ARTICLE 67

1.1 Text of Article 67

Article 67

Technical Cooperation

In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, developed country Members shall provide, on request and on mutually agreed terms and conditions, technical and financial cooperation in favour of developing and least-developed country Members. Such cooperation shall include assistance in the preparation of laws and regulations on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights as well as on the prevention of their abuse, and shall include support regarding the establishment or reinforcement of domestic offices and agencies relevant to these matters, including the training of personnel.

1.2 General

1. In order to ensure that information on available assistance is readily accessible and to facilitate the monitoring of compliance with the obligation of Article 67, developed country Members have agreed to present descriptions of their relevant technical and financial cooperation programmes and to update this annually. For the sake of transparency, intergovernmental organizations have also presented, on the invitation of the Council for TRIPS, information on their activities.¹

2. At its meeting in July 1996, the Council for TRIPS agreed that each developed country Member should notify a contact point for technical cooperation on TRIPS, in particular for the exchange of information between donors and recipients of technical assistance.²

3. Article 4 of the Agreement between the World Intellectual Property Organization and World Trade Organization contains provisions on legal-technical assistance and technical cooperation.³

¹ The Council for TRIPS first invited developed country Members and intergovernmental organizations to present this information at its meeting in May 1995 (paragraph 53 of IP/C/M/2). Since then, this invitation has been renewed each year.

² Paragraphs 37-38 of IP/C/M/8. These notifications are being circulated in IP/N/7/* document series.

³ The text of the Agreement can be found in IP/C/6.