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

Original: English

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

CANADA

The following communication, dated 11 October 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Canada.

1 INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Article 67 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), the Council for TRIPS requests that developed country Members report on their technical and financial cooperation programmes in favour of developing and least developed countries (LDCs). The present document provides an update on Canada's activities in respect of technical and financial cooperation in the area of intellectual property (IP) in favour of developing countries and LDCs, covering the 2019-2020 period.

2. Canada has undertaken a number of technical cooperation activities at the multilateral, plurilateral, and bilateral levels. At the multilateral level, Canada works in close collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), as well as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Intellectual Property Rights Expert's Group (APEC-IPEG) where Canada participates in the group's biannual deliberations aimed at sharing information and best practices on IP rights. In addition, Canada's technical cooperation activities are administered by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), Global Affairs Canada, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Other Canadian institutions that receive funding from the Government of Canada, such as the Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL) and the University of Ottawa, are also involved in international technical cooperation efforts.

ANNEX¹

Name of programme or project	WIPO Programme of International Cooperation in the Search and Examination of Inventions (ICSEI)
Date and end date	1 September 2019 - 31 August 2020
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Kenya; Trinidad and Tobago
Brief description	CIPO provides search and examination reports of patent applications, upon request from other WIPO Members.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://www.wipo.int/patents/en/topics/worksharing/examination-capacity.html
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) Administrative Council and Council of Ministers Meeting
Date and end date	18 November 2019 - 24 November 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Botswana; Eswatini; The Gambia; Ghana; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Sierra Leone; Somalia; Sudan; Tanzania; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	CIPO was invited to participate in the ARIPO Forty-Third Session of the Administrative Council and Council of Ministers meeting in Monrovia, Liberia, to discuss how the Government of Canada works to advance IP and innovation. Moreover, CIPO facilitated a workshop on developing an effective national IP Strategy, as well as a workshop for the Council of Ministers.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://www.aripo.org/events/forty-third-session-of-the-administrative-council-and-council-of-ministers/
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

¹ In English only.

Name of programme or project	Pre-recorded webinars on IP and patents on the website of Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) Canada
Date and end date	1 January 2020 - 31 December 2020
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Andorra; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Kingdom of Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Bhutan; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Comoros; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Curaçao; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Estonia; Eswatini; Ethiopia; European Union; Fiji; Finland; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Holy See; Iran; Iraq; Lebanon; Libya; Macao, China; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Malta; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Samoa; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Serbia; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	<p>These webinars, which were recorded in 2016 through CIPO collaboration with TFO Canada, are available in English on the TFO Canada website for embassies, consulates and businesses from developing and emerging countries.</p> <p>Topics covered: Basics of Canadian IP, Registering patents in Canada, Registering trademarks in Canada, IP Foundations for women entrepreneurs, Overview of IP – trademarks for SMEs.</p>
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://www.tfocanada.ca/webinars.php
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Open African Innovation Research network (Open AIR)
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Algeria; Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eswatini; Ethiopia; Gabon; The Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Libya; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Morocco; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Tunisia; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	<p>Open AIR is a unique collaborative network of researchers spread across Africa and Canada. Their research aims to ease tensions between IP and access to knowledge, and to understand how knowledge-based businesses can take advantage of global opportunities, while sharing the benefits of innovation throughout society. Open AIR is funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and has a Partnership Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) until March 2022. They were also selected for the Queen Elizabeth Scholars – Advanced Scholars program, funded through Universities Canada.</p> <p>A new phase which started in 2018, implemented in collaboration with the University of Cape Town, South Africa, will research how Africa's high-tech hubs are facilitating the adaptation and adoption of emerging technologies in Africa, including artificial intelligence; how maker communities facilitate inclusive innovation, especially by empowering women and girls and benefiting Members of marginalized groups; and how to build confidence in Indigenous populations to effectively participate in collaborative knowledge production with optimal and equitable benefits.</p>
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	http://www.openair.africa
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development (EDM)
Date and end date	1 January 2018 - 31 December 2025
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Andorra; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Kingdom of Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Bhutan; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Comoros; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Curaçao; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Estonia; Eswatini; Ethiopia; European Union; Fiji; Finland; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; Holy See; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; the State of Kuwait; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Latvia; Lebanon; Lesotho; Liberia; Libya; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macao, China; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Malta; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Samoa; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Serbia; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	The EDM is designed to reduce poverty by deploying, on demand, Canadian and international technical experts to assist developing countries negotiate, implement, adapt to and benefit from bilateral or regional Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements (FIPAs) with Canada. Experts can be deployed while FTA/FIPA exploratory talks are underway, during formal negotiations, or following the conclusion and ratification of an agreement. There is a significant roster of experts relating to IP, including Trade Facilitation Office Canada.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://edm-mde.ca/
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CPTL) – guidance, support, knowledge and tools
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	
Brief description	The Canada-based CTPL is a Canadian institution that provides developing and transition economies with guidance and support to sustain them in the short-term and with the knowledge and tools to ensure their full participation in international trade agreements, including specific training on IP law and policy issues.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://carleton.ca/ctpl/
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Strengthening cyber policy research centres in the Global South – Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Kenya
Brief description	This project seeks to strengthen research and policy capacity on critical digital policy issues to ensure that policymakers in the Global South consistently use objective, high quality research to inform digital policy development. Centres will be supported to develop a robust policy research agenda that addresses all facets of cyber and digital policy, including human rights, security, and innovation, and the interplay of these issues in the Global South. It will help build institutional capacity and sustainability to produce credible, legitimate, and locally-relevant research that convenes different perspectives on critical policy issues, and it will strengthen the capacity of centres to inform and influence policy development. Together, this will enable policy leaders to respond to the rapidly changing digital environment and allow communities to benefit from the opportunities that digital innovation offers, including improved health, governance, education, and economic prospects, while shielding them as much as possible from the harms.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://www.idrc.ca/en/project/strengthening-cyber-policy-research-centres-global-south-centre-intellectual-property-and
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Initiative for Digital Rights in Latin America (INDELA)
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Panama
Brief description	<p>The Initiative for Digital Rights in Latin America (INDELA) is a three-year collaborative re-granting/funding arrangement intended to strengthen and support the digital rights ecosystem in Latin America. It ensures a consistent pool of funding to support institutional capacity building needs and to tackle current challenges and opportunities of digital rights in Latin America.</p> <p>Based on identifying existing shared priorities among different funders and organizations in the digital rights field, the Fund will prioritize projects that promise to deliver specific results on digital rights issues, including access to knowledge and copyright. Funding can support policy work, advocacy, campaigning, public awareness, action-oriented research, and protecting and promoting digital rights.</p>
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	https://www.idrc.ca/en/project/initiative-digital-rights-latin-america-indela
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	Supplying free copies of Canadian patent documents for developing countries
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	
Brief description	Upon request from WIPO
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca

Name of programme or project	International IP Crime Training Seminars hosted by Interpol
Date and end date	
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	
Brief description	The RCMP has contributed to the seminars each year. The seminars have been given to participants from developed and least developed countries, facilitating the exchange of best practices and techniques, and networking.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	dean.foster@international.gc.ca
