

## **Working Group for the Preparation of Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement**

**First Session**  
**Geneva, June 7 to 9, 2016**

### SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

*adopted by the Working Group*

1. The Working Group for the Preparation of Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) met in Geneva, from June 7 to 9, 2016.
2. The following Contracting Parties of the Lisbon Union were represented at the session: Algeria, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, Gabon, Georgia, Haiti, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia (20).
3. The following States were represented as observers: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Japan, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Tanzania, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America (26).
4. Representatives of the following international intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), European Union (EU), European Public Law Organization (EPLO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), South Centre (SC), World Trade Organization (WTO) (8).

5. Representatives of the following international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: MARQUES – Association of European Trademark Owners, Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI), Health and Environment Program (HEP), International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), International Trademark Association (INTA), International Wine Law Association (AIDV), Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (oriGIn) (8).

6. The list of participants is contained in document LI/WG/PCR/1/INF/1 Prov. 2\*.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION**

7. Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, opened the session.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 2: ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS**

8. Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze (Georgia) was unanimously elected as Chair of the Working Group and Mr. Alfredo Rendón Algara (Mexico) was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

9. Ms. Alexandra Grazioli (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the Working Group.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

10. The Working Group adopted the draft agenda (document LI/WG/PCR/1/1 Prov.) without modification.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: DRAFT COMMON REGULATIONS UNDER THE LISBON AGREEMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN AND THEIR INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION AND THE GENEVA ACT OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT ON APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS**

11. Discussions were based on documents LI/WG/PCR/1/2 Corr and LI/WG/PCR/1/3 Corr. The Working Group examined in detail all the provisions of the draft Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications.

12. The Working Group requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the draft Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications taking into account the comments made at the present session of the Working Group, for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

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\* The final list of participants will be made available as an Annex to the Report of the session.

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LISBON UNION**

13. Discussions were based on document LI/WG/PCR/1/4.

14. The Chair noted that a number of members of the Lisbon Union had announced their readiness to make voluntary payments in order to eliminate the projected biennial deficit of the Lisbon Union and that they would take the necessary steps to work with the Secretariat on the modalities of the payment.

15. The Chair also noted that there was agreement by the Working Group that measures had to be adopted for the long term financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union, including further discussions on a possible gradual increase in fees and the establishment of a contribution system to be discussed and agreed to in the future. Moreover, delegations recalled the importance of the promotion of the Lisbon system that should be effected by the Lisbon Registry in order to attract new Contracting Parties, which would help to share the financial burden among a wider membership, and internally by the Member States in order to promote the filing of new applications, as much as possible. In this regard, two Observer Delegations stated that WIPO should conduct promotion activities for geographical indications in a balanced manner. One Member Delegation questioned whether the issue of balanced promotion should not be discussed in a broader context.

16. The Working Group requested the Secretariat to organize meeting(s) for the members of the Lisbon Union to prepare proposals, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to address the long term financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union in time for consideration at the next session of the Lisbon Union Assembly in accordance with the decision of that Assembly (see document LI/A/32/5, paragraph 73(iii)).

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR**

17. The Working Group approved the Summary by the Chair, as contained in the present document.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: CLOSING OF THE SESSION**

18. The Chair closed the session on June 9, 2016.

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