

Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks

**Sixteenth Session
Geneva, July 2 to 6, 2018**

PROPOSAL BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. In a communication dated June 1, 2018, the International Bureau received a proposal from the Delegation of the Russian Federation concerning the possibility of introducing Russian as a working language of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks for consideration by the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, at its sixteenth session to be held in Geneva from July 2 to 6, 2018.
2. The said proposal is annexed to this document.

[Annex follows]

Proposal of the Russian Federation concerning the inclusion of Russian as an official language of the Madrid System for International Registration of Marks

The Russian Federation proposes to include Russian as an official language of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.

Russian is one of the official languages of the United Nations system with more than 250 million people speaking Russian. By the number of speakers, Russian is among the top ten languages in the world.

Russian is a state language in the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is an official language in the Kyrgyz Republic. Russian is also one of the main languages of communication in a number of countries throughout the Eurasian region.

Work is well underway to populate the Russian version of WIPO's Madrid Goods and Services Manager database which is an effective instrument for Russian users to compile lists of goods and services when submitting international and national applications for registration of trademarks.

The Russian Federation actively participates in the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks. The Russian Federation is among the top five most designated WIPO Member States in international registrations within the framework of the Madrid system.

In recent years, there has been a sustained growth in international applications submitted from the Russian Federation for international registration by WIPO. In 2017, the growth rate reached almost 30%.

**Applications submitted to WIPO for
international registration of trademarks**



Inclusion of Russian as an official language of the Madrid system will stimulate growth in international applications from Russia and Caucasian, Central Asian and Eastern European countries (CACEEC).

Statistical data currently reflect a growing interest in the Madrid system on the part of applicants from CACEEC as the number of international applications in several countries has increased significantly.

International applications submitted

CP	Office of origin	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% 2017/ 2016
AM	Armenia	24	32	25	38	30	22	22	35	59,1
AZ	Azerbaijan	16	5	3	8	37	8	4	15	275,0
BY	Belarus	106	203	288	325	200	156	140	144	2,9
KZ	Kazakhstan	48	54	79	78	51	51	111	112	0,9
KG	Kyrgyzstan	0	7	4	4	4	2	6	6	0
RU	Russian Federation	1218	1652	1591	1307	1543	1059	1255	1630	29,9
TJ	Tajikistan	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0,0
TM	Turkmenistan	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	600,0
UA	Ukraine	287	365	363	578	519	460	471	481	2,1
UZ	Uzbekistan	2	0	1	4	3	1	3	13	333,3
	Total	1701	2311	2350	2338	2384	1760	2006	2436	21,4

Countries of the region are of interest to foreign applicants who increasingly designate CACEEC countries in their applications.

Designations and subsequent designations in international applications

CP	Designated contracting party	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% 2017/ 2016
AM	Armenia	2655	2902	3087	3025	2874	3149	2268	2983	31,5
AZ	Azerbaijan	3304	3553	3893	3992	3795	4044	3046	3565	17,0
BY	Belarus	5328	5857	6022	6107	5506	5510	4281	5235	22,3
KZ	Kazakhstan	3607	5112	6053	6448	5814	5820	4564	5570	22,0
KG	Kyrgyzstan	2530	2624	2832	2901	2499	2862	2143	2784	29,9
RU	Russian Federation	14250	15691	16634	18239	16573	17436	14301	17199	20,3
TJ	Tajikistan	1537	1945	2467	2463	2238	2484	1837	2298	25,1
TM	Turkmenistan	2240	2293	2548	2521	2281	2559	1899	2270	19,5
UA	Ukraine	8288	8903	9282	9589	8430	7828	6090	7630	25,3
UZ	Uzbekistan	2481	2621	2844	2804	2587	2809	2020	2392	18,4
	Total	46220	51501	55662	58089	52597	54501	42449	51891	22,2

The growth potential of the Madrid system in the region remains significantly untapped. Inclusion of the Russian language as an official language will contribute to strengthening the positive trend in the applications for trademark registration originating not only from Russia but from all the states of the CACEEC regional group.

Implementation of the initiative will help ensure the rights of Russian-speaking applicants, facilitate their access to global IP protection systems, and improve the efficiency of Russian-speaking examiners' work and reduce application processing time for IP offices of the region.

The Russian Federation expects that the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System will submit the proposal for consideration by the Assembly of the Madrid Union.

[End of Annex and document]