

WIPO



LI/A/25/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: June 19, 2009

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF
APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN AND THEIR INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION
(LISBON UNION)**

ASSEMBLY

**Twenty-Fifth (18th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 2009**

**FURTHER WORK OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LISBON SYSTEM**

Document prepared by the International Bureau

1. At its twenty-third (6th extraordinary session) held from September 22 to 30, 2008, the Assembly of the Lisbon Union established a Working Group responsible for exploring possible improvements to the procedures under the Lisbon Agreement as might be called for in view of new situations and the evolving needs of users (document A/44/2, page 96).
2. This Working Group met in March 2009 and explored amendments to the Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement, as proposed by the International Bureau, and also considered other matters, as raised by delegations in the course of the meeting of the Working Group.
3. As a result of these deliberations, the Working Group agreed to submit to the Assembly: (1) proposals for amendments to the procedures under the Lisbon Agreement, as outlined in document LI/A/25/1; and (2) a recommendation for further work, as there was a clear consensus in the Working Group that the work embarked upon should continue, in particular in view of the need to look for improvements of the Lisbon system which would make the system more attractive for States and users, while preserving the principles and objectives of the Lisbon Agreement (document LI/WG/DEV/1/3., paragraph 20).

4. The Working Group also gave the following indications for specific issues on which further work should focus (document LI/WG/DEV/1/3., paragraph 21):

(a) Annex II of document LI/WG/DEV/1/2 Rev. should be submitted to the Assembly of the Lisbon Union at its session in September 2009, with the recommendation that the Assembly mandate the Working Group to further consider the general overview of the Lisbon system contained therein;

(b) The International Bureau should conduct a survey among contracting countries of the Lisbon Agreement, States non-members of the Lisbon system, interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and interested circles, with a view to ascertaining how the Lisbon system might be improved, in order that the system would become more attractive for users and prospective new members of the Lisbon Agreement while preserving the principles and objectives of the Agreement;

(c) The International Bureau should conduct a study on the relationship between regional systems for the protection of geographical indications and the Lisbon system, and examine the conditions for, and the possibility of, future accession to the Lisbon Agreement by competent intergovernmental organizations;

(d) The Assembly of the Lisbon Union should be recommended to request the Director General to convene further meetings of the Working Group with a view to exploring further possible improvements to the procedures under the Lisbon Agreement and considering the results of the survey and the study contemplated under subparagraphs (b) and (c), above.

5. *The Assembly is invited to:*

(i) *decide that the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System should continue its work, as recommended in paragraph 3, above;*

(ii) *note that the International Bureau will conduct a survey as specified in paragraph 4(b), above, and a study as specified in paragraph 4(c), above;*

(iii) *request the Director General to convene further meetings of the Working Group, so as to allow it to continue its further work and, in particular, address the issues specifically recommended in paragraphs 4(a) and 4(d), above.*

[End of document]