

# WIPO



N/A/XV/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 1, 1997

## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION GENEVA

### SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE REGISTRATION OF MARKS (NICE UNION)

#### ASSEMBLY

#### Fifteenth Session (13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary) Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 1997

#### REPORT

*adopted by the Assembly*

1. The Assembly was concerned with the following items of the Consolidated Agenda (document AB/XXXI/1 Prov.2): 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 21, 28, 29 and 30.
2. The report on the said items, with the exception of item 13, is contained in the General Report (document AB/XXXI/12).
3. The report on item 13 is contained in the present document.
4. Mr. Hisamitsu Arai (Japan) was elected Chairman of the Assembly.

ITEM 13 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

MATTERS CONCERNING THE NICE UNION

5. Discussions were based on document N/A/XV/1.
6. The Delegation of Germany said that, after having consulted the interested circles, it supported the proposal set forth in paragraph 4 of the above-mentioned document.
7. The Delegation of Japan supported the proposal and suggested, in view of the importance of better understanding the Nice Classification, that more training courses and seminars be organized at a national or regional level all over the world, in particular, in the Asian region where it appeared to the Delegation that the users were not familiar with the Nice Classification.
8. The Delegation of France wondered whether the proposal would disappoint users of the classification report services which, as the increasing number of requests for classification reports showed, not only met the needs of the users for the interpretation by the International Bureau of the Classification, but also facilitated harmonized practice in the various industrial property offices. Noting the expected role of national offices to filter requests from users, it would have preferred that a decision on the proposal of the International Bureau be taken at a later stage.
9. The Delegation of Andorra reported the successful experience of its office in the use of the Nice Classification and was in favor of maintaining the establishment of classification reports for national offices as proposed in paragraph 4 of document N/A/XV/1.
10. The Assembly approved the proposal contained in document N/A/XV/1.

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