

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS, INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

Eighteenth Session
Geneva, November 12 to 16, 2007

**MARKS AND INTERNATIONAL NON-PROPRIETARY NAMES FOR
PHARMACEUTICAL SUBSTANCES (INN_s)**

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At the sixteenth session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), held in Geneva from November 13 to 17, 2006, the SCT approved several proposals to improve accessibility to the lists of international non-proprietary names for pharmaceutical substances (INNs) by national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States (see document SCT/16/9, paragraph 87).

2. The proposals which were approved by the SCT were the following:

(i) that a circular letter be sent by the International Bureau of WIPO to all national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States, inviting them to publish on their websites a link to the online INN database of the World Health Organization (WHO);

(ii) that a CD-ROM containing updated lists of proposed and recommended INNs be distributed by the International Bureau of WIPO to all national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States;

(iii) that the International Bureau of WIPO inform, by means of a circular letter, the national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States, of the publication of each new list of proposed and recommended INNs and provide a hyperlink to the electronic version of such list, available on the website of WHO.

3. Following the approval of the proposal mentioned in paragraph 2(ii) above, WHO made available to the SCT Secretariat on June 4, 2007, 200 copies of a CD-ROM containing “Cumulative List No. 12” of all proposed and recommended INNs. Subsequently, on August 13, 2007, the International Bureau of WIPO addressed a circular letter to the national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States, transmitting the above-mentioned CD-ROM, informing those offices of the publication, on June 25, 2007, of the List of Proposed INNs No. 97, and inviting them to publish on their websites the link corresponding to the online INN database of WHO.

4. According to the approved proposal mentioned in paragraph 2(iii) above, WHO will inform WIPO of every new list of proposed and recommended INNs published on its website. The International Bureau of WIPO will thereafter inform the national and regional industrial property offices of WIPO Member States, by means of a circular letter, of the publication of such lists on the website of WHO.

5. *The SCT is invited to take note of the contents of this document.*

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