

### PATENT OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Reg. №

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) SCP Secretariat 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20 Switzerland

Madam,

Sir,

Regarding the decision of the thirty-fourth session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), which was held from September 26 to 30, 2022, please find below Bulgarian inputs for the preparation of the documents:

# ii. Additional studies in the field of chemistry and biotechnology of an experimental nature

Document SCP/31/8 Rev addresses topics related to the practice of patentability of inventions in relation to the inventive step criterion. The considered cases in discussion fully coincide with the expertise applied in Bulgaria.

Regarding legislation:

The laws and practice of all the countries that took part in the discussion do not differ from the Bulgarian Act on Patents and Registration of Utility Models in the part concerning the chemistry and biotechnology.

## iii. Patent applications related to COVID-19. Speeding up the processing of requests related to COVID-19 and global climate change.

The document covers topics related to investments in countries and regions. Addressing issues related to global climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, the possibility of shorter deadlines for examining patent applications related to emergency situations, such as COVID-19, is being considered. The possibility of speeding up the patent granting procedure for patent applications related to emergency situations, green technologies and cancer treatment is being considered. According to the document, sharing experiences on the topics concerned will improve information and the implementation of new technologies.

In the practice of examination in Bulgaria, there is no case of speeding up the production of applications for patents on the above-mentioned topics, since no procedure for accelerated examination of applications is provided for in legal regulations. For utility model registration requests, the registration regime allows consideration of requests related to the topics of COVID-19 and green energy with priority within the statutory



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deadlines. With regard to pending patent applications, our practice does not differ from that of the EPO.

## iv. Artificial Intelligence (AI) related inventions, case law, legislation and practice.

We adhere to the Act on patents and registration of utility models and accept artificial intelligence as an invention from the category of method – mathematical and software claimed as a method and/or system implementing that method, disclosed with its blocks (e.g. hardware) and the connections between them.

Yours sincerely,

Anastasia Velichkova Director