



Lord Mogg
Chairperson
Cooperation Fund Management Board
Office for the Harmonisation in the Internal Market
(OHIM)
Avenida de Europa, 4
E-03008 Alicante
SPAIN

11 December 2009

Dear Lord Mogg,

We refer to your 30 November 2009 letter to the members of the Administrative Board and of the Budget Committee as well as to the observer organisations.

BUSINESSEUROPE welcomes the opportunity to provide its input to the projects to form part of the work programme and to be covered by the Cooperation Fund.

According to our understanding, the basis for the work programme should be the list of projects set out in the joint BUSINESSEUROPE and AIM list of 7 April 2009 and the 16 September 2009 joint letter with the other observer organisations addressed to you and the President of OHIM.

Your letter also addresses the issue of the role of National Offices in anti-counterfeiting activities and training. We believe it is premature to include such activities or other activities related thereto as part of the Cooperation Fund. Thorough analysis should be carried out before conclusions can be reached and the study launched by the Commission would provide a platform for this. In this context, we believe it is imperative that National Offices provide streamlined, cost-effective and efficient registration and opposition proceedings to help tackle counterfeiting.

The projects listed in our above joint letter however can provide a solid basis for the fight against counterfeiting supported by the national offices as well as OHIM.

We are sure that this will benefit the users as well as consumers and remain at your disposal for any further questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe de Buck

Cc/ Mr Wubbo de Boer – President of OHIM