

Patent- og Varemærkestyrelsen,
Helgeshøj Allé 81,
2630 Tåstrup,
e-mail to pvs@dkpto.dk and mlr@dkpto.dk

C.c. by ordinary mail

8 May 2007

EM 1998 00351

Comments on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the "Financial Perspectives of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trademarks and Designs) dated 22 December 2006"

The Association of Danish Patent Agents in Denmark, which comprises a total of approx. 150 consultants within IP matters, hereby submits its comments on the Commission's communication on financial perspectives of the OHIM dated 22 December 2006.

The Association of Danish Patent Agents is pleased to learn of the success of the Office for Harmonization of the Internal Market (OHIM) and in principle supports the proposal of the European Commission to introduce a method of regular review of the fees, e.g. on an annual basis, based on the OHIM's financial perspectives in order to guarantee a reasonable equilibrium.

Our Association, however, finds it of great importance that such a regular review should be balanced with a necessary upgrading of the general activities of the OHIM.

Our Association deeply appreciates the very successful efforts of the OHIM in connection with the efficiency and speed of handling the various matters, but there can be no doubt that this area will also need an increased effort in the future.

Also in relation to the online filing systems, important investments should be foreseen to improve the reliability and capacity of the online filing system. Furthermore, a more stable and accessible platform for supporting and searching on the Internet homepage of the OHIM would be deeply appreciated by all users.

As mentioned, our Association in principle supports the proposal of the European Commission to introduce lower fees. It should be mentioned, however, that we have not come across any Danish companies who have found the fees to be unacceptably high. In view hereof, it is very important to us that the funds available are used not only for the reduction, but also for a continued improvement of the services of the OHIM.

President:

Anne Schouboe

Plougmann & Vingtoft A/S
Sundkrogsgade 9
DK-2100 København Ø
Tlf. +45 33 63 93 00
Fax +45 33 63 96 00
as@pv.dk

Secretary:

Marianne Johansen

Albihns A/S
H.C.Andersens Boulevard 49
DK-1553 København V
Tlf. +45 33 97 00 70
Fax +45 33 97 00 71
marianne.johansen@albihns.dk

Treasurer:

Susanne Høiberg

Høiberg A/S
St. Kongensgade 59 A
DK-1264 København K
Tlf. +45 33 32 03 37
Fax +45 33 32 03 84
shg@hoiberg.com

Patentagentforeningen

The Association of Danish Patent Agents

Finally, it should be underlined that our Association deeply appreciates the cooperation between the OHIM and the National Offices as well as the exchange and education of the staff of the National Offices as undertaken by the OHIM. This area should also be in focus in the coming years, especially in view of the increased number of member states.

We hope you will find our comments useful.

If you have any questions in this regard or if we can assist you in any other way, please feel free to contact us.

Yours sincerely

The Association of Danish Patent Agents

Marianne Johansen
Secretary

