

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

PLENARY Second Session Geneva, February 8 to 12, 1999

REQUEST TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS TO DERWENT

Document prepared by the International Bureau

1. By letter of January 18, 1999, the provider of commercial patent information services, Derwent, requested to be granted observer status within the Standing Committee on Information Technologies. The letter is reproduced as an Annex to this document.
2. Derwent, which has its headquarters in London (GB), is one of the world's leading suppliers of patent information. It mainly offers abstracted, indexed and translated patent information of high quality.
3. *The SCIT Plenary is invited to consider the above-mentioned request and to take a decision as to the granting of observer status.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX



DERWENT

Scientific and Patent
Information

Mr. Yo Takagi
Director,
Inter-Office Information Services Dept.,
WIPO,
34, Chemin des Colombettes,
1211 Geneva 20,
Switzerland

January 18, 1999

Dear Mr. Takagi,

In accordance with the General and Special Rules of Procedures adopted at the First Plenary Session of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT), I am writing to you to request that Derwent Information Ltd. be afforded Observer status at forthcoming SCIT meetings.

We at Derwent regard the establishment of SCIT as a very positive step by WIPO and its Member States, and consider that the plans for the WIPO Global Information Network (WIPONET) in particular offer great benefits to the international intellectual property community. Derwent firmly believes that the most effective global dissemination and utilisation of intellectual property information can best be achieved by a combination of public sector and commercial initiatives. It therefore follows that the involvement of commercial organisations such as Derwent, a recognised world leader in the provision of intellectual property information to both commercial organisations and Patenting Authorities, in an Observer role at the appropriate SCIT meetings would have mutual benefits for both organisations, and would ensure effective harmonisation of current and future initiatives to improve and increase the use of intellectual property information world-wide.

We hope that the SCIT Secretariat will view our request favourably, and look forward to hearing your official response after the next SCIT Plenary meeting in early February.

Yours sincerely



Rob Willows,
Senior Manager, Industrial Property Organizations Group,
Derwent Information Ltd.

[End of Annex and of document]