

Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs

Thirteenth Session
Geneva, October 21 to 23, 2024

SUMMARY BY THE ACTING CHAIR

approved by the Working Group

1. The Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs (hereinafter referred to as the “Working Group”) met in Geneva, from October 21 to 23, 2024.
2. The list of participants is contained in document H/LD/WG/13/INF/2.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

3. Ms. Wang Binying, Deputy Director General, Brands and Designs Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), opened the session of the Working Group and welcomed the participants.
4. Ms. Myrto Lambrou Maurer (Greece), Vice-Chair of the Working Group, acted as Chair.
5. Mr. Hiroshi Okutomi (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The Working Group adopted the draft agenda (document H/LD/WG/13/1 Prov.2).

AGENDA ITEM 3: ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS FOR THE FOURTEENTH SESSION

7. The Working Group elected, for its fourteenth session, Ms. Myrto Lambrou Maurer (Greece) as Chair of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PRIORITY DOCUMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE HAGUE SYSTEM

8. Discussions were based on document H/LD/WG/13/2.

9. The Working Group:

(i) considered favorably the submission to the Assembly of the Hague Union, for adoption, of the following recommendation:

“Offices of Contracting Parties are encouraged to participate in WIPO DAS with respect to priority documents for design applications.”

(ii) noted that the International Bureau would support Offices with the operational and technical implementation of WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS).

(iii) requested that the International Bureau consult with Offices of Contracting Parties concerned with a view to identifying possible alternative solutions for the exchange of priority documents, and report back to the Working Group, at a future session, on the outcomes of the consultations.

AGENDA ITEM 5: TOPICAL ASPECTS RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HAGUE SYSTEM

10. Discussions were based on document H/LD/WG/13/3.

11. The Working Group:

(i) regarding Topic 1, requested that the International Bureau prepare, for discussion at its next session, a document further analyzing the possible removal of the mono-class requirement for international applications, taking into account the comments made by delegations;

(ii) regarding Topic 2, agreed to continue discussions at a future session;

(iii) regarding Topic 3, requested that the International Bureau appropriately inform the Working Group of developments under this topic, as noted in paragraph 42 of the document; and

(iv) regarding Topic 4, requested that the International Bureau conduct a further study on this topic, and agreed to continue discussions at a future session.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

12. Discussions were based on document H/LD/WG/13/4.

13. The Working Group considered it desirable to amend Section 403 of the Administrative Instructions, as set out in the Annex to document H/LD/WG/13/4, with a date of entry into force of January 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM 7: POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF NEW LANGUAGES

14. Discussions were based on document H/LD/WG/13/5.

15. In the spirit of promoting multilingualism in the Hague System, the Working Group took note of the proposals to introduce new Hague System languages, as well as related oral interventions, including support and concerns, and agreed to continue discussions on the possible introduction of new Hague System languages.

16. The Working Group requested the International Bureau to prepare, for its next session, a document providing:

- (i) an updated financial analysis of the introduction of new languages;
- (ii) possible options regarding technical solutions for reducing the cost in translation, such as differentiated translation practices and machine translation; and
- (iii) an update of the statistics contained in document H/LD/WG/12/8.

AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER MATTERS

17. No discussion took place under this item.

AGENDA ITEM 9: SUMMARY BY THE ACTING CHAIR

18. The Working Group approved the Summary by the Acting Chair, as contained in the present document.

AGENDA ITEM 10: CLOSING OF THE SESSION

19. The Acting Chair closed the thirteenth session on October 23, 2024.

[End of document]