

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

Twenty-Fourth Session
Geneva, October 5 to 9, 2026

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

approved by the Working Group

1. The Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) met in Geneva from October 5 to 9, 2026.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and Mr. Shen Changyu, Deputy Director General, Brands and Designs Sector, WIPO, opened the session and welcomed the participants.

3. Ms. Natalia Mogol (Republic of Moldova) acted as Chair. Mr. Felipe Coutinho de Castro (Brazil) acted as Vice-Chair.

4. Mr. Juan Rodríguez Guerra (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Working Group adopted the draft Agenda (document [MM/LD/WG/24/1 Prov.](#)).

AGENDA ITEM 3: ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS FOR MM/LD/WG/25

6. The Working Group elected, for the twentieth-fifth session of the Working Group, Mr. Tran Le Hong (Viet Nam) as Chair, and Ms. Beth Hunt (New Zealand) as Vice-Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 4: AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

- (i) *Findings of the Survey on the Need for and Practical Advantages of National or Regional Certificates*
- (ii) *Proposed Amendments to the Regulations Under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Introducing Requirements to Issue a National or Regional Certificate and to Indicate Certain Relevant Dates in Statements Granting Protection*

7. Discussions were based on documents [MM/LD/WG/24/2](#) and [MM/LD/WG/24/3](#).

8. Many delegations, as well as all user organizations participating in the session, expressed support for the amendments to the Regulations proposed in document MM/LD/WG/24/3. Nevertheless, a number of delegations raised questions regarding the proposed amendments and indicated that certain issues required further elaboration and clarification, including whether:

- (i) requiring the indication of the date of grant of protection and the date by which the mark must be used to avoid the possible loss of rights would provide sufficient added value and address a genuine need;
- (ii) the proposed obligations would duplicate existing processes and documentation, such as statements, attestations or certificates issued by Offices of designated Contracting Parties upon request;
- (iii) the proposed amendments would impose undue administrative, technical or financial burdens on designated Contracting Parties;
- (iv) designated Contracting Parties would be required to translate information concerning international registrations, transliterate certain elements, and determine which language would satisfy locally accepted language requirements;
- (v) designated Contracting Parties would be permitted to charge a fee for the proposed certificate;
- (vi) the proposed certificates could become obsolete following changes to the status of protection or to the international registration;
- (vii) standards for communicating with the International Bureau and any new model forms would be made available sufficiently early to enable Offices to comply with the new obligations;
- (viii) the proposed transitional period would be adequate to allow Offices to implement the proposed amendments; and
- (ix) an opt-out provision would be necessary for Contracting Parties whose domestic legislation is incompatible with the proposed amendments.

9. In view of the above, the Working Group requested the International Bureau to prepare a document providing further elaboration and clarification on the questions raised by delegations and refining the proposed amendments, as appropriate, considering the views expressed during the session.

(iii) Continued Discussions on Option A of the Proposal by the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova

10. Discussions were based on document [MM/LD/WG/22/4](#).

11. The Working Group agreed to continue discussions on Option A of the Proposal by the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova, contained in document MM/LD/WG/22/4, at its twenty-fifth session, and requested the International Bureau to prepare, for that session, a document containing the update to Option A, reflecting the discussions held during the current session.

AGENDA ITEM 5: FURTHER ELABORATION OF THE PROPOSAL BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

12. Discussions were based on documents [MM/LD/WG/23/4](#) and [MM/LD/WG/24/4](#).

13. Delegations agreed with the practical approach proposed by the International Bureau on partial renewal, whereby holders would be able, in the context of renewal, to request the cancellation or limitation of entire classes. Regarding centralized replacement, while delegations supported further consideration of the proposal, they also raised legal, procedural and practical questions requiring additional examination. Similarly, delegations recognized the potential value and practical benefits of allowing subsequent designations in respect of pending international applications but emphasized that further analysis would require concrete proposals and additional information on the mechanism envisaged, to assess its legal, procedural, operational and technical implications.

14. The Working Group requested the International Bureau to:

- (i) undertake the necessary technical and operational work to implement the agreed approach on partial renewal, to provide further information on its practical operation, and to report on progress at the next session of the Madrid Working Group Roundtable;
- (ii) prepare, for its next session, a comprehensive document on centralized replacement addressing the questions and concerns raised by delegations and providing further analysis of its implications; and,
- (iii) prepare, also for its next session, a comprehensive document on subsequent designation in respect of pending international applications that would address the issues raised during the discussion, provide further information on the legal, procedural, operational and technical implications of the proposal, and include concrete proposals for possible amendments to the Regulations to facilitate the Working Group's continued consideration of the matter.

AGENDA ITEM 6: CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS ON DEPENDENCY AND THE POSSIBLE EVOLUTION OF THE MADRID SYSTEM

15. Discussions were based on documents [MM/LD/WG/20/5](#), [MM/LD/WG/21/8 Rev.2](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/5 Rev.](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/14](#), [MM/LD/WG/23/6](#) and [MM/LD/WG/23/13](#).

16. The Working Group agreed to continue discussing dependency at its next session, based on documents MM/LD/WG/20/5, MM/LD/WG/21/8 Rev.2, MM/LD/WG/22/5 Rev., MM/LD/WG/22/14, MM/LD/WG/23/6 and MM/LD/WG/23/13.

AGENDA ITEM 7: LANGUAGES

- (i) Report on the Completion of the Introduction of the Differentiated Translation Practice and Assessment on the Quality of the Related Translations*
- (ii) Technical Aspects of Processing Non-Latin Characters and Non-Arabic Numerals in Relation to the Possible Introduction of New Madrid System Languages*
- (iii) Plan for Phase II of the Madrid Information Technology Platform Project, Including its Relationship with the Possible Introduction of New Madrid System Languages*
- (iv) Updated Statistics Regarding the Criteria Outlined in Document MM/LD/WG/21/7*
- (v) Continued Discussions on the Possible Introduction of New Madrid System Languages, Including Chinese, Russian, Arabic, Japanese, Portuguese and German*

17. Discussions were based on documents [MM/LD/WG/16/7](#), [MM/LD/WG/16/9 Rev.](#), [MM/LD/WG/17/10](#), [MM/LD/WG/21/7](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/6 Rev.](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/10](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/11](#), [MM/LD/WG/22/12](#), [MM/LD/WG/24/5](#), [MM/LD/WG/24/6](#), [MM/LD/WG/24/7](#) and [MM/LD/WG/24/8](#).

18. The Working Group agreed to continue discussing this agenda item at its next session.

AGENDA ITEM 8: MADRID WORKING GROUP ROUNDTABLE

19. The International Bureau presented the latest developments in the Madrid Registry.

AGENDA ITEM 9: SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

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

AGENDA ITEM 10: CLOSING OF THE SESSION

21. The Chair closed the session on October 9, 2026.

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