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CET GROUP 2 – BRIEFING PAPER – INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

The International Symposium on Industrial Designs, jointly organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of the Republic of Argentina with the support of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office took place in Buenos Aires on March 20 and 21, 2007.

The participants were divided in government representatives from several countries, and non-governmental participants from Argentina. The speakers were representatives of both governmental and non-governmental organization, from different countries and groups, which provided with an important exchange of experience about current tendencies on the industrial design protection in several countries.

Mr. José L. Díaz Pérez, Subsecretario de Industria, Ministerio de Economía y Producción from Argentina; Mr. Ernesto Rubio, Assistant Director General from the World Intellectual Property Organization; Mr. Mario R. Aramburu, Presidente from the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of Argentina; and Mrs. María Teresa Mogín Barquín, Director General of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office were responsible for the opening ceremony.

Mr Mario R. Aramburu was moderator of the panel “Protecting Industrial Designs – Current Issues and Future Trends”, in which Dr. Darlie O. Koshy, executive Director of the National Institute of Design of India and Mr. Marcus Höpperger, Acting Director, Law and International Classifications Division from WIPO were speakers.

The second panel on “Developments in Industrial Designs – Selected Countries” was moderated by Mr. Ernesto Rubio and counted with speakers from China (Mr. LI Jingdong, Assistant Director General, Industrial Design Examination Department, State Intellectual Property Office), United States of America (Ms. Karin Ferriter, Attorney, Office of External Affairs from the United States Patent and Trademark Office), Spain (Mr. Oreste Montalto, director of the Litigation Unit of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market) and Argentina (Mr. Liberto Pardillos, Director, Industrial Models and Designs, INPI).

The last panel of the first day of debates was on the “Current Tendencies in Industrial Design Protection”, moderated by Mr. Marcus Höpperger. The speakers were Mr. David Stone, chair of the Industrial Design Committee of the Association of European Trademark Owners (MARQUES); Mr. Gabriel Di Blasi patent attorney and representative of International Federation of Industrial Property Attorneys (FICPI) and Mr. Iván Alfredo Poli, attorney, and representative of the Argentine Association of Industrial Property Agents (AAAPI).

In the second day of debates, Mr. Grégoire Bisson, Head of the International Registration Systems Legal Service from WIPO moderated the panel “The Geneva Act (1999) of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs – A Truly Global Route for Industrial Design Protection” and the speakers were Ms. Anne Loo, Director of Designs of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS); Mr. Juerg Herren, Head of the Division of Legal and International Affairs of the Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, Berne; and Mr. Aziz Bouazzaoui, Director of the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office. The last debate was on “Protecting Your Industrial Designs: The User’s Point of View” and moderated by Ms. Graciela Adán, Coordinator of Institutional and International Relations of the INPI of Argentina. The speakers were Mrs. Sabine Gluthe, Head of Design Patent from DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany; Mr. Guillermo Viegner, President of FERRUM (Buenos Aires); Mr. Washington Perez, director of RUPTURA (Buenos Aires) and Mr. Martin Sick Nielsen, representative of the International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI).

The Symposium finished with the presentation “Local Design Enterprises and CMD Incubators” and visit to CMD Incubators and other companies.