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OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

BUREAUX INTERNATIONAUX
RÉUNIS POUR LA PROTECTION
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENÈVE, SUISSE

## BIRPI

UNION INTERNATIONALE
POUR LA PROTECTION DE LA PROPRIETE INDUSTRIELLE
Conférence des Représentants, Comité Exécutif, Deuxième Session

INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY
Conference of Representatives, Executive Committee, Second Session

(Genève, 26-29 septembre 1966) (Geneva, September 26 to 29, 1966)

CO-OPTING OF AN ADDITIONAL MEMBER
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. Article 7(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Representatives (see document CEP/I/2) provides that "in addition to the seat of Switzerland occupied by it ex officio as Supervisory Authority, the number of members of the Executive Committee shall correspond to one-fourth of the States members of the Paris Union." The same provision also states that "in establishing the number of seats to be filled, remainders after division by four shall be disregarded."
- 2. Article 2(3) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee (see document CEP/I/3) provides that "if, between two ordinary sessions of the Conference of Representatives, the number of States members of the Paris Union increases to such an extent that the number of members of the Executive Committee becomes less than one-fourth of the States members of the Paris Union, the next session of the Executive Committee shall co-opt from among the members of the Paris Union the number of members necessary to reach the required proportion. In establishing the number of seats to be filled, remainders after division by four shall be disregarded. Any member thus co-opted shall serve until the close of the next ordinary session of the Conference of Representatives."

- 3. At the present time, the Executive Committee has 17 members without counting Switzerland (see document CEP/II/2), but, as the number of member States of the Paris Union has increased since the last session of the Executive Committee and is now 74, (1) the Committee will require to co-opt a new member.
- 4. Although there is no rule which would require the co-option of a country that has become a member of the Paris Union since the last session of the Executive Committee, it should be recalled that on the only occasion on which a member has so far been co-opted to the Executive Committee a country was chosen which had become a member of the Union after the election which preceded the co-option (see documents CEP/I/4 and 7). If the same principle is applied on this occasion, the Executive Committee would have to choose between Algeria, Malawi(2) and Cyprus, which have become members of the Paris Union since the Committee's last session.
  - 5. The Executive Committee is invited to co-opt a new member.
- (1) Or 75, if East Germany or the German Democratic Republic is considered as a member of the Paris Union. Member States disagree on this subject.
- (2) Malawi deposited a declaration of continued adherence on October 6, 1965 (with effect from July 6, 1964).