

SWEDISH NATIONAL GROUP OF AIPPI

Activity Report 2007

The Swedish National Group of AIPPI, below named AIPPI Sweden, is an integrated part of the Swedish Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (SFIR). Thus, AIPPI Sweden and SFIR constitute one legal entity and the work of AIPPI Sweden is carried out within the framework of SFIR, even though not all SFIR members are members of AIPPI Sweden. The Executive Committee members of AIPPI Sweden participate in the board meetings of SFIR. SFIR had approximately 750 members as of 31 December 2007 and there were approximately 265 members of AIPPI Sweden as of 31 December 2007.

The activities 2007 have comprised: conferences, seminars, and lectures on current intellectual property matters, as well as consultations, both in writing and at meetings, with the Swedish Government regarding various IP related matters on national level, EU level and multilateral level in WIPO. The following Activity Report thus reflects what has been achieved during 2007.

Seminars, conferences etc.

On January 23 2007 a full day seminar was held regarding intellectual property case law in the Swedish Courts during 2006. This type of seminar was now arranged for the fifth year, as the first seminar of the year. Approximately 130 participants attended the seminar.

On April 17, a seminar was held on the topic "How can the biotechnological development profit the most from the patent system?". Approximately 30 participants attended the seminar.

At the Annual Meeting for SFIR and for AIPPI Sweden April 26, the intellectual property unit of the Ministry of Justice informed of current legislative issues and of other news. After the meeting, there was a seminar on the relationship between trade mark and company name protection. Approximately 60 participants attended the Annual Meeting and some 90 participants attended the seminar.

On September 10, the association held a meeting regarding the Ministry of Justice's proposal on how to adapt the Swedish legislation to the EU Directive on enforcement of intellectual property rights. The Ministry of

Justice presented the proposal which was then commented on. Approximately 100 participants attended the meeting.

On 23 October an afternoon seminar was arranged on “Compensation of Employed Inventors” where the principles for remuneration were described in the light of decisions and opinions from the Industrial Inventions Board and the Governmental Board for Employees Inventions. Approximately 65 participants attended.

On December 6, an afternoon seminar was arranged on intellectual properties in insolvency/bankruptcy. Approximately 65 participants attended the seminar.

The Nordic Associations for the Protection of Industrial Property, Conference in Denmark

On March 16 2007, a conference and workshop was held in Copenhagen by the Nordic Associations for the Protection of Industrial Property on the topic of “Intellectual Property rights under pressure and changes – in defence of Intellectual Property but against whom and how?”

Consultations by the Swedish Ministry of Justice

SFIR has during the year filed submissions with its opinion on the following consultations from the Swedish Ministry of Justice

- The EU Commission’s and Presidency’s proposal to provisions on contracts concerning intellectual property rights in the regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on the law applicable to contractual obligations (Rome I)
- The Patent and Corporate Growth Inquiry’s proposal “Patents and innovations for corporate growth and development” (Swedish Government Official Report SOU 2006:80),
- The Ministry Publication “Civil enforcements of intellectual property rights – implementation of directive 2004/48/EC” (Ministry Publication Ds 2007:19),
- The Swedish Government Official Report from the Professional Secrecy Inquiry (Report SOU 2007:27),
- The proposal from the Chair of the B+ Group Working Group I on a harmonisation package for the Country Group B+ in preparation of continuing discussions in WIPO on Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT).

SFIR has also submitted a paper to the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications, and the Ministry of Integration and Gender Equality supporting the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise’s view that a commission of inquiry should be appointed to give an overhaul to the rules on litigation regarding intellectual property rights, competition and marketing laws and adjoining jurisprudence. SFIR has long argued that there is a need for a commercial court with this wide but specialised perspective.

SFIR has upon invitation from the Prime Minister's Office attended a hearing regarding the implementation of the EU's strategy for growth and employment, the so-called Lisbon Strategy, and upon invitation from the Ministry of Justice attended a hearing regarding a judicial system for Community Patents. SFIR has also submitted its view on the Portuguese Presidency's amended proposal on a future unified and integrated patent litigation system.

The Association's answers on the consultations are published at www.sfir.se

Subject groups

Since 2003, there are five groups covering respectively patents, trademarks, designs, copyright and TRIPS. The groups work in an informal way and the groups constitute a forum for general discussions on issues within their respective fields. The groups also focus on participating in answering AIPPI Working Questions and different AIPPI questionnaires. The groups also function as a forum where younger people in the profession could get involved in matters that they are specifically interested in. During the year the subject groups have, among other things, been involved in the consultations to the Ministry of Justice mentioned above.

Specific activities of the Swedish group of AIPPI

AIPPI Sweden has worked with the three Working Questions on the agenda at the ExCo Meeting in Singapore in October 2007; Q 193 Divisional, Continuation and Continuation in Part Applications, Q 194 The Impact of Co-Ownership of Intellectual Property Rights on their Exploitation, Q 195 Limitations of the Trademark Protection.

On 19 March 2007 a meeting was held, where the Swedish reports were discussed before they were finalised and submitted to the General Secretariat of AIPPI. All members of AIPPI Sweden and SFIR were invited. Finally, the Swedish Executive Committee members attended the ExCo meeting in Singapore October 6-9 2007 and the Resolutions adopted at the Singapore ExCo Meeting were provided to the Swedish Ministry of Justice.

AIPPI Sweden has been active on working with Q199, the suggested Intellectual Property Adviser Privilege, in preparation for the joint seminar of WIPO/AIPPI on May 22-23, 2008. In doing this, the Swedish AIPPI group has submitted an answer to the questionnaire from the working group of AIPPI Zurich.

AIPPI Sweden has been working with Q200, i.e. the proposal of changes to the statutes of AIPPI. A joint meeting with representatives of the AIPPI groups of Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland was held in Copenhagen on December 1, 2007, and resulted in two joint papers to the Bureau of AIPPI. The papers include proposals for changes to the statutes and abolishment of simultaneous translations at Congresses and ExCo Meetings.

Much work has been devoted to final revision of the budget and accounts following the AIPPI Congress in Gothenburg. Also, AIPPI Sweden has discussed how the surplus from the AIPPI Congress in Gothenburg should be handled, and the presentation of the financial outcome of the Congress at the Executive Committee Meeting in Singapore. It has been decided that the company created when arranging the congress, the so-called *Congress Company*, handles the surplus.

Members of AIPPI Sweden have taken active part in preparing the Centennial Celebration of the foundation of SFIR and AIPPI Sweden to take place August 25-27, 2008.

Furthermore, AIPPI Sweden has given proposals to the Programme Committee of AIPPI regarding topics for the continuing work of AIPPI at Executive Committee Meetings, Congresses and Workshops.

Regarding the internal work of the Executive Committee of AIPPI Sweden, an informal and smaller working group has been formed to prepare managerial issues. A Think Tank group has also been appointed to give views and ideas on the future activities and working methods of AIPPI Sweden.

The Executive Committee members of AIPPI Sweden have met regularly, mainly coinciding with board meetings of SFIR which take place approximately 8-10 times/year.

AIPPI Sweden's members in the AIPPI Executive Committee

Until the Annual Meeting in April 2007, the members of AIPPI Sweden in the AIPPI Executive Committee comprised of the following persons: Annika Ryberg (president of AIPPI Sweden), Eva Jarnvall, Ulf Dahlgren, Bo Davidsson, Gunnar Karnell, Marianne Levin, Ivan Hjertman, and Håkan Borgenhäll (secretary). Jonas Gulliksson was the treasurer.

At the Annual Meeting on April 26 2007, the following persons were elected as AIPPI Sweden's members in the AIPPI Executive Committee: Ivan Hjertman (president of AIPPI Sweden), Christina Berggren, Håkan Borgenhäll, Ulf Dahlgren, Bo Davidsson (treasurer), Gunnar Karnell, Marianne Levin, Dag Hedefält and Louise Wallin (secretary). The Executive Committee of AIPPI Sweden has created a Vice President post within the Committee and appointed Håkan Borgenhäll to hold that position.

Stockholm 30 April 2008

Louise Wallin
Secretary