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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF PATENTS

Twelfth Session
Geneva, June 23 to 27, 2008

ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS

Document prepared by the International Bureau

1. The Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), at its first session, held in Geneva from June 15 to 19, 1998, approved certain organizational and procedural matters, including according observer status to a number of interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (see document SCP/1/2, paragraph 6).
2. The Annex to this document contains information on the Institute for Trade Standards and Sustainable Development, Inc. (ITSSD), a non-governmental organization which has requested to be granted *ad hoc* observer status in the sessions of the SCP.
3. *The SCP is invited to take a decision on the request for accreditation of the non-governmental organization referred to in the present document as an observer.*

[Annex follows]

THE INSTITUTE FOR TRADE STANDARDS AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INC. (ITSSD)

The Institute for Trade Standards and Sustainable Development, Inc. (ITSSD) is a U.S.-based charitable and educational non-governmental organization, holding a tax-exempt entity status in the United States since 2001.

The ITSSD's mission is to promote a positive paradigm of sustainable development, consistent with private property, free market and World Trade Organization and World Intellectual Property Organization principles. The ITSSD educates and informs domestic and international policymakers about the impact of evolving foreign and international law on U.S. and other nations' science, technology and intellectual property policies. The ITSSD also examines the impact of such laws upon free enterprise. In pursuing its mission, the ITSSD analyzes the close and complimentary relationship between fundamental human and economic rights, both of which are integral to the attainment of economic and political freedom.

The ITSSD believes that emerging and developing economies can achieve a positive paradigm of sustainable development by establishing a national enabling environment that includes the strong recognition and protection of intellectual property rights, especially patents and trade secrets.

Recent research and analysis performed by the ITSSD has found that an emerging and/or developing economy's respect for both foreign and domestic IPRs often leads to the kinds of domestic scientific and technological discoveries and innovations that can:

- 1) Promote indigenous learning, knowledge spillovers and technology transfers;
- 2) Foster local entrepreneurship and the creation of formal as well as informal indigenous markets;
- 3) Raise local education standards and facilitate international academic and scientific & technology cooperation and exchanges;
- 4) Promote local capital and R&D reinvestment and foreign direct investment;
- 5) Generate higher paying jobs, better human health, a cleaner environment, lower poverty rates, and a higher quality and dignity of life; and
- 6) Better prepare developing and emerging economies to participate more fully in the global trading system.

The ITSSD will soon release the results of its research and analysis in a forthcoming white paper.

In addition to performing in-depth research and analyses of the legal, economic, political and social dimensions to evolving foreign and international laws and industry standards, the ITSSD and its staff also conduct workshops and make presentations to senior executive and legislative officials of government, industry members (corporations and trade associations) and NGO community actors (think-tanks) concerning such issues.

Furthermore, both of the ITSSD's senior officers are internationally recognized for the work they have done in the areas of international human rights law (religious freedom), international trade, environment and health law, and international diplomacy. Also, the ITSSD is privileged to be supported by an expanding Advisory Board comprised of individuals conversant in the four international languages – science, economics, law (including intellectual property) and politics.

[End of Annex and of document]