

WIPO



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

GENEVA

BIRPI

AB/I/20

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: August 20, 1970

**ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES
OF WIPO AND OF THE UNIONS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO AND BIRPI**

**First Series of Meetings
Geneva, September 21 to 29, 1970**

ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT AB/I/7

presented by the Director of BIRPI

SUMMARY

This document informs the administrative bodies of the Paris Union that, as a result of a proposal received from the Government of the United States of America, their provisional agendas will include an item entitled "Universal Agreement on Marks." It also contains the arguments put forward by the said Government for the inclusion of such an item.

International Registration of Marks

1. Paragraph 34 of document AB/I/7, containing the proposals of the Director of BIRPI concerning the program and budget for 1971, is worded as follows: "Revision of the Madrid Agreement. The preparatory work for the revision of the Madrid Agreement (scheduled for 1972 in Vienna) will continue in 1971. Committees of experts will meet in either one long or two short sessions. A consultant will be engaged. The preparatory papers for the revision will be printed. Representatives of the International

Bureau will participate in meetings and consultations^{ek} on the same subject in various countries." The cost of this program in 1971 is estimated to amount to 110,000 Swiss francs and it is proposed to charge it to the budget of the Madrid Union (same document, same paragraph).

2. On August 19, 1970, the Director of BIRPI received from the United States Mission to the International Organizations in Geneva a letter, dated August 5, 1970, from the US Commissioner of Patents, reading as follows:

"You will recall my statement made just prior to the close of the April, 1970 meeting of the Committee of Experts on Revision of the Madrid Agreement in which we recommended the convening of a wider assembly in the framework of the Paris Union for further discussions of an international filing agreement on marks. Paragraph 78 of the report (Document MM/I/8) summarizes my remarks.

"Review of the preparatory documents for the September meetings does not reveal any reference to this subject in the proposed agenda for meetings of the various governing bodies of the Paris Union. I do note on page 16 of Document AB/I/7 (paragraph 34) that Revision of the Madrid Agreement will be continued as a program of the Madrid Union in 1971. However, this program is distinctly separate, in our view, from the broader, more significant effort, directed to the goal of a truly universal agreement on marks.

"We had understood a broader agreement to be the real objective of the studies undertaken by BIRPI as a result of the action of the Inter-union Coordination Committee in September, 1968. To keep the matter moving, we believe it desirable to include a trademark discussion on the agenda for the Assembly, Conference of Representatives and Executive Committee of the Paris Union which will take place September 21-29, 1970. Therefore, we formally request such an addition to the agenda of the Paris Union meetings and hope that some advance notice of this addition may be given to representatives of interested countries."

3. Paragraph 78 of document MM/I/8, cited in the above letter reads as follows: "The Delegation of the United States of America then said that the working documents prepared by BIRPI had provoked great interest in his country, both in government and private circles. It had been generally agreed that those documents, in particular document MM/I/3, would provide a good basis for discussion with a view to the drafting of a universal Agreement on Marks, which would answer a real need. The Delegation of the United States of America, therefore, recommended the convening of a wider assembly, which could bring together all the member countries of the Paris Union and which could use as a basis for its discussion a document along the lines of document MM/I/3."

4. The Director of BIRPI, deferring to the wish expressed by the Government of the United States, will include in the revised provisional agendas of the Assembly, Conference of Representatives, and Executive Committee, of the Paris Union an additional item entitled "Universal Agreement on Marks." The item will refer to the present document as a basis for discussion. The revised agendas will be available by the latest at the opening of the meetings on September 21, 1970.

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