



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Submission

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**Ministry of Justice**

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To the International Bureau, World  
Intellectual Property Organization

**Submission from Sweden regarding the draft  
questionnaire concerning the protection of names of  
states against registration or use as trademarks**

Sweden welcomes the fact that the draft questionnaire does not address the issue of non-commercial use of names of States.

We fully agree with the opinion expressed by the International Bureau that trademarks are signs that are used to distinguish goods and services from one undertaking of those of other undertakings and that their validity is dependent on their use in commerce. If questions concerning non-commercial use of names of States would be included in the questionnaire we would move outside the ambit of trademark law and outside of the competence of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications.