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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

WORKING GROUPS First Session Geneva, November 16 to 20, 1998

WIPO'S ASSISTANCE IN ACQUIRING PATENT INFORMATION CD-ROMS (TASK NO. 31)

prepared by the International Bureau

1. At its first Plenary session of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), held from June 22 to 25, 1998, it was agreed to include in the SCIT work program Task No. 31 to assist small offices in obtaining CD-ROMs containing patent information, as it is useful to possess such CD-ROMs in local archives until the full operation of the global information network provides those offices with rapid access to patent information.

2. The Secretariat selected "GLOBALPat" CD-ROM as a product to be distributed in this program. It is to be recalled that this collection is derived from the First Page Database of patents, which contains a single representative member of almost every patent family published by France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, WIPO (PCT) and the European Patent Office (EPO). This collection contains, in the English language, bibliographic data and abstract, and, where appropriate, the image of a representative drawing.

3. The Secretariat sent out a circular letter (C. SCIT 2386) on August 20, 1998, inviting all WIPO Member States and the SCIT Members to express their wish to receive a free-of-charge collection of the GLOBALPat (backfile only).

4. As of October 23, 1998, the Secretariat received 32 requests from those offices and organizations listed in Annex to this document. The Secretariat will arrange that the CD-ROM set will be delivered to them at the beginning of 1999.

[Annex follows]

SCIT/WG/1/10

ANNEX

Armenia Barbados Belarus Bulgaria China Croatia Cuba Democratic People's Republic of Korea Egypt Estonia Gabon Georgia Hungary India Indonesia Lithuania Madagascar Mauritius Mexico Moldova Norway Poland **Russian Federation** Singapore South Africa Thailand The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Ukraine Yemen Yugoslavia Eurasian Patent Office Max Planck Institute

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