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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

2001

ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

An annual series of reports on the patent information activities
of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

*
– The term “patent” covers utility models and SPCs.
– Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in the series of documents SCIT/ATR/ID.

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

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THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

I. Evolution of patent activities:

In the efforts of the Republic of Macedonia to join to the World Trade Organization and European Union there is need to harmonize certain provisions of the Law on industrial property with the legislative of the European Union and the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.

In that purpose, the Working Group considered many commonalities and differences that are exist among various patent systems and prepared Draft –Law on Industrial Property. In November, a public discussion was held and the opinions and recommendations which are occurred in that meeting were taken into consideration.

In accordance with the reform of the PCT system as a manner of filling international application this Office accept change of time limits applicable for entry into the national phase under PCT Article 22 and 39. The new term for application fillings is 31 months from the priority date.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information:

*- The industrial Property Protection Office of The Republic of Macedonia issues official gazette “Glasnik”. The Gazette is issued four times a year, every three months. This official gazette contains publishing of recognized patents their abstracts and drawings if any. >From the beginning of the year 2000 the Office has started publishing the designations for the extension of the European patents seeking protection for Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the Agreement on co-operation in the field of patents with the European Patent Office the publishing was don in accordance with the WIPO standard 9 concerning the bibliographic data. Moreover there are information regarding other activities of The Office, in the country and abroad. There are very often commentaries of actual activities in protection of the industrial property rights. The Office issues Annual Report for its activities in the previous year. In this Report there is basic statistic data for patent applications and patents.

III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents:

*- All patent documentation is classified according to the IPC classification the sixth edition. What concern other matters of indexing of technical information there are no activities of The Office in the field.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

*- The patent documentation is of paper kind and is based in the Office library. The documentation is updated continuously.

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems:

*- In the field of computerization several activities were taken during the 2001:

- In-house systems:

At the moment there is no global in-house system, but in co-operation with the EPO, Common Software Lite is planned to be implemented at the end of 2003.

However, the WIPO and EPO CD-ROM publications are widely used on dedicated workstations or servers with multiple access.

- External databases:

- Esp@cenet
- Administrative management systems:
- Electronic register of published industrial designs
- Hardware:
- 100 Mbit/per seat switched Ethernet network
- Xylan switches (48 ports)
- Motorola vanguard router
- 26 Celeron 430 MHz (or higher), 128 MB RAM, 4,3 (or higher) GB HDD PCs and 17" monitors
- 1 application sever with dual PII 400 MHz, 320 MB RAM, and 9GB SCSI HDD
- Pairgain modem 64 Kbit-2Mbit
- Windows NT 4 as a platform deployed on more than 80% of the computers and there are also 6 Win 2000 Professional systems
- Windows 95/98 where hardware requirements for Windows NT are not met
- Windows NT server

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public:

*- The library is with in The Office and it has patent literature, various kind of non-patent literature, and Official Gazettes. Information is possible to get throw the Office, if one contacts the Office. Also information can be provided by coming to the library using the search station or by visiting the Web-site <http://www.ippo.gov.mk>

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation:

*- The Office's databases are provided by mutual exchange of patent documentation with other Offices. There is CD-ROM collection of: European Patent Applications, PCT international Application (WORLD), JOPAL, ACCESS, LEGAL and the Bulletin all from the ESPACE production, and than Patent Abstracts Of Japan (PAJ CD-ROM), USAPAT, Collection of Republic of Moldova, PRECES, HUNPATÉKA and Slovenian Patent Documents on CD ROM. The Office receives the said patent documentation, continuously.

The official gazette "Glasnik" issued by The Office as well as The Annual Rapport are delivered to the following countries: YU, HR, SI, BG, CZ, PL, SE, TR, AT, AL, BY, BE, KR, FR, HU, CH, UA, ER, GB, US, JP, PT, KP, RU, SK, ES, MD and FI. The Office receives gazettes and annual rapport from the next countries: AT, BG, ER, BY, MD, PL, HU, UA, FI, CZ, RU, SK, JP, YU, HR and SI. These documents are on the paper, mostly.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries:

*- Industrial Property Protection Office of The Republic of Macedonia organises seminars and courses for domestic attendants and attends seminars organised by other entities. Starting June 1996 Republic of Macedonia has been included in the Regional Industrial Property Program. Since than representatives from The Office mainly patent examiners have attended couple of seminars organised on different subject matters covered by this Program.

Office representatives pass special attention to bilateral activities, and grate numbers of contacts of this kind have been made during the year 2001.

The Office took part on the 50th World Exhibition of Invention "EUREKA 2001" in Brussels. Inventors from Macedonia have won three golden medals, two silver, and one bronse medal and a cup was awarded for invention in the field of ecology. The President of the Belgian Chamber of Inventors awarded the Director of the Office the medal "Tante Molis" for special contribution to promotion of industrial property.

For the purposes of exchanging experiences in preparation for bringing a new Law of industrial property one visit of the State Intellectual Property Office of Republic of Croatia was organized within the

framework of co-operation activities between the GTZ and IPPO. Also officials from the Office attended a gathering on the occasion of the translation of the seventh edition of the International Patent Classification in Zagreb.

In reference to promotion of patent information, protection and enforcement of intellectual property there were many work meetings organized by the Office with collaboration with the American Bar Association Central and East European Law Initiative.

In the scope of matters concerning educations there were meetings organized by this Office in order to build awareness of intellectual property and its benefits among students, faculties and enterprises.

Every year the Office organises manifestation "Patent of The Year" where the best domestic inventions for the previous year are promoted in front of an important members of the society. The Minister of economy opens the ceremony and together with the Director of the Office presented the award to the inventors. The manifestation took place in Skopje on September 19, 2001.

IX. Other relevant matters.

*- Nothing new to report.

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