

Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

Thirty-Second Session

Geneva, November 24 to 26, 2014

ACCREDITATION OF A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Annex to this document contains information on a non-governmental organization which has requested to be granted observer status in sessions of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), according to the SCT's Rules of Procedure (document SCT/1/2, paragraph 6).

2. *The SCT is invited to approve the representation in sessions of the Committee of the non-governmental organization referred to in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS REQUESTED REPRESENTATION AS
OBSERVER IN SESSIONS OF THE SCT

REQUEST OF REPRESENTATION AS OBSERVER IN SESSIONS OF THE SCT (WIPO)

BEDA, Bureau of European Design Associations

Introduction

The Bureau of European Design Associations (BEDA) was established in 1969. Since 2009, the Association is registered in Belgium operating as a not-for-profit organisation under Belgian law. BEDA is funded by its members. A Board of Directors, elected from the membership by the Members every two years, runs the association. The Membership also elects a President and Vice President every two years.

From its inception, BEDA was founded to co-ordinate the activities and interests of its Members at the European level and to create an effective platform for the professional network of, at that time, the European Professional Design Associations. Its purpose has always been to communicate the value of design and innovation to the European economy to the European Commission and other institutions of the European Union, and to represent its Members' professional interests to that influential audience with the intention of improving professional design practice and maturing the sector.

Nowadays BEDA exists to ensure permanent liaison between its Members (design promotion centres, professional bodies, trade associations and related design entities / societies) and the authorities of the European Union in order to communicate and promote the value of design and innovation to European culture, economy, environment, society and governance.

Membership of BEDA is open to all European design organisations, including professional design associations and institutions of design promotion, or another entity having a professional interest in design, which uphold the aims and objectives of BEDA, that are established under the laws of their respective countries or regions and pursue activities in a regulated manner.

BEDA currently has 46 members in 21 Member States plus Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and Serbia. Of its total membership, 29 members are registered as design promotion centres, while 17 are registered as design professional and trade bodies. In total, it is estimated that through its membership, BEDA represents the interests of some hundreds of thousands of professional designers across Europe.

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Brussels, November 10, 2014

[End of Annex and of document]