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

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BIRPI

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION
OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY (PARIS UNION)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sixth Ordinary Session

Geneva, September 21 to 29, 1970

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE ICIREPAT PROGRAM

Report by the Director of BIRPI

SUMMARY

This document briefly describes the tasks that the International Bureau is expected to perform in 1971 in connection with the Paris Union Committee for International Cooperation in Information Retrieval Among Patent Offices (ICIREPAT); estimates the amount of the expenses that the performance of such tasks would entail; and suggests the amounts of the special contributions which the various States participating in ICIREPAT would pay to the International Bureau to cover the said expenses.

Tasks of the International Bureau

1. The tasks of the International Bureau in connection with the Paris Union Committee for International Cooperation in Information Retrieval Among Patent Offices (hereinafter referred to as ICIREPAT) are of a secretarial nature and are not concerned with planning, carrying out, or supervising ICIREPAT's technical tasks. Planning is done by the six permanent Technical Committees, the Technical Coordination Committee, and the Plenary Committee of ICIREPAT, which are composed of representatives of the 20 participating national Offices and the International Patent Institute. The program is implemented in and by the said Offices and the International Patent Institute. It is supervised by the Plenary Committee of ICIREPAT, by the Technical Coordination Committee, and--as far as some aspects of the shared use systems are concerned--by the Advisory Board for Cooperative Systems ("ABCS"), a working group of ICIREPAT.

2. The tasks performed by the International Bureau consist mainly in acting as secretariat for these nine permanent bodies (Plenary Committee of ICIREPAT, Technical Coordination Committee, six Technical Committees, ABCS) and some ad hoc working groups. In 1969, the Plenary Committee met once, the Technical Coordination Committee three times, each of the six Technical Committees twice, and the ABCS once. In other words, there were seventeen meetings, and the various committees were in session for a total of 37 working days. An increase is expected in 1970 and 1971. It is estimated that in 1971 there will be approximately 22 meetings and 50 working days will be spent in session.

3. Each meeting is provided with preparatory documents which are in part proposals and comments by the participating Offices and in part analytical summaries by the International Bureau. Some of the latter are summaries of the reports of the various participating Offices or of the various working groups of ICIREPAT, others are independent progress reports of the International Bureau on the planning and the implementation of the various program activities. During each meeting, the staff of the International Bureau drafts a report on the discussions and decisions of the meeting and submits the draft to the body itself for correction and approval. After each meeting, the report as approved and any document distributed during the meeting are mailed to the participating Offices. In 1969, the number of documents was 169 and the total number of pages was 2013. In other words, the average length of each document was 12 pages.

During the same year, the International Bureau addressed 56 circulars to the participating Offices, that is, an average of one general mailing of documents per week.

4. This work was performed in 1969, and is being performed in 1970, by two full-time staff members of the International Bureau (one professional and one secretary), and by two professionals (one full-time, the other part-time) on loan from two different participating Offices. In addition, the Head of the Industrial Property Division and several of his collaborators devote a considerable amount of time to ICIREPAT work. The common services, particularly the typing, reproduction and mailing services, are also heavily involved in ICIREPAT work.

5. The work in 1971 is expected to grow. For the performance of this work, it is not recommended that the International Bureau should rely--or rely to any great extent--on staff loaned by participating Offices. The system whereby staff are loaned by participating Offices does not represent an equitable distribution of the burden among such Offices. It has the disadvantage, for the International Bureau, that staff on loan stay for relatively short periods of time and the International Bureau loses them almost as soon as they have thoroughly learned the job. Furthermore, the involvement of staff of the Industrial Property Division not belonging to the ICIREPAT Section must also be reduced because of the constant growth of their non-ICIREPAT workload.

6. It is therefore proposed that in 1971 the ICIREPAT Section should consist of five full-time employees: three professionals and two secretary-typists. Loans of staff, over and above the cash contributions, will still be welcome, particularly if the work of the Technical Committees is intensified and speeded up as it is expected to be. Staff on loan, of course, can be of great advantage to the loaning Office too, because when they return to their national Offices they take with them an insight and experience which can be acquired only through daily participation in the work of the International Bureau.

Expenses in 1971

7. The expenses fall into two main categories: direct expenses of the ICIREPAT Section and a share in the expenses common to all units.

8. The direct expenses consist of three items: staff (salaries, etc., of the proposed 5 members of the ICIREPAT Section): 280,000 francs; conferences (cost of the meetings): 10,000 francs; missions (staff travelling to meetings outside Geneva and to consultations with participating Offices): 20,000 francs. These three items total 310,000 francs (see document AB/I/7, paragraphs 64 to 66.

9. The share of ICIREPAT in the common expenses totals 200,000 francs and consists of the following items (amounts are indicated in Swiss francs):

(i) Participation in the staff costs of the Director General's Office (2% or 15,000 francs), the Industrial Property Division (5% or 39,000 francs), the External and Public Relations Division (2% or 8,000 francs), the Administrative Division (1% or 6,000 francs), the Finance Section (1% or 6,000 francs), the Registry (5% or 36,000 francs), the Library (2% or 3,000 francs), and the social charges (6% or 37,000 francs); see document AB/I/7, items DC.1, 2, 7 to 10, 13, 14; total: 150,000

(ii) Participation in the printing costs of the periodicals "Industrial Property" and "La Propriété industrielle" (3% or 3,000 francs), some general publications (minimum, i.e., 1,000 francs), and the periodical "La Propiedad Intelectual" (minimum, i.e., 1,000 francs); see document AB/I/7, items DC.4, 16, 17; total: 5,000

(iii) Participation in the cost of contracts for translations of the said periodicals (3% or 1,000 francs) and for studies with a view to the construction of a new building (4% or 1,000 francs); see document AB/I/7, items DC.4, 23; total: 2,000

(iv) Participation in the cost of the administrative meetings (minimum, i.e., 1,000 francs); see document AB/I/7, item DC.15; total: 1,000

(v) Participation in the rental (2% or 2,000 francs) and upkeep (2% or 5,000 francs) of premises, in the costs of equipment and supplies (3% or 15,000 francs), postage (5% or 9,000 francs), telephone (6% or 4,000 francs), Library (6% or 2,000 francs) and unforeseen (1% of expected income or 5,000 francs); see document AB/I/7, items DC.21, 22, 24 to 27, 29; total: 42,000

10. The direct expenses referred to in paragraph 8 (310,000 Swiss francs) and the participation in the common expenses referred to in paragraph 9 (200,000 Swiss francs) total 510,000 Swiss francs or 118,060 US dollars.

Income: Special Contributions

11. Article 2(1) of the Organizational Rules of ICIREPAT provides, inter alia, that the contribution of each participating country of ICIREPAT shall consist of money or services to the International Bureau. It further provides that the amount of the money is at the discretion of each participating country and must be specified and announced either in the ordinary session of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union or in a notification addressed to the International Bureau prior to that session. The session this time will be that of September 21 to 29, 1970.

12. It is proposed that, for the reasons outlined in paragraph 5, all participating countries should contribute cash to cover the costs referred to in paragraph 10, costs which the International Bureau will also have to settle in cash.

13. It is further proposed that the method of determining the share of each participating country in the total expenses should be the same as for the current (1970) year (see document CEP/V/6). This method is outlined again in the following paragraphs.

14. It is proposed that two factors be taken into account in establishing the shares of the various countries: the volume and the nature of the work in the national (Patent) Offices.

15. As to the volume, it is proposed that it be measured by taking the median figure of the number of patent applications filed and the number of patents granted. Inventors' certificates would be counted as patents. Numbers would be taken from the latest available yearly statistics (1968) as furnished by the national Offices themselves and published in the BIRPI periodical "Industrial Property."

16. As to the nature of the work, it is proposed to halve the median figure for those national Offices which do not carry out full examination. Of the 20 countries, three-- France, Spain and Switzerland--would fall into this category.

17. In order to simplify the system, it is proposed to divide the 20 participating countries into three groups according to whether the median figure exceeds 40,000 (Group A), is between 40,000 and 10,000 (Group B), or is under 10,000 (Group C).

18. It is proposed that the proportion between the contributions of each of the three Groups be the same as that between the totals of the median figures of each Group.

19. It is proposed that each member of any given Group contribute the same amount.

20. Finally, it is proposed that the amount to be divided be 562,000 Swiss francs (US \$130,000), that is, an amount which is 10% higher than the budgeted expenses (510,000 francs or US \$118,060) (see paragraph 10, above), in order to be able to meet the actual expenses should the actual cash contributions fall short of the suggested amounts.

21. Applying the principles laid down in paragraphs 14 to 19, on the basis of the statistics for 1968, to the amount of 562,000 Swiss francs, the computation is as indicated in the following paragraphs.

22. Median Figures ("*" shows actual numbers; "***" shows numbers adjusted according to paragraph 16):

	<u>Applica-</u> <u>tions</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Group</u> <u>Total</u>
<u>Group A</u> (median above 40,000)				
Germany (Fed.Rep.)	65	21	43.0	
Japan	97	28	62.5	
Soviet Union	110	25	67.5	
United Kingdom	62	43	52.5	
United States	93	59	<u>76.0</u>	301.5
 <u>Group B</u> (median between 10,000 and 40,000)				
Australia	17	6	11.5	
Austria	13	9	11.0	
Canada	31	28	29.5	
France (54, 48)*	27**	24**	25.5	
Netherlands	19	2	10.5	
Sweden	18	8	<u>13.0</u>	101.0

	<u>Applica-</u> <u>tions</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Group</u> <u>Total</u>
<u>Group C</u> (median under 10,000)				
Czechoslovakia	9	5	7.0	
Denmark	6	2	4.0	
Finland	4	1	2.5	
Hungary	3	1	2.0	
Ireland	2	1	1.5	
Israel	2	1	1.5	
Norway	5	2	3.5	
Spain (13, 10)*	7**	5**	6.0	
Switzerland (20, 17)*	10**	9**	<u>9.5</u>	37.5
				=====
				440.0
				=====

23. Thus, the participation of each of the Groups in the amount of 562,000 Swiss francs would be as follows:

Group A: $(301.5 \div 440) \times 562,000 = 385,098$ Swiss francs
 Group B: $(101.0 \div 440) \times 562,000 = 129,004$ Swiss francs
 Group C: $(37.5 \div 440) \times 562,000 = 47,898$ Swiss francs

24. Dividing each Group's contribution by the number of members in the Group, the contribution of each member in the various Groups would be as follows:

in Group A: $385,098 \div 5 = 77,020$ Swiss francs
 in Group B: $129,004 \div 6 = 21,501$ Swiss francs
 in Group C: $47,898 \div 9 = 5,322$ Swiss francs

or, in US dollars:

in Group A: \$17,829
 in Group B: \$4,977
 in Group C: \$1,232

25. These contributions would be payable in the course of the year 1971.

26. The amounts payable in 1971 by each of the 20 participating countries would thus be as follows:

- A. Germany (Federal Republic),
Japan, Soviet Union, United
Kingdom, United States of
America (5) 77,020 Swiss francs
(or US \$17,829) each
- B. Australia, Austria, Canada,
France, Netherlands, Sweden
(6) 21,501 Swiss francs
(or US \$4,977) each
- C. Czechoslovakia, Denmark,
Finland, Hungary, Ireland,
Israel, Norway, Spain,
Switzerland (9) 5,322 Swiss francs
(or US \$1,232) each

27. Each of the 20 participating countries of ICIREPAT is invited to specify and announce its contribution to the International Bureau for the year 1971.

28. The Executive Committee is invited to incorporate the list of contributions in a recommendation.

29. The recommendation could be worded as follows:

"The Executive Committee of the International (Paris) Union for the Protection of Industrial Property,

"Considering the Organizational Rules of the Paris Union Committee for International Cooperation in Information Retrieval Among Patent Offices (ICIREPAT),

"Taking as a basis the volume and nature of work in the respective national Offices,

"Recommends the following amounts as the cash contributions of the participating countries for the year 1971:

"Here would follow the list of countries and the amounts, possibly as indicated in paragraph 26, above."