

11 Jul 2006

Dear Patent Users,

## CONSULTATION 2007 ON THE PATENTS LAWS IN SINGAPORE

IPOS is studying possible amendments to the Patents Act & Rules to provide alignment with changes in the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) that will come into force on 1 Apr 2007. Separately, we are also considering a repeal of current provisions in the Patents Act that deal with restrictive covenants. We have prepared the changes proposed for discussion and would like to seek your views on them in this consultation process.

2. The changes proposed for discussion can be generally classified into 2 parts -
  - a. The 1<sup>st</sup> part proposes to align the provisions of the Singapore Patents Act and Rules with the corresponding changes to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). These amendments aim to make the patent filing process more flexible and user-friendly for applicants. For more detail on the PCT amendments, you may wish to visit this site<sup>1</sup> at WIPO.
  - b. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part proposes to repeal current provisions in the Singapore Patents Act that deal with restrictive covenants.
3. The changes proposed for discussion can be found in Annex A (Proposed changes to the Patents Act) & Annex B (Proposed changes to the Patents Rules). The proposed changes to the Rules largely correspond to the changes in the Act. For your convenience, IPOS has included corresponding legislative references to guide the reader through the proposed changes.
4. IPOS invites your views on the proposed draft amendments as listed in both Annexes. If there are any cross-references to the proposed amendments not referred to in the Annexes, do let us know as well.
5. Please let us hear from you **by 7 Aug 2006 (Monday)**. Your responses should preferably be via email addressed to Ms Tan Kar Leng ([tan\\_kar\\_leng@ipos.gov.sg](mailto:tan_kar_leng@ipos.gov.sg)).

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Isabel CHNG  
Director of Patents  
For REGISTRAR OF PATENTS  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SINGAPORE  
Encl: Annexes A & B

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=9006](http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=9006)