



RESOLUTION 3

EXPLOITATION OF PATENTED INVENTIONS

FICPI, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, broadly representative of the free profession of more than 70 countries, assembled at its Executive Committee meeting held in Prague, Czech Republic from October 7 to 9, 2002, passed the following Resolution :

Emphasising that a patent does not confer a right to exploit the invention that it protects,

Recognising that governments are entitled to enact legislation determining if and how an invention may be exploited,

and Noting that in some fields, for example health care, inventions may not be exploited without express government approval,

Observing that whilst government or social policy on exploitation may change, a patent can remain in force for at least 20 years,

Urges that no granting authority be empowered to refuse a patent application or revoke a patent on the ground that exploitation of the invention concerned may conflict with current government or social policy.