

Information Session on Geographical Indications

Geneva, March 29, 2022

PROGRAM

*prepared by the Secretariat**

* The Program was agreed by the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) at its forty-fourth session.

15.00 – 15.10 Opening Remarks by the Chair of the forty-fifth session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical (SCT)

15.10 – 16.30 **Session 1: Examination of Geographical Indications in *Sui Generis* Systems and Trademark Systems**

The panelists will explain how geographical indications are examined in their jurisdictions, including (i) words in combination with graphic elements and geographical indications consisting solely of a graphic element; (ii) the weight given to descriptive elements; (iii) conflicts; and (iv) scope of protection. The panelists represent Offices in sui generis systems and trademark systems.

Moderator: Ms. Suelen Carls, Visiting Professor, University of Marília (Unimar), Marília, Brazil

Speakers: Ms. Nancy Omelko, Senior Trademark Counsel for International Policy, Office of Policy and International Affairs (OPIA), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Alexandria, Virginia, United States of America

Ms. Fleurette Coetzee, Senior Manager: Trademarks, Head of Trademarks Division, Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the DTIC), Pretoria

Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao, Examiner, Geographical Indications and International Trademarks Center, Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam), Hanoi

Mr. Alexandre Levy, Deputy Head of the International Department, Legal and International Department, The National Institute of Origin and Quality (INAO), Montreuil, France

16.30 – 16.40 Coffee Break

16.40 – 18.00 **Session 2: Ways to Prevent Bad Faith Registration of Domain Names Consisting of, or Containing, Geographical Indications**

This Panel will address the question of geographical indication intellectual property rights registered or used in bad faith in the Domain Name System (DNS) and how such use can be prevented.

Moderator: Mr. Christian Wichard, Deputy Director General, Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, Berlin

Speakers: Mr. Massimo Vittori, Managing Director, Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (oriGIn), Geneva

Mr. Lindsay Low, Subcommittee Chair, Geographical
Indications Committee, International Trademark
Association (INTA), Edinburgh

Mr. Dustyn Taylor, Assistant Director, Policy and International
Affairs, IP Australia, Canberra

18.00 Closing of the Session

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