

Standing Committee on

Information Technology and Internet

2015



Date: 6th August 2015

REPORT **Standing Committee on**

Information Technology and Internet

Chair: Peter FINNIE

Responsible Reporter: John Osha

- 1) Report on the activities of the Standing Committee during the reporting period
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The subject of patent eligibility for computer-implemented inventions (CII) was one of the workshops at the AIPPI World Congress meeting in Toronto in October 2014. Since then, the SC has continued to monitor developments in patent eligibility in this field from around the World, with particular emphasis in what has been happening with US practice post the Alice Corp. decision in 2014. The Chairman of the SC spoke on this subject at the AIPLA Spring Meeting in Los Angeles in April 2015. Recent developments in the US have caused considerable uncertainty for patentees and legal advisors, which is clearly undesirable. Elsewhere, the legal position of patent eligibility is relatively stable.

The SC has been drafting an updated paper comparing the approach to the patentability of CII across a number of jurisdictions for publication later in 2015 to coincide with the AIPPI World Congress in Rio de Janeiro.

- 2) Key issues/developments relevant to the Terms of Reference of the Standing Committee (arising during the reporting period or coming up)
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Developments in US practice relating to protection of CII need to be monitored closely. The issue affects applicants pursuing patent protection before the USPTO and holders of granted US patents alike.

- 3) Any recommendation for AIPPI involvement/action (describe what involvement/action is recommended and why, by whom and relevant time frames)
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This subject is of such ongoing interest that it may warrant a workshop as a fixture at each AIPPI World Congress meeting. This is something that could be discussed with the Responsible Reporter and the Bureau in October 2015.

- 4) Plan for the activities of the Standing Committee for the next reporting period highlighting any priorities
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The SC has been bolstered in recent months with new members from the US, Australia, China, Japan, UK, Germany, Mexico, and Italy, and as a consequence expects to be able to work on a number of proposals in the coming months, including a formal study of how different jurisdictions approach the requirement for 'technical character' or 'non-abstract'. This particular topic is to be discussed at the AIPPI World Congress meeting in Rio de Janeiro in October 2015.

Names and Functions of Committee Members

Chair	Peter FINNIE	United Kingdom
Co Chair(s)	Alfred A. MACCHIONE	Canada
Secretary	Thomas KRETSCHMER	Switzerland
Members	Richard BROWN	Australia
	Richard BEEM	United States
	Alberto CONTINI	Italy
	Stephan FREISCHEM	Germany
	Jorge GOMEZ	Mexico
	Masahito IMAI	Japan
	Marco MACCALLI	Italy
	Jonathan MOSS	United Kingdom
	JoAnna PEALEZ VAN DER HENST	United States
	Nandu TALWALKAR	United States
Lili WU	China	