WIPO/ARIPO/OAPI (WAO) Conference on Intellectual Property (IP), Innovation and Value Addition for Business Competitiveness and Sustainable Development in Africa

organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

in collaboration with
the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)

and
the Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (OAPI)

with the support of
the Japan Patent Office (JPO)

and
the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe, Harare, November 6 to 8, 2019

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

8.00 – 9.30 Registration
9.30 – 10.15 Opening ceremony

Welcome/Opening Remarks by:

Mr. Fernando dos Santos; Director General; African Regional Intellectual Property Organization; (ARIPO), Harare, Zimbabwe

Mr. Denis Bohoussou; Director General; L’Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle; (OAPI), Yaoundé, Cameroon

Mr. Kunihiko Shimano, Deputy Commissioner, Japan Patent Office (JPO), Tokyo, Japan

Honorable Minister Bright Msaka, Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Malawi, Chair of Council of Ministers of African Regional Intellectual Property Organization; (ARIPO)

H.E. Mrs Achta Djibrine Sy, Minister for Mines, Industry, Trade and Promotion of Private Sector, Tchad, Chair of Council of Ministers of l’Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle ; (OAPI)

Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, Switzerland (recorded message)

Honorable Minister Ziyambi Ziyambi; Minister for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs; Harare, Zimbabwe

10.15 – 10.30 Photo Session
10.30 – 11.00 Press Conference
11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break
11.30 – 13.00 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

AFRICA IN A KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Intellectual property (IP) and innovation are two important drivers for socio-economic development, building competitiveness of industries as well as for enhancing trade, in a global knowledge-based economy. In this context, African nations are embracing the knowledge-based economy and the opportunities being presented by the 4th industrial revolution to drive socio-economic, scientific and technological development and to pave the way for sustainable and inclusive development.

The High Level Segment will discuss the technology/innovation readiness of African countries in a knowledge-based economy and in particular the 4th industrial revolution. Within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the AU agenda 2063, STISA-2024 and other regional and international development initiatives, it will explore the opportunities as well as the challenges facing Africa in building a vibrant innovation system and the effective use of the IP system by academic and research institutions as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the 4th industrial revolution.

Panelists: - Dr. Mafini Dosso; Economist and Political Analyst; Expert in Industrial Politic and Innovation; Spain
- Prof. Robson Mafoti; Chairman and Interim Vice Chancellor of Pan-African Minerals University of Science and Technology (PAMUST); Zimbabwe

- Honorable Minister Prof. Amon Murwira; Minister for Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development; Zimbabwe

- Mr. Charles Afeku; Adviser to the CEO of The African Legal Support Facility (ALSF) at the African Development Bank (“AfDB”) Group; Zimbabwe

- Ms. Brenda Kahari; Legal Practitioners, Harare, Zimbabwe

Moderator: Dr. Mclean Sibanda; Managing Director at Bigen Global Limited International Consultant & IP Expert (South Africa)

13.00 – 15.00 Lunch Break

After the High Level Segment, the program continues in two parallel Clusters

Cluster One: Universities and research and development (R&D) institutions in the global knowledge based economy
Cluster Two: SMEs and their contribution to innovation and economic growth in Africa
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

CLUSTER 1: UNIVERSITIES AND R&D INSTITUTIONS IN THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY

15.00 – 16.30

TOPIC 1: PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL IP POLICIES IN AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

Under this topic, the participants of the conference will discuss the importance of the institutional IP policy in the process of generation, protection and commercialization of intellectual property assets by universities and research organizations; review current status of institutional IP policy in African universities and research organizations; and identify the challenges that face African universities in putting in place IP policy framework. The session will also deepen participants’ understanding and appreciation of the existing tools available to support this process, particularly the WIPO/ARIPO/OAPI Guidelines and discuss and agree on how best the bulk of the African universities and research organizations that still do not have such policies can be helped and how national IP strategies and STI policies can be used to promote the development of such policies by universities. The following presentations will be made to facilitate the discussion on this topic:

(a) Importance and status of IP policies in Africa universities and R&D organizations
(b) The WIPO/ARIPO/OAPI piloting project: This presentation will give an overview of the guidelines, the objectives and expected outcome of the piloting projects
(c) Developing and Implementing an Institutional IP Policy; and update on progress on implementation of the WIPO/ARIPO/OAPI Guidelines
(d) Developing and implementing an institutional IP policy - Practical experience of an African university
(e) Experience sharing from JKUAT.

Moderator: Dr. Dick Kamugasha; International Consultant and IP Expert; Uganda

Speakers:
1. Prof. Barthelemy Nyasse, International Consultant &IP Expert; Cameroon
2. Prof. Tom Ogada, International Consultant &IP Expert; Kenya
3. Prof. Tobias Schonwetter; Director: Intellectual Property Unit; University of Cape Town; South Africa

16.30 – 17.15 Discussions
17.15 End of Day 1
19.30 Reception and Cultural Evening

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

CLUSTER 2: SMES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS IN AFRICA

15.00 – 16.30

TOPIC 1: SMES AS ENGINES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN AFRICA

This topic will examine the
(a) General overview
(b) The role of SMEs in Africa’s economies and the extent to which they contribute to economic growth and in addressing challenge
(c) The use of the IP system by SMEs in Africa: challenges and successes
(d) Support Mechanisms for improvement of IP use by SMEs in support of innovation
(e) Discussions and way forward

Moderator: Mr. Emmanuel Sackey; Executive, IP Development; ARIPO, Harare

Speakers:
1. Mr. Guy Pessach; Director, SMEs and Entrepreneurship Support Division, WIPO; Geneva,
2. Prof. Caroline Ncube
3. Mr. Alaya Bettaieb
4. Dr. Mafini Dosso
5. Mr. Hassane Yacouba Kaffa, Managing Partner, Phoenix IP Consulting Law Firm; Niamey

16.30 – 17.15 Discussions
17.15 End of Day 1
19.30 Reception and Cultural Evening
Thursday, November 7, 2019

CLUSTER 1: UNIVERSITIES AND R&D INSTITUTIONS IN THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY

9.00 – 10.30

TOPIC 2: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF IP RIGHTS BY UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

Under this topic, participants of the Conference will discuss the factors that contribute to the current low level of generation of and application for IP rights such as: low level of IP awareness; loss of potential IP assets; limited funding of IP protection; inadequate IP Training; weak enforcement of IP policies; and limited reward and incentives for IP generation and protection and agree on the strategies that need to be put in place in order to enhance IP applications. The discussion under this topic will be facilitated by the following presentations followed by a panel discussion.

(a) General overview
(b) Status of IP generation and protection in African countries universities and research organizations.
(c) Strategies to recover potentially lost IP assets; managing collaborative research
(d) Developing and implementing IP awareness creation and outreach strategy
(e) Practical experience in designing and implementing an IP Audit
(f) Support structures and human resource for managing IP assets
(g) Funding of IP generation/innovation and protection
(h) Experience sharing: from BITRI

Moderator: Ms. Loretta Asiedu, Senior Counselor, WIPO, Switzerland

Speakers:
1. Mr. Alaya Bettaieb, PE and IP Consultant; Tunisia
2. Prof. Tom Ogada, International Consultant &IP Expert; Kenya
3. Ms. Rose Mboya; International Consultant and IP Expert; KIRDI; Kenya
4. Dr. Vinet Coetzee; Senior Lecturer; Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Pretoria, South Africa
5. Professor Shirley Keolebogile Motaung; Assistant Dean, Postgraduate Studies; Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa

10.30 – 11.15 Discussions
11.15 – 11.30 Coffee Break

Thursday, November 7, 2019

CLUSTER 2: SMES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS IN AFRICA

9.00 – 10.30

TOPIC 2: FINANCING INCENTIVES FOR PROMOTING INNOVATION, PROTECTION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF IP ASSETS BY SMES

This topic will examine financing incentives and related support available for SMEs by Africa governments, success stories and challenges and best way forward:

(a) Current financial incentives for innovations, protection and commercialization of IP assets available for SMEs in Africa
(b) Practical experiences with selected government funding mechanisms
(c) Success stories from some Asian countries

Moderator: Dr. Mafini Dosso

Speakers:
1. Prof. Caroline Ncube
2. Ms. Rosemary Kariuki
3. Mr. Masashi Nemoto; Director, International Cooperation Division; Japan Patent Office (JPO)

10.30 – 11.15 Discussions
11.15 – 11.30 Coffee Break
**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

**CLUSTER 1: UNIVERSITIES AND R&D INSTITUTIONS IN THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY**

11.30 – 13.00

**TOPIC 3: ENHANCING IP TRAINING AND EXPLOITATION BY AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES**

In this session, participants will examine the importance of IP training particularly in universities to provide the required IP professional; enhance IP awareness creation within universities; and support IP generation and protection by the universities.

(a) Review of the status of IP training and education in African universities and R&D organizations.
(b) WIPO/ARIPO/OAPI Programs – Practical presentations from four partner institutions offering the MIP
(c) Experience Sharing from Africa University, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and OAPI

Moderator: Prof. Robson Mafoti

Speaker:
1. Prof. Barthelemy Nyasse
2. Prof. Amos Saurombe; Department of Mercantile Law, University of South Africa; South Africa

13.00 – 13.30 Discussions and conclusions
13.30 – 15.00 Lunch Break
15.00 – 16.30

**TOPIC 4: FINANCING OF RESEARCH AND OTHER INCENTIVES FOR PROMOTING INNOVATION**

This topic will examine the financing of R&D in African universities and research organizations within the context of building the continent’s technological capabilities and aspirations of having R&D expenditure being at least 1% of the GDP. It will also discuss the contribution of the private sector to funding R&D and what needs to be done to enhance this and look at mobilizing resources by African universities through collaborative research and the challenges of North-South research collaboration. It will also look at the need to have tangible data on the impact of R&D to economic development, which can be used to lobby policy makers to invest more resources to R&D. The session will also examine rewards and incentives that can be provided to researchers to enhance innovation, generation and protection of IP rights. The discussion in this session will be facilitated through presentations covering the following sub-topics:

(a) Incentives for generation, protection and commercialization of IP rights – Practical experiences with selected government funding mechanisms;
(b) Current practices on funding of IP generation/innovation and protection;
(c) Mobilizing resources through North-South research collaboration, successes and constraints;
(d) Impact of R&D on economic development.
(e) Formulation and implementation of the National Innovation Fund Framework Program – the Ugandan Experience;

**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

**CLUSTER 2: SMES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS IN AFRICA**

11.30 – 13.00

**TOPIC 3: IP AND INNOVATION MANAGEMENT IN SMES (CASE STUDIES)**

This topic will examine IP and innovation management practices in SMEs with particular emphasis on case studies covering the entire spectrum of the IP system.

Moderator: Mr. Guy Pessach

 Speakers:
1. Ms. Rose Mboya
2. Professor Shirley Keolebogile Motaung, Assistant Dean, Postgraduate Studies, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa
3. Dr. Siya Ntutela, President of Africa- Bio, South Africa
4. Two Local SMEs

13.00 – 13.30 Discussions
13.30 – 15.00 Lunch Break
15.00 – 16.30

**TOPIC 4: PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPS) IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES – SUCCESS STORIES FROM PRIVATE SECTOR INCLUDING SMES**

This topic will examine

a) The nature and role of PPPs and their possible contribution to addressing Africa’s challenges
b) Technology transfer mechanisms in PPPs, challenges, successes and future perspectives

Moderator: Ms. Magui Nnoko

Speakers:
1. Prof. Shirley Keoligobile Motaung
2. Mr. Guilherme Cintra, Director Innovation Policy International Federation of Pharmaceutical manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA)
Moderator: Prof. Tom Ogada, International Consultant & IP Expert; Kenya

Speakers:
1. Prof. Caroline Ncube, Department of Commercial Law; University of Cape Town; South Africa
2. Dr. Youssef Travaly, Vice President; Next Einstein Forum; Rwanda
3. Ms. Rosemary Kariuki, Country Manager; World Bank; Zimbabwe
4. Dr. Dick Kamugasha

16.30 – 17.00 Discussions
17.00 – 17.30
Enhancing the contribution of universities and research organizations on economic growth and global competitiveness – Presentation by Rapporteurs

17.15 End of Day 2

Friday, November 8, 2019

9.00 – 12.30 Working session of the Drafting Committee (closed)

The Conference will resume in Plenary: Chairman – Prof Barthelemy Nyasse

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 16.30 Plenary session (Chairman – Prof. Barthelemy Nyasse)

Presentation by Chair of the Drafting Committee on key issues and areas of agreement for the preparation of the joint road map and action plan for the two clusters

16.30 – 17.00 Discussion on way forward

17.00 Closing Ceremony

Remarks by:
1. JPO
2. WIPO
3. ARIPO
4. OAPI
5. Host Country Representative

Suggested Rapporteurs:
1 Rep from University + IP Office Head + WIPO/OAPI
1 Rep from SME + IP Office Head + ARIPO/OAPI

[End of document]