

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

Forty-Fourth Session
Geneva, May 17 to 19, 2021

PROPOSALS FOR TOPICS FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION ON GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At the forty-third session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), which was held in hybrid format, in Geneva and remotely through an online platform, from November 23 to 26, 2020, proposals for topics for an Information Session on Geographical Indications were made by the Delegations of the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the European Union (document SCT/43/12 Prov., paragraphs 116 to 118, respectively).
2. The Chair of the SCT concluded that “the SCT would revert to the proposals at its forty fourth session for discussion” (see document SCT/43/11, paragraph 25).
3. The Annex to this document contains the proposals for topics for an Information Session on Geographical Indications, made by the Delegations of the Russian Federation, the United States of America and the European Union).

[Annex follows]

PROPOSALS FOR TOPICS FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION ON GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

PROPOSAL BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. The Delegation of the United States of America proposed the following topic (document SCT/43/12 Prov., paragraph 116):
 - Examination of geographical indications in *sui generis* systems and trademark systems, including combination with graphic elements, the weight given to descriptive elements, conflicts and scope of protection.

PROPOSAL BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

2. The Delegation of the Russian Federation proposed the two following topics (document SCT/43/12 Prov., paragraph 117):
 - The possibility and advisability of including, in national legislations, a temporary right to use a registered geographical indication by persons who do not have the right to the corresponding geographical indication, but who had used such an indication before its registration; and
 - The possibility of granting legal protection to geographical indications consisting of, or containing, a figurative element.

PROPOSAL BY THE DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

3. The Delegation of the European Union, on behalf of the European Union and its member states, proposed the following topic (document SCT/43/12 Prov., paragraph 118):
 - Ways to prevent bad faith registration of domain names consisting of, or containing, geographical indications.

[End of Annex and of document]