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BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:

Tim Roberts read chemistry at Oxford: he worked in patents for ICI (later Zeneca) for 35 years, first on plastics, then pesticides, then GM plants, leaving in 1995 to become an independent IP consultant. He was President of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) from 2001-2002, and is General Editor of CIPA's 'European Patents Handbook'. Currently he consults for patent attorneys Brookes Batchellor LLP and is an Associate of Khursheed Khan, Karachi.

He has been a member of the Appeal Board of the European Plant Variety Rights Office (1996 to date); of the Crucible Group (IDRC, "People, Plants and Patents", 1994; "Seeding Solutions", 2002) ; of the IP Committee of the International Seeds Federation (ISF), and of the UK Government's Intellectual Property Advisory Committee (IPAC) from 2001 to 2005. In 1997-8 he chaired an international expert Panel on Proprietary Science and Technology, set up by the World Bank to advise the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) on its intellectual property policy. He is Rapporteur to the Intellectual Property Commission, International Chamber of Commerce (Paris). He has an honorary doctorate in law from the University of Sheffield.

Articles include "Broad Claims" (European Intellectual Property Review [EIPR], August 1994) ; "Patenting Plants around the World" (EIPR, October 1996), "Paper, Scissors, Stone" (EIPR, March 1998), and "Economically Superfluous, Physically Pernicious....?", a review of the Nuffield Report on GM Crops (Bioscience Law Review, March 2000).