15. Intellectual Property Rights [247]

Commitment

“to create in each G8 country a website providing businesses and individuals with information on mechanisms available and procedures necessary to secure and enforce their intellectual property rights in that country, on threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to public health, safety and the national interests of countries, consumers and business communities, as well as on measures taken at the national and international levels to combat intellectual property rights violations, and on relevant legislation and law enforcement practices;”

Combating IPR Piracy and Counterfeiting

Background

St. Petersburg represented the second consecutive G8 summit where the issue of intellectual property rights led to the publication of a full communiqué. The website initiative appears to be a unique effort of the St. Petersburg summit to educate national business and individuals on a broad range of issues relating to intellectual property rights, although the G8 states already agreed in Gleneagles to “raise awareness among government officials and the public of the health risks, economic damage and growth of organized crime groups resulting from counterfeiting and piracy”.

At its core, this commitment promises “in each G8 country a website providing business and individuals with information on…”

a) “...mechanisms available...to secure and enforce their intellectual property rights in that country
b) “...procedures necessary to secure and enforce their intellectual property rights in that country
c) “...threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to public health...”
d) “...threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to...safety...”
e) “...threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to...the national interests of countries...”
f) “...threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to...consumers...”
g) “...threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to...business communities...”
h) “...measures taken at the national...level to combat intellectual property rights violations...”
i) “...measures taken at...the international level to combat intellectual property rights violations...”
j) “...relevant legislation...”
k) “...relevant...law enforcement practices...”

These eleven points constitute distinct components of information agreed to in the commitment. This information is to be supplied in “a website”, suggesting the need for a single centralized, online access point. The following table summarizes content available as of 31 December 2006.

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Summary of IPR Content on Primary Government Websites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>CAN</th>
<th>FRA</th>
<th>GER</th>
<th>ITA</th>
<th>JAP</th>
<th>RUS</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>USA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Mechanisms</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Procedures</td>
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<td>Y</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Threats – Health</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Threats – Safety</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Threats – Interest</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>F. Threats – Consumers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Threats – Business</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Measures – National</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Measures – International</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Legislation</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Enforcement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Available (11 Max)</strong></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

Assessment

<table>
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<th>Interim Compliance Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lack of Compliance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Country

Canada: 0

While all the information referenced by the G8 commitment is available on websites maintained by the Canadian Government, updated information on only 5 of the 11 points is maintained on the government’s central intellectual property rights website. To achieve full compliance, the Canadian Government needs to integrate all the information described in the commitment into a single website.

The Canadian Government’s primary website relating to intellectual property rights is the Canadian Intellectual Property Office, available online at: strategis.ic.gc.ca/sc_mrksv/

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1023 Copyright.ru Интеллектуальная собственность, авторское право, Date of Access: 1 May 2006. www.copyright.ru/ru/
Commitment components A, B and J are fulfilled by providing information and copies of the Patent Act\textsuperscript{1026}, the Trade-mark Act\textsuperscript{1027}, the Copyright Act\textsuperscript{1029}, the Industrial Design Act\textsuperscript{1030}, the Consolidated Statutes of Canada and other relevant legislation and procedures available for protecting intellectual property. Furthermore, an ‘intellectual property toolkit’ fulfills components A and B in full.\textsuperscript{1031}

CIPO maintains an archive of press releases and news bulletins relating to domestic and international intellectual property rights protection, fulfilling components H and I.\textsuperscript{1032} The website also contains contact information for government agencies, notably the Intellectual Property Policy Directorate, professional groups, and the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada. These agencies and groups can provide information to users relating to the other criteria outlined in the G8 commitment. However, despite providing contact information for inquiries relating to components C through G and K, the website itself does not host this information. While the CIPO website has added a new “client service” section, which CIPO claims “pulls all CIPO information together”, the site still lacks information on the components of the commitment which were absent at the publication of the interim report.

Elsewhere, the Canadian government provides the information described in commitment components C, D, F and G at the website of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.\textsuperscript{1033} While this may benefit consumers and entrepreneurs seeking general information, it does not provide substantial detail. Indeed, the warnings about threats posed by IPR violations and counterfeit products are highly general. To facilitate specific inquiries, the RCMP website also provides contact information for officers handling intellectual property matters.\textsuperscript{1034}

\textit{Analyst: Jeremy Weiss}

France: 0

France has only partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights. At present, only 6 of the 11 points referenced by the commitment are maintained at a sufficient quality on the government’s central intellectual property rights website. To achieve full compliance, the French government needs to expand the quality and scope of the information it provides. In particular, it needs to explicitly address the threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting.

The French government’s primary website relating to intellectual property rights is that of the Institut National de la Propriété Industrielle (INPI), available online at: www.inpi.fr.\textsuperscript{1035} INPI is a “publicly-owned establishment, financially self-sufficient and placed under the supervision of the Ministry for the economy, finances and industry and the Ministry delegated to industry.”\textsuperscript{1036}

The INPI website provides access to legislative information\textsuperscript{1037}, and explains the significance of French patent\textsuperscript{1028}, trademark\textsuperscript{1029} and registered models and designs\textsuperscript{1030} to protecting one’s innovation. Together,


this website content fulfills commitment components A, B and J. The INPI website also offers information on relevant law enforcement practices1043, fulfilling component K. Finally, the website provides information on how to register innovations so as to protect IP rights and on the principal actors of IP rights on both the national1042 and international1043 level that combat intellectual property rights violations. This fulfills commitment components H and I.

The INPI has allied with a French anti-counterfeiting committee to launch a national anti-counterfeiting campaign entitled “Contrefaçon: non merci”1044. On March 4, 2007, the Ministries of Economy, Industry and Finance relaunched their anti-counterfeiting campaign in collaboration with the INPI and the Comité national anti-contrefaçon (Cnac) to alert the public of threats posed by IP rights violations1045. The INPI website encourages visitors to support the campaign by providing statistics1046 and a link to the affiliated anti-counterfeit campaign website: www.contrefacon-danger.com.1047 This campaign website emphasizes the threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting but does not adequately elaborate on their implications for "public health, safety and the national interests of countries, consumers and business communities", information described in components C through G of the St. Petersburg commitment on intellectual property rights.

**Analyst: Sahar Kazranian**

**Germany: 0**

Germany has only partially complied with the St. Petersburg Summit commitment to disseminate information to both businesses and individuals regarding intellectual property rights in that country. At present, the German Government’s primary intellectual property rights website only adequately treats 2 of the 11 points described in the St. Petersburg commitment. To achieve compliance, Germany must work significantly at creating a more comprehensive and centralized online access point for intellectual property rights information.

The German Government’s primary website relating to intellectual property rights is that of the Deutsches Patent und Markenamt (DPMA), available online at: www.dpma.de/index.htm.1048 Mechanisms and procedures available in Germany to secure intellectual property rights are clearly detailed, fulfilling commitment components A and B.

While very thorough and functional for both businesses and individuals, this site appears to focus primarily on providing information regarding industrial patents. The DPMA website covers the technical rights of the patent holder but does not mention the consequences, legal or otherwise, of their violation, thus failing to meet commitment components J and K. The DPMA does provide links to other websites containing relevant copyright laws and legislations as well as to patent justice courts however, the DPMA itself does not post legislation and law enforcement measures undertaken at the national or international levels to protect intellectual property rights.1049

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1045 Mobilisation nationale contre la contrefaçon
1046 Une nouvelle vague publicitaire pour sensibiliser le grand public, 6 March 2007, INPI, (Paris), Last Date of Access by G8RG Analysts: 1 May 2007. www.inpi.fr/front/content/ART_929_25.php
Moreover, while the DPMA website does briefly address the effects of product piracy on the German economy in a press release,\textsuperscript{1050} the website fails to provide information about the threats posed by piracy to public health, safety, national interests, businesses and consumers.

Within the German Federal Ministry of Justice website, there is a webpage for the Federal Ministry of Copyright, the agency that enacts relevant intellectual property rights legislations.\textsuperscript{1051} This site does contain some of the information that comprises commitment components J and K. This information, however, is still not consolidated on a single intellectual property right website in Germany.

Germany therefore fails to completely fulfill the commitment to publish key information regarding intellectual property rights legislations and the threats of piracy and counterfeiting to the nation’s health and economic well-being.

Germany moreover has not established a single, central website for all intellectual rights information and therefore falls short of the St. Petersburg commitment.

**Analyst:** Kayla Pries

**Italy: 0**

Italy has only partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights. At present, only 6 of the 11 points described in the commitment are maintained at a sufficient quality on the government’s central intellectual property rights website. To achieve full compliance, the Italian Government needs to particularly expand the quality and scope of the information provided about piracy and counterfeiting and make the website easier to navigate so as to find relevant information.

The primary online resource relating to intellectual property rights of the Italian Government is that of the Italian Patent and Trademark Office available at: www.infobrevetti.camcom.it/welcome.html.\textsuperscript{1052}

This website has clear information fulfilling commitment components A and B. For instance, information regarding the legal protection of software programs is provided\textsuperscript{1053}, separate sections include information on relevant legislation and law enforcement practices,\textsuperscript{1054} fulfilling commitment components J and K.

Moreover, the website provides links to international bodies involved in the protection of IP rights\textsuperscript{1055}, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization. It also provides links to national and regional patent and trademark offices and to number of sites dedicated to the protection of IP rights\textsuperscript{1056}.

Together these sections of the website fulfill commitment components H and I.

While general information on combating piracy and counterfeiting is present in some of the online guides\textsuperscript{1057}, the information is not centralized and does not explicitly address of the “threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to public health, safety and the national interests of countries, consumers and business communities.”

**Analyst:** Sahar Kazranian

**Japan: 0**

Japan has only partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights. At present, only 4 of the 11 points described in the commitment

\textsuperscript{1050} Productpiraterie gefährdet den Wirtschaftssandort Deutschland, Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt, 7 October 2006, (Berlin)


\textsuperscript{1052} www.dpma.de/infos/pressedienst/pm060710.html

\textsuperscript{1053} 1Diritti Sul Software. Infobrevetti, (Rome). Last Date of Access by G8RG Analyst: 1 May 2007.


\textsuperscript{1055} La Disdisciplina, Infobrevetti, (Rome), Last Date of Access by G8RG Analyst: 1 May 2007, Last Update: 17 April 2007.


appear on the government’s primary intellectual property rights website. To achieve full compliance, the Japanese government needs to expand the range and quality of online information it provides about intellectual property rights.

The primary online resource regarding intellectual property rights maintained by the Japanese Government, is the website for the Japanese Patent Office (JPO), available online at: www.jpo.go.jp/. The JPO website clearly outlines both the mechanisms and procedures available to enforce and protect intellectual property rights in Japan. Some relevant law enforcement practices are also detailed on this website. It definitively fulfills commitment components A, B, J and K. However the website fails to detail the threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to public health, safety, national interests, businesses and consumers. National and international measures taken to combat these piracy threats are also not specified. The JPO website does have links to other, mostly non-governmental sites which do attempt to address piracy threats to the public and economic interests. This information though is still not located at one central governmental site as the commitment mandate would infer.

The Japanese Copyright Office (JCO) is an arm of the Agency of Cultural Affairs within the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). While JCO oversees new initiatives, programs and legislation protecting intellectual property rights in Japan, the JCO does not have a website to detail them. However, the JCO is reportedly building a virtual copyright help desk that might become a major new primary source of online intellectual property right information published by the Japanese government.

Japan therefore fails full compliance to the St. Petersburg commitment because it lacks a single, central, governmentally-run website that disseminates all information regarding intellectual property rights in Japan.

**Analyst: Kayla Pries**

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**Russia: 0**

Russia has only partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights, having made no progress towards fulfilling this commitment since the publication of the interim report. At present, only 6 of the 11 points described in the commitment are maintained at a sufficient quality on the government’s central intellectual property rights website. To achieve full compliance, the Russian government needs to enhance the quality and expand the scope of the information provided about piracy and counterfeiting.

The primary online resource for intellectual property rights (IPR) maintained by the Russian Government is at: www.copyright.ru. This website provides information on securing copyrights, thus fulfilling commitment component A. In the news section of the website, there is information on national and international measures to combat intellectual property right violations, thus fulfilling components G, H and I. There is information on relevant legislation, fulfilling component J. There is also information on law enforcement practices, fulfilling component K.

There is no information on counterfeiting and piracy as described in items from B to F. Thus, Russia gets a score of 0 for work in progress.

**Analyst: Elena Bylina and Jeremy Weiss**

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United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has achieved full compliance with St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights. At present, the UK government has all 11 information points referenced by the commitment available on the ‘UK Intellectual Property Office’ website, available at: http://www.patent.gov.uk.

Detailed information for business and individuals on mechanisms available and procedures necessary to secure and enforce intellectual property rights in London are addressed within the “Get IP Protection” and “Managing your IP” sections of the website. The “IP Crime” section of the website provides a link to the United Kingdom’s “National IP Crime Strategy”. This comprehensive document defines and discusses the threats posed by intellectual property crimes to public health, safety, national interests, consumers and business communities. This fulfills commitment components C, D, E, F and G.

As the mandate of the “National IP Crime Strategy” document is to provide both a national counteroffensive strategy to intellectual property crime at home and abroad, components H, I and K are also fulfilled. The website also provides published annual intellectual property enforcement reports. The purpose of these reports are to provide information on the progress of the United Kingdom’s government fight against intellectual property crimes, as well as to set targets for future enforcement. These “Patent Office Annual Report and Accounts” documents further reinforce commitments H and I.

Lastly, the United Kingdom Patent Office website provides a copy of the "Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988", which is the United Kingdom’s principal legislation on copyright. This information combined with information on the primary legislations that have amended the act, such as “The Copyright, etc. and Trade Marks (Offences and Enforcement) Act 2002” fulfills commitment component J.

The United Kingdom Patent Office website provides a copy of the principal legislation on copyright, the “Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988,” as well as the primary legislations that have amended the act, such as “The Copyright, etc. and Trade Marks (Offences and Enforcement) Act 2002.” The availability and information about these documents fulfills commitment component J and K.

Analyst: Mariann Lau

United States: 0

The United States has not complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to provide online information about intellectual property rights into one single website. The primary governmental online resource dedicated to intellectual property rights is that of the “United States Patent and Trademark Office” available at: http://www.uspto.gov. This website provides information on 6 of the 11 points referenced by the commitment. Another website, run by the U.S. Department of State, references the remainder of the commitments that were not included in the US government’s central website for intellectual property rights. This information is available at: http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/intelprp/homepage.htm. All together, the information is available, but to achieve a full compliance with the commitment, all the information must be available on one centralized website. Moreover, regular updates of information is needed.

The “United States Patent and Trademark Office” website clearly fulfills commitment components A, B, J and K as it provides links to relevant legislations and regulations relating to patents, as well as patent procedures. Information on US Patent Laws is provided, including relevant enforcement

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practices regarding the protection of patents, and a number of links regarding international cooperation on intellectual property rights. This content collectively fulfills commitment components H and I.

Information regarding the threats posed by piracy and counterfeiting to public health, safety, national interests, consumers and businesses, can be found at the U.S. Department of State’s website for international programs. Here, commitment components C through G are fulfilled.

Analyst: Mariann Lau

**European Union: N/A**

The European Union maintains “The European Union On-Line” website, available at: http://europa.eu/. The “Activities” section of this website provides a link to activities within the European Union’s “Internal Market”, which then provides links to information on intellectual property rights. The “Introduction” of this website provides information on the harmonization efforts of the European countries on national laws and for stronger protection of intellectual property rights at the community level as well as the international level.

The main purpose of this website is to provide user-friendly fact sheets that summarize European Union legislation. Legislation includes the European Parliament and Council Directive Acts pertaining to different areas of intellectual property rights, such as copyright and related rights, Biotechnological inventions, trademark laws, and counterfeit goods and piracy. Lastly, the website provides information on international treaties that the European Union has signed onto, such as the Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights Relating to Trade and Pharmaceutical Patents, as well as the World Intellectual Property Organization: The Copyright treaty and the Performances and Phonograms treaty.

The website does not provide very detailed information on the dangers of intellectual property violations. Some information is provided at: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/copyright/index_en.htm. However it does not seem to be the purpose of this website, as this website primarily aims to provide information on the harmonization efforts of the European Union in regards to intellectual property rights.

Note that since the commitment speaks explicitly to “national governments”, a compliance score for the EU is not assessed in this report.

Analyst: Mariann Lau

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