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THE PATENT OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

WORLDWIDE SYMPOSIUM ON GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

jointly organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
and
the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria

Sofia, June 10 to 12, 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Organizers

The Worldwide Symposium on Geographical Indications is being organized jointly by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Venue and Dates

The Symposium will be held in Sofia, from Wednesday, June 10 from 9.30 a.m to Thursday, June 11, 2009, until 6 p.m, at the following address:

Sheraton Hotel
5 Sveta Nedelya Square
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 937 87 87
E-mail: sofia.reservations@luxurycollection.com
Website: www.luxurycollection.com/sofia

An excursion will take place on Friday, June 12, 2009 (see paragraph below).

Registration

Registration to the Symposium should be completed by means of the Registration Form annexed to this document, to be returned to WIPO by facsimile or by e-mail, by May 29, 2009.

On-site registration will take place on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. at the Registration/Information Counter, which is located next to the conference room at the Sheraton Hotel.

Working Languages and Documentation

The working languages of the Symposium will be English, Bulgarian and French with simultaneous interpretation.

All documents will be published on the WIPO website at the following address:
<http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/>.

Excursion

An excursion to a traditional rose oil production site in Kazanlak, a town famous for its scented roses and unique rose-oil based products, will take place on Friday, June 12, 2009.

Coaches will depart to Kazanlak from the Sheraton Hotel at 7.30 a.m., in order to arrive on time for the picking of roses, which takes place exclusively in the morning. The visit will be followed by a lunch in a traditional Bulgarian restaurant.

The return to Sofia is expected at approximately 8.30 p.m.

Participants in the excursion are advised to wear casual clothing and comfortable shoes.

II. INFORMATION CONCERNING HOTEL AND IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES

Entry Visa

In order to obtain a visa in time for their travel to Sofia, foreign participants who need a Bulgarian entry visa, are strongly recommended to contact the Embassy or Consulate of Bulgaria in their respective countries as soon as possible. They should be in possession of a valid entry visa before commencing their travel.

Any participant or speaker having difficulty in obtaining a Bulgarian entry visa may request assistance from the following person at the Bulgarian Patent Office:

Roumiana Nikolova
State Expert
Co-operation, Development and Public Relations Department
Phone: +359-2-9701-314
Fax: +359-2-873-51-82
E-mail: rnikolova@bpo.bg

Detailed information on the procedure and the required documents to apply for a visa are available on the official site of the Ministry of foreign affairs: www.mfa.government.bg. A list of countries whose nationals need or do not need entry visas as well as a list of Bulgarian embassies and consulates and their addresses are also available on the same site.

Along with the other application documents participants are kindly requested to present an acknowledgement of registration issued by WIPO.

Please note that entry visas cannot be issued on arrival at the airport in Sofia.

Hotel Accommodation

Participants should make their room reservation *directly* at the hotel of their choice. All bills are to be settled directly with the hotel. All major credit cards are accepted. The following hotels are suggested:

Sheraton Hotel***** (Conference Hotel)

5 Sveta Nedelya Square
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 937 87 87
E-mail: sofia.reservations@luxurycollection.com
Website: www.luxurycollection.com/sofia
Single room: 120-130 euros

Les Fleurs**** (2-3 minutes walk from Sheraton Hotel)

21 Vitosha Blvd.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 8 100 800
E-mail address: reservation@lesfleurshotel.com
Website: <http://lesfleurshotels.com>
Single room: 100 euros

Light**** (10-12 minutes walk from Sheraton Hotel)

37 Vesletz Str.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 917 90 90
E-mail address: reservations@light.bg
Website: <http://hotels.light.bg/sofia/bg>
Single room: 95 euros

Rila Hotel**** (2 minutes walk from Sheraton Hotel)

6 Kaloyan Str.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 93791
E-mail address: rila@mbox.contact.bg
Website: <http://www.online.bg/rila>
Single room: 77 euros

Art Hotel*** (4-5 minutes walk from Sheraton Hotel)

5 Dondukov Blvd.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 4027 100
E-mail address: reception@artehotelbg.com
Website: <http://www.artehotelbg.com>
Single room: 80-90 euros

Slavianska Beseda** (10-12minutes walk from Sheraton Hotel)

3 Slavianska Str.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: +359 2 980 13 03
E-mail address: reception@slavyanska.com
Website: <http://www.slavyanska.com>
Single room: 50-60 euros

III. CONTACT DETAILS

For further assistance and inquiries from WIPO, the following persons may be contacted:

Mrs. Aurélie Lugin
Telephone: + 41 22 338 9440
Facsimile: + 41 22 338 8745
E-mail: aurelie.lugin@wipo.int

Ms. Kateryna Gurinenko
Telephone: + 41 22 338 7036
Facsimile: + 41 22 338 8745
E-mail: kateryna.gurinenko@wipo.int

[Annex follows]

ANNEX



**The Patent Office of
The Republic of Bulgaria**



**World Intellectual
Property Organization**

REGISTRATION FORM

WORLDWIDE SYMPOSIUM ON GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

Sofia, June 10 to 12, 2009

TO BE RETURNED TO:

WIPO

FACSIMILE: +41 22 338 8745

E-MAIL: aurelie.lugrin@wipo.int AND kateryna.gurinenko@wipo.int

Mr./Ms.: _____

First Name: _____

Family Name: _____

Country - Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

EXCURSION TO KAZANLAK

I will participate

Name of the accompanying person (if relevant):

I will not participate

[End of Annex and of document]