

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Forty-Third Session
Geneva, May 30 to June 3, 2022

ACCREDITATION OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”), at its first session, held in Geneva, from April 30 to May 3, 2001, approved certain organizational and procedural matters, including according *ad hoc* observer status to a number of organizations that had expressed their wish to have a role in the work of the Committee (see the Report adopted by the Committee, WIPO/GRKTF/IC/1/13, paragraph 18).
2. Since then, an additional number of organizations have expressed to the Secretariat their wish to obtain the same status for the subsequent sessions of the Committee. The applications containing the names and other biographical details of the organizations which, before March 31, 2022, requested accreditation at the Forty-Third Session of the Committee are annexed to this document, as received from each organization.
3. *The Committee is invited to consider and decide upon the accreditation requests as ad hoc observers submitted by the organizations referred to in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE REQUESTED ACCREDITATION AS OBSERVERS
IN SESSIONS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

AlSadu Society - Weaving Cooperative

West Indian Tribal Society

AlSadu Society - Weaving Cooperative

To: Traditional Knowledge Division
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) 34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland
Fax: +41 (0) 22 338 81 20
Email: grtkf@wipo.int

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee

I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate in the sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore as an *ad hoc* observer. Please find our application attached for the Committee's consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,
Bibi Duaj Al-Sabah
Chairperson AlSadu Society – Weaving Cooperative

**Application Form for Accreditation as Ad Hoc Observer
to the
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore^{1 2}**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

AlSadu Society - Weaving Cooperative

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

AlSadu Weaving Cooperative Society is a non-profit self-sustained organization that is dedicated to preserving, documenting, and promoting the rich and diverse textile heritage of Kuwait, from the nomadic Bedouin weaving of the desert through to the urban weaving of the town.

The project was started in 1979 by a group of concerned Kuwaitis with the main aim of preserving and reviving the traditional art and craft weaving through scholarly documentation and the propagation of knowledge about Sadu weaving as an art form. In 1991, after the Gulf War, the project was transformed into a weaving cooperative with shares owned by the weavers and an emphasis on production and marketing.

AlSadu is dedicated to celebrating the rich and diverse woven textile heritage of Kuwait, inspired by the values of productivity and creativity of the nation's past, weaving together a cultural identity for both present and future generations.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- Safeguarding Kuwait's textile and weaving heritage for posterity.
- Promoting Kuwait's traditional Sadu weaving at the local and international levels.
- Training and capacity building in the field of textiles and weaving heritage.
- Honoring and raising awareness about the textile heritage of Kuwait and its community.

Main activities of the Organization:

- Providing knowledge, research, and info for researchers, artists, and cultural organizations.
- Developing and innovating the craft in its contemporary setting through artist in residency programs such as SADI: Sadu Art and Design Initiative.

¹ Please note that the decision on accreditation will not be made by the Secretariat, but by the Member States at the beginning of the session of the Intergovernmental Committee. It is therefore possible that certain organizations may not receive accreditation. Therefore, if the requesting organization is not based in Geneva, it might not be advisable to travel to Geneva for the sole purpose of participating in the session of the Committee until accreditation has been granted.

² Please note that this application form may be presented to the Committee exactly in the form received. Please therefore, as far as possible, complete the form using a type-writer or word processor. The completed form should preferably be emailed to grtkf@wipo.int.

- Providing the public with access to knowledge about Al Sadu through workshops and learning facilities.
- Hosting cross-cultural events with foreign embassies of Kuwait to expand the knowledge of Kuwaiti culture and heritage.

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee (Maximum 150 words)

The traditional Sadu master weavers of Kuwait, National Treasures, are at the heart of the society and their knowledge formed the basis of our expertise. They have been the core of the society's safeguarding efforts, providing their skills, techniques, and meanings behind the craft. The members of the Society of both weavers and art teachers have conducted various events that safeguard, promote, and train in the field of traditional arts, crafts, and weaving, inside Kuwait and abroad. The members of the Society serve as freelance experts and consultants to researchers, students, and educators. The domains in which our organization is active are oral traditions and expressions, social practices and events, knowledge and practices concerning the environment, and traditional craftsmanship. Our main objective is to protect the art of Sadu weaving as well as the master weavers knowledge and the authentic art against the mass production and tampering.

Additional Information: Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

Through our unrelented efforts to safeguard AISadu craft we rely on the intellectual property system to secure the traditional knowledge and to preserve the craft skills through the copyright registration of numerous books, studies, and manuals.

The society develops and implements creative programs to ensure the development and innovation of the arts and techniques associated with AISadu craft and has amassed a rich databank of art pieces, curated exhibitions and commissioned work all protected under copyrights, trademarks, intellectual rights, and collective mark.

The most recent accomplishment is that the Art of AISadu weaving has been registered on the UNESCO intangible cultural heritage representative list. This has given a new lease of interest in this fine craft as well as international recognition.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address: SADU HOUSE, QIBLA, ARABIAN GULF ST., BLK 15, KUWAIT CITY P.O.BOX 5742 SAFAT, POSTAL CODE 13057 KUWAIT

Contacts: (+965) 22432395

Fax number: 22437532

Mobile number: 99700006

Email address: admin@alsadu.org.kw

Web site: alsadu.org.kw

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Bibi Duaij Al-Sabah - Chairperson AISadu Society Weaving Cooperative

West Indian Tribal Society

To: Traditional Knowledge Division
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Fax.: +41 (0) 22 338 81 20
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I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate in the sessions of the
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore as an ad hoc observer. Please find our
application attached for the Committee's consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely, Alex Moore-Minott

 (all rights reserved)

(Name and Signature of Representative)



**Application Form for Accreditation as Ad Hoc Observer
to the
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore^{1 2}**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

West Indian Tribal Society

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

West Indian Tribal Society is recorded as a private common law trust and is protected by the Jamaica Registrar of Titles, since the 8th day of August 2019. This organization has a board of trustees/ directors called the Council, which includes Mr. Alex Moore-Minott, Mrs. Chevauné Moore-Minott (née Smith), and Mr Christopher Vaz, who are the founding directors of this organization, and tribal peoples from Jamaica. This organization works in pursuit of the goal to preserve, revitalize, revive and promote the traditions and traditional tribal ways of life, preserving tribal history, heritage, culture and rights, while at the same time working towards development of tribal peoples and tribal communities. Part of the organization's work is to secure and maintain the rights, interests and well-being of tribal peoples. This includes cultural and historical preservation, development of tribal institutions, tribal community outreach, advocacy, activism and raising awareness for the rights, customs, cultures, traditional knowledge, history and heritage of tribal peoples in Jamaica, the Caribbean and Worldwide, raising awareness and tolerance for tribal religions and spiritual systems, and providing community outreach to tribal peoples and communities etc.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization: (Please use a bulleted list)

- To secure the rights, interests and well-being of tribal peoples in Jamaica (including land rights, customary rights, intellectual property rights, human rights et al.);
- To preserve the customs, culture and history of tribal peoples in Jamaica through traditional cultural expression, documentation, et al;
- To provide technical assistance to tribal peoples, organizations and groups to develop tribal institutions;
- To raise awareness and tolerance for tribal religions and spiritual systems;
- To provide outreach to tribal people and communities;
- Advocacy, activism and raising awareness for the rights of tribal peoples in Jamaica, the Caribbean and worldwide;
- To connect tribal peoples and create opportunities for networking.

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Main activities of the Organization: (Please use a bulleted list)

- To acquire and undertake any business or activity in pursuit of the aims of the organization
- To preserve tribal culture and traditional knowledge including oral history, folklore, songs, music, dance, recipes, artwork etc.
- To make and promote value added products and innovative inventions using traditional knowledge to promote industry in tribal communities
- To promote awareness of rights (including intellectual property rights) among tribal communities and tribal peoples

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee

(Maximum 150 words)

West Indian Tribal Society is founded and run by tribal people in Jamaica. We work across tribal communities throughout the Caribbean, and we are well aware of the importance of the culture, traditions and history of tribal peoples in the region. We know that the proper understanding of intellectual property and the rights associated with it are necessary to protect ourselves and our people in this modern age, and enable them to benefit economically from the value of their culture. As part of our work to protect the rights of tribal peoples, it is important to protect intellectual property rights, especially as we work to prevent exploitation of tribal peoples. Intellectual Property Protection also has the potential to transform tribal communities from poverty to wealth and to change the perspective of tribal youths concerning the value their culture, encouraging its continuity.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Jamaica

Additional Information: Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

In Jamaica tribal people possess generations of knowledge that has been passed orally from generation to generation, and remains to a large extent obscure to the wider population and the world, leaving room for those with ill-intent to exploit tribal peoples and tribal communities. Many people exploit and imitate indigenous culture, crafts, arts, etc with no regard or repatriation to the tribal peoples. In this new era that we are entering into, tribal arts and even images of tribal peoples, their territories, arts and crafts etc can be tokenised and turned into money, and in many cases no benefit goes back to tribal peoples and their communities. Tribal herbal knowledge and medicines are being marketed as new inventions under different names, and so it is important to protect tribal cultural heritage to prevent cultural appropriation and exploitation. Many people are seeing the value of the culture of particular tribes, and are appropriating these cultures, to the detriment of the communities who could utilize their traditional knowledge and cultures to the benefit of their communities.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Alex Moore-Minott (Director)
West Indian Tribal Society

Postal address:
C/O Moore Town Post Office
Moore Town Maroon Community
Portland, Jamaica, West Indies
Telephone number: 18764957370
Fax number: N/A
Email address: westindiantribalsociety@gmail.com
Web site:

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Mr Alex Moore-Minott, Director, West Indian Tribal Society

[End of Annex and of document]