

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the CEPIUG, held in Stockholm, 2008-10-30

List of attendees:

Aalt van de Kuilen	Chair	WON
Michele Fattori	Vice Chair	AIDB
Bob Stembridge	Secretary-elect	PATMG
Anne-Gaëlle Darmont	Board member	CFIB
Philippe Bodart	representative	CFIB
Stephen Adams	representative	PATMG
Age Larsen	representative	PIF
Tine Klein Mikkelsen	representative	PIF
Linus Wretblad	representative	SIPIG
Bettina de Jong	representative	WON
Peter Atzmüller	observer	---
Gerold Frers	observer	PDG
Lucy Akers	observer	PIUG
Theo Verbeij	observer	STGO

Agenda:

1. Opening the meeting
2. Replacement of Gerben Gieling (secretary)
3. Budget
4. Website and logo
5. Progress working group(s)
6. Cooperation with other groups/Expanding the Confederacy
7. AOB
8. Closing of meeting

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Lingscheid, AGM
Gerben Gieling, past-Secretary, did not attend

1) The meeting was opened at 14.00 by Aalt van de Kuilen (Chair).
No amendments were made to the agenda. Since additional members were present for the first time, a formal round of introductions was made.

2) Replacement of Gerben Gieling (secretary).
Following discussion at the 1st CEPIUG meeting where it was agreed to bring the composition of the board in line with articles 3.1 and 3.2 of the regulations, Gerben Gieling has stepped down from the board. PATMG were invited to propose a replacement. Bob Stembridge offered his services on behalf of the PATMG. The appointment was endorsed by unanimous vote of eligible meeting attendees.

Aalt expressed a personal view that besides having four different user groups represented, the experience from a vendor organization on the board would also be welcome. Bob observed that in his capacity as board member, he would act as a representative of PATMG, not from a commercial viewpoint.

3) Budget

There is a potential need for a central budget for CEPIUG to cover costs for travel, website etc. This could be difficult to arrange directly since not all CEPIUG member groups have a budget from which to contribute to a central budget. EPO also cannot provide financial support to CEPIUG.

Stephen Adams observed that in order for the group to have a budget, it would require a bank balance for which it would need to be incorporated. He informed the meeting that there may be EU funding available as part of the FP7 framework program designed to encourage cooperation amongst professional groups across Europe. Again, without legal recognition as a body, CEPIUG would not be able to get funding from this source. Aalt mentioned that it may be possible to register the corporation in the Netherlands for a minimal fee (approx. 200 euros).

One possibility could be to go for registered charity status.

- ❖ ACTION: Bob Stembridge agreed to investigate this option for incorporation of the CEPIUG organization in the UK.
- ❖ ACTION: Aalt and Bettina agreed to do the same for The Netherlands.
- ❖ ACTION: Stephen Adams and Bettina de Jong also agreed to investigate the options for EU funding through the FP7 framework program.

4) Website and logo

The CEPIUG logo was discussed. Through an informal vote, most attendees seem to prefer logo number 4 or logo number 6. The round shape of design 6 is good because it can be used for a badge, mouse mat, drinks mat etc.; the cross in design 4 is also a good feature.

- ❖ ACTION: Aalt agreed to ask Barbara Politi to ask the designer to produce a modified design based on the combination of designs 4 and 6.
- ❖ ACTION: When redesigned, Aalt will circulate the logo to CEPIUG members so that member user groups can vote and approve.

It was agreed that development of the CEPIUG Website must wait for the logo decision.

Gerben Geiling has investigated the availability of the CEPIUG domain names and they seem to be available - CEPIUG“.ORG” (“.INFO” OR “.EU”). The suggestion was made that all three domain names be obtained and then linked to one domain. It is agreed that we will not use www.cepiug.com. “.ORG” may be the preferred extension since it is the most well-known. Gerben has also undertaken to produce the first website and arrange for hosting. The proposed cost of this would be small at 5-6 Euros per month. It is also proposed to include former COPS material. Stephen Adams suggested that as an interim measure, the COPS site could be set up as a re-direct to CEPIUG.

The idea of obtaining a CEPIUG Trademark was also discussed and the decision made not to pursue registration of the trademark at this time. The key benefit seems to be that

if the domain name is lost then if the group is incorporated it might expedite restoration of the mark. CEPIUG is not incorporated so it is not a good time to pursue the trademark.

5) Progress working group(s)

CEPIUG has established two working groups, one for certification and one for training and education.

Certification WG:

The decision was made to work on a common document from PDG, PIUG and CEPIUG about the requirements for Certification. As a base for this, the PDG document created by Michele Fattori is to be used in an amended form.

- ❖ ACTION: Michele Fattori agreed to arrange an initial teleconference for the CEPIUG certification working group.
- ❖ ACTION: Michele also agreed to send the names and emails of the current working group members for both the CEPIUG and the PDG certification WG members to Lucy Akers in PIUG.

These lists will allow PIUG to provide access to the closed PIUG wiki team space which is limited to certification WG members. All CEPIUG and PDG certification WG members will be able to monitor the related activity of PIUG and to contribute to the team space when they would like to do so.

Training & Education WG:

Although the work of the Training & Education WG should be guided by recommendations from the Certification WG, initial work could begin on developing supporting materials such as the coverage of different sources of patent information and other entry level basic training materials.

Stephen Adams and Theo Verbeij accepted the invitation from Aalt van de Kuilen to act as interim co-chairs of the Training & Education WG.

- ❖ ACTION: Theo Verbeij and Stephen Adams agreed to inventory the training that is already available for patent information specialists.
- ❖ ACTION: Lucy Akers agreed to introduce them to the Co-Chairs of the PIUG Training WG - Kris Atkinson (Boston Scientific) and John Zabilski (CAS).
- ❖ ACTION: Representatives from CEPIUG member organizations agreed to submit names of interested participants for the Training WG.
- ❖ ACTION: Aalt van de Kuilen proposed that the CEPIUG board will make a proposal of what this WG will do and send out to user groups to approve.

6) Cooperation with other groups/Expanding the Confederacy

Peter Atzmüller described the interest in formation of a new user group for German speaking information professionals from the Germany/Austria region. There are about 25 people currently interested in forming a new German-speaking user group. Six of them

attended EPOPIC. The new group has a lot of things to do, including choosing a user group name and acronym.

Aalt van de Kuilen welcomed the formation of the new group and extended full support from CEPIUG and any help require in establishing the new German-speaking user group.

- ❖ ACTION: Bob Stembridge offered to send a copy of the PATMG constitution to Peter Atzmüller

AGM has also indicated an interest in joining the confederacy.

The Thomson User Group in the UK is also interested in discussing membership in CEPIUG (they have a meeting scheduled on Nov 13). They are interested in the certification effort.

There is a Basel-area user group that may be of interest to the newly forming German-speaking user group.

7) AOB

Anne Gaëlle Darmont asked if the Certification WG could send a copy of the PDG proposal to member representatives of CEPIUG so they can review and comment.

- ❖ ACTION: Michele Fattori (interim Chair of Certification WG) will remind representatives on the WG to send reports from the WG back to their members.

Aalt van de Kuilen reminded the group to look out for the article on the formation of the CEPIUG which is to be published in the forthcoming issue of World Patent Information.

It is possible that the WON/GO basic training course which is currently run in The Hague may be taught in countries other than the Netherlands. Sweden was mentioned as a possibility for next Autumn.

Theo Verbeij asked to be included on the CEPIUG mailing list

- ❖ ACTION: Bob to check that Theo is added to CEPIUG e-mail list

8) Closing of meeting

Aalt van de Kuilen (Chair) closed the meeting at 15.27