

Agenda item 12: Report on Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP)

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

This delegation supports the statement made by Greece on behalf of Group B. We welcome the fact that we shared a lot of information on various issues through the discussions at the 23rd and 24th sessions of the SCP. We highly appreciate the Secretariat's efforts and Member States' flexibility in this regard.

We attach the most importance to the discussion on the quality of patents and confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors

Regarding the quality of patents, we believe that it is important to consider, from a practical perspective, various elements in the patent granting procedures, including patent examination practices, determinant factors for the quality of patents.

In that sense, we look forward to the "sharing session on examples and cases relating to assessment of inventive step, including, but not limited to, the topics suggested in document SCP/24/3, paragraph 8" in the draft agenda of the coming session.

When it comes to the confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors, allowing patent advisors to claim confidentiality may enhance the reliability and stability of the intellectual property system, whether in developed countries or in developing countries. This would contribute to protecting the interests of all the relevant parties.

This delegation hopes that this issue will be continued to be discussed at the SCP so that the importance to protect communications between clients and their patent advisors will be shared among Member States. In that context, this delegation thinks that the approach in the adopted future work, meaning that the Secretariat is to collect court cases on this issue and prepare a document, is preferable.

This delegation strongly believes that SCP should keep on discussing global patent issues. In addition, this delegation is committed to continuing its constructive contribution to the important patent issues, as it has been doing.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.