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E-NOTICE IPPD/34/2002

11 October 2002

Software patents: European Parliament hearing on the patentability of computer-implemented inventions

On 20 February the European Commission published a draft directive on the patentability of computer-implemented inventions (http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/en/indprop/comp/02-277.htm). The first stage in the European Parliament's consideration of the draft is examination by its Legal Affairs Committee. The committee has scheduled a public hearing for 1500 on 7 November in Brussels (European Parliament, Altiero Spinelli Building, room ASP 1G3, rue Wiertz. B-1047 Brussels).

We expect the hearing to include a number of short presentations by experts with different perspectives on the issue, followed by a question and answer session when Tony Howard of the Commission will be among those taking questions. It will end at 1830.

If you would like to attend the hearing you should e-mail rbray@europarl.eu.int to arrange a security pass.