

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION**

世界知识产权组织

**ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL
DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE**

المنظمة العالمية للملكية الفكرية

**ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ**

C. SCIT 2450
03

May 28, 1999

Re: Observer status within SCIT

Madam,
Sir,

World Patent Information

By letter of April 26, 1999, the Publishers of the journal *World Patent Information* requested that observer status be granted within the Committee of Experts of the IPC Union and the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT). The letter is reproduced as Annex I to this Circular.

The Copyright Group

By letter of April 8, 1999, the Chairman of *The Copyright Group* (TCG) requested the International Bureau of WIPO to support an application for observer status of the TCG within the Standing Committee on Information Technologies. The TCG has introduced itself in a paper reproduced as Annex II to this Circular.

/...

The International Bureau would like to handle the two requests by correspondence. You are kindly invited to inform us, before the end of June 1999, of your views on the two requests, i.e., as to whether your Office agrees to the granting of the desired observer status within the SCIT.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yo Takagi', written in a cursive style.

Yo Takagi
Director
Inter-Office Information Services
and Operational Affairs Department

Annex I to Circular C. SCIT 2450/
Annexe I de la circulaire C. SCIT 2450/
Anexo I de la Circular SCIT 2450

26 April 1999

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Dear Dr Idris

World Patent Information

In 1980, Pergamon Press, now an imprint of Elsevier Science Ltd, started to publish the journal entitled *World Patent Information* (WPI), a joint publication of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Commission of the European Communities (CEC). In early 1996, ownership of the title was transferred by WIPO and the CEC to Elsevier Science Ltd, which has continued to publish the journal as its own and as set forth in the transfer agreement.

The aims and scope of the journal, whose subtitle reads: "The International Journal for Industrial Property Documentation, Information, Classification and Statistics", is to provide a world-wide forum for the exchange of information between people working professionally in the field of industrial property information and documentation, and to promote the widest possible use of such information.

To enable the Editor of the journal to achieve these aims, the two sponsoring organisations, namely WIPO and the CEC, provided observer status to the publishers of the journal on their technical bodies dealing with matters of industrial property information and documentation - bodies such as the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information (PCPI), its successor committee the PCIPI (Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information) and the Committee of Experts of the International Patent Classification (IPC).

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Annexe I de la circulaire C. SCIT 2450, page 2/
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We are aware of the fact that the activities of the PCIPI and its technical committees were, in late 1997, taken over by a new WIPO body, namely the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) with a broader mandate and a broader membership. However, for reasons unknown to us, the observer status of "the Publishers of the WPI Journal" in the PCLPI was not automatically transferred to the SCIT as was the case for e.g. the Patent Documentation Group as The former Editor-in-Chief, Mr Sibley, who regularly attended PCIPI meetings, as did his predecessors, died rather suddenly last year and was thus not able to pursue the matter.

My letter to you, Sir, is to request that observer status be again granted on the SCIT and IPC bodies of WIPO to the "Publishers of the WPI Journal", as it was for the years 1980 to 1997. The Editors of our journal need accurate and timely information on what is going on in the realms of the technical bodies of WIPO, so that the new trends in industrial property information and documentation dissemination and distribution, as spearheaded by WIPO, can adequately be covered in the journal. Participation of the Editor-in-Chief and the Associate Editor of the journal in meetings of these bodies would enable them not only to regularly take stock of the on-going themes discussed in the meetings but also to personally contact the prime movers in this are including those in WIPO itself, to elicit contributions and articles so that the journal becomes even more interesting and up-to-date.

I hope that this request for observer status will be viewed positively by the WIPO management and that you will pass it on to the IPC Committee of experts and to the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), which according to Article 4 of its Special Rules of Procedure, has to accede to our request.

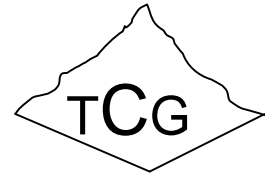
Please accept, Mr Director General, the expression of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Tony Seward
Senior Publishing Editor
Library and Information Science

[Annex II follows/
L'annexe II suit/
Sigue el Anexo II]

THE COPYRIGHT GROUP



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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Eamon T. Fennessy, Chairman

KEY STAFF:

MARY-LOUISE BURNS, President
MEAGHAN P. KEELE, Y, Administrator

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

The Copyright Group (TCG) was established in 1992 to address the explosion of services required in this Electronic Information Age. Initially TCG dealt with the establishment of electronic data bases within single corporate settings. This basic technology has now expanded to networks. However, the need remains to provide easily, yet securely, accessible high-value information collections through IPDLs (Intellectual Property Digital Libraries). As **content managers** we serve the user as well as the rightsholder by arranging rapid exchange of data. During the past several years our services have expanded to several areas reflected below.

Operational Programs

*Translations / Publications

International activities increased through the promotion of translations and republication of U.S. works overseas. TCG successfully completed projects in Jordan, Thailand, Armenia and China. At the same time The Group further increased its global publishing activities through new initiatives in Russia. The Copyright Group encourages its clients to support the necessary infrastructure providing Internet connectivity and plans strategies to accomplish increased global communications.

*Grey Literature

TCO has recognized the increased demand for "grey literature" among research-oriented institutions. This includes reports, pamphlets, newsletters, user manuals, photographs, manufacturers' trade literature and conference proceedings.

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We find ourselves one of the few resources capable of locating these difficult-to-define publications not usually available through normal resources. Currently, The Group has been contacted by the intelligence community regarding copyright permissions for digital reproduction of those materials. This whole arena is ready to expand.

*Telemarketing

Another new service has been created for the library community. In conjunction with the College of Charleston, TCG has used its telemarketing capability to survey academic, research, public, and corporate librarians on issues affecting these information specialists. One of our recent surveys examined the extent to which libraries are using electronic media for information delivery and another surveyed U.S. academic institutions on the subject of Distance Learning/Education. Results of these surveys are reported by Mr. Fennessy in his news column for the quarterly journal, **Against the Grain**.

*The Internet

Over the past two years TCG has continued its involvement in the development of a commercial system for showcasing copyrighted text on the Internet. It will provide, the means for users to pay for documents and services through an uncomplicated banking and collection mechanism. This on-line system uses existing technology to allow consumers to transact purchases i.e. text, images, audio, video, games and computer programs. The program holds great promise for secure transactions on the Net.

*Copyright Guidelines for Scanning

In the digital arena TCG chaired a sub-committee of the National Federation for Abstracting and indexing Services (NFAIS) Copyright Policy Committee establishing copyright guidelines for scanning within member institutions. Scanning necessitates the reproduction of protected works and legally requires the permission of the rightsholder. As we see the proliferation of scanning machines, the copyright problems geometrically expand. We are now in a position akin to the advent of the photocopying machine. That challenge was met and resolved for user and rightsholder.

*Literary Agent

With the advent of digital commerce The Group has assisted and directed clients towards e-Commerce through suitable arrangements providing revenue streams for rightsholders through the Internet.

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*Focus Groups

In order to develop market research information TCG has spent considerable time and effort moderating focus groups across the United States.

*Intellectual Property Legislation

All communications technology development derives its importance from the content which it supplies through various media. Key to the content is the intellectual property ownership. In the ever-changing legal environment created by national and international laws, conventions (Berne), and agreements (GATT, and NAFTA) The Group has entered the field of public affairs. Because of Mr. Fennessy's background in Government Affairs this is a natural outgrowth. TCG services clients as a 'watchdog' on legislation and as an **agent** presenting their views and concerns to legislative leaders.

SUMMARY

Clients of The Copyright Group include: Government agencies, authors' groups, commercial publishers, and for-profit corporations in the scientific and technical fields.

Scientific Industries ... TCG co-ordinates permissions enabling researchers to convert print materials into an electronic format for storage, retrieval, and networks.

Communications Chain ... TCG assesses and analyzes specific opportunities in electronic and digital publishing, providing networks online.

[End of Annex II and of Circular/
Fin de l'annexe II et de la circulaire/
Fin del anexo II et de la circular]