



TLT/R/DC/10
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## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

**GENEVA** 

## DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A REVISED TRADEMARK LAW TREATY

Singapore, March 13 to 31, 2006

## ARTICLE 4

Proposal by the Delegation of China

It is proposed that Article 4(1)(a) be amended as follows:

- "(1) [Representatives Admitted to Practice]
- "(a) Any Contracting Party may require that a representative appointed for the purposes of any procedure before the Office
  - "(i) be a representative admitted to practice before the Office;
- "(ii) have the right, under the applicable law, to practice before the Office in respect of applications and registrations;
- "(iii) provide, as his address, an address on a territory prescribed by the Contracting Party."

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The amendment concerns adding a new subparagraph (i) and renumbering the existing two subparagraphs accordingly. This new subparagraph is added in order to make sure that the content of this paragraph is consistent with its title. A trademark representative must be one who is "admitted to practice before the Office". It would be difficult for representatives not qualified as being "admitted to practice before the Office" to guarantee the interests of the applicants who appoint them. This is of vital importance to both national and international trademark applicants. In this respect, the Basic Proposal has weakened the original provision in the same article of TLT 1994, which is very clear about this and has an important role to play both in ensuring the high standard of practice before the Office as well as the quality of trademark representation, and in regulating the behavior of trademark representation.

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