



SEMINAR

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The Hague System: Insights into Refusals and New Developments, Opportunities

organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Geneva, October 29, 2019

GENERAL INFORMATION

Document prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. The Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs is a simple, cost-effective and efficient solution to protect industrial designs in multiple jurisdictions by means of a single application lodged with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). There are currently 88 countries covered by the Hague System from 70 Contracting Parties, including the European Union (EU) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).
2. The subject Seminar will focus on the topic of refusals as well as specificities for certain designations through a roundtable participated in by officials from some of the major examining Offices in Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America. The Seminar will also tackle recent practical developments to further enhance the Hague System, in particular, the ongoing modernization and improvement of e-tools. This event is a good opportunity for sharpening filing strategies and to better familiarize with the Hague System's electronic ecosystem. An update on ongoing geographical expansion of the Hague System will also be provided.
3. The Seminar is targeted to current and potential users who want to continue acquiring updated knowledge of the Hague System and learn about its functioning and practical use.

CONDUCT AND VENUE OF THE SESSIONS

4. The Seminar will take place at the headquarters of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 34 chemin des Colombettes, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, at the WIPO New Conference Hall (AB Building, on Tuesday, October 29, 2019. Access to WIPO will be possible as from 8 a.m. in order for badges to be collected in a timely manner (more information on badge collection is provided on page 3). The sessions will start at 9 a.m. and will end at 5 p.m. The Seminar will be conducted in English.

REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

ONLINE REGISTRATION

5. To avoid delays, all participants, including those based in Geneva, are kindly requested to [register online](https://www3.wipo.int/eventregistration/hague.xhtml?lang=en) no later than October 22, 2019 at: <https://www3.wipo.int/eventregistration/hague.xhtml?lang=en>. Registration only takes a few minutes followed by an email confirmation.

6. Registration fee: 300 Swiss francs, covering participation in the Seminar, documentation, luncheon and coffee breaks. Registration will be final upon receipt by WIPO of the registration fee. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties of the Hague Union will be exempt from payment of this fee. Registration fees will not be reimbursed for any cancellation received after October 22, 2019.

7. Any questions or comments on the online registration procedure may be addressed to Contact Hague at <https://www3.wipo.int/contact/en/hague/> or through the Hague Customer Service +41 22 338 7575.

CONFERENCE BADGES

8. To obtain the official conference (admission) badge, please produce your registration confirmation sent by email, together with a photo identification document. Conference badges can be collected at the WIPO New Access Center, 34 chemin des Colombettes (North side of the WIPO AB Building). The desk will be open on Tuesday, October 29, 2019, from 8 a.m.

9. Access to and presence on the WIPO premises will be restricted to persons wearing badges. Any lost badge should be reported without delay to the WIPO New Access Center.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

10. A provisional list of participants will be distributed on the day of the Seminar, which will include the online registrations received by October 22, 2019. Online registrations submitted after this deadline may not be reflected on the provisional list of participants.

VISAS

11. For participants coming from abroad, attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Switzerland, and particularly the requirement by the Swiss authorities to provide biometric data (10 fingerprints and facial image). This implies the applicant's presence in person at a Swiss Representation to submit and register biometric data (this may even require traveling to a neighboring country). Swiss authorities will not authorize entry into Switzerland without the required biometric visa and will not deliver entry visas on arrival.

12. Delivery of the required visa (Schengen visa) may take up to 21 days. Therefore, travelers are strongly advised to file any visa application at least three weeks before departure.

DOCUMENTATION

13. Information and documentation on the Seminar are available online:

https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=54470.

14. As a positive contribution to an environmentally-friendly meeting and as a cost-saving measure, Seminar documents are posted on the WIPO website for downloading. All documents are available in English only.

15. Working documents will be available at the WIPO documents counter located in front of the WIPO Conference Hall during the Seminar. Paper copies of documents will be made available on a limited basis.

PREMISES

ACCESS TO WIPO

16. Access to and presence on the WIPO premises will be restricted to badge-holders and strictly controlled during the Seminar. Participants will be subject to badge control at the entry points and badges should be worn in plain view at all times.

17. Entrance to the WIPO Campus will be *via* the WIPO Access Center at 34 Chemin des Colombettes (North side of the WIPO AB Building) (see [Map](#) at: https://www3.wipo.int/contact/images/map_acces_center.jpg).

18. Access to the WIPO car park is possible via the entrance at 34 Chemin des Colombettes. Participants can park their cars on a first-come-first-served basis for the duration of the Seminar. Otherwise, there is a public car park at Place des Nations, very close to WIPO (more information on the [parking fee](#)). Access for persons with reduced mobility is available throughout WIPO premises. Guide dogs for the visually impaired are allowed. Requests for information or assistance may be submitted to: meetings@wipo.int or Tel: +41 22 338 9581.

INTERNET AND IT MATTERS

WIRELESS INTERNET (WI-FI)

19. A free wireless Internet connection (identified as: WIPOwifi4conf) is available in the WIPO Conference Hall and in WIPO public areas (lobbies/foyer, cafeterias/lounge, Library). The access code will be provided to participants at the WIPO registration desk. In Room B, every participant's desk has an electrical plug that can be used for portable computers and similar equipment. In the interests of all delegates, users are invited to limit heavy downloading.

COMPUTERS WITH INTERNET ACCESS

20. A number of computers with Internet access and a shared printer are available to participants, on a first-come-first-served basis, in the Internet room situated on the mezzanine level of the WIPO AB Building (Room AB 1.11). In the WIPO Library (first floor of the NB Building) and behind the WIPO Information Center (ground floor of the WIPO AB Building), there are also several PCs with Internet access.

TELEPHONE

21. When phoning locally in Geneva, replace "+41 22" by "022" or "+41 79" by "079" and so on. Local and international calls can be made from the three public booths on the ground floor of the WIPO AB Building, near the main lifts. Participants should switch their mobile phones to silent mode during the Seminar.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON GENEVA

HOTELS

22. Accommodation in Geneva is often in high demand and participants are recommended to make hotel reservations well in advance. WIPO does not have a hotel reservation service so participants should book hotels directly.

23. Information and hotel bookings are available at the [Geneva tourism](#). A list of negotiated hotel rates issued by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) is available at: http://intranet.wipo.int/export/sites/intranet/homepages/ptd/en/travel/pdf/un_hotel_price_list.pdf.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND TAXI SERVICES

24. Participants arriving at Geneva airport can obtain a free public transport ticket valid for an 80-minute journey around the Geneva area. The free ticket can be obtained at the automatic distributor located in the luggage claim area, just before going through customs. From the airport, buses 5 and 28 stop at Place des Nations (UN flag entrance and "Broken Chair" monument), which is within walking distance to WIPO. The train takes only six minutes from the airport to Cornavin Geneva Central Station.

25. Participants staying in a Geneva hotel can obtain a local transport card from the hotel reception free of charge, valid for the entire duration of their stay. The personal and non-transferable card allows free access to trams, buses, trains and yellow taxi-boats in the Geneva area.

26. The following bus and tram stops are within walking distance of WIPO:

- Bus stop: "Vermont", bus line 5 (this line also goes to and from the airport);
- Bus stop: "UIT", bus lines 8, 11 and 22; and
- Bus/Tram stop: "Nations", bus lines 8, 11, 22, 28, F, V, Z; tram line 15.

27. Further information on Geneva public transportation can be found at: <http://www.tpg.ch/en/web/site-international>.

28. The nearest taxi stand is located just outside the *Centre International de Conférences Genève* (CICG), 17, rue de Varembé, 1202 Geneva. Taxis may be called by dialing +41-22-320-20-20/22 02 or +41-22-331-41-33. Requests for a taxi may also be made at the WIPO Access Center.

BANK AND POST OFFICE

29. The closest bank office to WIPO is the UBS Vermont-Nations Branch, located on 17*bis*, chemin Louis Dunant. Opening hours: 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (cash dispenser ATM 24/7). A cash dispenser (ATM) is also available on the ground floor of WIPO's GBI Building (right-hand side of the lobby of the WIPO AB building). Both ATMs can deliver Swiss francs and Euros using internationally-recognized credit cards.

30. The nearest Post Office is located at the CICG, 17, rue de Varembeé. Opening hours: 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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