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Page: 1/7

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

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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:  
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

SWITZERLAND

The following communication, dated 16 September 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Switzerland.

Communications from other developed country Members will be circulated as addenda to this document.

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1. Following the previous reports,<sup>1</sup> the content of which remains relevant in terms of the aims and organisational aspects of technical cooperation, this year's report describes the activities of the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (hereafter "the IPI") in the field of technical cooperation between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.<sup>2</sup> Drafted along the same lines as the preceding reports, this document draws a distinction between multilateral and bilateral activities. It is the objective of the Swiss authorities to ensure optimal coordination of available resources, both at the multilateral and bilateral level, while avoiding duplication or the overlap of programmes.

**1 MULTILATERAL ACTIVITIES - TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF  
THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO) AND WORLD TRADE  
ORGANIZATION (WTO)**

**1.1 Free-of-Charge Searches for WIPO in Favour of Developing Countries**

2. Since 1987, the IPI has been participating in the WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries (WPIS), which WIPO set up and runs to handle individual requests for patent information (state-of-the-art search reports). Additionally, since 1 January 2011, the IPI has been participating in the International Cooperation on Examination (ICE) part of WPIS. The IPI thus not only provides "state-of-the-art search reports", but also "search and examination reports". These types of reports are provided to facilitate national patent applications in the beneficiary countries. The programme supports the national patent offices in building up their competence in search and examination procedures, and helps to strengthen the patent system and legal certainty worldwide.

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<sup>1</sup> List of past reports: IP/C/W/12/Add.3 of 13 September 1995, IP/C/W/34/Add.2 of 17 September 1996, IP/C/W/77/Add.3 of 30 September 1997, IP/C/W/109/Add.1 of 4 September 1998, IP/C/W/154/Add.2 of 8 October 1999, IP/C/W/203/Add.1 of 13 September 2000, IP/C/W/306/Add.3 of 18 September 2001, IP/C/W/377/Add.9 of 24 January 2003, IP/C/W/408/Add.4 of 14 November 2003, IP/C/W/426/Add.2 of 8 September 2004, IP/C/W/455 of 5 October 2005, IP/C/W/476 of 14 September 2006, IP/C/W/496 of 28 September 2007, IP/C/W/514/Add.4 of 17 October 2008, IP/C/W/536/Add.3 of 20 October 2009, IP/C/W/550/Add.2 of 20 October 2010, IP/C/W/560/Add.5 of 14 October 2011, IP/C/W/582/Add.4 of 25 October 2012, IP/C/W/593/Add.5 of 4 October 2013, IP/C/W/593/Add.5 of 4 October 2014, IP/C/W/610/Add.3 of 1 October 2015, IP/C/W/617/Add.2 of 14 October 2016, and IP/C/W/632/Add.5 of 6 October 2017 and IP/C/W/647/Add.1 of 18 October 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise indicated.

3. Between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, the IPI conducted, at the request of WIPO, free-of-charge searches for the following countries:

Country	Number of searches
<b><i>ICE-Searches:</i></b>	
Djibouti	6
Kenya	3
Madagascar	4
<b><i>WPIS-Searches:</i></b>	
-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

## 2 BILATERAL ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 Global Programme on Intellectual Property Rights

4. The Global Program for Intellectual Property Rights (GPIPR) is an international cooperation programme funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and implemented by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI). The overall aim of GPIPR is to improve the IP regime in Switzerland's partner countries. The topics of GPIPR can include the following non-exhaustive categories:

- IP policy, strategy and legislation;
- Registration, good governance and improved administration of IPRs;
- Acquisition and use of IPRs (in particular the private sector and producer organizations);
- Enforcement of IPRs; and
- Knowledge and technology transfer.

5. The GPIPR is running since end of 2018, the first activities implemented under the GPIPR are kept in the current report.

### 2.2 China

6. During the reporting period, a delegation of government officials from Zhongshan Intellectual Property Office from China was welcomed at the IPI and introduced to the Swiss system of intellectual property rights protection.

### 2.3 Colombia

7. The Colombian–Swiss Intellectual Property Project (COLIPRI) Phase 2 is a cooperation project between the Government of Switzerland and the Government of Colombia. It is funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) under the GPIPR Programme and implemented by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI). It has a duration of four years (2019-2023) and a non-reimbursable contribution by SECO of CHF 1,489,000, plus in-kind contributions by the Government of Colombia.

8. The project's overall objective is to contribute to entrepreneurs, creators, researchers and producers in Colombia benefitting from an improved intellectual property system.

9. Three outcomes will contribute towards this overall objective:

Outcome A: The national IP Policy is updated, implemented and enforced according to its action plan;

Outcome B: Intellectual property rights (IPRs) registration and administration entities provide efficient and user-friendly services; and

Outcome C: IPR entities, academia and private sector representatives promote acquisition, use and transfer of IPRs to potential users.

10. The first activities will be implemented in the next reporting period.

## 2.4 Costa Rica

11. During the reporting period, the IPI held two workshops in Costa Rica:

- Fifteen representatives from the Costa Rican IP office were trained on patents and the patentability of biotechnological inventions in September 2018.
- Thirty-five representatives from start-ups, SMEs, SME counsels, university technology transfer offices and the Costa Rican IP office were trained on intellectual property and SMEs in October 2018.

## 2.5 Ghana

12. The Swiss-Ghanaian Intellectual Property Project, Phase II (SGIP-II) was launched in January 2016. The project's overall goal is to contribute to Ghana's socio-economic development by promoting the use and protection of intellectual property rights (IPRs). Like SGIP I, SGIP II is financed by the SECO, while the IPI serves as the implementing agency for the project.

13. SGIP-II has four outcome goals. The activities undertaken under each outcome during the reporting period are listed below:

Outcome A: An enabling IP environment and an improved service provision for IP users is in place:

- The staff of the new Ghanaian Industrial Property Office (IPO) moved into their new premises in September 2018. The following training has been delivered to the staff in the new office:
  - November 2018: Industrial Designs
  - April/May 2019: Trademarks

14. Further training on patents is being planned and scheduled for delivery in October 2019.

- In November 2018, a one-day training course on the basics of IP was delivered to select members of the Ghanaian Parliament in Accra.

Outcome B: Targeting research institutions and SMEs to increase the commercialisation of their IPRs:

- The project liaised with the Registrar General's Department and WIPO in order to deliver a workshop on institutional intellectual property policies for research institutions and universities. This workshop was delivered in October 2018 in Accra.
- The project liaised with the Registrar General's Department and WIPO in order to deliver a workshop entitled "National Workshop on Development of Institutional IP Policies and IP Valuation for Universities and Research Institutions". This workshop was delivered in May 2019 in Accra.

Outcome C: Improving the protection and enforcement of IPRs for higher economic benefits for right holders and safeguarding consumers from substandard goods:

- The project began the development of a Public Education and Awareness strategy with the Ghanaian Copyright Office. It is expected that the development of the strategy will be concluded during the next reporting period.
- A study that will survey the economic impact of copyright on the Ghanaian economy was started in May 2018. This study is based on the WIPO methodology that was used for various similar studies during the past several years. The study has been concluded and the editing process is expected to be finalised in August 2019.
- Training for customs officials was delivered in January/February 2019 by the World Customs Organization in Accra. This training entitled "Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy, Health and Safety Workshop" concentrated on helping customs officials to identify pirated goods and to help them understand the threat that they pose to the safety of the general public. This same training was delivered in June 2018 to another group of customs officials.
- A final training session was held for the Police Criminal Investigations Departments (CID) in October 2018 in Accra. The training was designed to introduce the Police CID to the Ghanaian IP system and to show them how to conduct investigations into IP-related crimes.

Outcome D: Increasing the legal protection of GIs to better market traditional products for the benefit of rural and artisanal communities:

- Outreach to selected producers and potential trainers was conducted during the reporting period. It is expected that the work for GI registration will begin during the next reporting period.

## 2.6 Indonesia

15. The second phase of the Indonesian-Swiss Intellectual Property Project (ISIP-II) started in May 2017 and focuses on creative economy, capacity of the Directorate General of Intellectual Property (DGIP), and the development of the Geographical Indication system. The project is financed by SECO and implemented by the IPI. The objectives respond to the priority of the Indonesian President to strengthen Indonesia's creative economy sector. As for the GI component of the project, after focusing on the legal registration in phase one, phase two focuses on developing the value chain and market access for these producers. The following is a shortlist of major activities that have been implemented in the reporting period:

Outcome A: Supporting, at policy level, the protection and commercialisation of intellectual property rights (IPRs) and the development of Indonesia's creative economy. The following activities have been implemented:

- Supporting the Literature CMO (PRCI) in setting up a member database, website, brochures and a promotional video on copyright in the literature sector.
- Supporting the National Musik CMO (LMKN) and the eight other music CMOs in Indonesia in reaching a consensus on how to collect and redistribute royalties; legal assistance in drafting of respective regulations.
- Developing a manual on IPRs and IP capacity building for INNOPA (Innovation Promotion Agency).

Outcome B: Technical and capacity-building assistance to the DGIP to better serve intellectual property rights (IPRs) users. The following activities have been implemented:

- Training for Supreme Court judges on best practices in jurisdiction concerning trademark counterfeiting and falsification (with the anti-counterfeiting organisation MIAP);
- Training on Design Policy und Design Examination for the DGIP; and

- Training on settling IP disputes by Alternative Dispute Resolution for the DGIP and developing guidelines on best practices of ADR.

Outcome C: Strategic support to Indonesian GIs to sustainably increase their economic value and reinforce the capacity of the GI producers association. The following activities have been implemented:

- Academic and organisational input in setting up a GI curriculum at UNPAD University (training of trainers, counselling and expert advice);
- Training on improving production and post-harvest handling for Amed Salt GI;
- Training on the operation of an MPIG secretariat (Amed Salt GI);
- GI promotion video and marketing material finalised for Bajawa Coffee GI;
- Training for the GI association on organisation and services (Bajawa Coffee GI);
- Two market studies for Bajawa Coffee GI and Sikka Ikat GI in Switzerland/Europe;
- Registration of all three GI associations as legal entities and the development of a Code of Practice for all three GIs;
- Capacity-building of the MPIGs on GI management (all three GIs);
- Providing support with the amendment and resubmission of the Book of Specifications of Sikka Ikat GI and Amed Salt GI to better respond to market demand;
- Training on running an MPIG secretariat (Sikka Ikat GI);
- Assistance with organising the Sikka Ikat GI Auction and three-day market place in Jakarta; and
- Finalising websites for all three GIs and provide training on the effective use of websites for market access.

## 2.7 Iran

16. The IPI held two seminars in Tehran on the topic of Intellectual Property Commercialization for Universities, Start-ups and Tech-parks. In these seminars, which were held from 3 to 5 February, and 15 to 16 of April 2019 respectively, numerous participants from different universities, start-ups and technology parks participated and benefitted from the lectures of IPI experts as well as external experts from Swiss universities.

17. While the first seminar mainly presented the subject of technology transfer conditions and IP commercialisation along with the Swiss experiences and best practices, the second seminar focused more in depth on the entrepreneurial ecosystems, the financial, economic and social impacts of IP commercialisation, and the practical issues with regard to the relevant contracts and agreements.

18. Currently, the Iranian – Swiss Intellectual Property Project (IRSIP) is being discussed with the Iranian counterpart organisation with the aim of launching the project in 2020. The project envisages strengthening the Iranian intellectual property system to improve business competitiveness and commercialisation of intellectual property assets and make a positive impact on Iran's economic development.

## 2.8 Myanmar

19. As part of the GPIPR, a project scoping mission has been conducted in Myanmar in May 2019 to define possible assistance to Myanmar.

## 2.9 Peru

20. As per June 2019, under the GPIPR Program Switzerland started a bilateral technical cooperation project with Peru, which has a duration of two-and-a-half years (until the end of 2021) and focuses on the following topics:

Component A: Increased Capacity of the Peruvian GI system and Improved Valuation of Peruvian Appellations of Origin Products.

Component B: Increased Awareness of Creative Industry and Government Agencies on the Use of Copyright.

Component C: Increased Awareness on Patentability and Patent Applications by the Private Sector.

21. As a first activity under this project, the draft Regulation on Geographical Indications of Peru has been commented on.

### 2.10 Philippines

22. As a part of the GPIPR in May 2019, a patent expert from the IPI participated as a trainer in the WIPO National Workshop on the Search and Examination of Inventions Related to Genetic Resources, held in Manila, Philippines. The IPI's expert was funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). The seminar trained 30 representatives from the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPIL).

### 2.11 Serbia

23. The second phase of the Serbian-Swiss Intellectual Property Project (SSIP II) was launched in July 2017. The project aims at strengthening the use of intellectual property rights in Serbia. This is in order to contribute to the achievement of higher competitiveness, to increase the added-value of Serbian products, and to positively impact on Serbia's economic development.

24. The protection of GIs is of particular interest to the Government of Serbia.

25. Selected areas of cooperation include:

- Increasing the demand of IP users to protect and capitalise on their IPRs;
- Improving the legal and institutional framework as well as the enforcement of GIs, in order to facilitate the economic and social benefits of producers and consumers; and
- Strengthening capacities for the market valorisation of GI products to better market traditional products for the benefit of rural and artisanal communities.

26. The following activities were undertaken during the reporting period:

Under Component A, "Improved GI legal and institutional framework to facilitate the economic and social benefits of GI producers and consumers":

- A comprehensive analysis on the status and potential of non-agricultural GIs including a legal and institutional capacity assessment; an inventory scan of the most potential products and their SWOT was concluded;
- The guidelines for the implementation of the flexibility rules targeting food business operators, inspections and other small traditional producers of milk and dairy was completed, published and presented to the target group at the workshop; and
- Specialised experts financed by the project supported the certification process of a protected designation of origin "Zlatar Cheese" in the South of Serbia.

Under Component B, "Strengthened capacities for market valorisation of GI products":

- Strategic business plan for the Serbian Association of GI producers was approved at the general assembly of the organisation;
- Ongoing technical backstopping to the board and members of the GI Association Original in building their organisational capacities was delivered;
- A workshop for the Serbian GI Association with the President of the Swiss Association of PDO and PGIs took place in Belgrade in November 2018;
- Participation of the Serbian GI Association on the promotion and marketing of events such as the Belgrade Food Show and the Christmas Market in Novi Sad in November 2018 and at the Belgrade Night Market in December 2018;

- Social media promotion and production of visual printed material for the group of selected GI products;
- Financing of a comprehensive marketing analysis on distribution channels and consumers' expectation of GI products at the Serbian market; and
- Production of the promotional video about traditional food and non-food products in Serbia.

Under Component C, "The demand of key IP users to protect and capitalise on their IPRs is increased":

- Joint International Conference in Belgrade on "Industry 4.0" and awareness raising on the importance of having an IP strategy for start-ups with the Serbian Science and Technology Park in November 2018.
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