A Resolution titled "Patent Rights and Green Technology / Climate Change", prepared by AIPPI's Standing Committee on Intellectual Property and Green Technology, was adopted by AIPPI on 20 September 2016 during the AIPPI World Congress in Milan.

AIPPI's Standing Committee on IP and Green Technology had previously considered the issues addressed in this Resolution in its 2014 Report entitled “Climate Change and Environmental Technologies – the Role of Intellectual Property, esp. Patents” published at the 2014 AIPPI World Congress in Toronto. The Report provides a full discussion of the background to the issues addressed in the Resolution.

The Resolution as adopted states that the patent system minimum standards prescribed by the TRIPS Agreement should remain unchanged, as there is insufficient basis to suggest that any fundamental changes to patent laws would be warranted in the interest of speeding up research and development, in the light of the immediacy of the threat of climate change.

The Resolution supports accelerated examination of patent applications covering green technologies. It emphasizes the relevance of patents as an important source of information about existing technologies. It also encourages standardization efforts in the green technology field, where appropriate.

The Resolution supports exemplary initiatives by institutions, aiming at the development, dissemination and implementation of green technologies. The Resolution specifically mentions the work of the European Patent Office on patent information, the WIPO GREEN program, an Internet platform facilitating the transfer of green technologies, and WIPO’s training programs.

Finally, recognizing that the IP system is part of a larger ecosystem, the Resolution stresses the importance of improving and strengthening the innovation infrastructure, especially in developing and emerging countries. Accordingly, it was resolved that IP asset development, IP licensing and R&D collaboration as a means to facilitate commercialization could and should be increased. Similarly, tax and other incentives should be available to encourage the dissemination of new technology.

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5 November 2016