



**Oral Statement of the Consortium for Common Food Names (CCFN)
at the Assemblies of the Member States of the WIPO
Sixty-First Series of Meetings
Geneva, September 21 to 25, 2020**

Mr. Chair,

The Consortium for Common Food Names thanks you for the opportunity to address this meeting.

We thank Mr. Gurry for his service. We also welcome DG Tang and look forward to working with him to ensure that WIPO provides balanced information on common name issues.

In relation to the implementation of the Geneva Act, WIPO members should consider the specific guidance provided by the GI Committee of the International Trademark Association. The link to this guidance is provided in our full statement.

INTA took into account four pillars:

- protection of prior trademarks;
- transparency and due process;
- standing to third-parties to object to GI protections; and
- protection of generic terms from being monopolized by GIs.

Countries that do not yet have processes that provide these protections, should notify WIPO that the term under consideration will not be recognized until the country positively notifies WIPO.

We will continue to work with WIPO and others to achieve fair treatment of common names.

Thank you.

