TRIPS Agreement – Article 67 (Practice)

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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

- To ensure that information on available assistance is readily accessible, and to facilitate the monitoring of compliance with the obligation of Article 67 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), developed country Members have agreed to present descriptions of their relevant technical and financial cooperation programmes and to update such descriptions annually. For the sake of transparency, intergovernmental organizations have also presented, at the invitation of the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Council for TRIPS), information on their activities. Members and intergovernmental organizations may use the e-TRIPS Submission System to provide information on their relevant technical and financial cooperation activities, and the e-TRIPS Gateway to access the information that has been submitted by Members and intergovernmental organizations.²
- 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 trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS), in particular for the exchange of information between donors and recipients of technical assistance.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.⁴

Current as of: July 2022

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 The e-TRIPS Submission System and e-TRIPS Gateway are available at: https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/trips_e/etrips_e.htm.

³ Paragraphs 37-38 of IP/C/M/8. Members may use the e-TRIPS Submission System to notify their contact point for technical cooperation on TRIPS and the e-TRIPS Gateway to access notifications by Members. These notifications are being circulated in <u>IP/N/7/*</u> document series.

⁴ The text of the Agreement can be found in <u>IP/C/6</u>.