

# WIPO



SCP/8/7

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: October 29, 2002

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

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## STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF PATENTS

**Eighth Session**  
**Geneva, November 25 to 29, 2002**

### ACCREDITATION OF A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

*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. One additional non-governmental organization, the Genetic Resources Action International (GRAIN), has expressed to the Secretariat the wish to obtain the same status for the future sessions of the SCP. Information concerning details of that organization requesting observer status in the SCP, received from the organization itself, is contained in the Annex of this document.
3. *The SCP is invited to approve the accreditation of the non-governmental organization referred to in the present document as an observer.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

SUBMISSION BY GRAIN (GENETIC RESOURCES ACTION INTERNATIONAL)  
FOR ACCREDITATION AS *AD HOC* OBSERVER TO THE WIPO  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF PATENTS

Genetic Resources Action International (GRAIN) is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) which has as its main objectives to stop the erosion of genetic diversity in agriculture and strengthen community control over agrobiological resources and associated knowledge important for local livelihoods, particularly in developing countries. To reach these objectives, GRAIN concentrates its efforts on policy research, public education, capacity-building and networking.

GRAIN was established in 1990 in Spain, where it is registered as an international non-profit foundation. With two offices (Barcelona, Spain, and Los Baños, Philippines) and 12 staff, GRAIN operates both at the global level and within the following regions: Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. A wholly autonomous organization, GRAIN is financed by grants from development NGOs, governments and intergovernmental organizations, and is governed by an international board of directors acting in their personal capacity.

Intellectual property – particularly as it affects genetic resources, agricultural research and the rights of farmers and other local communities – has long been an important focus of GRAIN's work. GRAIN is very active in monitoring trends in intellectual property and related laws and policies, analysing options and impacts, raising public awareness and exploring alternatives.

More information is available from GRAIN's website: <http://www.grain.org>.

[End of Annex and of document]