applications;

And recognising that the patent system must be convenient to use for all users and, in particular, that patent examiners and interested parties must be able readily to find potentially relevant patents and published patent applications;

But also observing that unduly rigid application of any ‘unity of invention’ or ‘restriction’ practice can lead to unnecessary delays and increased costs to applicants;

Resolves that any practice for treating multiple invention disclosures or complex applications should offer maximal flexibility for applicants without compromising the convenience of the patent system for all users.