

Roundtable on Fostering South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Intellectual Property and Innovation

Examples from the Arab Region

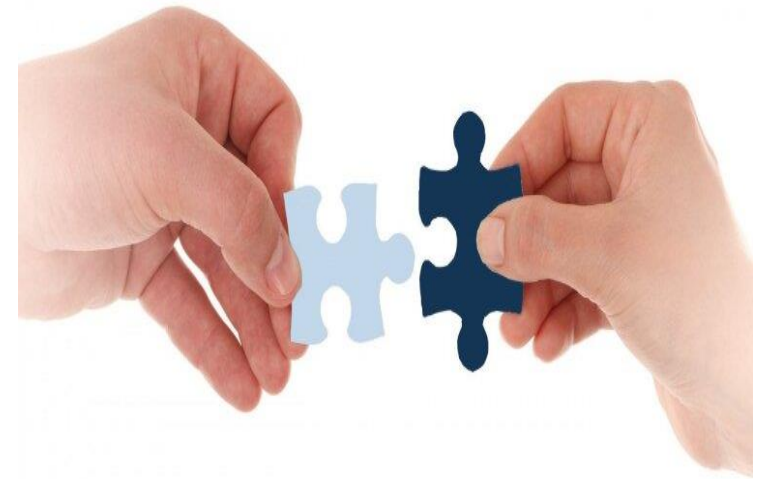
Geneva, May 15, 2023

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1. Regional Arab Meeting on lessons learnt and best practices in relation to IP and the promotion of innovation in the Arab Region

- A representative from **Singapore IP Office (IPOS)** shared their experience relevant to developing the functions of Arab IPOs in the area of encouraging innovation, particularly for SMEs, Startups, and entrepreneurs/women/youth.
- Sharing of experiences and lessons learnt on:
 - Organizing **awareness raising** events for all relevant stakeholders on different IP issues
 - Providing patent information to the public through the **Patent database** searches of IPOS
 - Establishing **Hotline on IP**, IP advisory/consultancy service for the public, particularly for SMEs, Startups, Women and Youth
 - Supporting **commercialization of inventions** of SMEs
 - Providing **legal support** and dispute resolution services



2. Sub-regional training on PCT which will be hosted by the Egyptian Patent Office (EgPO) for the benefit of Patent Examiners from Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria.



Introduction to the
PCT System

This event represents another good model for South / South cooperation, particularly in the Arab region where some countries of the region are facing difficult domestic situations that prevent WIPO from undertaking technical assistance on the ground in those countries. WIPO has been following a strategy for providing such assistance in third countries in the region, also making use of the experience of the IPOs and other relevant institutions of these third countries.

3. Asian-Arab IP Dialogue between Japan and selected Arab countries on utilizing the IP System for Economic, Social and Cultural Development in the Digital Era.

- The dialogue started in 2019 as a joint initiative by Japan, UAE and WIPO (supported then by Japan/FIT and UAE/FIT). It aims to exchange views and information on IP policy and strategic considerations, identify **best practices** to utilize the IP system and infrastructure for economic, social and cultural development and explore possible areas of cooperation between participating Arab countries and Japan for establishing a modern and effective IP system.
- Participating Arab countries, in addition to Japan, have been: Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia and the UAE as well as one sub-regional organization: The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and one regional organization: The League of Arab States (LAS).
- Third session, held at the headquarters of the League of Arab States (LAS) in Cairo on January 31 and February 1, 2023, provided an update by JPO and Arab participating IPOs on the current status and prospects in the Digital Era, **including IP and Frontiers Technology and AI and IPO administration**; explored areas of cooperation for establishing effective IP systems using modern technologies and formalized the shift of the Dialogue's outcome towards a project-based approach, in line with the new strategic orientations of WIPO enshrined in the Mid-Term Strategic Plan 2022-2026, reflecting the new vision of Director General Daren Tang, supported by Member States.
- Shift towards WIPO's Project Based Approach : As an outcome of Dialogue 3rd session, a new **DAC project on IP and AI for selected Arab Countries** is currently underway, targeting digitally oriented SME and startups.

Additional Recent Examples...

- Under WIPO's post COVID-19 Recovery Package of Support and Services: Sub-regional Webinar, in cooperation with GCC ip Training Center (GCC IP-TC) for GCC Member States + Sub-regional Webinar for Algeria and Tunisia on **The Role of Intellectual Property in Vaccines, Therapeutics and Diagnostics**, During Global Epidemic Conditions, (2022) (DAC, RNDS & GCD, GCPS & PTLD, PTS + WHO and WTO).
- Sub-regional Webinar on the Hague System among African stakeholders, including Arab countries in Africa (December 2022) (DAC, RNDS & Hague Registry, BDS).
- WIPO GCC Workshop on the **Examination of Foreign Applications** for Examiners of the Patent Office of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCCPO) and GCC Member States' IP Offices (November 2022) (DAC, RNDS & PCTICD, PTS)
- Brainstorming Sessions in the context of **Intellectual Property (IP) and Think Tanks Pilot Project** in the Arab Region (November 2022) (Algeria, Kuwait and Morocco) (DAC, RNDS & IPBD, IES)
- WIPO / LAS Regional Meeting on IP and Startups (June 2022) (DAC, RNDS&IPBD, IES) / WIPO LAS Regional Meeting on IP, Innovation Incubators & Techno Parks (November/December 2022) (DAC, RNDS & TTS, IPID, IES)
- Algerian, Egyptian and Moroccan IP Offices provide training for other Arab and African IP Offices Staff as well as other relevant stakeholders (WIPO Academy, RNDS)
- The establishment of a **Regional Arab TISC Network** under the auspices of LAS, with technical support from WIPO (TISD, IES), to be declared during the Regional Arab Meeting on TISCs, to be held in Algeria (May 23-24, 2023) (DAC and WAO, RNDS & TISD, IES)
 - Cooperation between Algeria and Tunisia as well as between Djibouti, Mauritania and Morocco in the area of TISCs.
- Algerian INAPI, Egyptian PO, Jordanian IPPD, Moroccan OMPIC, Saudi SAIP, Tunisian INNORPI provide capacity building opportunities to and share experiences with IP Offices and other relevant stakeholders in other Arab countries (DAC, RNDS, in cooperation with other relevant WIPO Divisions).

Thank you.....

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