

Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) statement, WIPO SCPS 32nd session, December 9th, 2020

“Patents and Health”

We are pleased to inform you that since the 31st session of the SCP, when the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) presented an update on MedsPaL, our Patent and Licence database, it has significantly expanded.

In March 2020, MPP’s Board decided to temporarily expand MPP’s mandate to include any health technology that could contribute to the global response to COVID-19 and where licensing could facilitate innovation and accelerate access.

As a result, following requests from the WHO and many other stakeholders, MPP expanded MedsPaL to include patented medicines that are being tested for COVID-19. As of today, 10 new products that are currently undergoing clinical trials to treat COVID-19, have been added and new products will be added as they emerge. Medicines, already included in the database that are being tested against COVID, have also been flagged as COVID-19 candidates.

Besides, following the extension of the MPP’s mandate into other patented essential medicines such as those on the WHO Essential Medicines List, we collected and published data on all the biologics that had been included in the EML in 2019. We also added new medicines for treating HIV and tuberculosis (including promising drug candidates and paediatric formulations). In addition, we are continuously improving the database by adding new features.

MPP has fourteen collaboration agreements around MedsPaL with regional and national patent offices. MPP highly values the cooperation with the patent offices, that contributes significantly to ensure transparency and accuracy of patent status of medicines, and is committed to its continuation and to establishing new collaborations.