



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
INVENTOR'S ASSOCIATIONS  
(IFIA)



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
ORGANIZATION  
(WIPO)

## **SYMPOSIUM ON INVENTORS AND PROMOTION OF INVENTIONS**

organized by

the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

and

the International Federation of Inventor's Association (IFIA)

in cooperation with

the Central Organization of Finnish Inventor's Association (KeKe)

Tampere University of Technology

and with the assistance of

the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Tampere, August 13 to 17, 1990

Draft conclusions of the Symposium



A symposium on "Inventors and Promotion of Inventions" was held at Tampere from August 13 to 17, 1990. It was organized jointly by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA), in cooperation with the Central Organization of Finnish Inventors' Associations (KeKe) and the Tampere University of Technology and with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). There were 206 participants from the following 31 countries: Brasil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Luxemburg, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Soviet Union, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Venezuela and Zaire\*.

The participants were Government officials working in institutions and departments responsible for the protection of inventions and promotion of inventiveness, officials of national associations of inventors, representatives of other interested circles, such as professors, lawyers, industrialists, etc.

This Symposium was a follow-up of three conferences organized jointly by WIPO and IFIA in May 1984, at the headquarters of WIPO in Geneva, in June 1986, in Stockholm, and in October 1988, in Beijing. The theme of these meetings were respectively the situation of inventors, inventions for development, and creativity and the promotion of inventive activities.

The Symposium was opened by Dr. Arpad Boysch, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and Mr. Clarence Feldmann, President of the International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA), with opening addresses also by Mr. Martti Enäjärvi, Director General of the National Board of Patents and Registration of Finland, and Mr. Ilkka Suominen, Minister of Trade and Industry of Finland.

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\* The List of Participants is given in the Annex



In an introductory lecture entitled "Managing Research and Developments Just-in-Time and First-Time-Right" Prof. Dr. Matti Otala (from Finland) presented information on the recent experience of industry in development of inventions into innovative products.

During the period of the Symposium, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Industrial and Trade Fair in Tampere, which included a section on inventions. At the opening ceremony of the Symposium, the Director General of WIPO presented two WIPO Gold Medals to two "Outstanding Finnish Inventors," a man and a woman.

In this connection, the Symposium welcomed the fact that WIPO awarded gold medals to inventors and promoters of inventive activity and warmly applauded nine of the participants in the Symposium who had already obtained that prestigious international award.

Also during the period of the Symposium, the International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA) held its General Assembly, and associations of inventors from 6 countries were admitted as full members or candidate members\*\* of collaborating members. The countries from which the different member associations in IFIA come from has therefore reached the number of 39.

Mr. Gunnar Graeffe, Professor at the Tampere University of Technology, was elected as Chairman.

The Symposium examined six topics, namely:

- (i) women inventors;
- (ii) young inventors;
- (iii) media and communication;
- (iv) commercialization;
- (v) insurance scheme for patents;
- (vi) management of inventors' associations.



The discussion took place in workshops on the basis of nine papers presented by nine invited moderators from Brasil, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, the Philippines, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The nine moderators chaired the workshops and drew up the following conclusions which they presented personally at the closing ceremony.

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\*\* Full members: Cameroon, Ghana, Iceland and Tunisia  
Candidate members: Bulgaria and the Netherlands (NOVU)  
Collaborating members: