



1 4 MARS 2016

International Labour Office

The Director-General

1 1 MARS 2016

Dear Mr Flaherty,

Thank you for your letter of 23 February 2016 transmitting proposals made on behalf of your client, the Staff Union of the European Patent Office (SUEPO), for tackling the growing number of complaints filed with the ILO Administrative Tribunal (ILOAT) against the European Patent Organization (EPO) and for improving the overall efficiency of the ILOAT.

Please rest assured that the comments and suggestions of SUEPO – a number of which were already contained in its reply to the questionnaire circulated by the ILO among staff associations of ILOAT member organizations when preparing the Office document on the workload and effectiveness of the Administrative Tribunal for the consideration of the Governing Body at its 325th Session (November 2015) – will be considered in the context of ongoing discussions with the EPO and future consultations on possible improvements to the functioning of the Administrative Tribunal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Guy Ryder'.

Guy Ryder

Mr Edward Patrick Flaherty
External Counsel to SUEPO
Schwab, Flaherty & Associés
7, rue de Candolle
1205 GENEVA