- PROPOSED CHANGES TO TII STATUTES

The proposal to amend the TII Statutes is based on the wish to make TII truly international by
a) Giving equal rights to innovation support organizations worldwide and therefore removing the category of ‘affiliate member’;
b) Streamlining the Board of Management to draw on talent and commitment, irrespective of geography and therefore removing the ‘one country, one seat’ principle for European Union countries.

**Article 4**

1. The fundamental aim of the Association, within the limits of its Members’ professional terms of reference and qualifications, shall be to promote the development and satisfactory operation of enterprises, particularly of small and medium size, within the European Community, as well as their creation. The Association shall concentrate particularly on:
   a) stimulating innovation,
   b) promoting the transfer of technology from one country to another,
   c) generally helping enterprises to internationalise exploit the existence of a Common Market.

In view of this aim, the Association’s operational objective is to promote exchanges of information and cooperation between any bodies involved in the transfer of industrial information and exercising activities, defined in more detail in Article 5—in one or more Member States of the European Community.

2. The eligibility of organisations which operate in one or more countries, which are not Member States of the European Community, shall be decided by the General Assembly, upon a proposal approved by a majority of two-thirds of the Board of Management, and only if these countries are signatories of scientific, technical or industrial collaboration agreements with the European Community.

3. Exchanges of information shall bear on any subject likely to promote innovation at a European level, in particular on:
   a) technological knowledge held by organisations, enterprises or persons, the Association’s Members acting in this case as intermediaries between the aforesaid and other organisations, enterprises or persons who are especially interested in the exploitation and/or commercialisation of such knowledge;
   b) the methodology used in transferring industrial information, in order to increase every member’s efficiency;
   c) any other data, information and knowledge, particularly scientific, technical, economic and social, that may be useful for the activities of enterprises.

**Article 5**

The Association shall have Corporate and Individual members. Only Corporate Members shall have unrestricted access to the Association’s activities and services.

Corporate members shall be Full Members or Associate Members or Affiliate Members. Full Members shall be organisations or parts of organisations located in one or more Member States of the European Union whose principal activity is the direct provision of innovation-support services to firms.

Associate Members shall be organisations or parts of organisations located in one or more Member States of the European Union with a significant professional involvement in the supply of innovation-support services to firms but which do not themselves directly provide such services. Affiliate Members shall be organisations or parts of organisations located outside of the European Union and
corresponding to one of the foregoing definitions of Full or Associate Members. Individual Members shall be persons employed by an organisation corresponding to one of the foregoing definitions of Full Members, or Associate Members or Affiliate Members. Full Members shall have unrestricted voting rights at the Association’s General Assemblies and they shall have unrestricted access to all the activities and services provided or promoted by the Association. Associate Members’ voting rights at the Association’s General Assemblies shall be restricted to the election of the members of the Association’s Board of Management, of which their number may not exceed one third. They shall have unrestricted access to all activities and services provided or promoted by the Association. Affiliate Members’ voting rights at the Association’s General Assemblies shall be restricted to the election of the Association’s Board of Management, on which they shall be represented as provided in Article 13 of these Statutes. They shall have unrestricted access to all of the activities and services provided or promoted by the Association. Individual Members shall not vote at the Association’s General Assemblies. They shall have access only to certain activities and services provided or promoted by the Association, as determined from time to time by the Association’s Board of Management.

Article 13

The Board of Management shall comprise between 15 and 35 members appointed by the General Assembly. Each Member State of the European Union has the right to one representative. Members from non-Member States of the European Union (affiliate members) shall be represented collectively by their own representative. Members of the Board of Management shall hold office for a period of two years, and shall be eligible for re-election for one further period of two years, followed by a period of two years of ineligibility. The Board of Management shall elect the President of the Association from among its members. The President-elect shall be designated not less than one year before the end of the term of office of the serving President. The term of office of the President shall be three years. The serving President shall be a member, ex officio, of the Board of Management for the full duration of his term of office as President.

NEW VERSION

Article 13

The Board of Management shall comprise between 6 and 12 members appointed by the General Assembly. Board candidates shall be endorsed by two other TII members and may be of any nationality. Members of the Board of Management shall hold office for a period of two years, and shall be eligible for re-election for one further period of two years, followed by a period of two years of ineligibility. Each Board member shall be expected to lead on a task which makes a significant contribution to the Association’s development.

The Board of Management shall elect the President and the Vice-President of the Association from among its members, each to serve for a period of two years. At the end of that period, the Vice-President shall take over as President for the following two years. A new Vice-President shall be elected from among the Board members at the same time as the transfer of the Presidency. The retiring President may remain a member, ex officio, of the Board of Management for a further period of one year.