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Minutes of the 11th meeting of CEPIUG, Seville, 10th March 2013

List of attendees:

<i>Aalt van de Kuilen</i>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>WON</i>
<i>Bob Stembridge</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>PATMG</i>
<i>Linus Wretblad</i>	<i>Board member</i>	<i>SIPIG</i>
<i>Dania Agnoletto</i>	<i>Representative</i>	<i>AIDB</i>
<i>Fanny Coignard</i>	<i>Representative</i>	<i>CFIB</i>
<i>Benoit Sollie</i>	<i>Representative</i>	<i>CFIB</i>
<i>Ian Sinclair</i>	<i>Observer</i>	<i>IPi</i>
<i>Heiko Wongel</i>	<i>Observer</i>	<i>EPO</i>
<i>Monika Hanelt</i>	<i>Observer</i>	<i>PDG</i>
<i>Lucy Akers</i>	<i>Observer</i>	<i>PIUG</i>

AGENDA:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of minutes from November 6th 2012
3. Matters arising
4. Board elections – nominations for candidates are invited
5. Report of CEPIUG board activities since the last meeting
6. Update on Certification of Patent Information Professionals
7. Update on Training & Education WG activities
8. Update of member group activities
9. A.O.B.

Invited Attendees:

Members:

AGM	Arbeitsgruppe Elektronische Medien in der Patentinformation (DE)
AIDB	Associazione Italiana Documentalisti Brevettuali (IT)
BEPIUG	Belgian Patent Information users group (BE)
BPIP	British Patent Information Professionals (UK)
CFIB	Club Francophone d'Information Brevet (FR)
PATMG	Patent & Trademark Group (UK)
PIF	Patent Information Forum (DK)
SIPIG	Swedish usergroup (SE)
WON	Werkgemeenschap Octrooi-informatie Nederland (NL)

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Observers:

PDG representative
Daniel Shalloe (EPO)
Theo Verbeij (Stichting GO)
PIUG representative
Peter Atzmueller
Ruth Mikeska
Ford Khorsandian

- 1) Aalt van de Kuilen welcomed the meeting at 19.10. Apologies for absence were received from Susan Bates (BPIP), Susan Helliwell (BPIP), Dan Shalloe (EPO), Tine Klein Mikkelsen (PIF), Marjolaine Thulin (SIPIG), Bettina de Jong (WON), Bart Lindekens (BEPIUG), and Guido Moradei (AIDB).
- 2) Minutes of the 10th meeting held November 6th 2012 were accepted without correction.
- 3) A letter has been received from the SACEPO regarding proposals for official representation at this meeting in the future. The current ways of working and composition work very well, but in the light of forthcoming retirements, there is a desire to formalize procedures for appointing replacements. The proposals will be presented at the next SACEPO meeting and any decisions communicated after that.
- 4) Anne Gaëlle Darmont has served the full term for a board member and is required to step down. She was thanked for all her work and contributions to the CEPIUG board. A nomination was received from CFIB to appoint Frederic Baudour as a replacement. This nomination was unanimously accepted and he will serve as CEPIUG board member effective from March 10th 2013 onwards.

Notice has been received from Michele Fattori that he wishes to resign from the CEPIUG board and thanks for all his contributions over the past years were given. A nomination from AIDB has been received to appoint Guido Moradei as a replacement. This nomination was unanimously accepted and he will serve as CEPIUG board member.

All members are invited to send in any further nominations for serving on the CEPIUG board to the CEPIUG secretary.

- 5) Report of CEPIUG activities:
 - Quarterly calls with PIUG
 - Quarterly Call between Susanne Hantos (PIUG) and Aalt van de Kuilen (CEPIUG) to exchange ongoing topics. Discussion within PIUG continues with respect to support for the Certification initiative. In particular, the possibility of a poll of the PIUG membership to determine this question is being examined.
 - Presentation at Conference on Freedom-to-Operate (Frankfurt May 9th, 2012)
 - Invitation for a presentation: Freedom to Operate searches (Aalt van de Kuilen)

- Letter from CEPIUG and PIUG to USPTO and EPO to support CPC activities (December 2012)
 - Support for the achievements according the introduction of the CPC so far.
- Discussion with sponsor to support certification project
 - Bettina de Jong and Aalt van de Kuilen discussed with Stichting GO to continue their support to the Certification project. Available budget will be continued for 2013 to support Certification activities (Managed by Bettina de Jong)
- Letter from PDG, CEPIUG and PIUG to EPO (Richard Flammer) to support Certification of Patent Information Professionals (February 2013)
 - Working group on certification (together with PDG and PIUG) sent a letter to EPO (Bernd Wolter, Bettina de Jong and Susanne Hantos)

6) Update on Certification of Patent Information Professionals Working Group

In the absence of Bettina de Jong (WG chair) at this meeting, Linus Wretblad provided an update. Work is continuing with a view to launching the inaugural exams as soon as possible, but not before 2014. The path being followed is to produce an internal draft and test that, then make any modifications in the light of testing, then put this out as the exam paper. The first draft has been completed.

There will be one exam only which will be subject-independent. There will be two papers examining search and analysis respectively. The intention is to provide an easy mechanical case that can be understood by all technologists including chemists, biologists etc. The exam may include other subjects later, but for now it will be technology-independent.

The next WG meeting is scheduled for 19th March after which it is hoped to have a finalized test draft ready.

The Guidelines sub-group has also made progress. Guidelines are now drafted and out for review. Once finalized, these will be sent to PDG, PIUG and CEPIUG for comment.

7) Update on Training & Education WG activities

The training/education working group has been expanded to include two new representatives: Jane List (BPIP) and Lucy Akers (PIUG). The CEPIUG Board is actively engaged in finding a suitable candidate to chair this group in order to make progress with activities.

8) Update of member group activities

AIDB

The next meeting of AIDB will take place in Bologna the day after the EPOPIC conference.

BPIP

The BPIP held its last meeting on 12 September 2013 at Kraft Foods. The meeting included 1) a 2-hour Claim Interpretation Workshop given by Ben Appleton, a European and UK qualified patent attorney, b) an STN Update from Ralph Remme of FIZ Karlsruhe, c) an abridged reprise of Stephen Adams' IPI-ConfEx 2012 MasterClass "Not Patented \neq Not Protected: Rare Species in the IP Jungle"; and d) members news, feedback from major conferences, and discussions of user experiences with the major patent search systems.

As a result of discussions at the meeting concerning the implementation of STN Numeric Indexing to Derwent World Patents Index, Susan Helliwell [BPIP Chairperson] made representations on our behalf to Thomson Reuters as to whether they could now standardise the numeric data used in writing DWPI abstracts so that the STN algorithm can recognise and index it. She subsequently received a draft document from Bob Stembridge with a proposal as to how this could be implemented by their Editorial Staff. This proposal has been circulated within BPIP for comments.

The BPIP next meeting will take place September/October 2013 (date to be confirmed) at Reckitt-Benckiser.

BEPIUG – not present and no report received.

CFIB

CFIB is soliciting support from the French Patent Office, INPI, for Certification and to put in place trainings directed towards that. Frederic Baudour will be representing CFIB on CEPIUG board.

PATMG

After a lull last year, this year has seen a revival of PATMG activities. A committee meeting took place in January to plan activities for 2013. The AGM date was set for 5th May. A regional half-day meeting is also planned to take place in Leeds in July to accommodate PATMG members in the North of the UK who have difficulty to attend meetings in London.

A LinkedIn group has now been set-up to provide a communication channel for PATMG members independent of CILIP (e-mail addresses exist only for PATMG members who also belong to CILIP which misses those members who are independent of CILIP).

The Searcher magazine continues to be produced regularly with news and updates of developments in the patent information field. A new editor, Chris Torrero, has been appointed and is doing an excellent job.

PIF – not present and no report received.

SIPIG

SIPIG has held one board meeting at which the large size of the parent organization to which SIPIG belongs and IP industry professional involvement in that group was discussed. Linus Wretblad spoke at one of their conferences about the work of CEPIUG and Certification, and is now trying to bring this together with other people in industry. So SIPIG is more formally

becoming a working group of the main body. Some work is underway on looking at Japanese patent coverage in databases. Initial work indicates there are some gaps in coverage from 1980 forwards. The only way to find some documents is to use F-terms to recover and then scroll through the PDF – there's a record there, but nothing else; it would be good to know what's lacking. More work will be done to investigate. The next meeting is scheduled in May around mapping analysis tools.

WON

The annual meeting of WON was held in November 2012. There was an important discussion to move from corporate membership to individual membership. 95 companies are members which are currently limited to two representatives per conference. Plans for workshops on specific topics were discussed and WON is planning to organize a training course on claim construction. The general meetings format works quite well with one or two providers invited to present case studies. The training course in the Hague is running well and is attended by all new patent information professionals i.e. it is mandatory for new starters in the profession. At the end of March the same course will be given in Bangalore with exactly the same content and course as the one in The Hague. The next WON meeting is scheduled for April.

9) A.O.B. – none.

The date of the next meeting was proposed to take place during the PEO conference in Bologna between 21st and 24th October, details to be decided closer the time.

There being no further business to discuss, Aalt van de Kuilen thanked the participants for their participation and continuing good work and declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.