

## **International Symposium on the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Geneva (1999) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs: International Design Registrations Go Global**

**Geneva, June 19, 2014**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

### INTRODUCTION

1. The increasing globalization of trade is making it evermore necessary to acquire international protection for industrial designs in a timely and cost-effective manner.
2. The Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs is simple, cost-effective and efficient, enabling users to obtain protection for their industrial designs in several territories by means of a single application made with the International Bureau (IB) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). There are currently 62 members of the Hague system, including the European Union (EU) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). Thus it is important that those working in the field of industrial designs be it in industry or in the business sector have a good knowledge of the Hague system.
3. This International Symposium would replace the traditional Seminar on the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs that normally takes place after the session of the Working Group and would be open to the users' community and divided in two sessions.
4. In the morning session, we would take advantage of the presence of the Delegates to the Working Group to ask those of the countries which will join the Hague system in the near future to explain how the procedure will be carried out in their respective Offices, once their respective countries have joined the Geneva Act. This item would be very appreciated by the users as they would already get an idea of the evolution of the system in the next few years.

5. The second part of the morning session would be devoted to the industry and the Hague system. Officials of the several large enterprises from countries which are planning to accede to the Geneva Act will share their views on the use of the Hague system by their respective companies. The leading filer in the Hague system, the Swatch Group AG, will also be represented to share its experience on the use of the Hague system.
6. The afternoon session would be dedicated to the filing of an international application and the management procedures of international registrations.

## CONDUCT AND VENUE OF THE SESSIONS

7. The International Symposium will take place at the headquarters of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 34 chemin des Colombettes, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, in Room A, on Thursday, June 19, 2014. Access to the WIPO AB Building will be possible as of 8 a.m. in order for badges to be collected in a timely manner (for badge collection times on June 19, 2014, please see page 3 ("Conferences badges"). The sessions will start at 9 a.m. and will end at 4.30 p.m. The International Symposium will be conducted in English.

## REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

### Online Registration

8. In order to avoid delays, and in accordance with the Note Circular sent on May 2, 2014, participants as well as those based in Geneva are kindly requested to register online from May 2, 2014, at the following link: <https://webaccess.wipo.int/hague01/>.
9. Registration fee: 250 Swiss francs, covering participation in the International Symposium, documentation, luncheon and coffee breaks. Registration will be final upon receipt by WIPO of the registration fee. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties of the Hague Union will be exempt from payment of this fee.
10. The Online registration is very simple and consists of completing a short online form. This can be done in few minutes by each participant or by a staff member on his/her behalf.
11. Once registered online, each participant receives by e-mail a registration number confirming the registration to the International Symposium.
12. Deadline for registration: June 12, 2014. Please note that registration fees will not be reimbursed for any cancellation received after this date.
13. Any questions or comments on the online registration procedure may be addressed to [intregmail@wipo.int](mailto:intregmail@wipo.int).

### Conference Badges

14. In order to obtain the International Symposium (admission) badge, it will be necessary to produce, upon arrival at WIPO, the registration confirmation received by email, together with a photo identification document (ID).

15. The official badges can be collected at the registration desk located in the main entrance lobby of the WIPO AB building. The desk will be open on Thursday, June 19, 2014, between 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

16. Please note that access to and presence at the WIPO premises will be restricted to persons wearing badges. Any lost badge should be reported without delay to the WIPO registration desk.

### List of Participants

17. A provisional list of participants will be distributed on the day of the International Symposium, updated on the basis of the online registrations. A final list of participants should be distributed before the end of the International Symposium.

### Visas

18. Attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Switzerland, and particularly the introduction of new requirement by Swiss Authorities to provide biometric data (10 fingerprints and facial image). This implies the applicant's presence in person at a Swiss Consulate to submit and register biometric data (this may even require traveling to a neighboring country). It is important to note that the Swiss authorities will not authorize entry in Switzerland without the required biometric visa and will not deliver entry visas on arrival. Delivery of the required visa (Schengen visa) may take up to 21 days. Therefore, any visa application should be filed by the traveler between three months and at the latest three weeks before departure.

### DOCUMENTATION

19. Information and documentation for the International Symposium are available at: [http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting\\_id=32963](http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=32963).

20. As a positive contribution to a carbon-free environment and as a cost-saving measure, International Symposium documents are being published on the WIPO web site only. The documents are available only in English. Hard copies of documents will not be transmitted in advance unless specifically requested.

21. A document distribution service will be provided outside the Room A. Paper copies of documents will be limited and made available for the International Symposium. Participants are strongly encouraged to come to the meetings with pre-printed copies of documents and/or to use portable computers/devices.

## PREMISES

### Access to WIPO Buildings

22. Access to and presence at the WIPO premises is strictly controlled. Participants will be subject to badge control at the entry points and badges should be worn in plain view at all times.

23. Access to WIPO: during the construction of the WIPO Conference Hall, the main entrance to the main WIPO AB main building in *chemin des Colombettes* is closed. Access is available *via* the WIPO gardens or *via* the WIPO PCT building. Participants arriving at WIPO by car can be dropped-off/picked-up at *chemin des Colombettes* and access any of the entrances by foot.

24. The WIPO premises are fully accessible to persons with a disability. Requests for information or assistance may be submitted to: [meetings@wipo.int](mailto:meetings@wipo.int); +41 22 338 9581.

25. A public parking at *Place des Nations* is very close to WIPO. Otherwise, the parking fee is two Swiss francs/hour.

## INTERNET

### Wireless Internet (Wi-Fi)

26. WIPO provides free Wi-Fi Internet access on the ground floor of the WIPO AB main building.

### Computers with Internet Access

27. A number of computers with Internet access and a shared printer will be available to participants in the Information Center on the ground floor of the WIPO AB main building, on its mezzanine and in the WIPO Library in the NB.

### Telephone

28. Incoming calls can be made to the WIPO registration desk located in the main entrance lobby of the WIPO AB Building (Tel: +41 22 791 9441). Participants should switch their mobile phones into silent mode during meetings.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON GENEVA

### Hotels

29. Accommodation in Geneva is often in high demand and participants are recommended to make hotel reservations well in advance. WIPO does not have a hotel reservation service and participants should book hotels directly. Information and hotel reservations are available at:  
[www.geneve-tourisme.ch/en/accommodation](http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/en/accommodation)  
[www.cagi.ch/en/service-ong/hebergement-des-delegues.php](http://www.cagi.ch/en/service-ong/hebergement-des-delegues.php)  
[www.genevashotels.com](http://www.genevashotels.com).

30. A list of negotiated hotel rates issued by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) is available at:  
[http://intranet.wipo.int/export/sites/intranet/homepages/travel/en/pdf/Hxtels\\_List\\_in\\_Geneva\\_wit\\_h\\_preferential\\_rates-\\_2012\\_.pdf](http://intranet.wipo.int/export/sites/intranet/homepages/travel/en/pdf/Hxtels_List_in_Geneva_wit_h_preferential_rates-_2012_.pdf).

### Public Transport

31. Participants arriving at Geneva airport can obtain a free public transport ticket valid for a 80-minute journey around the Geneva area. The free ticket can be obtained at the automatic distributor located in the luggage claim area, just before going through customs. Buses 5 and 28 stop at Place des Nations (UN flag entrance and "Broken Chair" monument), at walking distance from WIPO. The train takes only six minutes from the airport to the *Cornavin* Geneva Central Station.

32. Participants staying in a Geneva hotel can obtain a local transport card from the hotel reception free of charge, valid for the entire duration of their stay. The personal and non-transferable card allows free access to trams, buses, trains and yellow taxi-boats on Geneva's territory.

33. The following bus and tram stops are at walking distance from WIPO:

- Bus stop: "Vermont", bus line 5 (this line also goes to and from the airport);
- Bus stop: "UIT", bus lines 8, 11 and 22; and
- Bus/Tram stop: "Nations", bus lines 8, 11, 22, 28, F, V, Z; tram line 15.

Further information on Geneva public transportation: [www.tpg.ch](http://www.tpg.ch) and [www.unireso.ch](http://www.unireso.ch).

### Taxis

34. The nearest taxi stand is located just outside CICG on *rue de Varembé*. Taxis may be called by dialing +41 22 320 2020, +41 22 320 2202 or +41 22 331 4133. Requests for a taxi may also be made at the WIPO reception desk.

### Post Office and Bank

35. The Post Office is located on the ground floor of the CICG building at 17 *rue de Varembé*. Opening hours: 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

36. The *Union des Banques Suisses* (UBS) has the closest bank office to the CICG, on 17 bis *chemin Louis-Dunant*. Opening hours: 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Cash dispenser ATM 24h). A cash dispenser ATM is also available on the ground floor of WIPO's GBI building (right-hand side of the main lobby of the AB building). Both ATMs can deliver Swiss Francs and Euros using internationally-recognized credit cards.

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