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**Conseil des aspects des droits de propriété
intellectuelle qui touchent au commerce**

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**ACTIVITÉS DE COOPÉRATION TECHNIQUE: RENSEIGNEMENTS COMMUNIQUÉS
PAR D'AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES**

ORGANISATION RÉGIONALE AFRICAINE DE LA
PROPRIÉTÉ INDUSTRIELLE (ARIPO)

Addendum

À sa réunion des 7 et 8 juin 2016, le Conseil des ADPIC est convenu d'inviter les organisations intergouvernementales ayant le statut d'observateur au Conseil à actualiser les renseignements concernant leurs programmes de coopération technique et financière en rapport avec la mise en œuvre de l'Accord sur les ADPIC.

Le présent document reprend les renseignements que l'Organisation régionale africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (ARIPO) a fournis dans une communication datée du 17 octobre 2016.

**PROGRAMMES DE COOPÉRATION TECHNIQUE ET FINANCIÈRE
AYANT UN RAPPORT AVEC L'ACCORD SUR LES ADPIC**

1. L'Organisation régionale africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (ARIPO) a été créée le 9 décembre 1976 à l'occasion d'une conférence diplomatique tenue à Lusaka (Zambie). L'ARIPO a été établie pour mettre en commun les ressources de ses États membres afin de promouvoir, de développer et d'harmoniser les législations et les politiques en matière de propriété intellectuelle et de veiller à ce que celle-ci contribue aux développements social, économique et technologique des États membres. À ce jour, l'ARIPO compte 19 États membres: le Botswana, la Gambie, le Ghana, le Kenya, le Lesotho, le Libéria, le Malawi, le Mozambique, la Namibie, l'Ouganda, la République-Unie de Tanzanie, le Rwanda, Sao Tomé-et-Principe, la Sierra Leone, la Somalie, le Soudan, le Swaziland, la Zambie et le Zimbabwe. Le siège de l'Organisation se trouve à Harare (République du Zimbabwe).
2. Le Conseil des ADPIC de l'OMC a accordé à l'ARIPO le statut d'observateur au cas par cas lors de sa réunion des 8 et 9 juin 2010. Depuis, l'ARIPO a chaque fois été invitée à assister aux réunions du Conseil.
3. Ce document présente un bref rapport des principaux programmes et activités de coopération organisés par l'ARIPO en 2016 qui ont un lien avec l'Accord sur les ADPIC et d'autres composantes de la propriété intellectuelle, suite à l'invitation du Président du Conseil des ADPIC de l'OMC du 27 juillet 2016 à fournir des renseignements actualisés sur ces activités.
4. Conformément au mandat inscrit dans son acte constitutif (Accord de Lusaka du 9 décembre 1976), l'ARIPO organise des activités et des programmes seule ou en collaboration avec ses partenaires, comme l'OMPI ou d'autres, dans le but premier d'assister ses États membres et l'Afrique dans son ensemble pour tout ce qui concerne la propriété intellectuelle. Les séminaires itinérants qu'organise l'ARIPO dans les États membres sont un des points forts de ces activités. Le thème général de cette année est: "*Promouvoir la créativité et l'innovation pour une croissance et un développement économiques en Afrique*". Pour faire en sorte que les membres tirent pleinement parti de ces séminaires, l'ARIPO leur donne la possibilité de proposer des domaines

d'intervention en fonction de leurs besoins en matière de propriété intellectuelle en général, notamment concernant des aspects de l'Accord sur les ADPIC.

5. Le tableau ci-après contient des détails sur les activités de coopération technique et financière organisées par l'ARIPO en lien avec l'Accord sur les ADPIC et d'autres composantes de la propriété intellectuelle. Ces activités portent sur des initiatives de sensibilisation et de formation, l'assistance aux offices nationaux de la propriété intellectuelle, l'amélioration du cadre juridique régissant la propriété intellectuelle et des publications en lien avec la propriété intellectuelle.

ANNEXE¹

1 AWARENESS AND TRAINING INITIATIVES

| Activity | Location and date | Brief description |
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| National Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), Malawi | Blantyre, Malawi, 25-26 January 2016 | The workshop was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Department of the Registrar General, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Malawi. ARIPO provided a resource person to train the staff of the Malawi Intellectual Property Office on the application procedures as per its different protocols and provide technical assistance on Patent Drafting. The workshop attracted participants from various Government Ministries, Universities and the Private Sector. |
| WIPO/ZIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Related Rights, Zimbabwe | Harare, Zimbabwe, 28-29 January 2016 | The two-day Seminar was co-organized by WIPO and the Zimbabwe Intellectual Property Office (ZIPO) in collaboration with ARIPO which provided the venue and facilitation of the Seminar. The objective of the Seminar was to train stakeholders on enforcement of copyright, licensing, challenges in the creative industry sector, amongst other issues relevant to the copyright-based industries. |
| Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in South Africa | Pretoria, South Africa, 1-3 March 2016 | The Seminar was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) of South Africa for the benefit of 20 newly recruited CIPC patent examiners. ARIPO provided a resource person who trained the patent examiners on technical issues about examination as well as Patent Drafting among others. |
| National Workshop on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), Mozambique | Beira and Maputo, Mozambique, 18-21 April 2016 | The Seminar was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Industrial Property Institute (IPI) of Mozambique. ARIPO provided a resource person who presented the procedures of ARIPO regional system for protection of patents and utility models. The ARIPO expert also trained the IP Office staff on patent drafting. |
| National Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in Rwanda | Kigali, Rwanda, 17-18 August 2016 | The Seminar was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) for the benefit of users of the PCT in Rwanda. ARIPO provided a resource person who trained participants on the procedures of ARIPO regional system for protection of patents and utility models. The ARIPO expert also trained the IP Office staff on patent drafting. |
| Sub-Regional Workshop on the Development and Effective Use of Intellectual Property Statistics for ARIPO Member States | Harare, 14-16 September 2016 | The Workshop was organized by WIPO, Japan Patent Office (JPO), in cooperation with ARIPO and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe. Participants were drawn from ARIPO Member States. ARIPO urged participants who included Registrars General to accurately keep, update and regularly provide IP statistics. Participants also learned how to use the IP data to holistically develop Intellectual Property (good planning, budgeting, etc.). |

¹ En anglais seulement.

| Activity | Location and date | Brief description |
|---|---|---|
| Roving Seminars in ARIPO Member States ² | <p>Gaborone, Botswana 14-18 March 2016</p> <p>Kampala, Uganda 28 March-1 April 2016</p> <p>Windhoek, Namibia 14-18 April 2016</p> | <p>The Roving Seminars covered a number of topics but mainly ARIPO experts trained the staff of the national IP Offices on ARIPO procedures as well as technical matters especially patent drafting.</p> <p>In a nutshell, the topics included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection and Promotion of Patents, Utility Models, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Computer Software; • Protection and Utilization of New Varieties of Plants, Geographical Indications, Traditional Knowledge and Handicraft for Economic Development; • Registration, Commercialization and Monetization of Patents, Utility Models, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Geographical Indications; • Protection and utilization of Traditional Knowledge, Expressions of Folklore and Genetic Resources; • Copyright and Related Rights for Development; • The National, Regional and international IP Legal System and Registration of IP Rights; • The Role of Intellectual Property in Business, with specific Emphasis on Manufacturing, Branding, Youth innovation and Commercialization of Research Results; • Protection of New Varieties of Plant and Geographic Indications to enhance Agricultural Productivity and Origin-Based Products. |
| Capacity Building by the ARIPO Academy: Offer sponsorship to students to undertake the Master of Intellectual Property (MIP programme) | Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe | <p>The MIP programme is jointly organized by ARIPO, WIPO and Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe.</p> <p>The programme was initiated to develop a critical mass of Intellectual Property experts for the development of the Intellectual Property system in Africa.</p> <p>The 8th cohort graduated in 2016. Another intake (9th cohort) is expected to graduate early next year.</p> <p>So far, the programme has graduated 221 students since its launch in 2008 from the following countries: Angola (1); Botswana (11); Burundi (2); Cameroon (4); Eritrea (1); Ethiopia (3); Ghana (18); Kenya (18); Lesotho (9); Liberia (2); Malawi (14); Mauritius (1); Mozambique (5); Namibia (13); Nigéria (9); Rwanda (4); Sierra Leone (3); South Africa (4); Sudan (1); Swaziland (2); Tanzania (19); The Gambia (4); Uganda (16); Zambia (8); and Zimbabwe (49).</p> |

² In 2014 and 2015, the Roving Seminars covered the following countries: Swaziland (24-28 March 2014); Mozambique (21-25 April 2014); Liberia (28 April-2 May 2014); Sierra Leone (19-23 May 2014); The Gambia (4-8 August 2014); Sudan (October 2014); Rwanda (9-11 March 2015); Kenya (16-20 March 2015); Zambia (11-15 May 2015); Lesotho (26-29 May 2015); Ghana (10-14 August 2015).

2 ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICES

| Activity | Location and date | Brief description |
|---|--|---|
| Launch of the ARIPO Industrial Property (IP) back files Digitization Project, ARIPO Headquarters, Harare | ARIPO Headquarters, Harare, Zimbabwe, 7-11 March 2016 | The Project was co-funded by WIPO through the Fund-In-Trust of the Government of Japan and is implemented by Venturecom, a company based in Harare, Zimbabwe. The project is part of a bigger project to modernize the ARIPO ICT infrastructure and those of Member States in order to establish an online communication and information exchange with the latter. |
| Training on the operations of the Harare Protocol (ARIPO Protocol on Patents) and Banjul Protocol (ARIPO Protocol on Trademarks) for the National Office of the Republic of Sao Tome & Principe | Sao Tome & Principe, 11-13 April 2016 | Sao Tome & Principe joined ARIPO only in 2014 through accession to the Harare Protocol on Patents. In 2015, the Country acceded to the Banjul Protocol. ARIPO organized in collaboration with the Sao Tome & Principe National Industrial Property Office (SENAPI), an intensive training in order to capacitate the SENAPI staff on the processing of ARIPO applications and other technical matters. More particularly, the Training included among other topics the Introduction to the ARIPO Industrial Property Protocols and linkages with international IP systems especially the TRIPS Agreement, the PCT and the Budapest Treaty. |
| Hosting the delegates of the Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal at ARIPO Headquarters, Harare, Zimbabwe | ARIPO Headquarters, Harare, Zimbabwe, 12-15 April 2016 | The objective of the visit of the delegation was to learn about to ARIPO procedures and benefit from the expertise of ARIPO staff. As a result, a framework for further cooperation with Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal was signed. Through this framework, ARIPO will assist the Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal in initiatives related to the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in Kenya. |
| Building the capacity of Officers from Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) at the ARIPO Headquarters | ARIPO Headquarters, Harare, Zimbabwe, 19-29 April 2016 | In a bid to assist ARIPO Member States in building the capacity of their staff working in Intellectual Property Offices, ARIPO hosts at different times and upon request officers from Member States who stay at the Headquarters for a number of days. It is in that regard that the Secretariat received two members of the URSB staff to undergo a two-week training of the ARIPO procedures and other technical matters relevant to their work as staff of a national IP Office, especially in handling Intellectual Property Rights applications. |
| Study visit for ARIPO Member States to USPTO, United States of America | Alexandria, Virginia, US, 19-23 September 2016 | The study visit was jointly organized by USPTO and ARIPO for the benefit of some ARIPO Member States. Two ARIPO Member States (Zambia and Lesotho) and an official from ARIPO Secretariat conducted the study tour. The objective of the study tour was to learn how well-established Copyright Offices work in order to assist ARIPO Member States improve their Copyright management. |

3 IMPROVEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LEGAL FRAMEWORK

| Activity | Location and date | Brief description |
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| Marrakesh Treaty, Beijing Treaty, TAG, WIPO Connect, Administration and Management Workshops in Botswana | Gaborone, Botswana, 25–29 July 2016 | <p>The workshops were co-organized by WIPO, ARIPO and the Botswana Company and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) as well as other Cooperating Partners (International Federation for Reproduction Rights (IFRRO). Beneficiaries were from Copyright Offices and Collective Management Organisations of ARIPO Member States and two Observer Members.</p> <p>The objectives of the workshops included addressing issues and options for national implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty and the Beijing Treaty both related to Copyright. As a result, the Government of Botswana acceded to the Marrakesh Treaty while other Member States have expressed their commitment to accede to the Treaty and other instruments.</p> |
| Review of the Namibian Draft Regulations under the Industrial Property Act at the ARIPO Headquarters | ARIPO Headquarters (Harare, Zimbabwe), 15-16 August 2016 | It is within ARIPO's mandate to provide technical assistance to Member States either upon its own initiative or upon request. It is in this regard that ARIPO assisted the Government of Namibia through thoroughly reviewing the draft Regulations for the implementation of the Namibian Industrial Property Act adopted in March 2012. |

4 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RELATED PUBLICATIONS

| Activity | Location and date | Brief description |
|--|---------------------|---|
| Publication of Guiding tools to assist Member States | ARIPO, Harare, 2016 | <p><i>Comparative Study on Copyright Laws of ARIPO Member States and their adherence to International Instruments on Copyright and Related Rights.</i></p> <p>The aim of this tool is to assist ARIPO Member States to harmonise their laws and also to improve their national legislations.</p> <p><i>Copyright Awareness Raising Guide for ARIPO Member States.</i></p> <p>The objective of this publication is to assist member States to be systematic when they are developing and implementing awareness initiatives.</p> <p><i>Guidelines for the Domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty.</i></p> <p>Upon realization that the majority of persons who are blind and visually impaired live in developing countries and least developed countries, ARIPO found imperative to publish this tool which will help member states to persuade decision makers and expedite the process of ratification of/ accession to the Marrakesh Treaty and domesticate it.</p> |