



Guido Moradei
 CEPIUG Secretary
 c/o Quaestio srl
 Piazza Giovani XXIII 13
 21100 Varese, Italy

Minutes of the 20th meeting of CEPIUG, Sofia, November 8th, 2017

The meeting has taken place at the Sofia Hotel Balkan, Sveta Nedelya Square 5, Sofia, Bulgaria
Time: 18:00 - 20:00

List of attendees:

Name	Group/ affiliation	In person	Remote
Linus Wretblad	SIPIG/CEPIUG Chair	X	
Susan Helliwell	BPIP/CEPIUG Vice-chair		X
Guido Moradei	AIDB/CEPIUG Secretary	X	
Klaus Gundertofte	PIF/CEPIUG Board	X	
Muriel Bourgeois	CFIB/Board		X
Frederic Baudour	CFIB		X
Dirk Rattat	BEPIUG	X	
Greet Hermans	BEPIUG	X	
Sander de Vrieze	BEPIUG/CEPIUG Conference Organising Committee		
Rebecca Davies	BPIP	X	
Jane List	BPIP	X	
Stephen Adams	PATMG/PIUG Vice-Chair	X	

.....

Henrik Schreiber	PING	X	
Bettina de Jong	WON/PDG/Certification Team Chair	X	

OBSERVERS

Marta Ballbè	SPIP Observer	X	
David Borel	CHPIUG Observer		X
Gerard van der Ligt	PDG Chair Observer	X	
Magdalena Zelenkovska	WIPO Observer	X	
Heiko Wongel	EPO Observer	X	

AGENDA:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of minutes from March 2017 meeting in Wien
3. Report of CEPIUG board activities since the last meeting
4. Admission of new Members
5. Board candidate elections and withdrawals
6. CEPIUG 10th Year Anniversary Conference 2018
7. Report from Certification Project for Patent Information Professionals
8. Update of member groups activities
9. A.O.B.

The Board Chair Linus Wretblad welcomed the meeting at 18:00.

The remote participants have been connected via webex, however some technical problems have been faced during the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Nothing to report (see below a note about the AGM situation at point 4.c)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 2017 MEETING IN WIEN

The minutes of the previous meeting have been distributed, but nothing to report.

3. REPORT OF CEPIUG BOARD ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Linus Wretblad thanked the participants and presented the status of the Confederacy, showing a general steady growth in membership, who has currently exceed the historic threshold of 1.000.

Activities:

a. **Tools survey** – results have been distributed to the User Groups, an article for the WPI is in preparation

b. **Events** with the participation of CEPIUG:

PIUG Conference – Linus Wretblad attended the meeting in the USA. Good relationships continue.

WIPO – Guido Moradei attended the works of the **Legal Status Task Force**, the **Committee of WIPO Standards (CWS)**, who approved the new St.27 Legal Status events codes. It was proposed to prepare a survey among the Users Groups members to provide the WIPO a feedback on the classification proposed.

He is also attending the new created "**Public Access to Patent Information Task Force**", who is currently working on a questionnaire to the IPOs for investigating the legal status information they make available online.

WIPO – Guido Moradei for the CEPIUG Board and other colleagues from the Users Groups attended in person/via webex the **2nd IP Round Table** on 25 October, and reported an increased attention from the WIPO

EPO – nominations for the period 2018/2020 at the **SACEPO/PDI** have been made and awaiting for a confirmation from the EPO. Confirmed 2+7 seats available for the CEPIUG/Users Groups.

Stephen Adams, in his quality of PIUG delegate, stressed the importance of a collaboration between different Users Groups in order to be able to follow the works of the several WIPO committees and task force, share experience and reports.

c. Website, CEPIUG discussion lists, Calendar

Brief report from Klaus Gundertofte about the frequentation of the CEPIUG discussion lists, increasing but not so much. Users Groups are reminded about the possibility to use this useful tools for trasversal communication between members.

The Calendar already reports some of the main events organised by the Users Groups.

4. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

a. With great pleasure it is announced that two new Users Groups have submitted a request to be members of the CEPIUG.

They are:

SPIP – Spanish Patent Information Professionals, represented at the meeting by Marta Ballbé (spokesperson)

CHPIUG – Swiss Patent Information Users Group, represented at the meeting by David Borel (president)

The admission of both Users Groups has been approved unanimously. Many congratulations to SPIP and CHPIUG!

b. Stephen Adams, in his quality of PIUG delegate raised the question whether CHPIUG, but also BEPIUG, had got a special authorization to use the term "PIUG" in their name from the PIUG, who has also registered the trademark PIUG (apparently in the USA only), in order to avoid confusion between the different organisations.

It is reminded that CEPIUG has signed a memorandum with the PIUG regarding the use of the term "PIUG" in its name.

The matter does not involve the CEPIUG itself, the parties are invited to discuss the possible issue bilaterally.

c. Apparently AGM has been incorporated into PING but an official confirmation by the AGM representative is needed.

The CEPIUG Rules do not provide the possibility of excluding a member User Group. The point will require a review, but the whole CEPIUG Rules would require a review, being quite synthetic and perhaps inadequate to govern the developments of the Confederacy.

PING delegate is asked to contact the AGM representative for clarification in this regard.

5. BOARD CANDIDATE ELECTIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

a. With great pleasure it is announced that two Users Groups have proposed a candidate for the CEPIUG Board.

They are:

Frank Verbeke (BEPIUG)

David Borel (CHPIUG)

The admission of Frank Verbeke has been approved unanimously. Many congratulations to Frank!

The candidature of David Borel has been considered premature, having the CHPIUG just established and requested to become a member of CEPIUG.

Even if the candidature to the Board from a Users Group not having already a representative is usually welcome, in this case the meeting expressed unanimously against the admissibility of the application. CHPIUG is suggested to acquire knowledge and experience of the CEPIUG structure and activity before re-submitting a candidature.

b. To his great regret Linus Wretblad announced that the term of his participation to the Board has lapsed (two periods of three years) and he has to step down. The meeting expressed too its great regret and express the wish that Linus will continue to support the activities of the CEPIUG in other roles.

c. It is announced that the Board has nominated as new Chair Susan Helliwell (BPIP) and as new Vice-Chair (in substitution of the same Susan) Muriel Bourgeois (CFIB). Many congratulations to Susan and Muriel!

6. CEPIUG 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE 2018

Guido Moradei reported about the project of the event which was presented at the 19th Meeting in Wien.

An Organising Committee has been set with participants of all the Users Groups, the location of Milan, Italy, has been fixed and the date confirmed (9-11 September, as corrected after the meeting).

The Conference will be held as a joint event with Politecnico of Milan, which will provide the rooms at preferential conditions.

The general scheme of the programme has been presented as well as the launch of a survey to know in advance the wishes of the members, and the next steps announced.

It will be definitely the major event of 2018, being the Conference of all the CEPIUG Users Groups, and a large number of participants is expected

7. REPORT FROM CERTIFICATION PROJECT FOR PATENT INFORMATION

PROFESSIONALS

Bettina de Jong, chair of the Certification Coordinators team, reported that the team is still working at the revision of the Articles and Rules, the final version of which should be released by the end of the year. Once released, the Users Groups will be requested to nominate their representative to the Professional Representatives Committee, the body which will start the certification process, whose following steps will be the creation of a first group of QPIP certificated by PER, then the establishment of the Supervisory Council and of the regular process.

It is clarified that the Professional Representatives Committee will then continue its activity as control authority.

8. UPDATE OF MEMBER GROUPS ACTIVITIES

The Breakdown of the Users Groups has also been presented, showing a majority of members working for Corporations (almost half) followed by Public sector, Legal/patent attorney firms and Outsourcing agents (similar numbers).

The activities of some Users Groups have been then reported, namely CFIB, PIF and SIPIG, and briefly commented.

9. A.O.B.

Nothing to report