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MADRID AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF MARKS

Denunciation of the Madrid Agreement by Uzbekistan and Application of Rule *1bis* of the Common Regulations

1. It is recalled that, as indicated in Information Notice No. 5/2007, Uzbekistan's denunciation of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks will take effect on January 1, 2008. It is further recalled that, as indicated in Information Notice No. 17/2007, a new Rule *1bis* of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol will come into effect on January 1, 2008.
2. Item (1)(i) of Rule *1bis* provides for a change of the treaty governing a recorded designation from the Agreement to the Protocol where the Agreement ceases to apply in relations between the Contracting Party of the holder and the designated Contracting Party and where, furthermore, both these Contracting Parties are bound by the Protocol. As indicated in Information Notice No. 16/2006, Uzbekistan is bound by the Protocol since December 27, 2006.
3. Therefore, as from January 1, 2008, any recorded designation of Uzbekistan under the Agreement will become governed by the Protocol where the Contracting Party of the holder in respect of such designation is also bound by the Protocol.
4. With respect to designations of Uzbekistan under the Agreement that are pending on January 1, 2008, these will continue to be processed under the Agreement, up to recording, before changing into designations governed by the Protocol pursuant to Rule *1bis* where the Contracting Party of the holder in respect of such a designation is also bound by the Protocol.
5. Rule *1bis* will not apply where, on January 1, 2008, the Contracting Party of the holder in respect of a designation of Uzbekistan is bound only by the Agreement. Such a designation could not become governed by the Protocol and will, therefore, fall under the application of Article 15(5) of the Agreement. Pursuant to this provision, international marks registered up to the date on which denunciation becomes effective, and not refused within the period of one year provided for in Article 5, shall continue, throughout the period of international protection, to enjoy the same protection as if they had been filed direct in the denouncing country.

December 18, 2007