

*JOINT DECLARATION REGARDING COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND THE MINISTRY OF PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY*

The Patent and Trademark Office of the United States of America and the Ministry of Productive Activities of the Republic of Italy, guided by the mutual willingness to advance the fruitful cooperation between their respective countries, and consistent with the strategic plans of the two organizations in the area of patent and trademark administration, intend to cooperate and to jointly promote the protection of patents and trademarks through:

- the exchange of information regarding the possible adoption of compatible electronic filing systems for trademarks;*
- the exchange of information regarding the role of legislation in facilitating the development and transfer of technology from academia to the market;*
- the exchange of information regarding specialized legal expertise and legal mechanisms for increasing the protection of patents and trademarks.*

All activities undertaken pursuant to this Declaration are subject to the availability of resources as provided by the Governments of the United States and of Italy. Steps for implementing this Declaration shall be developed through mutual consultation and consensus following signature of the Declaration.

Done at Rome, in duplicate in English and Italian, this seventeenth day of June 2003.

*For the Patent and Trademark Office
of the United States of America:*

*For the Ministry of Productive
Activities of the Republic of Italy:*

[Signature]
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