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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

NEW ZEALAND

Addendum

The following communication, dated 26 October 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of New Zealand.

1 INTRODUCTION

1. The Council for Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) has requested reports from developed country Members on their technical and financial cooperation programmes in favour of developing and least developed country Members.
2. This document provides an update on New Zealand's activities concerning technical and financial cooperation in the area of intellectual property (IP), for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.
3. This request relates to Article 67 of the TRIPS Agreement which provides that "developed country Members shall provide, on request and on mutually agreed terms and conditions, technical and financial cooperation in favour of developing and least developed country Members. Such cooperation shall include assistance in the preparation of laws and regulations on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights as well as the prevention of their abuse, and shall include support regarding the establishment or reinforcement of domestic offices and agencies relevant to these matters, including the training of personnel".

2 GENERAL OVERVIEW OF NEW ZEALAND'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

4. New Zealand has undertaken technical cooperation activities at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels during the 2015-2016 year. At the regional level, New Zealand's bilateral and regional trade agreements provide a mechanism for policy dialogue and information exchange on IP with developing country members.
5. The ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) has an Intellectual Property Committee, where parties exchange information on IP issues of mutual interest and coordinate capacity building and technical assistance programmes within the region. New Zealand co-chaired the AANZFTA Intellectual Property Committee meeting in August 2015 in Singapore.
6. The primary New Zealand Government agencies that are involved in IP technical cooperation activities are the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), of which both the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) and Plant Variety Rights Office are business units, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

3 THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF NEW ZEALAND

7. The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) provides ongoing technical assistance on request to developing and least developed countries. New Zealand will continue to support future work, on request, to improve the intellectual property systems of Pacific Island countries.

8. At a regional level, IPONZ participates in practical training and information exchange opportunities. In November 2015, for example, an IPONZ representative presented at an ASEAN subregional training programme on trademarks held in the Philippines.

9. IPONZ is recognized for its efficient online services, high quality examination and registration processes. As a result, IPONZ hosts regular delegations and study visits from developing and least developed countries to provide practical training and knowledge sharing.

10. This year IPONZ was able to share our Madrid Protocol accession experience to help other offices with their operational preparations for accession. IPONZ hosted the Malaysian Intellectual Property Office in August 2015 as well as the Directorate General of Intellectual Property of Indonesia in November 2015.

11. IPONZ has a bilateral arrangement with the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of the People's Republic of China and we meet yearly as part of this arrangement. IPONZ also hosts study visits where delegations gain a better understanding of IP management in New Zealand.

4 THE PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS OFFICE

12. New Zealand has been a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) since 1981. New Zealand, through the Plant Variety Rights Office, actively participates in the UPOV Technical Committee and in some of the Technical Working Parties.

13. The IPONZ Plant Variety Rights team acts as advisor to the East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum. The team provides technical assistance by correspondence on request to Forum Members and participates in technical meetings by invitation.

14. In May 2015, a representative from IPONZ Plant Variety Rights team was invited as an expert advisor and guest lecturer for the Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing and International Training Course organized and funded by Korea Overseas Investment and Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

5 NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

15. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) manages the New Zealand Aid Programme. The majority of New Zealand's aid is directed to developing and least developed country Members in the Pacific and key partners in Asia. The New Zealand Aid Programme has a core focus on sustainable economic development. This includes supporting opportunities for private-sector led growth so that producers can increase the value from their production and resources, including their intellectual property. Further detail on programmes of relevance to TRIPS Article 67 can be found in New Zealand's report on the implementation of Article 66.2 of the TRIPS Agreement.

ANNEX¹

**TABLE OF SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES BY NEW ZEALAND
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016**

Category	Date	Location	Activity
Technical advice and information exchange	May 2015	Seoul, South Korea	An IPONZ representative was a guest lecturer for the Plant Variety Protection and DUS Testing Training Course organized by Korea Overseas Investment and Cooperation Agency.
Technical advice and information exchange	August 2015	Singapore	New Zealand was co-chair of the AANZFTA Intellectual Property Committee.
Practical training and information exchange	August 2015	Wellington, New Zealand	IPONZ hosted the Malaysian Intellectual Property Office (MyIPO) to help them with their accession to the Madrid Protocol. They spent two weeks attending training workshops on theory and practical aspects of international trade mark case management and examination.
Information exchange	October 2015	Wellington, New Zealand	IPONZ hosted a guest from the IP Office of Vietnam as part of a broader visit organized by Victoria University of Wellington and MFAT.
Practical training and information exchange	November 2015	Wellington, New Zealand	IPONZ also hosted the Directorate General of Intellectual Property of Indonesia on a study visit as part of their accession preparations to join the Madrid Protocol next year.
Technical advice and information exchange	November 2015	Manila, Philippines	An IPONZ representative was a guest speaker at an ASEAN sub regional seminar on the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks.
Information exchange	June 2016	Wellington, New Zealand	IPONZ hosted a visit by the Intellectual Property Office of Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, to understand New Zealand patent process and copyright legislation.

¹ In English only.