



DEPARTMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT OF THAILAND



WORLD INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

**WIPO REGIONAL SEMINAR ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)
AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE (TK), GENETIC RESOURCES
(GRs) AND TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS (TCEs)**

**organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

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Ministry of Commerce,
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PROVISIONAL LIST OF SPEAKERS

prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO

DAMOS D. AGUSMAN

Damos Dumoli Agusman is the Director for Treaties on Economic and Socio-Cultural Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. He has been with the Ministry since 1990 and since then responsible for supervising, guiding and advising every treaty-related problem in the field of economic and socio-cultural affairs. In his capacity, he does not only provide diplomatic training course for diplomats from the junior level, mid-career level and senior level, but also ensures whether a bilateral or multilateral treaty is in compliance with national interest and international standards.

Born in Aceh Barat, Damos Dumoli Agusman passion for international law developed in 1987, where he went to Bandung and enrolled at the University of Padjajaran. After he received his law degree, he experienced the School of Junior Foreign Services administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. Immediately, after graduating MoFA's Diplomatic course, he enrolled with the University of Hull in the United Kingdom and received his Master of Art on International Law and Politics.

Prior to his assignment as Director, Damos experience includes: (i) Second Secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Netherlands where he also had experienced the opportunity to be a scholar at The Hague Academy of International Law in Netherlands; (ii) from 1997-1999, served as the Head of Boarder Section at the Directorate of Treaties on Political, Security and Territorial Affairs; (iii) from 2000-2003 Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Republic of Indonesia for Vienna; (iv) Head of Sub-Directorate of Sea Treaty at the Directorate of Treaties on Political, Security and Territorial Affairs; and (v) Director for Diplomatic Facilities in 2005.

As a legal counsel, Damos has represented Indonesia in various cases; one of his recent experiences is Sipadan-Ligatan case between Indonesia and Malaysia. He is also well-known as an adviser or drafter for treaties, such as Indonesia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement and Agreement on Migrant Workers. His specialization in the law of treaties has encouraged him in to researching the status of municipal government under international law. A research that has been undertaken with the hope of understanding state practices on that relevant matter. He is currently one of the lead negotiator and adviser of Indonesian Policy on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore issues.

JOHN ASEIN

Mr. Asein is a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. He taught briefly in the Faculty of Law, University of Calabar before joining the Nigerian Copyright Commission in 1992. As Head of the Commission's Legal Department, he contributed immensely to the development of Nigeria's intellectual property law and policy. He is presently the Director of the Nigerian Copyright Institute.

He has participated actively in the meetings of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). He has also served in various expert groups at national and regional levels to develop and harmonize legal frameworks on the protection of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore.

Mr. Asein teaches Intellectual Property Law at postgraduate level as an adjunct lecturer in the Faculty of Law, University of Abuja. He is a member of the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP).

SEKOVE DEGEI

Mr. Sekove Bigitibau Degei, a iTaukei (Fijian), is the Senior Administrative Officer (Research) at the Institute of iTaukei Language and Culture in the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, in the Government of Fiji.

Born in 1960, he completed his secondary education at the Ratu Sukuna Memorial School in Suva in 1979, before he started his teaching career in the primary schools. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in language and education at the University of the South Pacific in 1994. He also has a Masters of Social Science degree in Anthropology from the University of Waikato, which he completed in 2007.

He joined the Ministry of Education as a primary school teacher in 1981, where he worked till March 1989. He was transferred to the Institute of iTaukei Language and Culture in the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs in April 1989, where he started as an assistant researcher. He then gradually worked his way up to become the Senior Administrative Officer (Research) in 2004.

Apart from carrying out research on the iTaukei language and culture, his duties include the supervision and training of field officers and officers who carry out the cultural mapping exercise and the storage of data in the office.

SHARON LE GALL

Dr. Sharon Le Gall is a national of Trinidad and Tobago, and a private Attorney-at-Law.

She attained her Ph.D. degree from the University of Cambridge in 2009. Her doctoral thesis explores issues of intellectual property, traditional knowledge and cultural property in the context of protecting collective knowledge associated with cultural signifiers in the Caribbean and the Americas, with specific emphasis on the steel pan of Trinidad and Tobago. She attained her Master of Laws Degree in Intellectual Property Law at the Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Canada, in 1994, and her Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies in 1987.

She was formerly Course Director and Lecturer in Intellectual Property Law and the Law relating to Equitable Remedies at the Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill, Barbados.

She is presently engaged by WIPO as a Consultant and member of a CARICOM Working Group to develop a legal framework of protection for Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources.

Her research interests include Intellectual Property protection of Traditional Knowledge ranging from traditional medicinal knowledge and healing practices to indigenous artistic expressions.

V.K. GUPTA

Presently, Mr. V K Gupta is holding the position of Senior Advisor and Director TKDL in Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Chairman, Traditional Knowledge Digital Library Task Force. Prior to this he was the Director of two laboratories of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) - National Institute of Science Communication & Information Resources (NISCAIR) and also had the additional charge for National Institute of Science, Technology & Development Studies (NISTADS). He had also held the post of Director, SAARC Documentation Centre (SDC) and Deputy Director General, National Informatic Centre, Govt of India.

He is the author, architect and implementer of the TKDL Project. He is responsible for developing an innovative classification system in Traditional Knowledge known as Traditional Knowledge Resource Classification. He has created international awareness on traditional knowledge for its acceptance and recognition.

He has published and presented more than 120 scientific papers in various international journals/conferences, on Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Intellectual Property Rights and Information Technology.

SONG JIANGXIU

Mrs. Song Jiangxiu, a national of China, is presently Deputy Director of the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Division, the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnological Invention Examination Department of the State of Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of the People's Republic of China, Beijing, where she is responsible for patent search and examination in the field of TCM and pharmaceutical as well as the administration of the Division. Prior to holding the above position, she worked as re-examiner at the Patent Re-examination Board of SIPO and later promoted to Deputy Director of the Pharmaceutical Division.

Born in 1967, Mrs. Song got her Bachelor of Medicine degree from Jiangxi College of traditional Chinese Medicine in 1989, and a master degree from Beijing University of TCM, in 1994. In 2003, she did a Post Graduate Diploma of Civil and Commercial Law from the China Politics and Law University. Mrs. Song also holds a Master of Laws in International Property Law from The John Marshall Law School (Chicago, USA). In 1998 and 2003, she followed training in Hague (Holland) on EPODOC search system and examination.

WEND WENDLAND

Mr. Wend Wendland is the Director (Acting) of the Traditional Knowledge Division, at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland. He was a founding member of this Division at its establishment in late 1997.

Before joining WIPO, Mr. Wendland was in private law practice for eight years in Johannesburg, South Africa as a partner of the law firm Webber Wentzel. He practiced law in the fields of copyright and related rights, competition law and media/broadcasting law. He also taught copyright and trademark law part-time at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

Mr. Wendland obtained his BA and LLB degrees in 1984 and 1986, respectively (University of Cape Town), and a LLM degree in copyright, trademark and competition law in 1996 (University of South Africa). He was admitted as an Attorney of the Supreme Court of South Africa in 1989.

Mr. Wendland has published widely in the fields of copyright and related rights, competition law, media law, cultural heritage and traditional knowledge.

JESSYCA VAN WEELDE

Ms. Jessyca Van Weelde is currently working as a Consultant in the Traditional Creativity, Cultural Expressions and Cultural Heritage Section, Traditional Knowledge Division of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland. She joined WIPO and the TK Division in January 2007.

Before joining WIPO, Ms. Van Weelde worked for the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Ministry of Finance of the Netherlands.

Ms. Van Weelde obtained her Bachelor of Arts (honours) in European Business Administration (Nottingham Trent University) and Bachelor of Economics in International Business and Management Studies (INHOLLAND University Haarlem) in 2004.

She furthermore obtained her double Erasmus Mundus European Master (LL.M.) degree in Law and Economics (Erasmus University Rotterdam and University of Bologna) in 2006.

In that same year, she was selected to participate in the WIPO Summer School on Intellectual Property, organized by the WIPO Worldwide Academy, whereby she received a Certificate for her successful participation.

Ms. Van Weelde speaks Dutch, English and Spanish and has a moderately good knowledge of French, Indonesian and Italian.

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