Information Session on Country Names

Geneva, April 24, 2018

INFORMATION ON MODERATOR AND PANELISTS

prepared by the Secretariat
DAVID MUSKER

David is Professor of International Design Law at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London. He lectures, or has lectured, at the Universities of Alicante, Bristol and Oxford, at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich and at the Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI) in Strasbourg.

A patent and trade mark attorney, he is a member (and former Chair) of the Designs and Copyright Committee and the Higher Education Committee of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA), a member (and former President) of the Designs Commission of the Union of European Practitioners in Intellectual Property (UNION) and a member of the Design Working Group of the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (ITMA).

He also sits as a Board Member of the Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPReg), the body which regulates patent and trade mark attorneys in the UK, and the Marks and Designs Forum of the UK Intellectual Property Office. In the past he has sat on OHIM’s User Group and the UK Intellectual Property Office former Trade Marks and Design Rights Research Expert Advisory Group.

His research interests include comparative and international design law, Unitary Patents, Intellectual Property professionals (in particular regulation and legal professional privilege), and Intellectual Property procedural law.

He has practised patent and design law for thirty years, during the course of which he filed the first Registered Community Design and appeared as advocate in the last trial before the Registered Designs Appeal Tribunal. He is of Counsel to R G C Jenkins & Co.

He is the founder of the “Class 99” International Design Law blog, a founder Editor of the Community Design Handbook, and a member of the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Intellectual Property Law & Practice (JIPLP) and European Copyright and Design Reports (ECDR). His book Community Design Law: Principles and Practice has been cited with approval by the High Court of England and Wales, the courts of Poland and the Netherlands and OHIM’s Boards of Appeal. For his work in relation to the IP education and training on the Community Design, he received a Worldleaders European IP Award in 2004.
DENIS LOUKOU BOHUSSOU

Denis, Director General of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), is of Ivorian nationality. He holds a Doctorate in Law, obtained on July 3, 1993 from the University of Montpellier I (France). He also obtained several Postgraduate Diplomas (DEA) in Legal Informatics and Computer Law, Intangible Creations Law and Literary and Artistic Property Law (University of Nantes, France).

Before becoming Director General of OAPI on August 1, 2017, Denis was Director General of the Ivorian Intellectual Property Office (OIPI). In this capacity, he managed Côte d'Ivoire’s national intellectual property system and actively contributed to the restructuring of the Ivorian Copyright Office (BURIDA).

As an expert with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), he led the development of the national intellectual property strategies of various African countries and produced numerous studies on the intellectual property system in Africa.

Denis has held high office in Côte d'Ivoire. He was Director of Private Sector Development in the Ministry of Industry and Private Sector Development. In this capacity, he chaired the Technical Investment Commission (CTI) for several years. He was also Deputy Director of the National Legal Documentation Centre (CNDJ), which he helped to set up.

In parallel to these administrative functions, Denis lectures as Assistant Professor of Intellectual Property Law and Civil Law in various universities and institutions.

Denis is the author of numerous publications and studies in the field of Intellectual Property and Law. In the field of legislation, he has chaired several technical committees for drafting laws and regulations.
NIKOLOZ GOGILIDZE

Nikoloz is the Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (SAKPATENTI), a post to which he was appointed in 2014, after his engagement as Patent and Trademark Attorney with the Law Firm Mikadze Gegetchkori Taktakishvili (MGT)

Nikoloz held several positions in SAKPATENTI, including: Member of the Chamber of Appeals, Head of the Legal and Copyright Department, Director of Legal Affairs, and Head of the Legal Department. He has been Georgia’s Intellectual Property negotiator for the EFTA, China and EU bilateral Free Trade Agreements.

He holds a Master Degree with honors from the Tbilisi State University. Nikoloz became Assistant Professor of Intellectual Property (IP) Law at the Caucasus University and currently lectures at the Free University of Georgia. He is a member of the Georgian Bar Association, where he also trains junior attorneys on IP Law. He is a Vice-President to the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI) and a member of the National Patent Attorneys Association.

Nikoloz is the Chair of the Working Group for the Preparation of the Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement. He is also the Chair of the Special Union for the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Union Assembly).

CAROLINA BELMAR

Carolina has, since December 2010, been the Director of Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin of the National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI) of Chile.

She is a member of the Task Force for a New Commercial Code in Chile, an initiative launched in 2016 and a visiting professor both at the Master of New Technologies at the University of Chile Law School and at the WIPO Summer School, which has been held in Santiago, Chile, since 2013.
Carolina obtained her law degree from the University of Chile and her Master’s degree in Intellectual Property and the Information Society from the University of Alicante.

From 2004 to 2009, she was Head of the Intellectual Property Department of the International Economic Relations Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile, leading the negotiating teams on intellectual property matters in the current free trade agreements between Australia, Chile, China, Japan and Turkey. She also participated in the processes to implement the obligations arising from Chile’s various free trade agreements. She has co-authored five bills and texts for the approval of Chile’s accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty and the Trademark Law Treaty.

From 2000 to 2002, Carolina worked at the Center for Intellectual Property Studies of the Chilean Copyright Society.

Carolina is the author of several publications, including two articles on Appellations of Origin (2016) and Geographical Indications (2009) and one on Cultural Industries and Services in the context of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum and the Development Agenda (2005). She is also the author of the chapter on Intellectual Property in the Guide to Chile’s Free Trade Agreements (FTAs): “A 10 años del TLC con Estados Unidos” (10 years after the FTA with the United States) by the Catholic University of Valparaíso (2015).

She has been editor and co-editor of the INAPI Guidelines for the Registration of Trademarks (2017) and the Manual on Trademarks (2010). She also collaborated in the preparation of comments and notes for the linking of the various legal bodies on Copyright, Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin of the INAPI Collection of Intellectual Property Legislation (2010, reissued in 2015).

Isabelle is the Director of the Registry of Trade Marks at the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS).

Prior to that, Isabelle was a Trade Mark Examiner before she left to take on a variety of appointments in IPOS.

Over the last few years, Isabelle’s rotation to various departments within IPOS gave her opportunities to work with government agencies on their IP management while she was with the (former) Enterprise Development Department, curating IP courses as a programme manager in IP Academy, setting up IPOS’ first and one-stop customer service centre, IP101 and establishing and maintaining relationships with international stakeholders while in the International Engagement Department.

Isabelle returned to the Registry of Trade Marks in July 2016 with a breadth of experience and exposure to build on the work of her predecessors.
AMY COTTON

Amy is Senior Counsel in the United States Patent and Trademark Office’s Office of Policy and International Affairs (OPIA) where she leads a team that handles trademark-related domestic and international policy matters. Amy and her team also handle U.S. implementation of international treaty obligations relating to trademarks and provide technical assistance to foreign governments that want to develop or improve their trademark or GIs systems.

Amy specializes in geographical indications (GIs), well-known mark and domain name issues. She heads the United States delegation to the World Intellectual Property Organization’s Standing Committee on Trademarks, Geographical Indications, and Industrial Designs and Madrid Working Group. Amy was the principal intellectual property advisor to the United States Trade Representative’s Office on the United States’ WTO Dispute Settlement case against the European Communities Geographical Indications Regulation No. 2081/92. Amy was also a member of the USG negotiating team on the EU-US Wine Bilateral Agreement and continues to advise USG agencies on GI matters. Before coming to OPIA in May of 2001, Amy was a Trademark Examining Attorney with the USPTO. In private practice, Amy was External Affairs Counsel at the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA).

ÓSCAR MONDÉJAR

Óscar is Head of the Legal Practice Service of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). He joined EUIPO in 1997, where he has occupied different positions. He also acts as an agent before the General Court and the EU Court of Justice. Frequent speaker on trade mark and on geographical indications issues.

He worked previously in the private sector.

He holds a law degree, a master's degree in International Trade and a diploma in advanced legal studies in EU Law.
NICOLAS GUYOT

Nicolas is a Legal Advisor in the Industrial Property Rights Legal Services Department of the Legal and International Affairs Division, in the Swiss Federal Intellectual Property Institute (IPI). He was appointed to this position in December 2015.

Nicolas first worked in the Trademarks Division of the IPI, which he joined in 2010, as an examiner.

Nicolas is a Swiss national who holds a Law degree from the University of Geneva, a Law and Economics Master Degree from the University of St. Gallen (HSG) and a Biology degree from the University of Lausanne. Nicolas was admitted to the Swiss bar association and practiced as an attorney in a Geneva commercial law for a period of four years.

TONI POLSON ASHTON

Toni is a partner at Sim & McBurney and Sim Ashton & McKay LLP in Toronto, Canada. She counsels clients in trademark selection, availability, management, prosecution, opposition, licensing and packaging/labelling.

She is a member of the Canadian Bar Association (former Chair, National IP Section), INTA (former Board of Director and executive committee member), Steering Council, Legislative Analysis, Meetings and GI Committees. She is also a member of the University of Akron School of Law IP Advisory Council; FICPI (co-chair CET 1 International Trademark; IPIC (former Chair, Trademark Joint Liaison Committee) and a member of PTMG, IPSKI & Phi Delta Phi.

Toni has spoken and lectured for The Law Society of Upper Canada, University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law Schools, as well as private and professional organizations. She is a contributor to Hughes on Trade Marks, Canadian Forms & Precedents, Halsbury’s Laws of Canada (Trade-marks, Passing Off and Unfair Competition) and IP - Benchbook – Trade-marks.

She is a member of the University of Toronto (1970), holds an LLB, Osgoode Hall Law School (1973), was admitted to the Ontario Bar (1975) and is a Registered Canadian Trade-mark Agent and Partner at Sim Ashton & McKay LLP and Sim & McBurney.
Clark is a partner in the IP, Tech, and Data Practice Group in the New York office of the global law firm Reed Smith. His primary focus is on trademark, geographical indications (“GIs”), copyright, domain name, licensing and anti-counterfeiting issues, with particular experience in international matters.

Clark is a domain name arbitrator for the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Centre and a leading voice on ICANN issues. He has been consultant to the United States Government on implementation of the TRIPS Agreement.

He is recognized as one of the world’s leading trademark practitioners and has been very active in professional organizations and at universities. Clark was the Chair of the GI Committee of the International Trademark Association (INTA), and now serves on that committee. He has also been a member of the Executive Committee of the INTA Board of Directors. He most recently moderated a panel on GIs at the 2017 INTA Annual Meeting in Barcelona.

Clark has spoken and written extensively on GIs and trademarks, including serving on GI forum panels at the WTO in Geneva and at a WIPO forum in Beijing, and in many other venues on all six continents in countries such as Japan, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, and Russian Federation. Apart from GIs, Clark has written and spoken on such diverse issues as international IP litigation, global trademark portfolio management, domain names, online liability, trademark counterfeiting, and famous marks.