

‘Patent-waiver plan has made huge progress’

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The proposal of India and South Africa on providing temporary patent waiver at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to deal with the pandemic has achieved ‘tremendous’ progress as the member-countries have agreed to start text-based negotiations, a top government official said.

The TRIPS Council of the WTO has agreed to start the negotiations on a proposal submitted by India and South Africa seeking patent waivers.

Commerce Secretary Anup Wadhawan said it meant that the members have in-principle accepted the objective behind the waiver proposal.

“India and South Africa’s proposal has achieved tremendous mileage.”