



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

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

At its meeting of 30 July 2020, 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 22 September 2020.

1 INTRODUCTION

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 Members 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 technical assistance and capacity building in areas related to (1) local pharmaceutical production and its linkages with COVID-19 as well as anti-microbial resistance (AMR); (2) the Intellectual Property Protocol under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); (3) the role of IP in technology and R&D partnerships, and (4) the role of IP in the digital economy.

ANNEX¹

Name of programme or project	"AfCFTA Implementation: Breaking Down Geographical, Logistical and Regulatory Barriers to Trade and Investment in the Horn to Boost Industrialisation: A Focus on the Pharmaceutical Industry"
Date and end date	27 June 2019 - 28 June 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Burundi; Djibouti; Ethiopia; Kenya; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Zimbabwe
Brief description	This meeting was organized by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in the context of the AfCFTA implementation process. UNCTAD was invited to contribute expertise on the following themes: • Regulatory barriers to trade and investment in the horn of Africa and the role of regional economic cooperation; • Investment, intellectual property and competition issues under AfCFTA negotiation; and • Services liberalization and their linkages with investment, intellectual property and competition.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Policy makers and government officials
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNECA, UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	UNCTAD contributed to increased awareness among policymakers of the interfaces of trade, investment and intellectual property in African regional integration.
Website for further information	Not available
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

¹ In English only.

Name of programme or project	National Capacity Building Workshop on Technology Partnerships and R&D Collaboration, Cairo, Egypt
Date and end date	17 July 2019 - 18 July 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Egypt
Brief description	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. UNCTAD organized this workshop in Cairo jointly with the Egyptian Patent Office (EGYPO) and the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology. The workshop focused on ways to enhance the Egyptian research and development (R&D) framework to boost the country's opportunities to trade in technology goods within the AfCFTA.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Government representatives, universities and research institutions, private sector, civil society.
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD, Egyptian Patent Office, Egyptian Academy for Scientific Research and Technology.
Outputs or impact	UNCTAD and the Egyptian Patent Office have agreed on follow-up technical cooperation.
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

Name of programme or project	Assessing Regional Integration in Africa (ARIA IX): Next Steps for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), 2019
Date and end date	18 July 2019 - 18 July 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	
Brief description	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. Following requests by AUC and UNECA, UNCTAD contributed the bulk of the IP chapter in the 2019 issue of this ARIA report, which provides guidelines for the IP Protocol negotiations scheduled to begin in 2020. The study reviews the status of intellectual property norm setting in Africa, the international and regional framework, the experience of other regions and the mechanism to address Africa's interest in the protection and utilization of traditional knowledge and genetic resources. UNCTAD also contributed to the elaboration of intellectual property issues under the chapter on E-Commerce and Integration in a Digitizing Africa.
Beneficiary institution or audience	African countries and development partners.
Technical cooperation provider(s)	Lead by UNECA, UNCTAD and AUC contributed to the preparation of the report.
Outputs or impact	The report identifies priority areas for regional cooperation on IP rights, the interface between investment and intellectual property and e-commerce. The report will inform the negotiations of the AfCFTA Protocol on Intellectual Property Rights.
Website for further information	https://www.uneca.org/publications/assessing-regional-integration-africa-aria-ix
Contact point for further information	Christoph.Spennemann@un.org

Name of programme or project	15th Annual WTO Workshop on Trade and Public Health
Date and end date	11 November 2019 - 15 November 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Afghanistan; Albania; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Kingdom of Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Estonia; Eswatini; European Union; Fiji; Finland; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; the State of Kuwait; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Latvia; Lesotho; Liberia; 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; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vanuatu; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	UNCTAD regularly contributes to this workshop, especially its expertise in intellectual property and local pharmaceutical production.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Government officials of WTO Members.
Technical cooperation provider(s)	WTO, UNCTAD, etc.
Outputs or impact	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 https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/diaepcb2017d2_en.pdf).
Website for further information	https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DIAE/Intellectual-Property.aspx
Contact point for further information	Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

Name of programme or project	"Towards a Common Investment Area in the African Continental Free Trade Area: Policy Options Towards Levelling the Playing Field for Intra-African Investment".
Date and end date	10 December 2019 - 10 December 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Angola; Benin; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Ethiopia; The Gambia; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Lesotho; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mozambique; Niger; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Zambia
Brief description	The UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) organized this Expert Group Meeting. UNECA invited UNCTAD to contribute expertise on investment and intellectual property for the review of the initial draft study on "Towards a Common Investment Area in the African Continental Free Trade Area: Policy Options Towards Levelling the Playing Field for Intra-African Investment".
Beneficiary institution or audience	African policymakers and government officials
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNECA, UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	Based on its previous contribution, UNCTAD has been invited to provide further IP and investment-related expertise to a second draft of the study during a virtual expert meeting on 17 and 18 September 2020. The final study will inform the negotiations of the AfCFTA Protocol on IP.
Website for further information	Not yet available
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

Name of programme or project	UNECA Committee on Private Sector Development, Regional Integration, Trade, Infrastructure, Industry and Technology
Date and end date	11 December 2019 - 12 December 2019
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Angola; Benin; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Ethiopia; The Gambia; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Lesotho; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mozambique; Niger; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Zambia
Brief description	UNCTAD was invited by UNECA to contribute to a discussion on regional trade integration and development in Africa.
Beneficiary institution or audience	AfCFTA government officials and private sector
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNECA, UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	The discussion raised awareness of AfCFTA policymakers and private sector of the implications of the AfCFTA for regional trade and private sector development.
Website for further information	https://www.uneca.org/1st-session-committee-private-sector-development
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

Name of programme or project	Webinar: "Investment in quality local production to address supply bottlenecks related to the pandemic"
Date and end date	23 April 2020 - 23 April 2020
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Afghanistan; Albania; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Kingdom of Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Estonia; Eswatini; European Union; Fiji; Finland; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; the State of Kuwait; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Latvia; Lesotho; Liberia; 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; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vanuatu; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	UNCTAD and WHO on 23 April 2020 organized a webinar on investment in quality local production to address supply bottlenecks related to the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond. The event, which was attended by 127 participants, emphasized the need to increase pandemic preparedness in developing countries through, <i>inter alia</i> , increased local pharmaceutical production.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Developing country policymakers and Geneva-based delegates
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD, WHO
Outputs or impact	UNCTAD relied on the discussions and recommendations of this webinar to publish a policy paper on "Ten Actions to Boost Low and Middle-Income Countries' Productive Capacity for Medicines".
Website for further information	https://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=2418
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

Name of programme or project	Webinar: "Who owns our data? What is the role of intellectual property?"
Date and end date	29 April 2020 - 29 April 2020
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Afghanistan; Albania; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Kingdom of Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Estonia; Eswatini; European Union; Fiji; Finland; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; the State of Kuwait; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Latvia; Lesotho; Liberia; 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; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vanuatu; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	As the importance of data for innovation, productivity and tackling global challenges, such as in food and agriculture, climate change and industrialization, grows, the governance for the control, access and sharing of data became crucial. This webinar, which was part of UNCTAD's e-commerce week 2020, hosted international experts on data and intellectual property rights to address the key bottlenecks for data sharing and the role of intellectual property rights.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Geneva delegates, national and regional policymakers, private sector.
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD, WIPO, South Centre
Outputs or impact	The webinar contributed to increased awareness of webinar participants of the role of IP rights in promoting the sharing of data.
Website for further information	https://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/DTL_STICT_2020.11.05_eWeek2020finalsummaryreport_en.pdf
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org

Name of programme or project	"Ten Actions to Boost Low and Middle-Income Countries' Productive Capacity for Medicines" UNCTAD paper, 27 May 2020.
Date and end date	27 May 2020 - 27 May 2020
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Albania; Algeria; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Kingdom of Bahrain; Barbados; Belarus; Belize; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Cabo Verde; Cameroon; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Cuba; Curaçao; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Eswatini; Fiji; Gabon; Georgia; Ghana; Grenada; Guatemala; Guyana; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Jamaica; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; the State of Kuwait; Kyrgyz Republic; Lebanese Republic; Libya; Macao, China; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritius; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Namibia; Nicaragua; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Samoa; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Seychelles; Singapore; South Africa; Sri Lanka; Suriname; Syrian Arab Republic; The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tajikistan; Thailand; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Zimbabwe
Brief description	The paper recommends ten actions to ensure low- and middle-income countries' equitable access to Covid-19-related products, focusing on technology partnerships between LMIC governments, local pharmaceutical producers, foreign investors and development partners.
Beneficiary institution or audience	LMIC policymakers, development partners
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	Increased awareness among developing country policymakers of the potential of IP and investment policies for technology partnerships to address Covid-19.
Website for further information	https://healthpolicy-watch.org/ten-actions-to-boost-lmics-productive-capacity-for-medicines
Contact point for further information	Christoph Spennemann, Officer-in-Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD Christoph.Spennemann@unctad.org