



LI/A/35/1
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DATE: JULY 23, 2018

Special Union for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration (Lisbon Union)

Assembly

**Thirty-Fifth (13th Extraordinary) Session
Geneva, September 24 to October 2, 2018**

REPORT ON THE WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LISBON SYSTEM

prepared by the International Bureau

1. Since the previous session of the Assembly of the Lisbon Union, the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (“the Working Group”) held its first session on June 11 and 12, 2018. Delegations exchanged views on issues related to the functioning of the Lisbon System, as reproduced in the Annex to the present document (document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/4), which was approved by the Working Group.
2. Among the subjects discussed at the session, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Assembly the adoption of a reduction to 50 per cent of the prescribed amount of fees to be paid by least developed countries (LDCs) in respect of international registrations of appellations of origin and geographical indications, as set out in the proposal contained in document LI/A/35/2.
3. In relation to the financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union, the Working Group decided to further discuss different options in future Working Group meetings or informal meeting(s) that the Chair of the Working Group might request the Secretariat to organize.

4. *The Assembly of the Lisbon Union is invited to take note of the "Report on the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System" (document LI/A/35/1).*

[Document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/4 follows]



LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/4
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: JUNE 12, 2018

Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System

First Session Geneva, June 11 and 12, 2018

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

adopted by the Working Group

1. The Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) met in Geneva, on June 11 and 12, 2018.
2. The following Contracting Parties of the Lisbon Union were represented at the session: Algeria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Gabon, Georgia, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Mexico, Peru, Portugal (14).
3. The following States were represented as observers: Australia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Japan, Kuwait, Morocco, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United States of America, Zimbabwe (23).
4. Representatives of the following international intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP GROUP), Economic Community of West African States (UEMOA), European Union (EU), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), World Trade Organization (WTO) (6).
5. Representatives of the following international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) took part in the session in an observer capacity: *Association romande de propriété intellectuelle* (AROP), Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI), Health and Environment Program (HEP), International Intellectual Property Commercialization Council (IIPCC), International Trademark Association (INTA), International Wine Law Association (AIDV), Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (oriGIn) (7).

6. The list of participants is contained in document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/INF/1 Prov. 2*.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE SESSION

7. Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, opened the session.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS

8. Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze (Georgia) was unanimously elected as Chair of the Working Group and Mr. Alfredo Rendón Algara (Mexico) and Mr. Cristóbal Melgar (Peru) were unanimously elected as Vice-Chairs.

9. Ms. Alexandra Grazioli (WIPO) acted as Secretary to the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

10. The Working Group adopted the draft agenda (document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/1 Prov.) without modification.

AGENDA ITEM 4: FEE REDUCTIONS PRESCRIBED BY ARTICLE 7(3) OF THE GENEVA ACT OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT ON APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

11. Discussions were based on document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/2.

12. The Working Group decided to recommend to the Lisbon Union Assembly:

- (i) to amend the Schedule of Fees included in the Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement, in order to introduce a reduction to 50 per cent of the prescribed amount of fees to be paid by least developed countries (LDCs), as proposed in document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/2;
- (ii) to apply the fee reductions mentioned in (i) for a period of three years starting from the entry into force of the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement; and
- (iii) to re-assess the question of fee reductions under the Lisbon System a year before the expiry of the period mentioned in (ii).

13. For ease of reference, the Annex to this Summary by the Chair contains the amendments to the Schedule of Fees as recommended by the decision set out in paragraph 12, above.

AGENDA ITEM 5: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LISBON UNION

14. Discussions were based on document LI/WG/DEV-SYS/1/3.

15. The Working Group decided:

- (i) to take note of the declarations made under Agenda Item 5; and
- (ii) to further discuss different options concerning the financial sustainability of the Lisbon Union in future Working Group meetings or informal meeting(s) that the Chair of the Working Group might request the Secretariat to organize.

* The final list of participants will be made available as an Annex to the Report of the session.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

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

AGENDA ITEM 7: CLOSING OF THE SESSION

17. The Chair closed the session on June 12, 2018.

[Annex follows]

AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEDULE OF FEES UNDER THE COMMON REGULATIONS UNDER THE LISBON AGREEMENT AND THE GENEVA ACT OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT

Rule 8 Fees

(1) *[Amount of Fees]* The International Bureau shall collect the following fees, payable in Swiss francs:

- | | |
|---|------|
| i. fee for international registration* | 1000 |
| ii. fee for each modification of an international registration* | 500 |
| iii. fee for providing an extract from the International Register | 150 |
| iv. fee for providing an attestation or any other written information concerning the contents of the International Register | 100 |
| v. individual fees as referred to in paragraph (2). | |

[...]

[End of Annex and of document]

* For an international registration referring to a geographical area located in a least developed country (LDC), in accordance with the lists established by the United Nations, the fee is reduced to 50 per cent of the prescribed amount (rounded to the nearest full figure). In such case, the fee will amount to 500 Swiss francs for an international registration referring to a geographical area of origin located in an LDC, and to 250 Swiss francs for each modification of an international registration referring to a geographical area of origin located in an LDC. These fee reductions will apply for a period of three years following the date of entry into force of the Geneva Act to the Lisbon Agreement.