

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND THEIR MEMBER STATES

Addendum

The present document reproduces the updated information on the technical cooperation activities relevant to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement of the European Communities and of Austria, Finland, Germany, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Information on technical and financial cooperation activities of other member States of the European Communities will be distributed as supplements to this document.

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¹ English except for the information on Spain's activities in Spanish.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

I. EU - CHINA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME

1. Duration

The first phase of the programme ran from 1992 to 1994 covering patents and trademarks. The second phase of the programme covers not only patents and trademarks, but widens the scope of cooperation to include copyright, enforcement, education and awareness issues. The horizontal part of the programme was launched in May 1999 and will last until December 2001. Three sectoral programmes on patents, trademarks and geographical indications, and copyright and related rights will be launched in due course.

2. General objectives of the programme

The main objective of the second programme is to support the efforts of the Chinese Government to develop a modern, effective system of IPR protection to international standards by:

- assisting China in the adoption of legislation and implementing regulations in all IPR fields to comply with international standards, notably the WTO TRIPS Agreement.
- creating an effective public administration of IPR and mechanisms for their effective protection, notably with regard to the procedures for the granting of IPR as well as to the enforcement of these rights.

3. Description of the programme

The programme envisages actions in three areas:

(a) Support to IPR institutions:

Technical assistance and training will be provided to:

- State Intellectual Property Office - to complement co-operation with the EPO;
- Chinese Trademark Office - to improve transparency of procedures;
- National Copyright Administration of China - to support institutional growth;
- various other governmental and non-governmental institutions involved in intellectual property rights.

(b) Support to enforcement authorities:

Administrative as well as judicial routes exist for resolving IPR disputes in China. Technical assistance will be provided to:

- training for judges, prosecutors and lawyers;
- administrative agencies, IP and economic tribunals via workshops and the establishment of a nationwide information network;

- customs authorities assisting enforcement at borders.

(c) Horizontal measures:

- training opportunities would also be offered to IPR agents and attorneys;
- specific actions would encourage and improve IPR teaching in universities;
- analysis of changes required to implement the TRIPS Agreement would be a priority;
- actions aimed at increasing public awareness of IPR issues are foreseen.

II. CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The programme for the modernization of the intellectual and industrial property in the Central and Eastern European countries (known as the PHARE countries) is drawn up as a regional programme. It covers all PHARE countries (which are currently: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, and Slovenia). The programme consists of two separate technical assistance programmes: the Regional Industrial Property Programme (RIPP) and the horizontal programme(s) on intellectual property.

1. Regional Industrial Property Programme (RIPP)

(a) Duration

The first phase of the programme started in 1992 and has subsequently been extended twice. Certain activities of RIPP-III (notably the ones related to the Common Software project and certain training courses) will be finalized in 2000. Under RIPP-IV, the activities of the previous programmes continue until 2001.

(b) General objectives of the programme

- Improve patent and trademark protection;
- raise the quality of industrial property protection to a level similar to that in the European Union;
- facilitate the accession of countries in Central and Eastern Europe to the main international conventions on industrial property including the European Patent Convention;
- improve existing national institutions responsible for industrial property systems and help create the relevant institutions in countries, where no appropriate framework yet exists;
- promote regional cooperation between the partner countries in the field of industrial property.

(c) Description of the programme

The specific objectives of the programme can be summed up in three major points:

Training:

Training courses and seminars for staff of national authorities and patent professionals (judges, attorneys and other specialists).

Information technology:

Development and maintenance of software to administer patent and trademark procedures (Common Software).

Documentation, patent information, inter-office cooperation, technical assistance:

- Modernization of documentation centres so as to permit novelty searches at minimum cost in particular by supplementing paper systems with CD-ROMs and on-line access to commercial databases.
- Promotion of awareness of industrial property in the region through international symposia and the publication of patent specifications and trade marks on CD-ROM.
- Development of regional co-operation through an exchange programme involving the offices in the region.
- Technical assistance on project specification, tendering, implementation, legal and institutional advice, work programme and evaluation of results.

2. Horizontal Programmes on Intellectual Property (PHARE)

(a) Duration

The current PHARE-IV programme continues the activities undertaken under the previous three PHARE programmes in the area of copyright and related rights. It will last until autumn 2000.

(b) General objectives of the programme

- Facilitation of the implementation in countries in Central and Eastern Europe of a level of protection for intellectual property (copyright and related rights, enforcement) similar to that in the European Union and to facilitate the accession of these countries to international conventions in this area.
- Help to create and develop the cultural industry so as to encourage national and foreign investment in this sector.
- Facilitation and guarantee of the free movement of cultural works and performances between countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the European Union.
- Enhanced legal assistance to underline the importance of the protection of neighbouring rights, as well as the enforcement procedures.
- Creation of mechanisms for the effective protection of neighbouring rights, including the formation and training of collecting societies.

- Fight against piracy.

(c) Description of the programme

The Programme has the following components:

Legal assistance and training:

The legal assistance and training provided continues to aim at improving the legislation in the field of intellectual property, e.g. on author rights and related rights, and to favour the implementation of structures permitting their application. This component will include actions, such as:

- Missions of EU experts to the countries in Central and Eastern Europe, taking into account the guidelines set out in Chapter 19 of the Annex to the 1995 White Paper on the Preparation of the Associated Countries of Central and Eastern Europe for Integration into the Internal Market of the Union. Priority will be given to the countries where the level of harmonization is not sufficient yet. Missions will also be conducted to countries where the level of harmonization has been judged as satisfactory, albeit only to inform the legislator in these countries about the problems of intellectual property protection, which will soon be posed by the new technologies of the Information Society related to the digitisation of carriers.
- Training of officials on intellectual property, either directly or via Train-the-Trainers methods. Training of academics and judges. With regard to the training of academics, the programme will explore the possibilities of scholarships in institutes in the European Union specialized in author rights.

Support to collecting societies:

This component will include actions, such as:

- Training of the management and staff of the different authors' societies will continue to be the main form assistance to authors' societies.
- Legal assistance to enforce the application of laws.
- Material support to administration societies of author rights, which may include basic equipment, hardware and software to facilitate the distribution of collected royalties.

III. EC-ASEAN PATENTS AND TRADEMARK PROGRAMME (ECAP)

The ECAP programme aims to assist the ASEAN countries in strengthening and developing their intellectual property rights systems. The programme consisted of a regional as well as national components and covered the following countries: Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and, since 1995, Viet Nam.

1. Duration

The first programme (ECAP-I) was conducted between October 1993 and June 1997. A second cooperation programme (ECAP-II) is to be launched in the near future and is expected to last until 2004.

2. General objectives of the programme

- To assist in the adaptation of legal frameworks to TRIPS, in all fields of the intellectual property protection;
- to improve the technical skills in the field of intellectual property rights in the ASEAN region. In addition to the upgrading of skills (institutional strengthening) in the industrial property offices of the region, particular attention will be paid to improving enforcement and the protection of copyrights and related rights;
- to focus on informing local industries and other local users of the benefits they may derive from an improved patent and trademark environment with close involvement of the European industry.

3. Description of the programme

ECAP-II aims at achieving effective results through sharing of information and experience and by continuing a process of regional co-operation in the field of all industrial property rights. The regional aspects will contribute to the uniform development of intellectual property right systems in the targeted countries and limit the amount of overlap in this highly specialised field. Cost-sharing is feasible through cooperation in the field of documentation, the organization of the granting procedure, publication, etc., which also facilitates the ease with which the European industry can operate in ASEAN. The more specific activities include:

- preparation of modernization plans for national offices;
- building a common intellectual property database;
- production of certain common publications and documents;
- providing EU best practices in intellectual property rights legislation, including accompanying rules and regulations;
- computerization of administration of patent granting procedures and services;
- preparation of common procedures guidelines.

IV. EU-VIET NAM INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY PROGRAMME (EURO-TAP-VIET)

1. Duration

The first programme (Euro-Tap-Viet-I) lasted from July 1996 to September 1999. A second programme (EURO-TAP-Viet-II) is going to be launched in the year 2000. Viet Nam also join the regional component of the ECAP-II programme (see above III).

2. General objectives of the programme

The main objective of the programme is to strengthen Viet Nam's industrial property system by:

- assisting in the improvement of the legal and regulatory framework;
- enhancing the patent and trademark granting administration, as well as upgrading the skills of patent agents;

- improving industrial property public awareness and strengthening enforcement systems;
- cooperation in ASEAN regional activities in the field of industrial property rights.

In addition to the above-mentioned objectives, the programme is constructed with an element of flexibility in order to allow for particular situations, for example under the public awareness and enforcement components, by covering other related areas of intellectual property rights.

3. Description of the programme

The specific objectives of the programme can be summarized in two major points:

- **Legal framework and enforcement:** The programme aims at assisting to upgrade the Vietnamese legislation and enforcement measures in line with the TRIPS Agreement.
- **Administration of industrial property and information services:** The current good record of delivering patent, trademarks and designs should be maintained in spite of the substantial increase of applications expected. Applicants should be able to file applications in two different places by the end of the programme.

V. COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

The European Communities established technical assistance programmes to countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (known as TACIS). In the field of intellectual property rights, two TACIS programmes have been undertaken: one programme on copyright and related rights and one programme on industrial property rights.

1. TACIS programmes on copyright and related rights

(a) General

The first TACIS programme on copyright and related rights covered assistance to Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. This two-year programme ended in November 1998 and a follow-up programme covering assistance to Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uzbekistan running until October 2001 was established.

(b) General objectives of the programme

- Ensure that the respective IPR systems are in compliance with the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement and the Partnership and Cooperation Agreements between the EU and the countries concerned;
- establish an appropriate legislative environment in the field of intellectual property protection reflecting the obligation of the countries concerned to have a level of protection similar to that in the EU;
- establish an appropriate administrative environment in the field of intellectual property protection, i.e. similar to that in the EU;
- establish appropriate enforcement mechanisms in the field of intellectual property protection, i.e. similar to that in the EU.

(c) Description of the programmes

The major activities to be undertaken within the scope of the programme are the following:

- conduct a review of the current system of intellectual property rights existing in the countries concerned and to prepare a strategic plan for the future legislative, administrative and enforcement structure;
- provide on-going assistance to various government authorities in elaborating appropriate legislation in the field of intellectual property rights that will reflect the obligation of the countries concerned to harmonise with the level of protection existing in the EU and ensure TRIPS compatibility;
- fight against piracy;
- provide on-going assistance to collecting societies in establishing effective collecting societies including the development of authors' awareness;
- develop appropriate database and CD-ROM systems for information services in the field of intellectual property protection;
- develop a public awareness campaign concerning intellectual property protection;
- conducting training programmes, in selected regional centres, for enforcement officers, i.e. magistrates, police officers, customs officers, etc.;
- study visits for officials to relevant EU-based organizations active in the field of intellectual property protection;
- support for hardware and software.

2. TACIS programmes on industrial property**(a) General**

In the past, two country-specific programmes have been established: support to industrial property protection in the Ukraine (1995 and 1996) and in Uzbekistan (1995-1997). The general objectives of these programmes have been to ensure a high level of industrial property protection in the two countries thus creating the necessary ground for market economy and strengthening the administration responsible for the intellectual property system (e.g. patent offices). In December 1996, a two year horizontal programme covering Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Tadjikistan and Turkmenistan was agreed. A follow-up programme covering assistance to Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tadjikistan and Ukraine running for two years will be launched in due course.

(b) General objectives of the programme

- Ensure a high and common level of industrial property protection in the CIS countries concerned;
- assistance to adjustment of regional and national legislation relating to the Eurasian Patent Convention;

- assistance to adjustment of other national legislation relating to industrial property;
- setting up and development of systems protecting industrial property at a regional level for patents (Eurasian Patent Office) and at national level for others industrial property rights.

(c) Description of the programme

The major activities to be undertaken within the scope of the programme are the following:

- assistance to draft industrial property legislation and related rules, regulations and guidelines;
- language courses for staff of patent offices and selected professionals;
- advice and assistance for the Eurasian Patent Office;
- technical assistance, training, documentation, drafting of legislation, publication of the patents on CD-ROM, administration of the procedure based on the common software developed under the PHARE regional industrial property protection programmes;
- development of national facilities on industrial property including technical assistance, regional and local training, computerization of the administrative and financial management of the proceedings;
- promote and develop the means for disseminating patent information using modern technology, and promote the use of the industrial property system to potential users in industry, commerce and academic institutions;
- assistance to improve enforcement of intellectual property rights.

VI. INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

1. India

Under the EU-South-Asia Intellectual Property Right Cooperation Project, a five-year programme to assist India in its efforts to improve the protection of intellectual property rights was agreed. The programme focuses on industrial property rights and the first activities will be launched in due course.

2. Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

Under the EU-South-Asia Intellectual Property Right Cooperation Project, a five-year programme to assist Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in their efforts to improve the protection of intellectual property rights was agreed. The programme focuses on industrial property rights and the first activities will be launched in due course.

VII. LATIN AMERICA

1. Argentina

A five-year programme in the area of intellectual property rights was agreed which aims at assisting Argentina in its efforts to improve the protection of industrial property rights. The first activities will be launched after the completion of the internal procedures.

2. Chile

A five-year programme in the area of intellectual property rights was agreed which aims at assisting Chile in its efforts to improve the protection of industrial property rights. The first activities will be launched after the completion of the internal procedures.

AUSTRIA

Technical cooperation activities in the field of industrial property conducted by the Austrian Patent Office in 1999 and the first half of 2000 are summarized below:

(1) In cooperation with WIPO

(a) WIPO - Austria - Seminars

As in the previous years the Austrian Patent Office hosted in 1999 a training course with priority on patent-examination and patent documentation for participants from the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Zimbabwe, China, Ethiopia and Jamaica. A similar seminar is scheduled for September 2000.

A seminar concerning the procedure established by the Patent Cooperation Treaty was organized for participants of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gambia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Cuba, Barbados, Mongolia, Kenya, China, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad, Uganda, Cameroon, Grenada, Liberia, St. Lucia, Singapore, Viet Nam and the Republic of Korea.

A seminar concerning the industrial design law was organized for participants of Mongolia.

(b) ICSEI - search report

In 1999, 98 applications have been dealt with for members participating in WIPO's ICSEI (International Cooperation in the Search and Examination of Inventions) programme, namely for Argentina, Kenya, Viet Nam, Morocco and Cambodia. For the time being, 41 applications have been dealt with in the current year for Kenya, Sri Lanka, Argentina and Viet Nam.

(c) Activities as PCT-International Searching and International Preliminary Examining Authority

In 1999, the Austrian Patent Office received 974 and in 2000 until July 323 search requests. In 1999 there have been 433 in 2000 until July 214 requests for International Preliminary Examination.

(2) In cooperation with the European Patent Office

(a) WIPO/EPO/APO - seminar

As in 1998 and the years before the Austrian Patent Office was involved in three seminars with international participation scheduled by the European Patent Office, dealing especially with on-line information services.

(b) Expert missions

In cooperation with the European Patent Office experts of the Austrian Patent Office have drawn up a study concerning the EDP-supported administration of industrial property rights for the Patent Office of Armenia.

(3) Bilateral

Continuing its long-lasting cooperation with China, the Austrian Patent Office has organized several seminars for Chinese officials. In September 1999 the 9th Conference of the mixed Chinese-Austrian Working Group on Questions of Industrial Protection took place in Beijing.

On the basis of bilateral agreements training courses on different matters related to Industrial Property Protection for officials from other patent offices were held. In 1999 and during the first half of 2000, participants from the offices of Viet Nam, the Philippines, Brazil, Romania, Mongolia, Macedonia, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Poland, Bulgaria, Thailand, Slovakia, Mexico, Hungary, Botswana, the Republic of Korea and Morocco stayed at the Austrian Patent Office.

Experts of the Austrian Patent Office carried out assistance at the patent office of Romania.

FINLAND

1. General remarks

Finland fulfils its Article 67 commitments at the multilateral and bilateral levels. The most extensive multilateral cooperation activities have taken place within the framework of the WIPO training programmes for civil servants from developing and least developed member countries.

As regards bilateral cooperation, it is of a great interest for Finland to assist and support Russia and the Baltic states to create a new and effective industrial property rights system.

2. Cooperation relating to industrial property rights

The National Board of Patents and Registration of Finland (hereinafter referred to as the Patents Board) organizes training courses within the framework of the WIPO Training Programme. The training courses provide information about the system of intellectual property rights in general and especially in the Nordic countries, as well as an introduction to the organization and functions of the Patents Board. Participants in the training courses have come from Asia, Africa and the Latin America. During the years 1999 and 2000, the participants have been from Gambia and Zambia.

The Mayor's Office of the City of St. Petersburg and the Patents Board have a mutual cooperation agreement concerning industrial property rights. This cooperation agreement was concluded in the interest of further development and protection of industrial property rights and was renewed for a further three years in January 1997. The focus of the cooperation has been on the education and exchange of information relating to industrial property rights, their legal protection and commercialization. The Patents Board has also donated IPR training material to a foundation operating in St. Petersburg.

3. Cooperation relating to copyright and neighbouring rights

The Ministry of Education and Culture organizes as well as finances, in cooperation with WIPO, training courses for officials from developing countries. The participants in the courses will be provided with an introduction to the Finnish and Nordic solutions concerning intellectual property legislation, collective administration of rights and questions relating to enforcement. The courses have been arranged on an annual basis. In the recent courses, participants have been from China, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Sudan, India, Viet Nam, Nepal, Jamaica and St. Lucia.

These courses have been carried out jointly with several non-governmental organizations, such as collecting societies and the Finnish Copyright Society.

4. Cooperation relating to enforcement of intellectual property rights

Over a number of years, Finland has provided training for customs and police authorities in the Baltic region. This has included seminars and training courses hosted by the Finnish authorities.

In February 1999, Finland organized a training course for Estonian and Russian customs authorities in Helsinki. The aim was to improve the working methods of the Estonian and Russian customs and to develop techniques for border control measures. In June 1999, Finland in conjunction with the European Commission and the World Customs Organization arranged a seminar in Helsinki for the Estonian authorities about the identification of counterfeit products.

Also in 2000, Finland hosted several seminars and organized them in Estonia for the customs authorities. These occasions have also improved the exchange of information between the Finnish and Estonian authorities.

GERMANY

Technical Cooperation with Developing Countries and Countries in Transition Under the Aegis of the Federal Ministry of Justice

A. GERMAN PATENT AND TRADE MARK OFFICE

Measures for Technical Cooperation of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office

"Project Strengthening of the Industrial Property System in the Kingdom of Thailand"

The project started on 1 January 1997 and was actually planned to come to an end by 31 March 2000, but will now be continued until the end of 2001. The project is funded by the Agency for Technical Cooperation, GTZ (*Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH*).

The objective of the project is to strengthen the industrial property system in Thailand. The Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) is meant to become well positioned to meet the demands made on a modern patent and trademark office, in quality and quantity, now that industrial property protection has been gaining importance in the countries of Eastern Asia, in particular. At the same time, the Thai industry's awareness of the significance of intellectual property and industrial property protection is to be enhanced.

The German Patent and Trade Mark Office provides assistance to the DIP in all fields of industrial property (patents, trademarks, utility models, industrial designs, information/documentation/DEPATIS as well as the planning/organization and the exploitation of copyright). The training in the respective technical fields is, on the one hand, divided into units of two to three weeks in Munich where experts of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office provide theoretical and practical training to staff members of the Thai office on the other hand, staff members of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office also travel to Thailand to gain knowledge on the situation in Thailand and give concrete support on the spot.

In 1999, training measures for partner experts were continued in Germany on the following topics, "Utility Models (Registration and Administration)", "Overall Examination Procedures in the Fields of Physics, Mechanics, Electronics, Biotechnology and Chemistry" as well as "Examination Procedures for Trade Marks and Service Marks Considering Current Thai Cases", completing the training of the previous years.

It is worth noting that a growing number of experts from the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, the Federal Patent Court and the collecting societies as well as patent attorneys have been on missions in Thailand. Short-term missions of German experts started as early as in January on "Suggestions and Guidelines for Drafting Utility Model Ministerial Regulations", followed by training on "Information Services", "Profile of the Patent Attorney Profession", Drafting a Law on Collective Administration of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights", "Consultancy on Management of Patent & Trademark Division" and Wee & Madrid Agreement. These measures were terminated by lectures of the President of the Federal Patent Court and of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office at the International Symposium on Exchange of View related to IP Cases, organized on the occasion of the biennium of the IP & IT Court in Bangkok.

In 2000, measures will once again focus on training on the spot. During a one-week stay of a German expert, numerous lectures and discussions were organized relating to the establishment of collecting societies and their State supervision. The insight into the German system of collective administration of copyright, which is currently of interest because of the intended revision of Thai

laws, was enhanced on the occasion of a VE of DIP copyright officers at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office and at collecting societies in Munich.

Another short-term measure in Thailand was held on "Software-Related Inventions". Furthermore, measures relating to the evaluation of IP information services in Thailand and on patent examination in the field of biotechnology are scheduled to take place until the end of 2000.

Project "Modernization of the Industrial Property System in Turkey"

The project, started in 1996 and funded by GTZ, was planned to last four years and was completed in the year 2000. Cooperation between the Turkish Patent Institute (TPE) and the German Patent and Trade Mark Offices is planned to focus on modernizing industrial property protection.

In 1999, a total of six groups received training at the GPTO on the topics "DEPATIS Patent Information System", "Legal Division" and Trade Mark Examination" (two two-weeks courses), "Information Services" and "PCT Receiving Office".

As in the case of Thailand, short-term missions were enhanced at the Turkish Patent Institute. Lectures and courses were held on the subjects "Library", "Use of CD-ROM", "Workshop Service Divisions", "Law on Employees' Inventions", "General Administration", "Protocol on the Madrid Agreement on the Registration of Marks" and "Trade Mark Examination in Practice". Furthermore, the Head of the Patent Department of the attended the International Conference on Industrial Property Protection in Turkey and the World at 5th year of Turkish Patent Institute".

In the year 2000, training measures have again been intensified. Many groups of the Turkish Patent Institute were trained in Munich in the fields of "Publication system", "Administration", "Information Services/Information Centres" and "Procedures after the Registration of Trade Marks, Opposition and Cancellation Procedures, Objections". Furthermore a high-ranking delegation comprising the two Vice-Presidents of the Institute, a representative of the competent Turkish Ministry and of the Management Board visited the German Patent and Trade Mark Office.

In Turkey, two patent attorneys each held six workshops in total. Likewise training courses on the spot were given by experts of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office on "Trade Marks", "Establishing an IP Library", "Examination of Pharmaceutical Substances", "Manpower Development" and "Financial Administration, Supply, Equipment Administration". Two German experts attended the conference "Industrial Property Rights" held in Istanbul.

Project "Strengthening of Industrial Property Rights in the Republic of Croatia"

The project started in 1997 and will be completed, after an extension phase, at the end of July 2000. The project aims at supporting the Republic of Croatia in drawing up legislation in the field of patent and copyright law. The substance of counselling has included, in particular, examination of the draft laws and, in addition, training in the field of patent examination and organization of information services.

In 1999, four enhanced training measures were carried out at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office. They dealt with "Documents and Data Flow concerning Industrial Property Granting Procedure", "The Collective Administration and the Supervision of Copyright Collecting Societies", "Full Examination Procedure of Several Cases of Patent Applications" and "Cancellation Procedure in the Field of Trademarks". In addition, a training on "Substantive Examination of Patent Application" and a "Trademark Symposium" were organized in Croatia. On the occasion of the visit of the Director and the Deputy Director of the Croatian Office in November, a memorandum was signed on further strengthening the cooperation of the two Offices.

The major aim of the entire project, i.e. counselling on Croatia's legislative reform in the field of industrial property protection as well, was fully reached. The Croatian draft laws on patents, layout-designs, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright law and collective administration of copyright and related rights were commented by German experts and discussed on the spot. Thus, the laws could be adopted by the Croatian Parliament in June 1999 and entered into force in January 2000.

Until July 2000, experts from the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, on one-day missions, contributed to bringing the Croatian intellectual property system into line with the European system. These measures were terminated according to schedule.

Moreover, seminars were organized in Zagreb in the year 2000, where German experts gave lectures on topical subjects such as biotechnology, trademark piracy and software patenting. These seminars were attended by members of the Croatian Office and representatives from trade, industry, science and the legal profession. Last but not least, three members of the Croatian Office stayed for three days at the division "Information Services" of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office and were introduced to the working method of this division.

Project "Promotion of the Patent System in the People's Republic of China"

This project, which is financed by the Reconstruction Loan Corporate on (*Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau – KfW*), is based on a so-called Twinning Agreement between the GPTO and SIPO of 1995. The project started in 1997; its duration has not been fixed exactly, but it is limited by its budget. The objective of the project is to continue the cooperation which has been existing for more than 15 years between the GPTO and SIPO. There is a frequent exchange of experts of both Offices.

The lead was taken in May 1999 by a three-member delegation comprising the President and the Head of the Information Department of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, as well as the President of the Chamber of Patent Attorneys.

Patent examiners of the German Office held two two-week training courses on biotechnology and chemistry at the Chinese Office. On the occasion of their visits to the People's Republic of China, the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office (and the President of the German Association of Patent Attorneys and Patent Agents (VPP) delivered lectures at Renmin University on "New Legal Provisions Regarding German Patent Law" and "German and American Patent Law in Comparison".

Moreover, two Chinese delegations stayed at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office for one day each in May and June 1999. They gathered information on the new German Patent law, on the DEPATIS patent information system, and on the budget, finance, and patent fee system.

Further activities took place during the second half of 1999. The support provided to the Chinese Office focused on measures in Munich relating mainly to the subjects "DP and Organization of Workflow and Training of Examiners in the Field of Chemistry, Genetic Engineering, Electronics and Physics".

In 2000, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office already received the visit of a group of Zhejiang Provincial Patent Authority, gathering information on the German industrial property system. Three groups of the Chinese Office will be expected at the end of the year. Among others, two delegations will perform study visits relating to "Patent Information" and "Software Protection". Furthermore, courses will be held in China and at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office on subjects in the field of biotechnology and software-related inventions.

Projects of Technical Cooperation at the Planning Stage

Macedonia and Germany have concluded an agreement for the support of the Eastern European country in industrial property matters. The cooperation between the German Patent and Trade Mark Office and the Macedonian Industrial Property Protection Office will focus on bringing the Macedonian patent system into line with European standards. The cooperation will mainly cover commenting of Macedonian laws by German experts, training measures in all fields of industrial property and the organization of seminars.

Preparatory talks already took place between GTZ and representatives of the Macedonian and the German Offices. In September 2000, experts of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office will proceed to an assessment of the current state of affairs and the required training in Skopje.

Project of Cooperation with the Chinese Copyright Authority

The objective of the project of cooperation with the National Copyright Administration of the People's Republic of China (NCAC), which was started in 1995, consists in supporting the Chinese side in establishing copyright collecting societies. The project was continued in April 1999 with the visit of a Chinese ten-member delegation to Germany. The visit was initiated by the current preparations for a revision of the Chinese copyright law. Within the framework of a seminar organized by NCAC, the University of Beijing and UNESCO, an expert of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office gave a lecture in Beijing on the collective administration of copyright and the State supervision of collecting societies.

Cooperation with Central and Eastern European Countries

The German Patent and Trade Mark Office has maintained numerous contacts with Central and Eastern European countries.

In 1999, President Haugg met with the President of the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic in Prague for an extensive exchange of information. During the visits of the Polish and the Romanian Offices, discussions focused on the present cooperation and prospects for its further development. In addition, the Deputy Director General of the Romanian Office gathered information on DEPATIS and the administration of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office in Munich in December. Furthermore, five Latvian judges and two Russian groups visited the Office in 1999. The visitors from Russia gathered information on patent procedure and the German system concerning patent attorneys and representatives, respectively. Two Romanian patent examiners and two experts of the Ukraine Patent Office received a one-week training each on search and examination.

Within the scope of an international study visit under the auspices of WIPO, a delegation of the Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks (ROSPATENT) gathered information on the German system of collective administration of copyright in June 2000. In July, three Bulgarian visitors discussed protection certificates for medicinal products with experts at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Developing Countries and Other Countries

As in the previous years, particular attention was given to the technical cooperation with developing and newly industrialized countries. A great number of lectures and training courses were organized for experts of other patent offices and institutions in the framework of the programme "ecological product development" of the Federal Republic of Germany a civil servant from Nepal received a comprehensive training on patent and trademark matters, in particular, at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office from January to March 1999. During a study visit organized by WIPO, a delegation from El Salvador discussed general administration matters, patent information and

trademarks with President Haugg and other high-ranking representatives of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office in Munich. Three Chinese delegations had talks with experts of the Office, o. a. on the German trademark procedure and protection certificates for medicinal products. On two occasions, members of the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) stayed in Munich in order to gathering information on budget and trademark matters, respectively.

In the year 2000, too, members of KIPO visited the German Patent and Trade Mark Office on several occasions. In March, President Dr. Landfermann welcomed a delegation headed by the Deputy Commissioner of KIPO. The topics discussed covered a. o. electronic filing and the promotion of innovation. In view of a planned cooperation with the Invention Office of the People's Republic of Korea, three KIPO members were interested in the experiences of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office on the occasion of German reunification and the relations with the Jena Sub-Office. Lastly, a KIPO examiner was informed on protection certificates for medicinal products.

With a view to a planned amendment of law, a three-member delegation from Chinese Taipei gathered information on the German utility model system. A trade marker also coming from Chinese Taipei discussed questions relating to the German and the Community trademark system with examiners of the German Office. The President of the Peruvian IP court, too, was interested in the German trademark examination procedure, and also in the relations between the Office and the Federal Patent Court and the courts of general jurisdiction, respectively.

Lastly, a delegation from the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China stayed at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office for an information visit. Another delegation from China, comprising 26 members of the Academy of Science, has announced their visit. Furthermore, the Director of the Patent Office of the Arab States of the Gulf is expected for a visit. He has asked for comprehensive assistance concerning training of patent examiners and concerning the establishment of an organizational structure for his Office.

Within the framework of a workshop organized by WIPO and Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft, 15 experts from developing countries visited the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, gaining insights, among others, into the patent information services. A guided tour showed the processing of new applications.

As every year, a two-day seminar on "Streamlining, search and examinations results" was organized in cooperation with the European Patent Office. It was attended by 20 examiners from different African, Asian and Latin American countries. In cooperation with WIPO, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office is again organizing a three-week seminar for patent and trademark experts from developing countries in 2000. The focus will be on individual training with a patent or trademark examiner based on current cases. Moreover, participants will be given an insight into various divisions of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office. They will also visit other institutions and enterprises. This year's participants are expected to come from Argentina, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia and Viet Nam.

Within the framework of development cooperation with WIPO, 84 free reports on the state of the art were again established in 1999, namely for China, Kenya and Botswana.

Exchange of Search and Examination Results

The German Patent Office made agreements with the following offices to regularly exchange research and examination results of applications for which a priority was claimed in the respective other country:

Belarus Patent Office

State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO)

State Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Croatia
Hungarian Patent Office
Japanese Patent Office
Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks (ROSPATENT)
Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic
Slovenian Intellectual Property Office
Department of Intellectual Property in Thailand

International Exchange of Literature

Patent specifications and other publications are at present being exchanged with the following countries outside the European Patent Organisation:

Algeria	Kyrgyz Republic
Argentina	Latvia
Australia	Lithuania
Belarus	Mexico
Brazil	Moldova
Bulgaria	Mongolia
Canada	Peru
China	Philippines
Colombia	Poland
Croatia	Romania
Cuba	Russian Federation
Czech Republic	Slovak Republic
Egypt	Slovenia
Estonia	Thailand
Hungary	Turkey
India	Ukraine
Israel	United Arab Emirates
Japan	United States
Kazakhstan	Uzbekistan
DPR Korea	Viet Nam
Republic of Korea	

B. GERMAN FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL LEGAL COOPERATION

Advisory activities of the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation in the field of protection of industrial property and copyright.

Cooperation of the German Foundation with its partner states in the field of protection of industrial property and copyright as described in last year's report was continued as follows:

Latvia

Five judges of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Latvia stayed in Munich from 4 to 8 October 1999 at the invitation of the German Foundation to study practical aspects of patent and trademark proceedings at the Federal Patent Court.

Lithuania

The German Foundation sent a German expert to lecture at a seminar organized by the Lithuanian Patent Office which took place in Palanga/Lithuania on 7 and 8 October 1999. The

seminar dealt with questions of product piracy. The expert in particular presented practical cases of infringements of industrial property rights. Participants at the seminar were judges and officials of the Lithuanian Patent Office.

Poland

Commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Justice, the German Foundation participated in a twinning project with the Justice Ministry of the Republic of Poland within the Phare programme of the European Commission. The twinning project deals among other things with the further training of judges. In this context, a seminar will be held, in Popowo (near Warsaw) on 4 and 5 October 2000, the subject of which will be "The European Community and intellectual property - copyright and related rights". Another seminar is planned to take place also in Popowo on 9 and 10 November 2000 on the subject of "The European Community and intellectual property - protection of industrial property". About 60 Polish judges are expected to participate in each seminar.

Russian Federation

The third part of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation includes provisions on copyright, intellectual property and related rights. The advisory activities of the German Foundation in this field as described in last year's report have been continued. The research centre for private law which reports directly to the President of the Russian Federation submitted its own draft bill concerning these rights to the German Foundation for comment. An expert from the German Foundation, having written an opinion thereon, was invited by the research centre to come to Moscow in November 1999 to explain his observations and to discuss individual points with the authors of the draft.

In November 1999, judges of the Supreme Commercial Court of the Russian Federation visited the Federal Patent Court in Munich. The purpose of the visit was an exchange of experience in the field of the protection of industrial property. The Russian judges had discussions with judges from the Federal Patent Court as well as with representatives of the German Patent and Trademark Office and of the patent lawyers' association. They also attended hearings at the Federal Patent Court. Another visit is planned to take part in October 2000.

Early in June 2000, the patent lawyers' association of St. Petersburg organized a seminar on the subject of "European protection of industrial property and its influence on court rulings in Germany". The President of the Federal Patent Court participated as an expert on behalf of the German Foundation.

Cooperation with the Russian Patent and Trademark Agency (Rospatent) had temporarily been interrupted due to some restructuring in the summer of 1999. Meanwhile, the good relations have been re-established. Consultations are to continue in the form of observations on draft bills and seminars.

Hungary

In cooperation with the Office of the Public Prosecutor General of the Republic of Hungary and the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Office of the European Commission (TAIEX OFFICE), the German Foundation organized a multilateral conference on "Current issues of transnational crime: environment crime - Internet crime - trademark piracy" which was held in Budapest from 13 to 15 April 2000.

Participants came from Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Hungary.

Speakers from Germany, Austria and Hungary presented papers on trademark piracy under the following headings: "Criminal law protection of fair market behaviour in Hungary", "Practical experience in combating product piracy from the Austrian perspective", and "Activities of the German customs authorities in respect of seizure of counterfeit products".

SPAIN

Technical Cooperation Activities Undertaken During the Period From September 1999 to August 2000

- Shipment on 8 September 1999 of computer equipment (four computers with their printers) to the Cuban Copyright Office (CENDA);
- Visit, from 2 to 19 November 1999, to the Subdirectorato-General for Intellectual Property of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports of Spain by Latin-American professionals in the field of intellectual property. Seven law graduates from countries of Latin America, with the backing of official entities in their respective countries, conducted practical work relating to the usual tasks of the Subdirectorato-General for Intellectual Property;
- Transport, in May 2000, of computer equipment donated by the Spanish management society AISGE (Performing Artists Management Society of Spain) to the Cuban Copyright Office;
- Technical assistance by an official from the Subdirectorato-General of Intellectual Property through participation in the following events:
 - III Havana International Conference on Law and Informatics, Havana, Cuba, 23 to 25 May 2000;
 - IV International Congress on Informatics in Culture, Havana, Cuba, 25 and 26 May 2000.

Notification of International Technical Cooperation Activities July 2000

1. Spanish technical cooperation on industrial property

Spanish technical cooperation on intellectual property is conducted by the Spanish Patents and Trademarks Office (OEPM), an independent body of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

2. Description of technical cooperation

(a) Multilateral cooperation:

- (i) Cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO);
- (ii) cooperation with the European Patent Office (EPO);
- (iii) cooperation with the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM);
- (iv) trilateral cooperation (OEPM-WIPO-EPO).

(b) Bilateral cooperation:

- (i) Bilateral memoranda with Latin American countries;
 - sending experts to Latin American offices;

- organization of information visits;
- exchange of patent documents and CD-ROMs with Latin American countries.

(ii) Memoranda of understanding with specific countries.

1. Spanish technical cooperation on industrial property

- (a) Spain has a long tradition of industrial property technical assistance to developing countries. Activities have been carried on in this connection since 1982.
- (b) The recipient countries are essentially the Latin American countries, with which Spain has signed 18 bilateral memoranda.
- (c) Spanish cooperation is financed from the general budget of the Spanish Patents and Trademarks Office (OEPM), which covers the cost of cooperation personnel and other expenditures for various activities.
- (d) Generally speaking technical assistance in the form of services (personnel training, sending experts for specific projects, seminars, exchanges of information, etc.) is preferred to "direct" financing, such as providing electronic office equipment.

2. Description of technical cooperation

(a) Multilateral cooperation

With regard to multilateral cooperation, Spain has been carrying out its development aid programmes in industrial property in conjunction with three international organizations, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM).

(i) Cooperation with WIPO

WIPO offers an extraordinarily wide range of cooperation activities. Spain participates in the following:

Specific training

The OEPM, together with WIPO, organizes two-week training courses for experts.

- In September 1999, the "Course on Legal, Administrative and Economic Aspects of Industrial Property" was again held at the OEPM headquarters in Madrid.
- The September 1999 course involved the participation of 15 officials from as many national intellectual property offices in Latin American countries.

This course, held annually, was started in 1982 and is one of the OEPM's oldest cooperation activities. It is intended to provide industrial property training for Latin American experts. Over the years, the seminar has helped to train 250 experts, with the participation, on some occasions, of directors of the national intellectual property offices.

Information and/or training visits

At the request of WIPO, every year the OEPM receives delegations of experts of all levels from developing countries. The visits last one or two days and the purpose is to demonstrate the structure or functioning of the OEPM, in terms of administrative and financial management as well as actual operations.

- On 16 and 17 December 1999, the OEPM received a delegation from the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) on a study visit which resulted in an agreement to initiate discussions with a view to signing a memorandum of understanding on bilateral cooperation between the SIPO and the OEPM.
- From 17 to 21 January 2000, the OEPM received, on a study visit, a delegation of officials from the Council on Scientific and Technical Research (CICTE) of Equatorial Guinea, who expressed their interest in concluding a bilateral cooperation agreement between the CICTE and the OEPM.

Participation in WIPO courses and seminars

In the courses and seminars organized every year by WIPO in the context of cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain plays an active part in sending speakers, officials from the Office and experts in various sectors. Mention should be made of the traditional WIPO Academy held every two years in Geneva, to which the OEPM sends a lecturer on matters usually pertaining to the international aspect of industrial property.

- In 1999, experts from the OEPM participated in the following courses, workshops and seminars:
 - Seminar entitled "Current and Future Situation of Technological Information Services" in Havana (Cuba);
 - workshop on trademark registrability criteria in Lima (Peru);
 - seminar entitled "Industrial Property and Economic Development" in Panama City (Panama);
 - seminar entitled "Inventions and Industrial Property" in Caracas (Venezuela).
- In April of this year, an OPEM official participated in two workshops on industrial property and promotion of innovation in Bogota (Colombia) and Quito (Ecuador).

(ii) Cooperation with the European Patent Office (EPO)

These technical cooperation activities focus exclusively on patents and cooperation is extended to the Latin American countries.

EPO-OEPM cooperation involves training activities; technical assistance in patent documentation and information; promotion of the use of the system covered by the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PTC) for patent formalities; assistance in installing, developing and using the Internet; and providing technical means and assistance to improve patent examination procedures.

- In 1999, an expert from the OEPM travelled to Montevideo (Uruguay) to participate in the launching of the "Polite" project, a pilot experiment aimed at providing the

industrial property offices of small Latin American countries with computer equipment;

- In July 2000, at the initiative of the OEP, the OEPM participated in the "First Latin American meeting on the Dissemination of Patent Information" in Mexico City (Mexico).

(iii) Cooperation with the OHIM

The OEPM's cooperation with the OHIM is intended to promote an acquaintance with legislation and the use of the Spanish and Community systems in connection with trademarks in the Latin American geographical area, for which purpose roving seminars are organized. This cooperation is also extended to third parties interested in knowing the legal and administrative measures in force in the EU and Spain to ensure the protection of trademark rights.

- In 1999, the OEPM participated in a roving seminar entitled "Trademarks in Europe, Trademarks in Mercosur" which took place in Asunción (Paraguay), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Montevideo (Uruguay) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).
- During the first half of 2000, the OEPM carried out the following activities:
 - Training seminar on trademark law for Moroccan judges. This seminar took place in Casablanca (Morocco) on 14 and 15 February 2000, with the participation of speakers from the OHIM;
 - participation in a training seminar on trademark law for judges and officials from Poland, in Alicante;
 - on the occasion of a study visit to the OHIM by officials from China, an OEPM official presented a paper on the Spanish legal and administrative framework for the application and defence of trademark rights.

(iv) Trilateral cooperation (OEPM/WIPO/EPO)

- Patent Search and Examination Seminar
- The "Patent Search and Examination Seminar", an activity which has been carried out annually since 1982, was held in June 1999. Sixteen officials from as many industrial property offices in Latin American countries took part.
- In June 2000, as during previous years, the "Patent Search and Examination Seminar" was held once again with the participation of 16 officials from as many industrial property offices in Latin American countries.

One of the OEPM's oldest cooperation activities, this seminar was initially organized with the collaboration of WIPO and, recently, with that of the EPO as well.

It is intended basically to cover the technical aspects of the patent search and examination procedure. The programme includes various practical sessions at which participants work on real cases of interest to them, under the direct supervision of OEPM patent examiners.

- Promotion of the PCT in Latin America

Similarly, trilateral cooperation includes annual seminars to promote the PCT in Latin America. The importance of promoting adherence to the PCT system by a large number of Spanish-speaking countries ties in with the objective of strengthening cooperation between the OEPM and the industrial property offices of the Latin American countries so as to reinforce the use of Spanish as an official language in international searches under the PCT procedure.

- In 1999, the seminar took place in Montevideo (Uruguay).
- In 2000, the seminar took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia).

(b) Bilateral cooperation

(i) Bilateral memoranda with Latin American countries

This is Spain's most important technical cooperation activity in the field of intellectual property. The bilateral memoranda date back more than 15 years and have been updated and directed to the needs of these countries, with new services which take the following forms:

- Sending experts to Latin American offices for technical assistance tasks:
 - Assistance in legislative training for the TRIPS Agreement;
 - patent examination, including search reports on prior art;
 - organizational structuring of industrial property offices, including the drafting of standards;
 - streamlining of procedures for granting trademarks;
 - outreach activities (seminars, exhibitions, inventor's fairs, etc.); and
 - activities relating to international patent classification (IPC) and classification of products and services for the purposes of the international nomenclature of marks established under the Nice Agreement.
- Organization of training and information visits

These cases involve on-site training of staff from Latin American countries with which a cooperation memorandum has been signed. Depending on the training needed, OEPM tutors are assigned for "à la carte" activities adapted to the trainee's needs.

- In 1999, the OEPM received the following visits:
 - Study visit by the Director of the National Directorate of Registries of El Salvador;
 - practical training visit by the Chief of the Department of Trademarks and Other Distinctive Signs of the Cuban Industrial Property Office.

- Since the beginning of 2000, delegations from the Mexican Industrial Property Institute and the National Industrial Property Institute of Argentina have been received for study visits.
- Exchange of patent documents and CD-ROMs with Latin American countries

The purpose of the exchange of patent documents between the OEPM and Latin American industrial property offices is the functioning of the Spanish-language Patent Documentation Centre.

(ii) Memoranda of understanding with specific countries

To date, various memoranda of understanding have been signed with the patent offices of the Russian Federation, Estonia and Moldova, the purpose being mutual exchange of documentation, more specifically the periodic bulletins of the offices, industrial property legislation, the annual reports of the offices and patent documents published on CD-ROM.

Moreover, on 21 January 1999 the OEPM and the Moroccan Industrial Property Office of the Kingdom of Morocco signed a declaration of intent to foster cooperation in industrial property protection, including legal assistance in regard to accession to the more important of international industrial property instruments.

SWEDEN

In the course of 2000, the following activities relating to this assistance are being undertaken in Sweden. They are basically a continuation of the corresponding activities in 1999.

1. WIPO/Government of Sweden Training Course on Copyright and Related Rights (Copyright 2000), during ten days, for twenty participants from developing countries. The course is financed by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). The course dealt with and discussed, among other matters, the contents and the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, on the basis of presentations by Swedish lecturers.
2. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office held, in cooperation with WIPO, a course on industrial property protection during the month of September. The course was financed by Sida. About ten participants from developing countries attended the course which dealt mainly with patent examination and patent information.
3. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office has an ongoing bilateral cooperation with the Patent Office of China concerning the strengthening of the protection in China of IPR's in general and the strengthening of the patent system in particular.
4. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office is engaged in a bilateral cooperation project with Latvia concerning training and building of competence on industrial property and copyright matters. The first phase has ended and negotiations on a second phase is on-going.
5. Sweden is planning, together with the Patent Library of Estonia, to train Estonian information officers on industrial property matters. The goal is to get a core of well-trained advisors who could assist inventors and researchers in the different regions of Estonia.
6. Several Swedish Authorities are involved in a EC Twinning Project with Latvia beginning during the autumn of the year 2000. The project includes, as a sub-component, information on law enforcement concerning counterfeit and copyright crimes is carried out in cooperation with Latvian Custom, Police and Prosecution Authorities.
7. Swedish officials are being used as lecturers in various intellectual property seminars and other events, organized either on a bilateral basis or by WIPO or the European Patent Office.

UNITED KINGDOM

Date	Purpose of Visit	Venue	Benefiting Country	Funded by
21-25 June 1999	Study visit by an official from the Cayman Islands Government to study all aspects of IP	UKPO	Cayman Islands	Cayman Islands Government
21 June - 2 July 1999	Training visit to Vietnamese PO	Viet Nam PO	Viet Nam	OHIM
28 September 1999	Visit by Kuke Shimomura from Japanese PO	UKPO	Japan	
12 October 1999	Visit by the Registrar of the Sri Lankan Trade Mark Registry	UKPO	Sri Lanka	Unilever
1 November 1999	Study visit by Nigerian officials in order to study the functioning and the administration of the Patent Office	UKPO	Nigeria	WIPO
25 November 1999	Delegation visit from the State Intellectual Property Office of China in order to look at Patent Law	UKPO	China	Sino Bridge International Ltd.
17-18 January 2000	Visit of Japanese Textile Industry Representatives	UKPO	Japan	
17 February 2000	Visits by officials from the Brazilian Patent Office to study areas concerned with CD-ROM collections including Jukebox networks	UKPO	Brazil	WIPO
28 February – 10 March 2000	Visit to the UKPO by officials from the JPO to look at the patenting area of IP	UKPO	Japan	JPO
16 March 2000	Visit to UKPO by officials from the JPO to look at areas concerned with chemical patents	UKPO	Japan	JPO
27 March – 7 April 2000	Visit to the UKPO by officials from the Vietnamese Patent Office to look at the designs area of IP	UKPO	Viet Nam	OHIM
19 May 2000	Visit to the UKPO by an official from the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore to study patent searching	UKPO	Singapore	Singapore
1 June 2000	Visit to the UKPO by officials from the Intellectual Property Department of Balkonpharma Holdings - Bulgaria to study the chemical patenting area	UKPO	Bulgaria	Bulgarian Intellectual Property Office
28 June 2000	Visit to the UKPO by an official from Tokyo District Court, Japan, in order to study the British way of practice in Intellectual Property laws	UKPO	Japan	The British Council