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

Original: English

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM  
OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

*Addendum*

At its meeting of 6 June 2019, the Council for TRIPS agreed to invite intergovernmental organization observers to the Council to update the information on their technical and financial cooperation programmes relating to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement.

The present document reproduces the information which has been received from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by means of a communication dated 23 September 2019.

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**INTRODUCTION**

**1 UNCTAD'S WORK IN THE AREA OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT**

1. The UNCTAD Secretariat, through its Intellectual Property (IP) Unit, located within the Division on Investment and Enterprise, implements a work programme on the development dimensions of IP rights. The work programme is designed to respond to the mandate received from Member States at the Ministerial Conference in Nairobi (July 2016), as well as to intergovernmental requests under the WIPO Development Agenda and the World Health Assembly's Resolution 61.21 on a Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property. It is partially funded by donor governments and institutions. Currently, the work programme targets:

- **IP rights, policy coherence and local pharmaceutical production and supply.** UNCTAD was requested by its Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues (2005) to assess ways in which developing countries can develop their domestic productive capability in the supply of essential drugs in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies.<sup>1</sup> In the pursuit of this mandate, UNCTAD implements a work programme on local pharmaceutical production, with a view to assisting developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) in particular, to utilise IP rights as tools that facilitate increased access to affordable medicines, and, where feasible, to promote domestic and foreign investment to create local or regional pharmaceutical production and supply capacities. Currently, the work programme focuses on the role of local production and supply management to address vaccines and antimicrobial resistance (AMR);
- **IP rights, technology partnerships and regional economic integration.** UNCTAD implements a programme on IP and technology partnerships, with the financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The programme focuses on IP rights and regional economic integration. It also includes capacity building on technology transactions including voluntary IP licensing and research and development (R&D) cooperation for industrial development; and

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<sup>1</sup> See at [http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/c2l22\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/c2l22_en.pdf) (paragraph 9 (c) of the Agreed Recommendations).

- **IP rights for participation in the digital economy and e-commerce.** In the context of a broader work programme on e-commerce, UNCTAD addresses the interface between IP rights and digital economy.

2. In implementing its work programme, the IP Unit conducts research and policy analysis, facilitates consensus-building and responds to requests for technical assistance for successfully integrating developing countries into the world economy. This document provides an overview of UNCTAD's IP and development-related activities from 1 November 2018 to 20 September 2019. For more information on UNCTAD's activities related to IP, please visit: <https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx>.

## 2 RESEARCH AND POLICY ANALYSIS

3. UNCTAD undertakes research and analysis and provides advisory services for developing countries on trade and development aspects of IP rights. During the reporting period, UNCTAD:

- Worked together with United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and African Union Commission (AUC) for the preparation of the report on "Assessing Regional Integration in Africa (ARIA IX): Next Steps for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)". The report addresses investment, intellectual property, competition and e-commerce issues, among others. The report underscores the opportunity presented by the AfCFTA to a balanced IP rights system that responds to the aspirations contained in the continental programmes, including Agenda 2063 of the African Union. It recommends a step by step approach on cooperation in the field of IP rights, beginning with the issues critical for regional trade and value chain integration; and
- Published an analysis of intellectual property rights policies in the digital economy, as part of UNCTAD's Digital Economy report, 2019.

## 3 CONSENSUS-BUILDING

4. Consensus-building among stakeholders on IP, trade and development is an important element of the programme's work. UNCTAD's substantive contributions on the analysis of issues related to development and IP have enabled it to become an important forum, through its intergovernmental machinery, where governments, academia, civil society and the private sector can meet to exchange ideas. During the 2019 World Health Assembly, UNCTAD signed an "Interagency Statement on Promoting Local Production of Medicines and Other Health Technologies" together with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund).

## 4 TECHNICAL COOPERATION

5. On a request basis, UNCTAD conducts technical cooperation activities with developing countries in the integrated areas of investment, trade and IP rights. UNCTAD delivers its technical cooperation through:

- Capacity building programmes for beneficiary countries and regions under donor funded projects on IP rights and policy coherence for local pharmaceutical production and access to medicines, technology partnerships and regional economic integration, as well as IP rights for participation in the digital economy and e-commerce;
- Advisory reports on the development dimensions of intellectual property (DDIP). The objective of a published DDIP report is to provide advice on developing countries' and LDCs' policy, legal and institutional framework for IP rights, particularly as it relates to important development objectives such as innovation, technology, investment, competition, education and health. Developing countries specify the key development objectives they wish to examine. A DDIP report will take into consideration the socio-economic situation of the requesting country, the bilateral, regional and international commitments the target countries have entered into and the flexibilities available to them. Based on this analysis, the reports incorporate medium to long-term recommendations on how governments and other stakeholders could make these frameworks more coherent and transparent, with a

view to making IP rights contribute to a country's sustainable economic and human development goals and respond to emerging global opportunities; and

- Ad hoc studies on IP and development issues as requested by developing country governments.

#### **4.1 Cooperation with other providers of IP-related technical assistance**

6. UNCTAD partners with major technical assistance providers on IP rights and development. During the reporting period, UNCTAD *inter alia* partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), WHO, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Staff of UNCTAD's IP Unit frequently participate in capacity-building workshops on IP and development issues organized by other providers of IP-related technical assistance. For instance, UNCTAD was invited by WIPO and WTO to contribute to the 2019 WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on IP for Government Officials in March 2019.

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## ANNEX<sup>1</sup>

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Realizing African Industrial Development and Regional Value Chains under African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); An AU-UNCTAD Side Event during TICAD VII, Yokohama, Japan</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	29 August 2019 - 29 August 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	The side event was organized to facilitate discussion on the technical assistance needs of AfCFTA. UNECA presented its report on regional integration in Africa and outlined the technical assistance cooperation necessary for the completion of ongoing negotiations and implementation of agreements. Representatives of the donor and technical assistance community, including from European Union, Germany, Japan, UNCTAD, UNECA and World Bank, outlined their efforts in providing support to AfCFTA and its institutions.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	The event was well attended (64 participants from Africa, Europe and Japan), with representatives of governments, private sector, civil society, academia and the press, that were participating during the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD, Yokohama, Japan 28-30 August 2019).
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD and UNECA.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	Participants exchanged views on key technical assistance requirements for the realization of the benefits of AfCFTA for industrial development and regional value chain creation, as well as information on their current activities.
<b>Website for further information</b>	<a href="https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx">https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx</a> .
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<sup>1</sup> In English only.

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Intellectual Property and Development in the Digital Economy, Geneva</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	4 April 2019 - 4 April 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	In the context of the e-commerce week, UNCTAD organized a panel discussion to facilitate the exchange of views among international experts and countries on how to enhance the development contribution of intellectual property rights in the context of digital economy.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Developing country representatives, private sector and organizations that were participating in UNCTAD's E-Commerce Week 2019, held from 1-5 April 2019.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD presented an analysis of intellectual property rights in the digital context and chaired the related panel discussion.
<b>Website for further information</b>	<a href="https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx">https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx</a> .
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Interagency Statement on Promoting Local Production of Medicines and Other Health Technologies, Geneva</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	24 May 2019 - 24 May 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	UNCTAD signed an "Interagency Statement on Promoting Local Production of Medicines and Other Health Technologies" together with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and World Health Organisation (WHO).
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	The interagency statement was launched during the World Health Assembly, 2019. WHO organized a technical briefing meeting for the launch of the interagency statement that was attended by representatives of governments, international organizations, civil society and pharmaceutical industry.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	Global Fund, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNICEF, UNIDO and WHO.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	In recognition of the important role local production can play in improving access to quality-assured medical products and achieving universal health coverage, the partner organizations made a commitment to work in a collaborative, strategic and holistic manner in partnership with governments and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen local production.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Assessing Regional Integration in Africa (ARIA IX): Next Steps for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), 2019</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	18 July 2019 - 18 July 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	The report addresses investment, intellectual property, competition and e-commerce among others. The report underscored the opportunity presented by the AfCFTA to a balanced IP rights system that responds to the aspirations contained in the continental programmes.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	African countries and development partners.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	Lead by UNECA, UNCTAD and AUC contributed to the preparation of the report.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	The report identifies priority areas for regional cooperation on IP rights, the interface between investment and intellectual property and e-commerce
<b>Website for further information</b>	<a href="https://www.uneca.org/publications/assessing-regional-integration-africa-aria-ix">https://www.uneca.org/publications/assessing-regional-integration-africa-aria-ix</a>
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>The First Xiong' An International Health Forum, Langfang, PR China</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	13 November 2018 - 15 November 2018
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	China
<b>Brief description</b>	The Forum's objective was to review global health industry trends and to provide a platform for dialogue among experts from the medical sciences, health industries and public institutions.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Shenzhen World Health Foundation; public health facilities; AI-focused companies and researchers.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD chaired a panel discussion on "Big Data and Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities and Challenges of AI".
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Regional Consultation Workshop on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework for Asia and the Pacific, Nagoya, Japan</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	29 January 2019 - 31 January 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	Bhutan; Cambodia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Nepal; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Somalia
<b>Brief description</b>	The regional consultation was the first of five regional consultations planned by the CBD Secretariat to inform the first draft of a Post-2020 Framework following the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020/Aichi Targets.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government officials; civil society; private sector; intergovernmental organizations.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	CBD Secretariat, UNCTAD
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD participated in sessions that discussed possible elements for a Post-2020 Framework and 2050 Vision.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on IP for Government Officials, Geneva, Switzerland</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	12 March 2019 - 12 March 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	UNCTAD regularly contributes its expertise on intellectual property and development to this WIPO-WTO course.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government officials.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD, WIPO, WTO.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD on 12 March 2019 provided an analysis of technical cooperation activities in IP and development, in particular what are the challenges and how to overcome them.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org



<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>12th Berlin Conference on Life Sciences: "Novel Antimicrobials and AMR Diagnostics 2019", Berlin, Germany</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	14 March 2019 - 15 March 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	UNCTAD and WHO co-organized a policy session on investment and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) at the 12th Berlin Conference on Life Sciences organized by Biocom AG, a life science event organizer and publisher.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Small and medium-sized biotechnology firms; policy makers; civil society.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	WHO, UNCTAD.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD moderated a panel discussion on: "How to leverage public and private support to efficiently finance AMR innovation" and contributed to a workshop on "How to set up a new global AMR innovation fund".
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Sub-Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on Improving Access to Universal Health Coverage: The Role of Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer in the Pharmaceutical Sector, Bangkok, Thailand</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	31 March 2019 - 4 April 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	Bangladesh; Indonesia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Philippines; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Viet Nam
<b>Brief description</b>	The purpose of this workshop was to equip government decision makers from beneficiary countries with an understanding of coherent policies that underpin investment and technology transfer to upgrade domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers in the sub-regions, in line with national, regional and global public health priorities, including universal health coverage and SDG 3.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government officials; civil society; private sector; intergovernmental organizations.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD, Asian Development Bank Institute, Thai Ministry of Health (International Health Policy Program).
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD emphasized the important linkages between local producers, developing country governments and foreign investors, and the need for coherence in domestic policies related to IP, drug regulation, procurement and investment.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>2nd meeting of the 2019 G20 Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) of the G20, Mito, Japan</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	9 April 2019 - 11 April 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	The TIWG consisted of the G20 member countries, invited countries and invited international organizations. It was responsible for preparing the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Trade and the Digital Economy in June 2019.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	G20 member countries and invited countries.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD presented its research and views on investment and the digital economy, including the World Investment Report 2017 ("Investment and the Digital Economy").
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>G20 Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy, Tsukuba, Japan</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	7 June 2019 - 9 June 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	UNCTAD is one of the international organizations that is invited to regularly contribute to discussions at G20 meetings of trade ministers and their working groups, particularly concerning investment-related issues.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	G20 member countries and developing countries.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD highlighted that with declining foreign direct investment and a shift by multinational enterprises to intangibles, G20 countries need to help developing countries re-calibrate with more open productive-capacity cooperation.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>National Consultations on Patent Linkage, Bangkok, Thailand</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	18 June 2019 - 22 June 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	Thailand
<b>Brief description</b>	Thailand's Ministry of Health (International Health Policy Program, IHPP) organized a dialogue on the public health implications of linking the patent status of a pharmaceutical product to the marketing approval of generic copies ("patent linkage").
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Thai government officials, civil society.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD, IHPP, UNDP, Third World Network (TWN).
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD provided technical inputs to the discussion on patent linkage.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>The G20 Health and Development Partnership – Health 20 Summit, Tokyo, Japan</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	24 June 2019 - 24 June 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	In recognition of its work on investment in the manufacture of antibiotics and anti-microbial resistance (AMR), UNCTAD was invited to participate in the Health 20 Summit. This was organized by the G20 Health and Development Partnership as a side event to the G20 joint meeting of Finance and Health Ministers.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Civil society, government representatives, private sector, public health-related foundations.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	In the session dedicated to AMR, UNCTAD stressed not only the need to scale up investments into new antibiotics, but also to take into account realities in developing countries where many essential antibiotics are unavailable, while only those antibiotics they could afford were oversupplied, often contributing to AMR. The outcome of the H20 Summit was a Call to Action and Recommendations that was presented to the G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, to be followed up by the G20 Health Ministers' meeting in Okayama in October 2019.
<b>Website for further information</b>	<a href="https://www.ssdhub.org/g20-health-development-partnership/">https://www.ssdhub.org/g20-health-development-partnership/</a>
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>National Capacity Building Workshop on Technology Partnerships and R&amp;D Collaboration, Cairo, Egypt</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	17 July 2019 - 18 July 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	Egypt
<b>Brief description</b>	In the context of its work on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), UNCTAD provides capacity building courses on the use of intellectual property rights in research and development agreements, IP licensing agreements and other voluntary technology partnerships between universities and the private sector.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government representatives, universities and research institutions, private sector, civil society.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	UNCTAD, Egyptian Patent Office, Egyptian Academy for Scientific Research and Technology.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD and the Egyptian Patent Office are engaged in follow-up consultations.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>Third World Network Regional Workshop on TRIPS Flexibilities for Public Health, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	20 August 2019 - 22 August 2019
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	In the context of a grant it received from Unitaid on public health and TRIPS flexibilities, TWN invited UNCTAD, WHO and UNDP to contribute to its regional workshop.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government representatives and civil society.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	TWN, WHO, UNDP, UNCTAD.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD provided its expertise on policy coherence for local pharmaceutical production and access to medicines.
<b>Website for further information</b>	
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

<b>Name of programme or project</b>	<b>14th Annual WTO Workshop on Trade and Public Health</b>
<b>Date and end date</b>	8 October 2018 - 12 October 2018
<b>Beneficiary country or countries</b>	
<b>Brief description</b>	UNCTAD regularly contributes to this workshop, especially its expertise in intellectual property and local pharmaceutical production.
<b>Beneficiary institution or audience</b>	Government officials of WTO Members.
<b>Technical cooperation provider(s)</b>	WTO, UNCTAD, etc.
<b>Outputs or impact</b>	UNCTAD discussed a case study on local pharmaceutical production policies, including technical issues related to intellectual property and innovation, tariff protection and domestic drug regulatory measures. The objective was to demonstrate the extent to which the promotion of pharmaceutical production cuts across various policy areas and requires policy coherence. The case study was based on UNCTAD's "Tool Box for Policy Coherence in Access to Medicines and Local Pharmaceutical Production", New York and Geneva, 2018 (available at <a href="https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/diaepcb2017d2_en.pdf">https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/diaepcb2017d2_en.pdf</a> ).
<b>Website for further information</b>	<a href="https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx">https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx</a>
<b>Contact point for further information</b>	Christoph Spennemann