

# Information Session on Geographical Indications Trademarks – Prior Rights Grounds for Refusal

Nancy Omelko, Principal Counsel for International Trademark Policy  
Office of Policy and International Affairs

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World Intellectual Property Organization

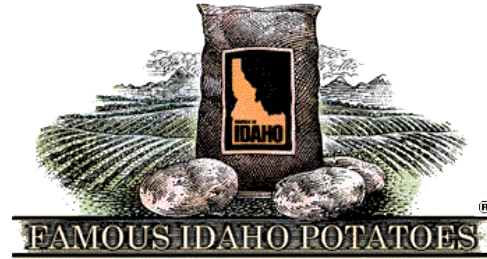
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UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ®

# Some GIs protected in the United States

SIDAMO



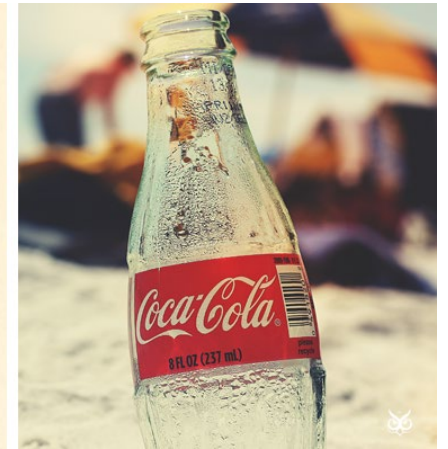
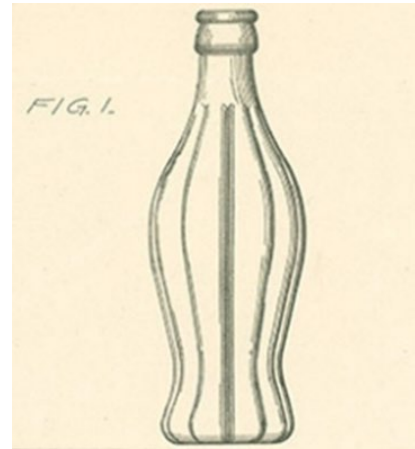
TEQUILA



# U.S. Trademark Law Protects GIs

- Section 4 provides for registration of collective and certification marks indicating regional origin.
- Section 2(a) provides for refusal of a mark used on wines or spirits that contains a GI not having the origin of that GI.
- 2(e) exempts certification marks indicating regional origin from geographic descriptive refusals.
- Common law protects GIs – example: Cognac

# Designs and shapes



**Thank you.**