

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

**Forty-Eighth Session**  
**Geneva, November 29, 2024**

### **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 September 29, 2024, requested accreditation at the Forty-Eighth 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 request 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

Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Charitable Trust (AIR Trust)

*Association Culturelle Afro-cubaine Congoreal* (received in French)

Ayurveda Doctor's Association of Nepal (ADAN)

*Black Lion Juridiques* (received in French)

Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous Peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU)

ECOHUMANITA (received in French)

Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (EBKI)

Global Access in Action (GAiA)

Green Forum Nepal (GFN)

International Seed Federation (ISF)

*Kültürel Araştırmalar Vakfı (KAV)*/ Cultural Research Foundation

Paul Awan Initiative for Development

*Union des Peuples Autochtones/Batwa pour le Développement et l'Insertion Socio-économique*  
(UPADIS/Batwa-DRC) (received in French)

Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Charitable Trust (AIR Trust)



**Aotearoa Indigenous Rights  
Charitable Trust**

77B Red Hill Road,  
Papakura Auckland 2110,  
Aotearoa New Zealand

[aotearoaindigenoustrust@gmail.com](mailto:aotearoaindigenoustrust@gmail.com)  
[www.airtust.org.nz](http://www.airtust.org.nz)

18 December 2023

To: Traditional Knowledge Division  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
n34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

**Fax.: +41 (0) 22 338 81 20**

**Email: [grtkf@wipo.int](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)**

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee and the 2024 Diplomatic Conference to Conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources.

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 including the 2024 Diplomatic Conference to Conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources. We have been following the deliberations for some time and would appreciate the opportunity to attend in person at future meetings. Please find our application attached for the Committee's consideration.

Please also add AIR Trust to the mailing list for the IGC using these email addresses: [aotearoaindigenoustrust@gmail.com](mailto:aotearoaindigenoustrust@gmail.com) and [manu@enquire.co.nz](mailto:manu@enquire.co.nz)

Please also provide information on the timeframes for opening applications for funding the two representatives from each region to participate as observers in the GRATK negotiations in May 2024.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tracey Whare', written in a cursive style.

Tracey Whare Trustee

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION

Full name of the Organization:

AOTEAROA INDIGENOUS RIGHTS TRUST

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Charitable Trust (AIR Trust) is a non-profit organization committed to promoting informed debate and action to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples within Aotearoa/New Zealand and around the world.

AIR Trust provides opportunities for Māori to participate in international forums that are important to the rights of Indigenous peoples. Trustees of AIR Trust have participated in international forums particularly at the UN advocating for the recognition of Indigenous peoples' rights. AIR Trust also monitors the New Zealand government's reporting to international Treaty bodies like the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.

AIR Trust sources funds that are used for raising awareness about the rights of Indigenous peoples within Aotearoa/New Zealand. Activities funded to date include: occasional meetings to update Māori on international developments and producing a multimedia resource for Māori on the UN system.

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

- To promote informed debate and action to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples within Aotearoa/New Zealand and around the world;
- To provide opportunities for Māori to participate in international forums that are important to the rights of Indigenous peoples;
- To monitor and comment on the New Zealand government's reporting to international Treaty bodies;
- To raise awareness and facilitate dialogue about the rights of Indigenous peoples within Aotearoa/New Zealand.

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

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

- AIR Trust has regularly provided an organizational vehicle for Māori to participate in UN meetings, negotiations and workshops;
- AIR Trust has developed and distributed educational resources for Māori about the UN system and human rights frameworks, particularly UNDRIP.
- AIR Trust has provided submissions and commentary on the performance of the New Zealand government in relation to international treaties and human rights issues.

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)

AIR Trust members have been involved in the development of domestic and international regulatory frameworks, commercial agreements and protections for Indigenous peoples and indigenous organisms and ecosystems.

Over the past two years AIR Trust representatives have participated in deliberations on the development of:

- Plant Variety Rights legislation in New Zealand;
- Digital Sequence Information for Genetic Resources as part of clause 8j in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- Innovative research protocols and commercial agreements between Indigenous peoples and commercial entities that cover the utilisation on Intellectual Property derived from indigenous organisms;
- national monitoring frameworks and measures for Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework with a focus on the rights of Indigenous peoples to protect and utilise indigenous organisms and genetic material.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active: Aotearoa New Zealand

Additional Information:

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

AIR Trust representatives liaised with NZ government representatives who attended the WIPO GRATK earlier this year. We would like a representative to participate in the final negotiations in May 2024 and expect to be involved in implementation and monitoring of the final Treaty.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address: 6434 Waiapu Rd, RD1, Ruatoria 4081, New Zealand Telephone  
number: +64 274202957

Fax number: N/A

Email address: [manu@enquire.co.nz](mailto:manu@enquire.co.nz)

Web site: <http://airtrust.weebly.com>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Manu Caddie Policy  
Analyst

Association Culturelle Afro-cubaine Congoreal

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

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 below our application, which includes biographical information on our organization for the Committee's consideration.

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



(Signed) Julio Geovanny **Torriente Gonzalez**

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to  
the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

**Full name of the Organization:**

Association Culturelle Afro-cubaine Congoreal

**Description of the Organization:**

The Association Culturelle Afro-cubaine Congoreal (Congo Real Afro-Cuban Cultural Association) was established in Geneva in 2020 as part of the Congo Real project, which was launched in Cuba in 1998 to promote Afro-Cuban folklore and to ensure that its traditional cultural expressions and traditional knowledge were preserved and passed on. The project is part of an action plan on peace and reconciliation between peoples launched in recent years by the United Nations through various initiatives designed to promote cultural diversity and to foster cross-cultural exchange and dialog. The focus of the Association's work, in line with its statutes, is to preserve and protect songs, rituals, dances, languages and knowledge, and to ensure that they are passed on to the next generation, especially children, for their cultural development and so that might grow in a context that facilitates their integration into society.

**Main aims and objectives of the Organization:**

- To promote Afro-Cuban traditional cultural expressions and traditional knowledge
- To preserve and document intangible Afro-Cuban heritage passed down from generation to generation from Africa
- To reawaken appreciation for the roots of Afro-Cuban culture and its role in history, and to preserve the ancestral traditions of African peoples
- To safeguard the essence of traditional dances, languages and songs and to ensure that they are passed on to the next generation
- To promote respect for cultural diversity and to foster cross-cultural dialog
- To support social and cultural projects in Cuba, thereby helping children to develop their identity and facilitating their integration into society
- To preserve the oral history of colonial slavery in Cuba and to keep the memory of it alive

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Main activities of the Organization:

- Shooting of a documentary series on the “Roots of Rumba”
- Workshops on how to pass on traditional knowledge
- Dance and music classes
- Conferences and festivals
- Research projects on preserving secret and sacred cultural heritage
- Research project on the fusion of flamenco with Cuban Rumba
- Cultural mediation

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

The Association is interested in how the intellectual property (IP) system can help to protect the traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, especially those of a secret or sacred nature, of people of African descent from misappropriation or use in an offensive manner. It is also interested in the issue of creating and sharing equitably benefits that arise from the marketing of traditional knowledge, given that it is working at the local level with Afro-Cuban holders of such knowledge to raise their awareness in that regard and to teach them how to protect their knowledge and heritage.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Cuba and Switzerland

Additional Information:

Please provide any additional information that you feel may be relevant

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address: 15 rue de Florissant, 1206 Genève

Telephone number: +41 76 771 44 04

Fax number:

Email: [info@association-congoreal.org](mailto:info@association-congoreal.org)

Website: <https://www.association-congoreal.org/>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Julio Geovanny Torriente Gonzalez

Ayurveda Doctor's Association of Nepal (ADAN)

Date: January 6, 2024

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)**


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


Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

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,

  
Dr. Prerok Regmi  
Secretary



**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to  
the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

**Full name of the Organization:**

Ayurveda Doctors Association of Nepal (ADAN)

**Description of the Organization:** (maximum 150 words)

Ayurveda Doctors Association of Nepal (ADAN) represents the Ayurvedic profession actively working in Nepal, established in the 2054 B.S. The mission of the organization is to preserve, protect, promote and advance the practice of Ayurveda and Traditional Medicine for the benefit of the nation. It was established with the vision of making a dynamic voice of the Ayurvedic profession; empowering and capacity building the available human resources to enhance health, well-being and self-awareness through Ayurveda. It also has an active motive in educating youth about traditional knowledge, biodiversity issues, organizing informational seminars, supporting social protection for the traditional practitioners and indigenous practices. The aim of the ADAN is to preserve, protect, promote and advance the practice of Traditional Practitioners and the Ayurveda for the benefit of the nation. It was established with the vision of making a dynamic voice of the Ayurvedic profession and Traditional Practices; empowering and capacity building the available human resources to enhance health, well-being and self-awareness.

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

- To promote the practice of Ayurveda, Traditional and Indigenous Practice in Nepal
- To protect the interests of Ayurveda, Traditional and Indigenous Practitioners and businesses in Nepal
- To improve the quality of Ayurveda and Traditional education and training in Nepal
- To increase the availability of products and services in Nepal
- To work with other healthcare organizations in Nepal to promote the use of Ayurveda and Traditional Medicine in the prevention and treatment of disease

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

- Build capacity for the evaluation of biodiversity values and genetic resources in Nepal.
- Indigenous Archival Project - in partnership with the Circumpolar Health Institute, the University of Alberta, and a number of First Nations, the project seeks to develop frameworks and processes for First Nations to digitize and archive their data and official records, as well as records and documentation of Traditional Practices, Languages, and Cultures.
- Providing information and support to Ayurveda practitioners and entrepreneurs in Nepal
- Working with other health care organizations in Nepal to promote the use of Traditional Medicine in the prevention and treatment of disease.
- Publishing the Journal of Ayurveda Doctors Association of Nepal, an annual journal containing articles on Ayurveda theory and practice, case studies, book reviews, and news of the organization.
- Organizing conferences, seminars, and workshops on Traditional Medicine topics nationally and internationally.
- Supporting research on Traditional Medicine in Nepal.

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)

Our organization mandate (the utilization of traditional knowledge, languages, and cultures in the education of our children) is directly related to the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, and Folklore (IGC).

Our work includes many cross-cutting issues around copyright, data governance, repatriation of both cultural items and sacred sites, as well as, Traditional Knowledge/Traditional Cultural Expressions. We are guiding the government of Nepal for creating guidelines for the documentation of the valuable knowledge and accreditation of their practice in the health service of Nepal. Parallely, we are organizing the capacity training programs for traditional practitioners using the modules and the white papers of instruction provided by WIPO.

The work and proceedings of the IGC are of direct interest and impact upon our work in general. We are particularly interested in the proposed negotiations of a draft legal instrument in the area of TK/TCEs as outlined in the IGC Provisional Schedule.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Nepal

Additional Information:

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

Traditional medicine in Nepal is not just a system of medicine but mostly a way of life credited by the oldest health system: Ayurveda. From the view of the majority of people, it is the mainstream medicine system which serves for preventive, promotive and curative health in different walks of life. Many people still use it as their first choice of medicine.

Although Nepal includes Ayurveda, the most popular traditional system of medicine in Nepal, there are various other traditional systems of medicine. It includes Yoga & Naturopathy, Amchi, Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine, Yunani and Homeopathy. These systems are guided and recognized by various national legislatures, policies and acts. Traditional Medicine has deep rooted tradition, strong cultural support & centuries old history. It exists in various ways

such as rituals, spiritual practices, self-healing practices and special practices of various ethnic groups and castes.

There is no separate national law or regulation for Traditional and complementary medicine (T&CM) in Nepal. The national policy on T&CM is integrated into the National Drug Policy, which was issued in 1995. The Drug Act 1978 controls and regulates T&CM as well as allopathic and veterinary medicines. Other related legislation includes the Drug Registration Regulation (1981), the Code on Drug Manufacturing (1984, revised in 2015), the Drug Standard Regulation (1986) and the Drug Investigation and Inspection Rules (1983).

Traditional practitioners especially the folk healer practitioners are struggling for their rights for the Intellectual Property to be included in the national laws. ADAN is advocating for the traditional practitioners, their documentation and ensuring the rights of the traditional practitioners. There is lack of IP awareness and advocacy for sui-generis legal protection of TK and TCEs. ADAN have been following the workings documents of the IGC, having identified a protection gap in our IP national legislation and a dominating confusion between protection.

Currently, ADAN is the one of the organizations in Nepal creating legal literacy tools to increase awareness of IP matters related to TK and TCEs at grassroots level, being essential for us to follow the negotiation process as ad-hoc observers and to engage directly with the international network of similar organizations.

ADAN is also accredited as the Professional Organization by the Government of Nepal having successfully contributed to the works of BIMSTEC Traditional Medicine Division, as a supporter of the efforts of the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Working Group.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:  
Naradevi Complex, Kathmandu, Nepal  
P.O. Box: 44200

Telephone number:  
Fax number:  
Email: [adanepal.org@gmail.com](mailto:adanepal.org@gmail.com)  
Official: [info@adan.org.np](mailto:info@adan.org.np)  
Website: <https://adan.org.np/>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Dr. Prerok Regmi  
Secretary  
Email: [regmiprerok@gmail.com](mailto:regmiprerok@gmail.com)



Black Lion Juridiques

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honor to inform you that my organization wishes to participate as an *ad hoc* observer in the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). Please find attached the biographical details of my organization required by the Committee to consider this request for accreditation.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,

Pathé Ba



(Nom et signature du représentant)

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**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to  
the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the organization: BLACK LION JURIDIQUES

Description of the organization: (maximum 150 words)

We are a law firm committed to promoting law services, particularly in African communities. We offer legal advice, consultation and drafting services to those who require our assistance.

Main aims and objectives of the organization:

- Promote law services in the community.
- Reduce the number of professionals working in the informal sector by regularizing their status.
- Avoid legal conflicts through prevention and by providing legal certainty in dealings between legal subjects.
- Promote equal opportunities for men and women in the workplace.
- Build trusting relationships between partners and employees, and protect the intellectual and material property of all parties.

Main activities of the organization:

- Provide legal advice and consultation.
- Draft out-of-court documents and provide legal assistance.
- Help with administrative procedures.
- Hold training workshops and courses.
- Provide real estate advice.
- Provide brokerage services.
- Offer project analyst services.

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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)

In many cases, our clients are parties with contracts to start businesses or establish associations. We try to accommodate all their ideas so that nobody's interests are prejudiced, but we also work with them to implement their ideas.

Country in which the organization is primarily active:

Senegal.

Additional information:

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

The founder of Black Lion Juridiques is also President of the New Graduates Law Promotion and Professional Inclusion Association [Association pour la Promotion du Droit et pour l'insertion professionnelle des nouveaux diplômés]. We work together on a number of different projects and can say that we are now the association's main partner.

As a specialized law firm, Black Lion Juridiques plays an active role in protecting rights connected with traditional knowledge and genetic resources. Africa is rich in traditional and cultural knowledge, with Senegal in particular being home to the Lebu, Serer, Jola and Fula peoples, among others, and we are promoting that traditional knowledge. We have developed several activities directly linked to the topics addressed by the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC), which we now present:

- A. Legal advice and protection of traditional knowledge: We regularly advise local organizations and communities on the legal protection of their traditional knowledge. That includes helping them to recognize their rights to ancestral practices, while ensuring that their cultural heritage is valued fairly.
- B. IP expertise: The firm has extensive expertise in IP matters under the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA) and European law, with a particular focus on legal issues relating to genetic resources and traditional cultural expressions. We work with private and public entities to create legal frameworks that protect such knowledge, while promoting its development on nationally and abroad.
- C. Backing for conservation and promotion projects: Black Lion Juridiques has also partnered with local and international organizations to support traditional knowledge conservation initiatives. We help to negotiate benefit-sharing contracts stemming from the exploitation of such knowledge, in accordance with international conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing.
- D. International law monitoring: We constantly monitor international legislative and regulatory developments concerning genetic resources, traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. We regularly analyze new standards and conventions adopted worldwide to provide our customers and partners with up-to-date guidance to effectively protect their rights and anticipate developments in the legal framework.
- E. Involvement in new solutions or alternatives: Black Lion Juridiques researches and promotes innovative solutions for protecting traditional knowledge. We work with research bodies and international institutions to develop legal alternatives, particularly with regard to the



equitable sharing of benefits linked to the use of traditional knowledge in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and agricultural industries.

F. Putting African organizations at the heart of discussions: In recognition of the importance of African traditional knowledge, Black Lion Juridiques strives to foster the involvement of African organizations in international discussions on IP matters.

We organize workshops and conferences and encourage local communities to attend international forums, so that their concerns are raised in discussions on the protection of traditional knowledge and genetic resources.

Full contact details of the organization:

Postal address: Rue 7 X Blaise Diagne, Medina Dakar

Telephone number: +221 77 284 05 92

Fax number: N/A

Email address: [blacklionjuridiques@gmail.com](mailto:blacklionjuridiques@gmail.com)

Website:

Name and title of the organization's representative:

Pathé Ba, Founder of Black Lion Juridiques

Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous Peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU)

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](mailto: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,



Robert Tumwesigye Baganda

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(Name and Signature of Representative)

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**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to  
the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU)

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU) is a registered nonprofit making organization engaged in promoting, defending and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples in Uganda specifically the Batwa, Benet, IIK and Karamojong through lobbying and advocacy, awareness raising, networking Research and documentation.

CSCIPU operates in Uganda particularly in western Uganda and North Eastern Uganda where the indigenous peoples live. CSCIPU is a member of Initiative for Equity, Poverty and Conservation learning group Uganda chapter, Peoples Health Movement, Cross Cultural Foundation of Uganda, Climate Action Network (CAN-U), Civil Society Coalition in the Great Lakes Region against illegal exploitation of Natural Resources and Publish What You Pay. CSCIPU has excellent working relationship with Government agencies and other stakeholders working to promote the rights and intellectual property of indigenous peoples and conservation of environment

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

- To empower indigenous peoples in Uganda through training, networking and coordination.
- To protect the traditional knowledge and cultural expressions of indigenous peoples in Uganda.
- To Promote, protect and defend indigenous peoples rights in Uganda.
- To reduce environmental deterioration and climate change through conducting research and documenting information, advocacy, networking and awareness raising.

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

The main activities of civil Society Coalition on indigenous People include: Research, documentation, dissemination, awareness raising, and legal and policy advocacy.

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)

Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU) is involved in intellectual property by working to protect the traditional knowledge and cultural expressions of indigenous peoples in Uganda. Indigenous peoples in Uganda have a rich cultural heritage that includes traditional practices, medicines, and cultural expressions that have been passed down through generations.

However, these cultural expressions are often at risk of being exploited and appropriated without consent or compensation. Therefore, Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous Peoples Uganda engage in legal and policy advocacy to protect their rights to their traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. The activities include drafting laws and policies that acknowledge and protect the intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples, raising awareness about these issues, and working with relevant government officials and policymakers to implement these measures.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Uganda

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

CSCIPU is doing work in areas of Indigenous Knowledge, Human rights, Empowerment, Environment and climate change. The organization carries our awareness raising, conducts research and disseminates information, as well as lobbying and advocacy for better policies and legislation.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address: P.O. BOX 34407 KAMPALA UGANDA

Telephone number: +256782393912

Fax number:

Email address:

Web site:

Name of Organization Representative and Title: Robert Tumwesigye Baganda  
National Coordinator

ECOHUMANITA



Parce que la responsabilité est  
individuelle mais son exercice collectif

**Ref. No.: CH-2024-11**

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate as an *ad hoc* observer in sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). Please find attached the biographical details of my organization required by the Committee to consider this request for accreditation.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica FORERO  
Coordinatrice

/...

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the organization:

ECOHUMANITA

Description of the organization: (maximum 150 words)

EcoHumanita is a Geneva-based Swiss association, established in accordance with Articles 60 *et seq.* of the Swiss Civil Code. EcoHumanita campaigns for greater access to and the right to sustainable development, and for Latin American populations in vulnerable and marginalized conditions to have a better quality of life.

In Geneva, we are committed to encouraging involvement by the communities we support in Latin America, in the process of developing various international governance agendas.

Main aims and objectives of the organization:

- Promote social inclusion and sustainable development for better quality of life.
- Support local initiatives by building skills and helping local people to implement their own projects.
- Encourage skill-sharing and partnerships.
- Promote human rights and equity.

Main activities of the organization:

In Latin America:

- We support local projects and initiatives that improve the living conditions of local communities, in terms of education, health, access to drinking water, environmental protection and so on.
- We develop the skills of local organizations and individuals, so that they can become the protagonists of their own development.
- We defend the rights of vulnerable and marginalized populations.

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

In Geneva:

- We are the bridge between the Latin American communities we support and international bodies.
- We ensure their involvement in international decision-making processes, so that they can have their voices heard and defend their interests.
- As an accredited observer with the Food and Agriculture Organization and United Nations Water, EcoHumanita is an integral part of the network of civil society organizations and plays an active role in shaping the work of the bodies in which it participates.
- We raise awareness among the Swiss public of the sustainable development and inclusion challenges faced in Latin America.

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)

EcoHumanita actively lobbies for greater inclusion and equity in the IGC negotiation processes. Since 2015, EcoHumanita has represented the Juridical Commission for Auto-Development of First Andean Peoples (CAPAJ) [Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos] in the IGC. In addition to working closely with other Indigenous organizations to amplify their voices in the IGC, EcoHumanita signed the first WIPO-IGC international instrument on behalf of CAPAJ at the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources in May 2024.

In line with the goals and activities described above, our motivations are:

- Protection: The IGC offers an important platform for negotiating international legal instruments to protect Indigenous intellectual property from misappropriation.
- Strengthening governance: The IGC creates a platform to empower Indigenous participation in international governance processes that are essential for more equitable processes for Indigenous Peoples.

Countries in which the organization is primarily active:

Mexico, Peru and Switzerland.

Additional information:

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

EcoHumanita's commitment to encouraging involvement by Indigenous delegates and leveraging the legal expertise of its members to support international processes aligns perfectly with IGC goals.

In addition to the above, it is important to note that EcoHumanita:

- Prepares delegates from the communities it supports in its development projects. This ensures that delegates are well-informed about the issues at stake and are able to represent the interests of their communities successfully.

- Organizes workshops and side events to raise awareness of issues that are important to Indigenous communities in the IGC-WIPO negotiations. Those events help to disseminate information and encourage meaningful dialog on key issues.

Full contact details of the organization:

Postal address:

EcoHumanita  
75 rue de Lausanne  
1202 Geneva

Telephone number: +41 77 535 3368

Email address: [projet@ecohumanita.ch](mailto:projet@ecohumanita.ch)

Website: [www.ecohumanita.ch](http://www.ecohumanita.ch)

Name and title of the organization's representative:

Jessica Forero, Coordinator.



Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (EBKI)

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)**

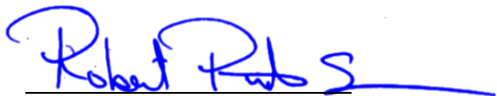
Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

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,



(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<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

The Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (EBKI) is an ECOSOC certified NGO (since 2014) that is an entity of the EBKI intended for participation in the United Nations system concerning rights of Indigenous Peoples and their representative institutions.

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

- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Free, prior and informed consent
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Intellectual property rights, traditional cultural expressions, sui generis law
- Indigenous peoples representative institutions participation in the UN system
- Climate change and Indigenous peoples representative institutions
- Indigenous peoples and human rights

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

- Participation in the UN Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Participation in the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Participation in Tribal Consultation with the US Department of State and USPTO
- Participation in the UN General Assembly activities concerning Indigenous Peoples Representative Institutions as regular and permanent members

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

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 EBKI NGO is experienced in intellectual property (IP) issues and Indigenous Peoples traditional cultural expressions and Indigenous Knowledge, and measures to develop country and Indigenous peoples preservation of rights through collaboration. Improved government-to-government agreement among states and Indigenous Peoples Representative Institutions is necessary to protect traditional Indigenous cultural expressions against appropriation.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active: United States and Canada.

Additional Information:

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

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address: Ewiiapaayp Indian Reservation, 4054 Willows Road, Alpine, CA 91901-1620, USA

Telephone number: 1+ (619) 368-4382

Fax number: 1+ (619) 445-9126

Email address: [ceo@ebki-nsn.gov](mailto:ceo@ebki-nsn.gov)

Web site: <https://www.leaningrock.org>

Name of Organization Representative and Title: Will Micklin, CEO

Global Access in Action (GAiA)

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)**

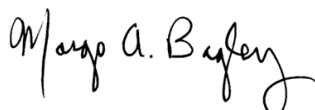
Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

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

I am writing to express the wish of my organization, Global Access in Action, 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,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Professor Margo A. Bagley, Director (signature)

/...

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

Global Access in Action (GAiA)

Description of the Organization:

GAiA is a non-profit organization, based at Harvard Law School, whose primary mission is improving public health in low and middle-income countries. In our work, we try to adhere to the following principles:

**Pragmatism:** We seek to identify reforms that will have meaningful impact and can be readily implemented.

**Interdisciplinarity:** We try to integrate insights derived from the fields of law, medicine, politics, and moral philosophy.

**Multi-institutional Solutions:** We look for ways of efficiently combining legal reform, initiatives by nongovernmental actors, and for-profit ventures by private firms.

**Independence:** We are not compensated for our work and do not have stakes in the institutional solutions we recommend and help to implement.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- Increasing access to medicines in developing countries
- Reducing the incidence of falsified and substandard medicines in developing countries
- Expanding education and knowledge of patent law and global health laws, issues, and policies
- improving copyright legal systems in developing countries

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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Main activities of the Organization:

- [Voluntary Licensing and Access to Medicine \(VLAM\)](#), an initiative that seeks to refine and publicize the methodology of “voluntary licensing” of patented pharmaceutical products
- the [Southern Africa Quality Assurance Network \(SAQAN\)](#), which is deploying a technology and an associated data-sharing network that could reduce the incidence of falsified and substandard drugs in developing countries
- In collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization, Georgetown University, Hong Kong University, Emory University, and the National Law University of India, we have developed a 12-week intensive course on [Patent Law and Global Public Health](#), which is now offered periodically by [the WIPO Academy](#) and by several universities
- Copyright Reform is an effort to provide assistance to lawmakers in developing countries, many of whom are currently rewriting their copyright statutes

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

As noted in the description of main activities above, GAIa’s work is directed to a variety of IP-related development initiatives: patent law education in conjunction with WIPO, copyright reform in developing countries, patent licenses for pharmaceutical products to increase access to medicines in the global South, and reducing the incidence of falsified and substandard IP-protected drugs in developing countries. These issues intersect with the patent, genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions topics under discussion in the WIPO IGC. As such, the work of the IGC is directly relevant to GAIa’s mission, goals, and activities.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active: The United States of America.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

Global Access in Action  
Harvard Law School  
Hauser 410  
1585 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Telephone number: 617-495-0957

Email address: [tfisher@law.harvard.edu](mailto:tfisher@law.harvard.edu)

Web site: <https://globalaccessaction.org>

Additional Contacts:

[rlokediji@law.harvard.edu](mailto:rlokediji@law.harvard.edu)

[mbagley@emory.edu](mailto:mbagley@emory.edu)

Name of Organization Representatives and Title:

Professor William W. Fisher, Wilmer Hale Professor of Intellectual Property Law, Harvard Law School, Director and Founder

Professor Ruth L. Okediji, Director, Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, Director

Margo A. Bagley, Associate Dean for Research and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law, Director

Green Forum Nepal (GFN)

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](mailto: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,



Lucky Sherpa

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(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<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

Green Forum Nepal GFN

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Green Forum Nepal GFN is a non-profit organization dedicated to championing the cause of indigenous peoples, traditional knowledge, Genetic resources, and biodiversity. Founded on the principles of environmental stewardship and social justice, our mission is to foster sustainable development that respects the rights and wisdom of indigenous communities. At the heart of our initiatives is the commitment to preserving traditional knowledge and biodiversity, recognizing them as invaluable assets to humanity. Through collaborative efforts and community engagement, Green Forum Nepal strives to empower indigenous groups, advocating for their rights and promoting practices that harmonize with nature. As a catalyst for positive change, we work towards creating a world where the unique cultural heritage and ecological wealth of indigenous peoples are respected, protected, and celebrated. Together, we envision a future where communities thrive in harmony with their environment, and the rich tapestry of traditional knowledge and biodiversity remains a source of inspiration for generations to come.

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

1. Preservation of Traditional Knowledge: Facilitate the documentation, preservation, and promotion of traditional knowledge held by indigenous communities, recognizing its cultural and ecological significance.
2. Biodiversity Conservation: Implement initiatives to protect and conserve biodiversity, promoting sustainable practices that contribute to the health and resilience of ecosystems.
3. Community Empowerment: Empower indigenous communities through capacity-building programs, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge to actively participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives and environments.
4. Advocacy for Indigenous Rights: Advocate for the recognition and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, both at the local and national levels, ensuring their inclusion in policies and initiatives.
5. Sustainable Development: Promote sustainable development practices that balance environmental, social, and economic factors, fostering resilience and well-being within

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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- indigenous communities.
6. Education and Awareness: Conduct educational programs to raise awareness about the importance of indigenous cultures, traditional knowledge, and biodiversity conservation among various stakeholders, including local communities, policymakers, and the public.
  7. Research and Collaboration: Engage in research activities and collaborate with like-minded organizations, academic institutions, and governmental bodies to enhance understanding and develop innovative solutions for the challenges faced by indigenous communities and biodiversity conservation.

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

- Community Workshops and Capacity Building;
- Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives TK, GR;
- Advocacy and Policy Engagement.

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)

Green Forum Nepal holds a deep commitment to intellectual property matters, recognizing its fundamental role in safeguarding traditional knowledge, cultural heritage, and biodiversity. By actively engaging in discussions led by the Committee, we seek to advocate for policies that protect the intellectual property rights of indigenous communities. This includes the documentation and preservation of traditional knowledge, ensuring equitable benefit-sharing from genetic resources, and fostering a framework that respects the unique contributions of indigenous peoples. Our interest stems from a belief that securing intellectual property rights is integral to sustaining indigenous cultures, promoting biodiversity conservation, and fostering sustainable development that harmonizes with the principles of social and environmental justice.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

In Nepal

Additional Information:

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

Green Forum Nepal GFN, through collaborative projects, has successfully implemented sustainable initiatives in indigenous communities, focusing on biodiversity conservation and traditional knowledge preservation. Our partnerships with local organizations, academic institutions, and governmental bodies underscore our commitment to developing inclusive solutions. Our team comprises experts in environmental science, cultural anthropology, and law, enhancing our ability to contribute meaningfully to the Committee's discussions. Green Forum Nepal's track record in community empowerment lines up with the Committee's objectives, and we are eager to share our practical visions and successes in navigating the intersection of intellectual property, biodiversity, and indigenous rights.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

Telephone number: 9851039226

Fax number:

Email address: [greenfornepal@gmail.com](mailto:greenfornepal@gmail.com)

Web site: [www.greenforum.org.np](http://www.greenforum.org.np)

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Lucky Sherpa

International Seed Federation (ISF)



Nyon, 29 November, 2023

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

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

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

I am writing to express the wish of my organization, ISF – the International Seed Federation, 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 as well as in the upcoming Diplomatic Conference on Intellectual property and Genetic Resources which will be convened in 2024 to conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources.

Please find our application attached for the Committee's consideration.

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

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Keller', written over a horizontal line.

Michael Keller  
Secretary General

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

**Full name of the Organization:**

International Seed Federation

**Description of the Organization:** (maximum 150 words)

The [International Seed Federation](#), ISF, is a seed association registered as an association under Swiss law. ISF is a non-governmental, non-profit making organization. ISF has represented its members' interests since 1924 and is widely regarded as the voice of the global seed industry. More details can be found on our [website](#).

ISF has more than 130 members consisting of national seed associations, seed companies and entities with activities related to the seed business. In total ISF represents approximately 8000 seed and plant breeding companies all over the world.

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

The vision of ISF is a world where the best quality seed is accessible to all, supporting sustainable agriculture and food security. In order to achieve this, ISF wishes to:

- to create the best environment for the global movement of seed and promote plant breeding and innovation in seed
- to promote the establishment and protection of intellectual property rights for seeds, plant varieties and associated technologies
- to increase recognition of its members' contributions to food security and sustainable agriculture
- to facilitate the free movement of seed within a framework of fair and science-based regulations, whilst serving the interests of farmers, growers, industry and consumers.

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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

ISF represents the interests of the seed industry at the global level. In this endeavor, ISF participates, as observer, in a number of international bodies (such as UPOV, WTO, CBD, FAO International Treaty on PGRFA, OECD, ISTA, UNEP etc.) and actively contributes to international discussions which concern the day-to-day business of seed companies.

ISF fosters cooperation and collaboration through its calendar of events, enabling seed industry stakeholders to identify issues, stimulate strategic thinking and accelerate the adoption of common positions.

ISF works in partnership with organisations responsible for international treaties, conventions and agreements and those that shape the policies affecting the global seed industry.

ISF publishes rules for trading seed and licensing technology to clarify and standardize contractual relations between buyers and sellers at an international level.

ISF provides for the settlement of disputes through mediation, conciliation and/or arbitration.

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)

Seed companies invest up to 20% of their annual turnover in developing new varieties. Such varieties need effective IP protection since, being self-reproducing biological material, they are particularly easy to copy. Since plant breeding is a process where a new plant variety is always based on already existing genetic material, access to plant material, including protected varieties, is indispensable for a successful plant breeding sector. This balance is ensured under the *sui generis* IP system of plant variety protection, the best form of which has been established by the UPOV Convention. At the same time, modern plant breeding needs to rely on the full toolbox that is becoming available with developments in plant science and needs to have sufficient IP protection for such tools as well, which is mostly ensured by patents. Since the membership of ISF, being the plant breeding and seed sector, works 100% with genetic resources and related technology, the safeguarding of strong and effective IP rights is key and thus, the discussions of the IGC on IP, genetic resources and traditional knowledge as well as the on the future International Legal Instrument, are particularly relevant.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

ISF is based in Switzerland but its activity is global, being an association with members from all over the world and an international scope.

Additional Information:

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

Plant breeding is the science of recombining the genetics of existing plant varieties with the purpose of creating new and better performing, better adapted varieties for the benefit of farmers and society at large. It is a process from genetic resource to genetic resource,

therefore access to existing genetics is the basis of plant breeding. The aim of a plant breeder is always to obtain the best possible combination of characteristics responding to the determined breeding goals which implies that access to the widest possible genetic variability is key for a successful breeding program. In today's world, with the constantly growing population, changing climate and extreme weather conditions, it must be ensured that there is always a choice of good quality seed in sufficient quantities available for farmers to produce enough food. This is only possible if continuous, facilitated access to all genetic material is ensured.

For these reasons, ISF is not only monitoring discussions on relevant IP framework but is also closely involved in all international discussions related to access and benefit-sharing at the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture as well as in the CBD.

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

International Seed Federation  
Chemin du Reposoir 7  
1260 Nyon, Switzerland

Telephone number: +41 22 365 44 20

Fax number: +41 22 365 44 21

Email address: [isf@worldseed.org](mailto:isf@worldseed.org)

Web site: [www.worldseed.org](http://www.worldseed.org)

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Szonja Csörgő  
Intellectual Property and Legal Affairs Manager  
[s.csorgo@worldseed.org](mailto:s.csorgo@worldseed.org)

Kültürel Arařtırmalar Vakfı (KAV)/ Cultural Research Foundation

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](mailto: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,  
21.11.2023



Dođanay evik  
Chairman

(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<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

Kültürel Araştırmalar Vakfı (KAV)  
(Cultural Research Foundation)

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Cultural Research Foundation (KAV) was founded in 2002. Led by folklorists and anthropologists, the work of KAV regarding intangible cultural heritage can be categorized as:

- Researching and documenting on intangible cultural heritage (ICH),
- Sharing and promoting ICH through publications and events, and
- Creating cultural heritage awareness, especially for pre-school and youth.

KAV, accredited under the UNESCO 2003 Intangible Heritage Convention, in 2012, carries out these works under the sections of Culinary Culture, Toy, Crafts and Rituals Research Programs. KAV is also a member of the Izmir ICH Commission.

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

- To contribute to the continuity of cultural identity by researching, inventorying, archiving and sharing elements related to intangible cultural heritage with the public.
- To carry out activities and projects for the protection of cultural rights (protection of local languages is one of the basic elements of these studies).
- To raise awareness for the preservation of the cultural identities of individuals and communities, especially children, and their transmit to the future.
- To support local handicrafts in order to sustain traditional arts and to raise awareness to protect copyrighted works (Izmir Traditional Handicrafts Center was established for this purpose)

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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- <sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

- Participating and contributing to national and international studies within the framework of the UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

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

- An Example from inventory works:

A web site titled "Folk-Portal-Folklore Portal of Turkey" was prepared in 2018 in order to make inventory of ICH elements on a common digital platform putting forth idea of using new technologies for documenting, sharing, safeguarding and transmitting ICH. Folk Portal presents sharing platform and new perspectives to people, groups and societies especially young people.

<https://folkportal.org.tr>

- With purpose of active safeguarding of ICH, an internet site titled "etnofotografi" has been created in order to encourage artistic works and to share effective visual recordings of elements that are in provincial and national inventories. The site is open for people and societies who want to share their visuals together with descriptions on the subjects of ICH.

<https://etnofotografi.org.tr>

- In order to support the craftspeople negatively affected during Covid-19 Pandemic, a digital book titled "My Art Story" including their stories through their own narration was published in both Turkish and English in 2020. The gathering of 40 craftspeople from different fields in the same platform has increased the awareness of our artists on their ICH and showed the roles of safeguarding measures of ICH for the continuity of handicraft tradition. It has provided opportunity to tell the function of ICH within the society is more apparent during pandemic conditions.

<https://kultur.org.tr/en/portfolio/my-art-story/>

- In order to explain the intangible cultural heritage to preschool children, animations were created with content for this age group.

<https://kultur.org.tr/en/portfolio/intangible-cultural-heritage-for-children/>

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 main goals of our organization are to conduct research within the framework of the protection of intangible cultural heritage in Turkey, to prepare an inventory, to archive and to share these studies with the public in order to contribute to public awareness through publication and education. The "Intellectual and Artistic Works Law No. 5846" of the Republic of Turkey is related to copyrights. However, this law does not adequately cover the copyrights of individuals and communities who are the carriers and transmitters of traditional culture. Official authorities are working to eliminate these deficiencies. As a non-governmental organization, we want to share our ideas on this issue and follow the discussions on this issue on international platforms. We would like to apply because we think that accreditation will make significant contributions to our organization in this sense.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Turkey

Additional Information:

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

- KAV has been an accredited organisation to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage since 2012 (Accreditation Number: NGO-90142).

- KAV is a permanent member of the Izmir Provincial ICH Commission of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

- KAV's activities especially related to handicrafts are supported by Izmir Metropolitan Municipality.

- Some of KAV's activities and events have been supported by the European Union "Sivil Düşün" program.

- Information about KAV can be found on the following pages:

<https://kultur.org.tr/en/>

<https://folkportal.org.tr>

<https://etnofotografi.org.tr>

<https://www.igsm.kultur.org.tr/>

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

Bostanlı Mahallesi 2016/1 Sokak No:11/10 Karşıyaka İzmir - Turkey

Telephone number: +90 552 247 7755 - +90 5052437840

Fax number: -

Email address: [info@kultur.org.tr](mailto:info@kultur.org.tr)

Web site: <https://kultur.org.tr>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Doğanay Çevik - Chairman

Paul Awan Initiative for Development

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](mailto: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,



Awan Dominic Ayang  
(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<sup>1,2</sup>**

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION

Full name of the Organization:

Paul Awan Initiative for Development

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Paul Awan Initiative for Development is an organisation that fosters community cooperation, peace, and development. Our work is centered on the Ejagham nationality, an indigenous people found in the southeastern extremity of Nigeria and some part of the southwest region of Cameroon. Our organisation has worked with the community to preserve, and promote, traditional knowledge and cultural expression such as local handcrafts, folklore and other material and literary expressions which together serve as a unique cultural identifier for our people. From helping to preserve knowledge of the production of our distinctive local gin (*ofofob*) to promoting the *nsibidi* writing form our work with the Ejagham nation has earned us the reputation as an established authority in the knowledge of, and promotion of the Ejagham cultural identity.

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

- Promotion of our enduring culture and the identification and restoration of endangered heritage sites and intangible cultural practices.
- Fostering cooperation, peace, and development among the Ejagham community.
- Identifying and working to overcome impediments to development in the community.
- Carrying out development projects and programmes to better the community.
- Promoting the social wellbeing of members of the community.
- Carrying out educational and sensitization programmes to improve individual and community well-being.
- Promoting scholarship in the history, culture, and philosophy of the Ejagham.

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

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

- Hosting an annual local trade fare for the exhibition of uniquely Ejagham handcrafts and other wares.
- Providing grants/fellowships to researchers working on Ejagham-related subjects.
- Partnering with institutions to promote research interest in the Ejagham cultural expressions.
- Hosting monthly roundtables of community representatives who deliberate on community issues.

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)

Our organisation takes interest in traditional knowledge including local crafts and literary expressions that are uniquely and/or exclusively associated with the Ejagham people because we understand that this engenders a sense of community pride and this in turn serves as good motivation for intra-community cooperation and participation in development initiatives. Our engagement with the domain of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions makes us a key stakeholder in the WIPO's GRTKF project. It follows therefore that we are interested in the issues under discussion by the committee because the principles, agreements, and conventions that will result from these discussions will be binding on us since the two countries (Nigeria and Cameroon) in which our communities our found are signatory to WIPO treaties. It becomes necessary for our community to observe these discussions and make contributions or comments where possible.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Nigeria and Cameroon

Additional Information:

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

The Paul Awan Initiative for Development was established to mobilize our community for development. The promotion of cultural identity is the major approach through which we engage and GRTKF provides a clear roadmap for an organisation like ours. We find it very appealing that for the first time, through WIPO's GRTKF project, indigenous communities like ours now have a clear guideline through which to promote and lay claim to IP-level ownership of intangible aspects of their cultural inventions. As a leading organisation of our community and foremost mobilization platform for our people, we very much welcome the May 2024 Treaty in this area of traditional knowledge and cultural expression, knowing its importance in several aspects like education, research and development, commerce and industry, culture and tourism, and law and regulation, to mention but a few. Some of our ongoing programmes include an Ejagham Culture Trade Fare during which distinctively Ejagham handcrafts and other forms of traditional knowledge are exhibited, and the Ejagham Literary Festival. We are confident that granting us accreditation as an observer in these discussions will give our people the representation they deserve as one of the centres of civilization in sub-Saharan Africa and with our experience and expertise, we come with a promise to add value to the GRTKF in any capacity necessary.

Paul Awan Initiative for Development has a primary focus on preserving and promoting the TK and TCEs of the Ejagham community, an indigenous group residing in Nigeria and Cameroon. Our work involves several key areas that contribute to the protection of these cultural assets:

1. **Preservation and Transmission:** We actively document and promote indigenous practices including, as mentioned before, the production of *ofofob* (our traditional gin) and *nsibidi* writing, ensuring that younger generations are educated about these practices. By hosting cultural events like the Ejagham Literary Festival and our annual trade fair showcasing traditional handcrafts, we provide platforms that not only celebrate these expressions but also ensure their continuity.
2. **Intellectual Property Awareness:** We educate our community on the importance of protecting our TK and TCEs through intellectual property mechanisms. This includes organizing discussions on how the community can safeguard its cultural heritage from misappropriation and exploring pathways to register our cultural expressions under existing IP frameworks, particularly those related to WIPO.
3. **Community Mobilization for Advocacy:** Through our monthly community roundtables and research collaborations, we engage Ejagham leaders and scholars in discussions about the ownership and rights surrounding TK and TCEs. We focus on identifying threats to our intangible cultural heritage and propose methods for safeguarding it. These initiatives position our organisation as a key stakeholder in discussions on IP protection for indigenous cultural expressions.
4. **Economic Empowerment and Protection of TCEs:** By promoting indigenous crafts and knowledge as part of local trade fairs and exhibitions, we create economic opportunities for community members. At the same time, we advocate for legal protections against the unauthorized commercial exploitation of these cultural assets, aligning our goals with the principles of IP protection.
5. **Environmental Sustainability in Craft Production:** Many of the traditional crafts we promote are created using environmentally sustainable practices, such as the use of locally sourced, renewable materials that have been utilized by our community for generations. By integrating these eco-friendly techniques, we ensure the preservation of not just cultural heritage but also the local environment, which is integral to our crafts. This sustainability practice is also a key element in protecting the intellectual property of our traditional crafts, as it adds unique value to our products and safeguards them from being copied or commercialized in ways that disregard their ecological origins.

Our organisation's ongoing commitment to preserving the integrity and ownership of Ejagham TK and TCEs, coupled with our efforts to raise awareness about intellectual property rights, are deeply tied to the issues discussed within the IGC. We believe that participating as an observer would further enhance our capacity to protect these valuable

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

139 Old Ikang Road, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

Telephone number: +2347036268255

Fax number:

Email address: [swiftawan@gmail.com](mailto:swiftawan@gmail.com)

Web site: <https://paulawan.royal.org.ng>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Awan Dominic Ayang (Chairman)



Union des Peuples Autochtones/Batwa pour le Développement et l'Insertion  
Socio-économique (UPADIS/Batwa-DRC)

Union of Indigenous Peoples/Batwa for Development and Socio-economic Integration [Union  
des Peuples Autochtones/Batwa pour le Développement et l'Insertion Socio-économique]

**(UPADIS/Batwa - DRC)**

**Provincial Ordinance No. 153/CAB/GP/SK of July 22, 2022, provisionally authorizing the  
Governor of the Province of South Kivu to hold office  
No. Just. 112/DP-SKV/CA/6286/2022 of the Ministry of Justice and the Keeper of the Seal  
Authorising the provisional functioning of the Administrator of the Territory of Idjwi  
N° 09/TI/2022**

**Registration certificate No. 5072/07/IDR/TI/2021 of the Inspectorate of Rural Development  
of Idjwi**

**[upadisbahva@gmail.com](mailto:upadisbahva@gmail.com)**

**Phone: +243 977 28 63 73/+243 991 91 78 17**

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](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental  
Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honor to inform you that my organization wishes to participate as an ad hoc observer in the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). Please find attached the biographical details of my organization required by the Committee to consider this request for accreditation.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,

Charles SHAMAVU LIVINGSTON

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(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<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the organization:

Union des Peuples Autochtones/Batwa pour le Développement et l'Insertion Socio- économique (UPADIS/Batwa - DRC)

Description of the organization: (maximum 150 words)

UPADIS/Batwa-DRC is a non-profit organization for Pygmies that was founded on March 14, 2017. Although managed by Indigenous Pygmy Peoples, we welcome people from other communities to improve the group dynamics and social integration and to provide quality work with good results. It operates under authorization No. 153/CAB/GP/SK of July 22, 2022, No. Just. 112/DP - SKV/CA/6286/2022 and No. 09/T 1/2022. UPADIS/Batwa - DRC is based in the Mafula village, Cikoma, Bugarula grouping, Rubenga chiefdom, Idjwi territory, South Kivu Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Our organization is a member of two networks:

- the Network of Pygmy Associations (RAPY) [Réseau des Autochtones Pygmées]; and
- the Coalition of Civil Society Organisations for the Monitoring of Reforms and Public Action (CORAP) [Coalition des Organisations de la Société Civile pour le Suivi des Reformes de l'Action Publique].

Main aims and objectives of the organization:

- Contribute to strengthening income-generating activities among Pygmies, enabling them to create jobs and become entrepreneurs.
- Organize training (formal education) on good citizenship, democracy, sound governance and human rights.
- Help improve health and hygiene conditions, sanitation and environmental protection.
- Promote access to justice for Indigenous Pygmies and other vulnerable people.
- Promote agriculture, fishing and livestock.
- Instigate, prepare and participate in any formal or informal meeting, event, conference, working group or commission, as well as any work or publication working to support Indigenous Pygmy/Batwa Peoples.
- Promote partnership with government institutions to develop local, provincial, national and international policies.

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Main activities of the organization:

- Support income-generating activities and apprenticeships.
- Contribute to educating Pygmy children and training adults in good citizenship, democracy, sound governance and human rights.
- Promote health, hygiene, clean water, sanitation and environmental protection.
- Help Pygmies and other vulnerable groups to gain access to justice.
- Agriculture, fishing and livestock.
- Participate in any formal or informal meeting, event, conference, working group or commission, as well as in any work or publication working to support Indigenous Pygmy/Batwa Peoples.
- Work with government institutions to develop local, provincial, national and international policies.

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)

UPADIS/Batwa - DRC works on the same issues linked to the cultural and intellectual promotion of Indigenous Pygmy Peoples with a view to promoting their values and identity. This is a minority community in need of its intellectual and cultural property to achieve its own sustainable development, something that is usually integrated into the activities of our organization when participating in the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples by staging cultural performances and presenting our culture and medicinal plants.

Country in which the organization is primarily active:

Democratic Republic of Congo.

Additional information:

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

The Indigenous Pygmy Peoples of Idjwi live on the landlocked island of Idjwi in this developing country. To put it bluntly, we, the Pygmies of Idjwi, are very isolated and forgotten by humanitarian aid workers, because we cannot access opportunities available to other Indigenous Pygmy Peoples.

We have also been forgotten by certain Congolese government institutions; despite our many initiatives at the local and provincial levels. Affording this opportunity to our organization would be one of the best ways to open doors and build a brighter future, as it would help us to see how stakeholders approach the topic of intellectual properties and how they exchange and spread information. That would benefit us greatly.

Full contact details of the organization:

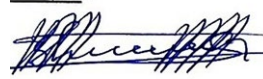
Postal address: N/A

Telephone number: +243 977 28 63 73

Fax number: +243 991 91 78 17  
Email address: [upadisbatwa@gmail.com](mailto:upadisbatwa@gmail.com)  
Website: N/A

Name and title of the organization's representative:

Charles SHAMAVU LIVINGSTON  
UPADIS/Batwa - DRC, Coordinator



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