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

IP Cooperation Initiatives in ASEAN Member **States** 

15 May 2023

**Maslina Malik Senior Officer - IPR Competition, Consumer Protection and IPR Division** (CCPID) one identity **ASEAN Secretariat** 

one vision

one community





### **Content**

Overview of ASEAN and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

Initiative 1: Trademarks and Designs Convergence Network

Initiative 2: Comparative Study on GRTKTCE

Initiative 3: ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)

Initiative 4: ASEAN IP Portal and IT Tools





## **ASEAN Community Building 2025**



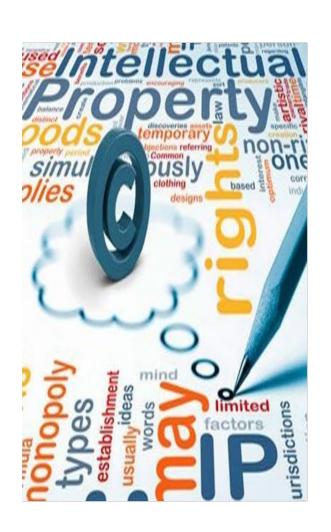
ASEAN
PoliticalSecurity
Community
(APSC)

ASEAN
Economic
Community

(AEC)

ASEAN Socio
Cultural
Community
(ASCC)

One Vision. One Identity. One Community



## ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2016 -2025 4 Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Strengthen IP Offices and Build IP Infrastructure

**Goal 2: Develop Regional IP Platforms** 

**Goal 3: Expand the ASEAN IP Ecosystem** 

**Goal 4: Enhance Regional Mechanisms to Promote Asset Creation** 

#### **ASEAN IPR ACTION PLAN 2016-2025**

4 Strategic Goals

19 Initiatives

**57 Deliverables** 



- ✓ Action Plan was designed based on the theme of strengthening cooperation on IP
- ✓ Overall objective is to stimulate creativity and innovation
- ✓ Implementation is being carried out through country champions (intra-ASEAN collaboration) and partnership with Dialogue Partners

# Initiative 1 ASEAN Trademarks and Designs Convergence Network

## **ASEAN Trademarks and Designs Convergence**

- <u>Strategic Goal 1</u> of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2016-2025 - A more robust ASEAN IP System
- <u>Deliverable 2.5</u> Develop **ASEAN Common Guidelines on Industrial Designs**
- <u>Deliverable 2.6</u> Update the **ASEAN Common Guidelines on Trade Marks**.
- Convergence Network established in 2019
- Supported by the EUIPO through ARISE+IPR
- 4 Convergence Meetings to date
- Ongoing initiative for ASEAN IP Offices







## ASEAN Trademarks and Designs Convergence Network

Convergence Network ples and Responsibilities

(Country Champion)

Share with ASEAN Task Force for revision.

ASEAN TM/DS Task Force

- Revise the questionnaires
- Submit to ASEC

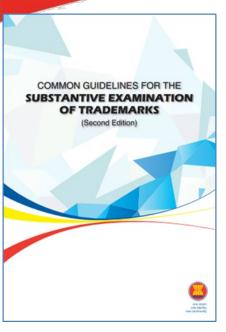
**ASEC** 

- Gathers all questionnaires
- Submit them to the ASEAN TM/DS Convergence Network Meeting

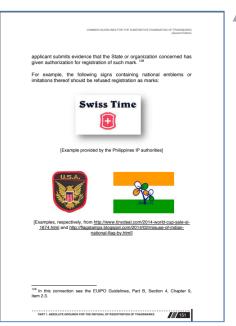
Convergence Network (IPOs)

Receive and start gathering data to fill-in the questionnaires

## **ASEAN Trademarks and Designs Convergence**









### Benefits of the CASEAN Common Guidelines

(https://www.aseanip.org/resources/publications)

- Foster a sense of <u>ASEAN Identity</u>
- Facilitate <u>convergence of practices</u> among ASEAN IP Offices
- Provides consistency on decisions
- Provides <u>guidance for internal staff</u> and also other stakeholders (better understanding, transparency)
- Practical tool for <u>conducting training</u>

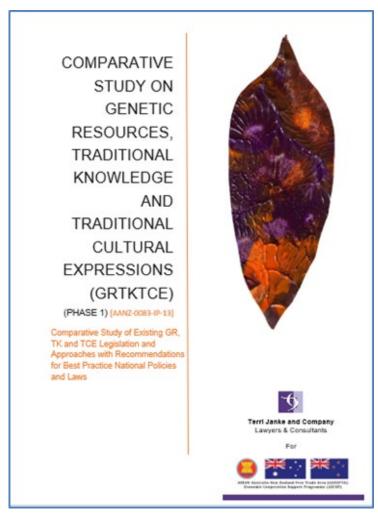
#### **Challenges:**

- Ensuring continued involvement of ASEAN IP Offices
- Require technical expertise to facilitate the discussions
- Ensure timeliness of updates to the Common Guidelines

## Initiative 2 Comparative Study on GRTKTCE

## **Comparative Study on GRTKTCE**

- Strategic Goal 4 of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2016-2025 - Regional mechanism to promote asset creation and commercialization
- <u>Deliverable 19.1</u> Conduct a comparative study to review the existing legislation and approaches
- Conducted in 2020 2021
- Supported by the ASEAN Australia New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) Economic Support Work Program (ECWP)
- Objective is to <u>enhance understanding and</u> awareness of the AANZFTA Parties on the approaches to protection and promotion of **GRTKTCE** and the **policy issues that need to be** considered in developing national policies and laws on IP-related aspects of GRTKTCE



https://www.aseanip.org/docs/default-source/asean-ippublications/comparative-study-grtktce final-forwipo for official USE ONLY public.pdf?sfvrsn=90ebf633 1



## **Comparative Study on GRTKTCE**

#### Key Outcomes

- Recommendations amending IP Laws
  - Access and Benefit Sharing
  - Recognition of Communal Rights
- Recommendations on non legal measures
  - Development of regional practical guide
  - Increased engagement with beneficiaries
  - Establish govt entity / independent body to promote GRTKTCE rights
  - Develop regional protocols or code of conduct
  - Consider regional model laws

#### **Challenges:**

- No specific regulations on GRTKTCE for ASEAN
- Different levels of priority for GRTKTCE across ASEAN



#### Next Steps (2023 -2025)

Deliverable 19.2 – Develop relevant national laws related to GRTKTCE (cooperation with AANZFTA)

Deliverable 19.3 - Develop network of GRTK databases (cooperation with CNIPA)

Deliverable 19.4 – Implement regional cooperation agreements such as code of conduct on use of GR (cooperation with CNIPA)

## Initiative 3 ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)

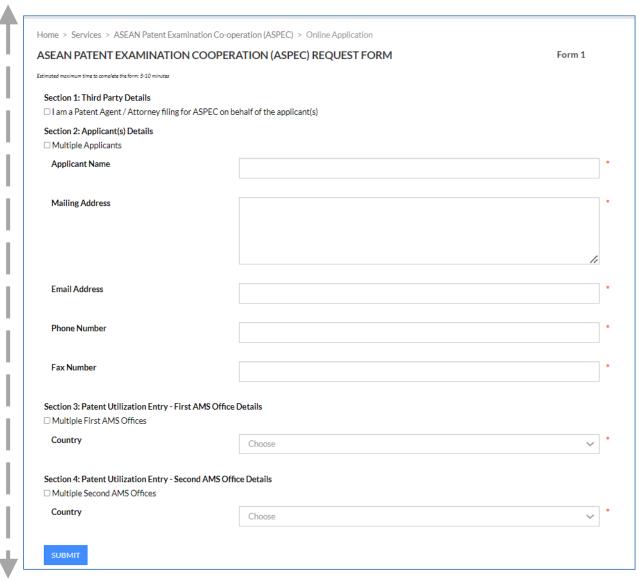
## **ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)**



- <u>Strategic Goal 1</u> of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2016-2025 - A more robust ASEAN IP System
- <u>Deliverable 1.3</u> Continued implementation of the ASPEC
- Launched in 2009
- ASPEC is a regional patent work-sharing programme among 9 AMS - Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- <u>Benefits</u> By using an earlier search and examination report issued by another participating IP Office, an applicant can:
  - ✓ Accelerate examination in all other participating IP offices
  - ✓ Higher chance of patent grant

## **ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)**

- ASPEC aims to enhance the
  - ✓ efficiency and quality of the patent examination process
  - ✓ reduce the workload and costs for patent applicants seeking protection in multiple ASFAN member states
  - ✓ Reduce duplication on the search and examination work done, thereby saving time and effort.
- ASPEC requests can be filed online https://www.aseanip.org/services/asean-patent examination-co-operation-(aspec)/online application



## **ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)**

Total no. of ASPEC requests submitted: 1367 (as of Dec 2022)

Average pendency rate to first office action after ASPEC request: reduced from 8.05 months - > 8 months

Allowance rate at final decision: 97.15%

#### **Challenges:**

- **Limited Participation**: The ASPEC program is still not fully implemented by all member states.
- Differences in Patent Laws and Examination Standards: While participating ASEAN member states have agreed to share search and examination results, patent laws and examination standards are still different.
- **Limited Resources**: The ASPEC program requires significant resources, including human resources and technical infrastructure, to effectively implement and operate.



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## Initiative 4 ASEAN IP Portal and IT Tools

## ASEAN IP Portal www.aseanip.org



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Transforming ASEAN Into An Innovative and Competitive Region Through the Use of Intellectual Property

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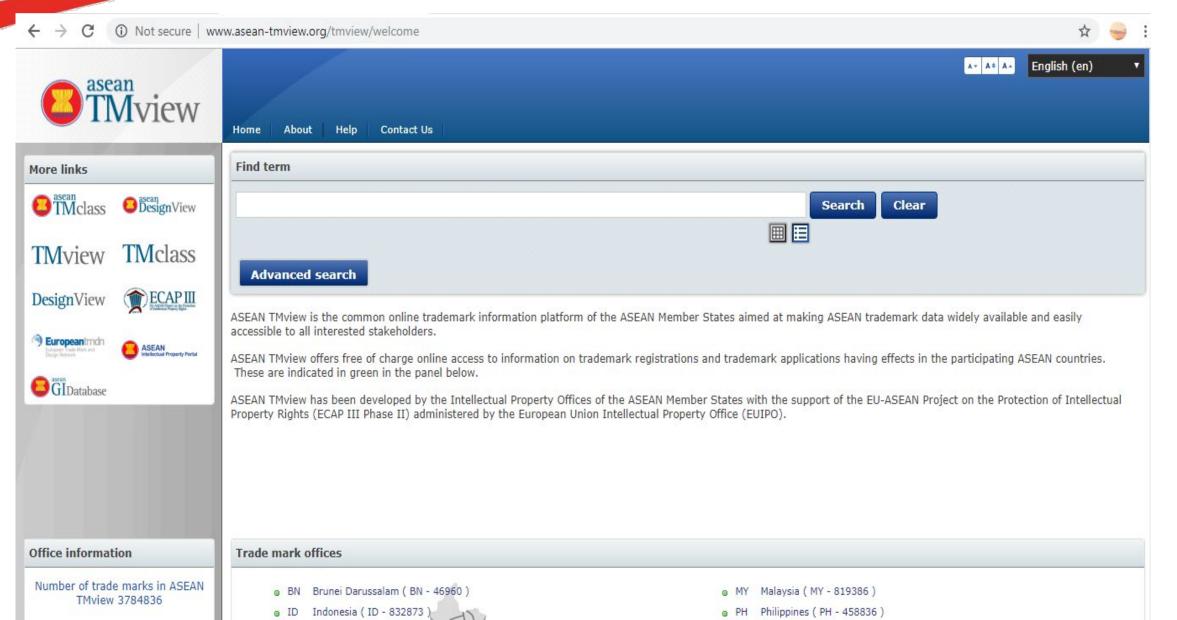
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## **ASEAN IP Tools**

ASEAN Tools	URL	Country Lead	Logo
ASEAN TMView	http://www.asean- tmview.org/tmview/welcome	Philippines	asean TMview
ASEAN DesignView	http://www.asean-designview.org/	Philippines	asean DesignView
ASEAN TMClass	http://www.asean-tmclass.org/ec2/	Malaysia	asean TMclass
ASEAN GI Database	http://asean- gidatabase.org/gidatabase/	Indonesia	asean GI Database
ASEAN Patentscope	http://ipsearch.aseanip.org/	Indonesia	ASEAN PATENTSCOPE
ASEAN IP Case Law Database	http://asean-ipcaselaw.org/search	Brunei	iPCaseLaw



#### **ASEAN IP Resources – <u>ASEAN IP Tools</u>**





### **ASEAN IT Tools**

- Each country lead is responsible for hosting and maintaining the IT Platform, troubleshooting problems
- Each AMS is responsible for ensuring data is updated in a timely manner.

ASEAN TM View and Design View — Philippines

ASEAN GI Database and Patentscope — Indonesia

ASEAN IP Case Law — Brunei

#### Challenges:

- Country Lead require dedicated resources to host, maintain the online platform
- Delays in submission of data from AMS
- Infrastructure and IT issues due to legacy system

#### Next Steps (2023 onwards):

- Support from WIPO
- Ownership and management by ASEAN
- Tools provided by WIPO
- ASEAN IP Register hosted on WIPO Cloud
- Coordination mechanism via ASEAN-WIPO cooperation

#### Proposal



- One-stop-shop to search all ASEAN IP rights
  - 10 countries
  - Patents, Trademarks and Designs
  - Potential to add GI, Copyright and other IP rights
- Improvements to existing systems
  - Timeliness of Data (daily/weekly/monthly updates)
  - Quality of Data
  - Status Information
  - Accessible, mobile-friendly

WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

## **ASEAN IP Register**



#### e-ASPEC

Access ASPEC to share, search and examination results between participating offices



#### **ASEAN TMview**

Free online access to information on trademark registrations and trademark applications



#### ASEAN PatentScope

Free online access to information on patent filings





#### e-ASPEC

Access ASPEC to share, search and examination results between participating offices

#### **ASEAN IP REGISTER**

Free online access to trademarks, patents, and industrial designs applications and registration data from all ASEAN IP offices



## Thank you!

