



LI/A/36/1
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: JULY 30, 2019

Special Union for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration (Lisbon Union)

Assembly

**Thirty-Sixth (23rd Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 30 to October 9, 2019**

REPORT ON THE WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LISBON SYSTEM

prepared by the Secretariat

1. Since the previous session of the Assembly of the Lisbon Union, the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (“the Working Group”) held its second session on May 27 and 28, 2019. Delegations exchanged views on issues related to the financial sustainability of the Lisbon System, as reproduced in the Annex to the present document (document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/2/3), which was approved by the Working Group.
2. In its deliberations, the Working Group emphasized the importance of promotion activities to increase the membership of the Lisbon System, including the Geneva Act, and the need to increase coordination among Lisbon members in that respect.
3. At the end of the session, the Working Group decided to further discuss appropriate measures to ensure the financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union in the future, including the review of the Schedule of Fees on a regular basis, while recognizing the need to assess the impact of the entry into force of the Geneva Act on the financial situation of the Union.

4. *The Assembly of the Lisbon Union is invited to take note of the "Report on the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System" (document LI/A/36/1).*

[Document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/2/3 follows]



LI/WG/DEV-SYS/2/3
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: MAY 28, 2019

Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System

Second Session
Geneva, May 27 and 28, 2019

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

adopted by the Working Group

1. The Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) met in Geneva, on May 27 and 28, 2019.
2. The following Contracting Parties of the Lisbon Union were represented at the session: Burkina Faso, Czech Republic, France, Gabon, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Portugal, Slovakia (13).
3. The following States were represented as observers: Afghanistan, Australia, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Honduras, India, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Nigeria, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America (20).
4. Representatives of the following international intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: European Union (EU), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), World Trade Organization (WTO) (4).
5. Representatives of the following national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: *Association congolaise pour le développement agricole* (ACDA), Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI), Health and Environment Program (HEP), International Wine Law Association (AIDV), MARQUES – Association of European Trademark Owners, Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (oriGIn) (6).

6. The list of participants is contained in document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/2/INF/1 Prov*.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

7. Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), opened the session.

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

8. Mr. Csaba Baticz (Hungary) was unanimously elected as Chair of the Working Group.
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/DEV-SYS/2/1 Prov.) without modification.

AGENDA ITEM 4: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LISBON UNION

11. Discussions were based on document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/2/2.
12. The Chair took note of the positions expressed by all Delegations, including observer Delegations. These will be fully reflected in the Report of the present session.
13. The Working Group also emphasized the importance of promotion activities to increase the membership of the Lisbon System, including the Geneva Act, and the need to increase coordination among Lisbon members in that respect.
14. On the basis of the discussions that took place under Agenda item 4, the Working Group decided:
- (i) to take note of the declarations made and the different views expressed under Agenda Item 4; and
 - (ii) to further discuss appropriate measures to ensure the financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union in the future, including the review of the Schedule of Fees on a regular basis, while recognizing the need to assess the impact of the entry into force of the Geneva Act on the financial situation of the Union.

AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

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

AGENDA ITEM 6: CLOSING OF THE SESSION

16. The Chair closed the session on May 28, 2019.

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