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| ORIGINAL: English |
| DATE: June 8, 2018 |

**Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks**

**Sixteenth Session**

**Geneva, July 2 to 6, 2018**

PROPOSAL BY the delegation of THE Russian Federation

1. In a communication dated June 1, 2018, the International Bureau received a proposal from the Delegation of the Russian Federation concerning the possibility of introducing Russian as a working language of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks for consideration by the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, at its sixteenth session to be held in Geneva from July 2 to 6, 2018.
2. The said proposal is annexed to this document.

[Annex follows]

**Proposal of the Russian Federation**

**with regard to including Russian as an official**

**language of the Madrid System for International**

**Registration of Marks**

 The Russian Federation’s proposal is to include Russian as an official language of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.

 Russian is one of the official languages of the United Nations system; more than 250 million people speak Russian. Russian is among the top ten most spoken languages in the world by number of speakers.

 Russian is a state language in the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is an official language in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Russian language is widely used for communication in a number of countries throughout the Eurasian region.

 WIPO actively works on WIPO’s database Madrid Goods and Services Manager that is an effective instrument for Russian users for compiling a list of goods and services when submitting international and national applications to register a trademark.

 The Russian Federation actively participates in the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks. The Russian Federation is among the top five WIPO Member States most designated in international registrations within the framework of the Madrid system.

 Sustainable growth of international applications submitted to WIPO is indicated during the last three years. In year 2017, we recorded positive dynamics of trademark applications (growth more than 20%) in comparison with 2016.

**Application forwarded to WIPO for
international registration of trademarks**



 Including the Russian language as an official language of the Madrid system will stimulate growth of international applications from Russia and Caucasian, Central Asian and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC).

 Currently statistics shows increasing interest of applicants from CACEEC to the Madrid system: international applications in a number of countries grew significantly.

**International applications submitted**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CP** | **Office of origin** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **%** **2017/2016** |
| AM | Armenia | 24 | 32 | 25 | 38 | 30 | 22 | 22 | 35 | 59,1 |
| AZ | Azerbaijan | 16 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 37 | 8 | 4 | 15 | 275.0 |
| BY | Belarus | 106 | 203 | 288 | 325 | 200 | 156 | 140 | 144 | 2,9 |
| KZ | Kazakhstan | 48 | 54 | 79 | 78 | 51 | 51 | 111 | 112 | 0,9 |
| KG | Kyrgyzstan | 0 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 0,0 |
| RU | Russian Federation | 1218 | 1652 | 1591 | 1307 | 1543 | 1059 | 1255 | 1630 | 29,9 |
| TJ | Tajikistan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0,0 |
| TM | Turkmenistan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 600,0 |
| UA | Ukraine | 287 | 365 | 363 | 578 | 519 | 460 | 471 | 481 | 2,1 |
| UZ | Uzbekistan | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 333,3 |
|  | Total | 1701 | 2318 | 2354 | 2342 | 2388 | 1762 | 2012 | 2442 | 21,4 |

 The region’s countries are interesting for foreign applicants who designate the CACEEC states in applications more and more often.

**Designations and subsequent designations**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CP** | **Office of origin** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **%** **2017/2016** |
| AM | Armenia | 2655 | 2902 | 3087 | 3025 | 2874 | 3149 | 2268 | 2983 | 31,5 |
| AZ | Azerbaijan | 3304 | 3553 | 3893 | 3992 | 3795 | 4044 | 3046 | 3565 | 17,0 |
| BY | Belarus | 5328 | 5857 | 6022 | 6107 | 5506 | 5510 | 4281 | 5235 | 22,3 |
| KZ | Kazakhstan | 3607 | 5112 | 6053 | 6448 | 5814 | 5820 | 4564 | 5570 | 22,0 |
| KG | Kyrgyzstan | 2530 | 2624 | 2832 | 2901 | 2499 | 2862 | 2143 | 2784 | 29,9 |
| RU | Russian Federation | 14250 | 15691 | 16634 | 18239 | 16573 | 17436 | 14301 | 17199 | 20,3 |
| TJ | Tajikistan | 1537 | 1945 | 2467 | 2463 | 2238 | 2484 | 1837 | 2298 | 25,1 |
| TM | Turkmenistan | 2240 | 2293 | 2548 | 2521 | 2281 | 2559 | 1899 | 2270 | 19,5 |
| UA | Ukraine | 8288 | 8903 | 9282 | 9589 | 8430 | 7828 | 6090 | 7630 | 25,3 |
| UZ | Uzbekistan | 2481 | 2621 | 2844 | 2804 | 2587 | 2809 | 2020 | 2392 | 18,4 |
|  | Total | 46220 | 51501 | 55662 | 58089 | 52597 | 54501 | 42449 | 51891 | 22,2 |

 The potential for the Madrid system growth is largely unfulfilled. Inclusion of Russian as an official language will contribute to keeping positive dynamics for submitting applications for trademark registrations not only from Russia but also from all states of CACEEC.

 Implementation of the initiative will ensure respect of Russian-speaking applicant’s rights, facilitate their access to global systems of IP protection as well as improve efficiency of Russian-speaking examiners’ work and reduce time periods for processing application by IP offices of the region.

 The Russian party expects the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks to recommend the Assembly of the Madrid Union to consider the proposal.

[End of Annex and of document]