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STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

submitted by

SLOVENIA

An annual series of reports on the trademark information activities
of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

SLOVENIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (SIPO)
ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON
TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1999

I. EVALUATION OF REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES

In 1999, there were 1823 national applications filed with SIPO, 0.5 % less than the previous year.

SIPO also received 5684 trademarks through the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks which were designated for Slovenia.

The number of trademark applications filed both under the national and international procedures remains stable, while the number of oppositions filed against the registration of national or international marks has been growing.

There has been no changes concerning application filing procedure, as well registration procedure. The average examination period is shorter than in previous years, and the backlog of not yet processed applications is decreasing.

The working draft of the new Law on Industrial Property is available on Internet.

II. MATTERS CONCERNING THE GENERATION, REPRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SECONDARY SOURCES OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION

Nothing new to report since 1998.

III. MATTERS CONCERNING CLASSIFYING, RECLASSIFYING AND INDEXING OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION

SIPO continues to apply the Nice Classification of Goods and Services, the 7th edition, and the Vienna Classification of Figurative Elements, the 4th edition.

The Slovenian language version of Nice Classification is available.

IV. TRADEMARK MANUAL SEARCH FILE ESTABLISHMENT AND UPKEEP

Manual search files are not used.

V. ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTERIZED TRADEMARK SEARCH SYSTEM

SIPO continues to carry out searches on the basis of on-line information service (bibliographic and legal status data on national trademarks as well on international trademarks valid in Slovenia) as it was reported in 1998.

SIPO uses automation system based on Alpha server operating under VMS and uses Word Perfect text processing package.

SIPO has also developed a computerized in-house image search system, which contains information on published and registered trademarks. This system is expected to be put on Internet in 2000 via SIPO home page.

Internet access is available on every trademark examiner's workstation.

VI. ADMINISTRATION OF TRADEMARK SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

SIPO on-line information service is available also to the public as well as the image search system. A workstation in the library is available to external users to conduct their own searches in the ROMARIN database and OHIM database.

Trademark documents, Official Bulletins, Romarin CD-Rom, OHIM Bulletin on CD-Rom and general information concerning trademark filing and protection are available to the public in the library.

Information on services performed by the Office is contained on the Internet home page.

The library has a collection of relevant publications and periodicals in the field of trademark protection which are available to the public.

VII. MATTERS CONCERNING MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF TRADEMARK DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION

SIPO exchanges Official Bulletins with 17 countries.

VIII. MATTERS CONCERNING EDUCATION AND TRAINING INCLUDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

SIPO continued to organize a short-time training courses for trademark examiners from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

SIPO paid particular attention to the programs of education and promotion of intellectual property designed for students. Thus, specialized lectures and visits were held.

SIPO examiners participated in training courses organized in the framework of the RIPP programme and in the seminar on Madrid Agreement and Protocol organized by WIPO.

Within the framework of the RIPP programme, SIPO organised an international seminar addressed to attorneys from Slovenia and other central and eastern countries concerning the trademark conventions and trademark classifications. The training was carried out by Benelux Trademark Office, and was attended by 20 participants from 12 countries.

Within the framework of preparations for integration, staff members of SIPO were offered a training course in Alicante organised by the government of Spain and OHIM.

A wide variety of language training has also been organised for staff members.