



Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio



Regional Seminar for Certain Latin American and Caribbean Countries on the Implementation and Use of Several Patent-Related Flexibilities

Topic 7: Flexibilities Related to the Definition of Patentable Subject Matter

**Bogota, Colombia
February 6 to 8, 2012**

**INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY OFFICE**
Trinidad and Tobago



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1. Introduction

- Trinidad and Tobago joined the WTO in 1995
- Trinidad and Tobago introduced new patent legislation in 1996
- Trinidad and Tobago's IP Office established December 1997
- Prior to this Trinidad and Tobago had a filing system



2. Patent Act 1996

It is governed by
the Patent Act
1996



Period of
protection is for
20 years



Major criteria are
Novelty, Inventive
Step and Industrial
Applicability



The owner of the
Patent is given a
right to exploit.
make, sell, import
and distribute



- *Trinidad and Tobago has a **National Exhaustion** system*

3. Patentability Exclusions

- Section 12 of the Patent Act 1996
- A discovery or Scientific Theory
- A diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for the treatment of humans or animals
- Public Order or Morality
- Second Medical Use Section 9 (4) of the Patent Act 1996



4. Conclusion

The **Patent** Act was meant to **promote**
inventiveness in the society while ensuring that the
citizens of Trinidad and Tobago still had **access** to
medications at a reasonable **price**.

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End : Thank You!!!