

Information Session on Geographical Indications

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INFORMATION ON SPEAKERS

prepared by the Secretariat

COURAGE KOMLA BESAH-ADANU

Courage Komla Besah-Adanu is a Research Scientist, an Intellectual Property Practitioner and Consultant in the development of Geographical Indications and Collective Trademarks. He is involved in identifying and developing potential GIs for protection for food and non-food products, under the auspices of the Ghana Industrial Property Office, GHIPO.

He is a researcher in the field of IP and a visiting professor on the Masters in Intellectual Property Program, at the Department of Agriculture and Biosystem Engineering, at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana.

Mr. Besah-Adanu is currently providing technical assistance in the identification and development of potential GI products for protection in Africa for over 22 member states of ARIPO, under the EU-Africa IP project, AfrIPI. He is currently in the process of developing the Ghana Kente (a quality hand woven fabric) into a GI, under the WIPO-GHIPO Kente GI project.

As a consultant with GHIPO, Mr. Besah-Adanu has been involved in developing several other products for GIs in Ghana and also part of the Ghanaian delegation in the ongoing negotiations of the IPR Protocol for the African Continental Free Trade Area-AfCFTA.

MARIJA BOŽIĆ

Marija Božić is Assistant Director of the Distinctive Signs Sector in the Intellectual Property Office, Republic of Serbia, which comprises the Trademarks Department and the Group for Industrial Designs and Geographical indications.

She has worked at the Intellectual Property Office, Republic of Serbia, since 1997, at the beginning as a Trademark Applications Examiner, later as the Head of the International Trademarks Department.

She graduated from the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade, and after the internship period at the First Municipal Court in Belgrade, she passed the bar exam in 1995.

IRENE CALBOLI

Irene Calboli is a Professor of Law at Texas A&M University School of Law, Academic Fellow at the School of Law, University of Geneva, Visiting Professor at Singapore University of Social Sciences, Senior Fellow at Melbourne Law School, and Distinguished Fellow at the Royal University of Law and Economics (Cambodia).

Her research currently focus on trademarks, geographical indications and the intersection between intellectual property and international trade.

Ms. Calboli is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Queen Mary Journal of Intellectual Property*, the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law and Practice* (Oxford), and the *World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)-World Trade Organization (WTO) Colloquium Papers*. An elected member of the American Law Institute and associate member of the Singapore Academy of Law, Ms. Calboli currently serves as member of the Council of the International Law Association (Singapore Branch); the Board of the European Policy for Intellectual Property Law Association; and member of the Legislation and Regulation Committee of the International Trademark Association. She is also the immediate past Chair of

the Art Law Section of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) and currently serves in the Executive Committees of the Art Law and Comparative Law Sections of the AALS. She has held visiting position in several universities in North America, Europe, and Asia and is currently a Fulbright Specialist Scholar.

She is a graduate of the University of Bologna, the London School of Economics and Political Science, and the Queen Mary University London and was an intern in the Cabinet of Chief Justice Mancini at the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Ms. Calboli is the author of *Geographical Indications at the Crossroads of Trade, Development, and Culture* (Cambridge University Press, 2017, with Ng-Loy W.L.); *Exhausting Intellectual Property Rights: A comparative Law and Policy Analysis* (Cambridge University Press, 2018, with S. Ghosh); *The Protection of Non Traditional Trademarks: Critical Perspectives* (Oxford University Press, 2018, with M. Senftleben); and *The Cambridge Handbook of International and Comparative Trademark Law* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2020, with Jane C. Ginsburg).

SUELEN CARLS



Suelen Carls is a Brazilian national working as a Senior Lecturer in Intellectual Property Law, at the Bournemouth University in the United Kingdom. She also is an Affiliated Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition in Germany and a Visiting Professor at the University of Marília (Unimar) in Brazil, supervising Master and PhD students.

She is also a WIPO Academy tutor for the Advanced Course on Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications and the Distance Learning Specialized Course on the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.

Besides that, Ms. Carls is engaged in several voluntary activities. She is a Founding-member of the Santa Catarina State “GIs Development Cooperation Network”, established in 2014, and the Academic Coordinator of the Santa Catarina State Workshop on Geographical Indications, an annual event first held in 2012.

Ms. Carls is a Doctor in law from the Federal University of Santa Catarina (with a research phase at the University of Oxford). She is a Bachelor of Laws and holds a Master’s degree in Regional Development from the Regional University of Blumenau

DEV S. GANGJEE



Dr. Dev Gangjee is Professor at the Oxford Law Faculty and Director of the Oxford Intellectual Property Research Centre. Mr. Gangjee’s research focuses on Intellectual Property (IP), with a special emphasis on Branding and Trade Marks, Geographical Indications and Copyright law.

He is the author of *Relocating the Law of Geographical Indications* (2012) and the editor of the *Research Handbook on Intellectual Property and Geographical Indications* (2016). Thematic research interests include the history and political economy of IP, collective and open innovation, and the significance of registration for intangibles.

Mr. Gangjee has acted in an advisory capacity for national governments, law firms, international organizations and the European Commission on IP issues.

CLAUDIA MARTÍNEZ FELIX



Claudia Martínez Felix is Deputy Head of Unit in the Commission, DG GROW, in the Unit C4 called Intangible Economy. Her Unit manages, develops and enforces a solid European intellectual property legal framework.

Ms. Martínez Felix has been leading the work on the new EU scheme for geographical indications for craft and industrial products. In addition, her unit is responsible for developing a strong EU policy against counterfeiting, as well as developing concrete policies to support innovation and better SMEs' access to, management and enforcement of, IP rights, thus, transforming intangible assets into concrete economic deliverables also in view of a strong economic recovery.

Before that, she held various positions in the Commission, as Deputy Head of Unit on the Single Market and the free movement of goods, and before that, as legal officer, on services and competition-related issues. Ms. Martínez Felix has also worked as consultant and in the European Parliament. She is a Spanish lawyer specialised in EU law at the College of Europe, Bruges.

NANCY OMELKO



Nancy Omelko, in her current position as Principal Counsel for International Trademark Policy in the Office of Policy and International Affairs at the USPTO, heads a team of nine attorneys specializing in international and domestic trademark law and geographical indications. Ms. Omelko is the lead on geographical indication in all regions of the world.

Ms. Omelko was detailed to the U.S. Mission to the World Trademark Organization (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland as the Intellectual Property Attaché. She has participated in bi-lateral and multilateral discussions related to South Asia, Europe, Eurasia, Sub-Saharan Africa, China, Oceania and the ASEAN region. She participates in meetings of the World Wine Trade Group, APEC and the World Intellectual Property Organization. During her tenure at the USPTO, she has also held the positions of Interlocutory Attorney at the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board; Administrator for Petitions in the Trademark Commissioner's Office; and Examining Attorney, where she examined service mark applications and held the title of Certification Mark Specialist.

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