



The British Association of the International Federation
of Intellectual Property Attorneys

NEWS

February 2016

In this issue

- FICPI ABC Meeting
- UK PPWG -views sought
- Diversity
- FICPI ExCo Zurich
- FICPI urges the adoption of a Grace Period
- Diary

FICPI ABC MEETING

The FICPI ABC Meeting is a well-established joint meeting between the UK, US and Canadian FICPI groups. This year, FICPI-UK is organising the meeting. FICPI members from other countries are welcome to join in the meeting. Details of the meeting and the programme of events are given on the attached leaflet. Online registration can be found at ficipiwaales2016.com.

Simon Rees, President FICPI-UK

UK PATENT PRACTICE WORKING GROUP

Liz Dawson is one of FICPI-UK's representatives at Patent Practice Working Group (PPWG) meetings. Following last month's PPWG meeting, views from patent practitioners are sought on the topics below:

FAX FILING

The IPO is actively seeking feedback on how and why fax filing is used by practitioners. Suggestions have included:

- a) When an internet connection is not available
- b) For instances where online filing is not available.

If you wish to see fax filing maintained, or have other comments on fax filing to convey to the IPO through the FICPI-UK's participation in the PPWG, please contact Liz Dawson (EDawson@PearlCohen.com)

"ADAPTED TO/SUITABLE FOR" CLAIM LANGUAGE

The IPO is considering amendments to the Manual of Patent Practice section 2.12.3 (see attached MoPP extract) which relates to novelty in the light of the [Brundle decision](#), to make it clear that the meaning of "adapted" should be considered on a case-by-case basis. The IPO is seeking views of FICPI-UK members on this proposed change which again may be channelled back to the PPWG through Liz.

DIVERSITY

Council is pleased to report that FICPI-UK has supported the recent IP Inclusive Initiative, promoted by CIPA's President Andrea Brewster.

FICPI EXCO ZURICH

Simon Rees and Alastair Neil will be representing the British national association of FICPI at the ExCo in Zurich. The materials for discussion in Zurich will be placed in the Library section on the FICPI website (<http://ficpi.org/>).

FICPI URGES THE ADOPTION OF A GRACE PERIOD

FICPI has long supported the universal adoption of a grace period as a "safety net" for inventors and inventions. FICPI-UK member Robert Watson has co-authored a recent paper on the topic, (see attached FICPI paper) which argues for a 12 month grace period without the need for any inventor declaration.

Editorial Note. The views expressed in this bulletin represent the official views of FICPI-UK only where the individual item carries both the name of the contributor and an indication of an office held on the Council of FICPI-UK. All other contributions represent the personal views of the individual contributors, and publication does not imply endorsement of those views by the Council of FICPI-UK. Editorial: [John Dean](#)

DIARY

2016:

10-14 April **EXCO, Zurich**

19-23 June **ABC Meeting - Celtic Manor, South Wales**

5-8 October **FICPI Forum, St Petersburg**

2017:

Spring **EXCO, China**

Autumn **FICPI Forum, Istanbul**