

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Fifty-Seventh Series of Meetings Geneva, October 2 to 11, 2017

ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The observers admitted to attend the Fifty-Seventh series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and of the Unions administered by WIPO (“the Assemblies of WIPO”) are listed in document A/57/INF/1.
2. Once an observer is admitted to attend the meetings of the Assemblies, it is also invited to attend, in the same capacity, meetings of committees, working groups, or other bodies subsidiary to the Assemblies, if their subject matter seems to be of direct interest to that observer.
3. Decisions concerning the admission of observers to the meetings of the Assemblies were last taken at the Fifty-Sixth series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, from October 3 to 11, 2016 (document A/56/17, paragraphs 19 to 21).
4. Since then, the Director General has received requests, with the requisite information, from each of the following entities for admission to attend the meetings of the Assemblies as an observer:
 - (a) INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (IGO)
 - (i) Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI)

- (b) INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO)
 - (i) Foundation for a Centre for Socio-Economic Development (CSEND)

- (c) NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS¹ (NGOs)
 - (i) *Association Congolaise pour le Développement Agricole* (ACDA) ;
 - (ii) China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT);
 - (iii) Intellectual Property Centre (IP Centre);
 - (iv) New Zealand Institute of Patent Attorneys (Incorporated) (NZIPA); and
 - (v) School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee (SOIS).

5. A brief description of each of the entities mentioned above – its objectives, structure and membership – appears in the Annexes of this document.

6. The Assemblies of WIPO, each in so far as it is concerned, are invited to take a decision on the requests for admission, as observers, from the entities appearing in paragraph 4, above.

[Annexes follow]

¹ For the principles applicable in extending invitations to national NGOs, as observers, adopted by the Assemblies at their Thirty-Seventh series of meetings, from September 23 to October 1, 2002, see document A/37/14, paragraph 316.

PARTICULARS CONCERNING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (IGO) (ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE SAID IGO)

Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI)

Headquarters: VPI was established in 2015 and is headquartered in Budapest, Hungary.

Objectives: The main purpose of VPI is cooperation in the field of patent law, especially through its functions as International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Structure: VPI is governed by an Administrative Board which is composed of members delegated by the governments of the participating countries and is administered by a Secretariat managed by a Director.

Membership: The members of VPI are the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

[Annex II follows]

PARTICULARS CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) (ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE SAID NGOs)

Foundation for a Centre for Socio-Economic Development (CSEND)

Headquarters: CSEND was established in 1993 and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Objectives: The objectives of CSEND are to facilitate the development and application of socio-economic theory and to encourage the forming and the reflection of interdisciplinary teams for applied social research. In respect of IP, its interest lies in the area of biodiversity, traditional knowledge, health and trade.

Structure: The main governing body of CSEND is the Foundation's Board. It is comprised of nine members, of which three are officers authorized to sign for the foundation.

Membership: CSEND has 13 individual members.

[Annex III follows]

PARTICULARS CONCERNING NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) (ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE SAID ORGANIZATIONS)

Association Congolaise pour le Développement Agricole (ACDA)

Headquarters: ACDA was created in 2006 and is headquartered in Brazzaville, Congo.

Objectives: The purpose of ACDA is to promote agricultural development and improve the living conditions of the population in Congo. It creates awareness for intellectual property rights to promote these objectives and collaborates with researchers in the field of technology and innovation.

Structure: The governing body of ACDA is the General Assembly comprising all members of ACDA. The Executive Committee is the executive body of ACDA and consists of eight members.

Membership: ACDA is comprised of 143 associations, including organizations from local as well as indigenous groups, which work in various fields.

China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT)

Headquarters: CCPIT was created in 1952 in Beijing, China.

Objectives: The purposes of CCPIT are the promotion of trade, investment and economic and technological cooperation between China and other countries and regions of the world, pursuant to the laws and regulations of China and established common practices in the world. In so doing, it aims to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and people and business communities of countries and regions of the world, and defend the rights of Chinese citizens and Chinese enterprises in overseas jurisdictions.

Structure: The National Congress is the advisory and deliberative body of CCPIT, which is composed of 107 committee members.

Membership: The members consist of individuals and representatives of enterprises and organizations in the field of foreign economic relations and trade. CCPIT has set up 18 representative offices abroad and has 50 local sub-councils and 23 industrial sub-councils, which are made up of representative individuals, enterprises and organizations of the locality or industrial sector.

Intellectual Property Centre (IP Centre)

Headquarters: IP Centre was established in 2014 and is headquartered in Kampala, Uganda.

Objectives: The main purpose of IP Centre is to provide advanced post-graduate education and research training in the field of intellectual property. It aims at cultivating an innovation economy as well as reducing piracy and counterfeiting around the globe by conducting workshops, hands-on training programs, educational events and in-depth research for public and private stakeholders.

Structure: IP Centre is governed by the General Meeting of all members which is the supreme body of the company. IP Centre has five directors who manage its business.

Membership: IP Centre has six institutions, all based in Uganda, as members.

New Zealand Institute of Patent Attorneys (Incorporated) (NZIPA)

Headquarters: NZIPA was established in 1912 and is headquartered in Wellington, New Zealand.

Objectives: The main objectives of the NZIPA are to maintain a representative group of registered New Zealand patent attorneys, to promote the interests of Fellows of NZIPA, and to assist in developing, promoting and maintaining the integrity of the laws and regulations relating to intellectual property matters.

Structure: NZIPA is governed by the General Meeting and the affairs of NZIPA are managed by a Council, consisting of a President, Vice-President, and seven Fellows.

Membership: NZIPA has 247 members, being individuals registered as patent attorneys or trainee patent attorneys in New Zealand.

School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee (SOIS)

Headquarters: SOIS was established in 1966 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States of America.

Objectives: SOIS specializes in education and research relating to information and information technology. Within the school, the Center for Information Policy Research (CIPR) is conducting multidisciplinary research at the intersection between the policy, ethical, political, social and legal aspects of the global information society. One of its focuses is on intellectual property policies in particular regarding copyright, patents and traditional knowledge.

Structure: The governing body of SOIS is the Faculty Council, which consists of all tenured professors, associate professors, and assistant professors of the school. The chief executive officer of SOIS is the Dean who delegated specific areas of responsibility to one associate dean and three assistant deans.

Membership: The members of SOIS are comprised of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as well as the dean and all members of the Faculty of the School.

[End of Annex III and of document]