



SCP/33/2
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Standing Committee on the Law of Patents

Thirty-Third Session
Geneva, December 6 to 9, 2021

ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), at its first session, held in Geneva from June 15 to 19, 1998, approved certain organizational and procedural matters, including according observer status to a number of interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (see document SCP/1/2, paragraph 6).

2. The Annex to this document contains information on the Intellectual Property International Forum-Québec (FORPIQ), a non-governmental organization, which has requested to be granted *ad hoc* observer status in the sessions of the SCP.

3. *The SCP is invited to take a decision on the request for accreditation of the non-governmental organization referred to in the present document as an ad hoc observer.*

[Annex follows]

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INTERNATIONAL FORUM-QUÉBEC

Name of the Organization

Intellectual Property International Forum-Québec (FORPIQ)

Mandate and Objectives of the Organization

FORPIQ is a Canadian not-for-profit organization founded in 2001 and registered under the *Loi sur les compagnies, Partie III* of Québec.

The Organization's purpose is to increase the level of knowledge of innovative Canadian companies and their advisers with respect to IP assets, in order to gain more value therefrom. In order to attain this objective, FORPIQ organizes forums bringing together: business leaders, intellectual property experts, investors, as well as government representatives in order to discuss and exchange their experiences and best practices with respect to IP. FORPIQ benefits from a diverse board of directors, employed as lawyers, trademark agents, patent agents and leaders in research and development partnership negotiation. This provides FORPIQ with a holistic view of Canadian intellectual property legislation, and how it can be bettered through the exchange of knowledge between disciplines.

FORPIQ pursues this purpose by hosting a biennial event, in which leading IP practitioners and corporations exchange ideas on all matters related to intellectual property and innovation. This initiative is supported by Canada's leading IP law firms. Domestic accelerators such as *l'Institut national d'optique* ("INO") and the Business Development Bank of Canada ("BDC") also support the initiative. FORPIQ's upcoming virtual conference has solicited significant interest from: (i) entrepreneurs, (ii) funders (including venture capital and private equity firms), (iii) accelerators (and/or incubators), both domestic and international, as well as (iv) different levels of government (both provincial and federal as well as agencies), including the Quebec Minister of Economy and Innovation, amongst others. FORPIQ's 2021 virtual event is being organized in collaboration with the AUTM, which is comprised of more than 3,000 members working in more than 800 universities, research centers, hospitals, businesses, and government organizations around the globe.

Specifically related to Patents, FORPIQ strives to hold panels, which are dedicated to innovation, research and development and new technologies. Its 2019 Conference, for example, featured panels on improving Freedom to Operate analyses prior to filing patents, and on the challenges of software in relation to patent law. These conferences were in addition to panels on open innovation, research and development, which takes into account the satellite data provided by the Canadian Space Agency and intellectual property acquisition. Furthermore, the majority of the board members are intellectual property practitioners that seek to advance the state of the law for patent related inventions.

FORPIQ seeks *ad hoc* observer status to the WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Patents so that, considering its goals and efforts at promoting IP awareness, and its board members' expertise, it can offer constructive, substantive contributions to the deliberations of the Assemblies of the World Intellectual Property Organization, especially as it pertains to the Laws of Patents. Furthermore, collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization would facilitate the WIPO's participation in future conferences, thereby providing Canadian IP practitioners, and corporations, with much needed exposure to global scale IP protection.

Organization Administrators

Dr. Martin Couillard, Ph.D., M^e David Durand, Ms. Dominique Lambert, M^e Philippe Boivin,
M^e Ismaël Coulibaly.

Organization Directors and Officers

Dr. Martin Couillard, Ph.D. (President), M^e James Duffy (Secretary), Dr. Damien Calvet, Ph. D
(Treasurer).

Full Contact Information

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