

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

Assembly

Forty-Second (26th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, July 8 to 17, 2025

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

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) held its sixth session, in hybrid format, from March 18 to 20, 2025.
2. The session was chaired by Mr. Erik Thévenod-Mottet (Switzerland). In total, 26 delegations from members of the Lisbon Union, 33 delegations from other WIPO Member States, 4 intergovernmental organizations and 10 national and international non-governmental organizations participated in the session. The Summary by the Chair of the sixth session of the Working Group is contained in document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/4](#).

PROPOSED SPECIAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

3. The Working Group adopted a transitional measure consisting of electing officers to preside over both its sixth and seventh sessions, to align the election cycle of its officers with Rule 9 of the General Rules of Procedure of WIPO, as outlined in paragraphs 12 and 13 of document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/2](#). In addition, the Working Group adopted the Special Rules of Procedure, as presented in the Annex to the document mentioned above, for their entry into force upon their adoption.

4. The Working Group elected Mr. Erik Thévenod-Mottet (Switzerland) as Chair of the Working Group, and Ms. Lamia Kateb (Tunisia) and Mr. Csaba Baticz (Hungary) as Vice-Chairs under the above-mentioned transitional measure. The Working Group agreed to elect its officers in accordance with Rule 9 of the General Rules of Procedure of WIPO as from its seventh session.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMON REGULATIONS

5. The development of the Lisbon System for the International Registration of Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (hereinafter referred to as “the Lisbon System”), in terms of both membership and number of transactions under the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (hereinafter referred to as “the Geneva Act”), has brought to light the need to consider amendments to the Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (hereinafter referred to as “the Common Regulations”) to increase clarity and legal certainty regarding the procedures under the Lisbon System.

6. Hence, at its sixth session, the Working Group recommended to the Assembly of the Lisbon Union the adoption of the proposed amendments to Rule 1(1) of the Common Regulations as presented in the Annex to document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/3 Rev.](#), and of the proposed amendments to Rules 8, 15 and 18 of the Common Regulations as amended by the Working Group (see paragraph 15 of document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/4](#)). These proposed amendments are presented in document [LI/A/42/2](#).

7. Furthermore, the Working Group agreed to continue its discussions, at the next session, on the proposed amendments to Rule 9 (Refusal), Rule 11 (Withdrawal of Refusal) and Rule 12 (Grant of Protection) of the Common Regulations (see paragraph 16 of document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/4](#)).

LISBON WORKING GROUP ROUNDTABLE

8. During its sixth session, the Working Group organized a Lisbon Working Group Roundtable, in which the latest developments of the Lisbon System, including the progress achieved with the new Lisbon IT platform (*eLisbon*), were presented. The Roundtable also stimulated exchanges among delegations on ways to further streamline and simplify the procedures relating to additional requirements under Article 7(4) of the Geneva Act and Rule 5(3) of the Common Regulations, particularly through possible changes of key features of the Lisbon System. The agenda of the Roundtable and the presentations shared therein are available on the [meeting's webpage](#).

9. The Working Group also invited the Secretariat to prepare a document on the procedures relating to additional requirements under Article 7(4) of the Geneva Act and Rule 5(3) of the Common Regulations, including background information and possible options (see paragraph 19 of document [LI/WG/DEV-SYS/6/4](#)).

10. *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/42/1).*

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