



Report: Intellectual Property Rights Critical to Jobs and Growth of Green Technologies in Europe

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BRUSSELS, November 19, 2009 – The Coalition for Innovation, Employment and Development (CIED) today released the findings of a Copenhagen Economics study that found a strong intellectual property (IP) system will support the development of green technologies and the creation of over 2 million jobs in the European Union (EU) over the next 20 years.

The report, *Clean Technology and European Jobs*, states that approximately 2.5 billion dollars in research and development investment in clean technologies for adaptation and mitigation purposes will be needed in order for the EU to successfully reduce its emissions from greenhouse gasses. These investments present a tremendous opportunity to create new high-skilled jobs in Europe. The development and production of renewable energy technologies alone could generate more than 2 million jobs in the EU by 2030, and this number is expected to double if related sectors are included. The report further highlights the importance of a strong IP rights regime in securing the investments and promoting the innovation of new technologies.

“As the EU moves forward developing new technologies to address climate change, protecting intellectual property rights in UNFCCC negotiations is key to meeting that goal,” said Mr. Michael Taylor, a representative of the CIED. “The EU is well positioned to tackle global environmental challenges through innovation of new technologies while providing significant job growth for Europe.”

The CIED report also examines the role of intellectual property rights (IPR) on technology transfer. The study concludes that despite false claims by anti-IP critics, intellectual property rights are not an obstacle to technology transfer. In fact, IP is identified as prerequisites to the sharing of technology. A strong IPR regime assures firms and inventors that their technologies are protected and promotes the diffusion of technologies to countries in both the developed and developing world.

“This study clearly indicates that involuntary measures such as compulsory licensing and other anti-IP efforts will hinder the EU’s ability to reinvigorate its economy, create jobs, and lead the world in green technologies,” added Taylor. “The CIED urges the EU and member state representatives at the UN talks to remain steadfast in their support of IP as this is crucial as we move toward an international agreement on climate change.”

The Coalition for Innovation, Employment and Development is committed to championing the role of innovation and creativity in creating jobs, spurring economic growth and development,

and developing breakthrough solutions to global challenges. This internationally diverse coalition is working toward bringing industry, labor, consumer and environmental groups together to address challenges ranging from health care and renewable energy, to climate change and the protection of copyrights and trademarks, job creation and other public policy issues.

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