

WIPO-ARIPO REGIONAL MEETING ON DEVELOPING THE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SUPPORT CENTRE (TISC) NETWORK

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OUTLINE

- Introduction
- TISCs Programme and Initiatives in URT
- Progress so far
- Way -forward

INTRODUCTION

- Commission for Science and Technology –Tanzania (COSTECH)
 - Established by the Commission for Science and Technology Act of Parliament No.7 of 1986.
 - *Principal advisor to the Government on Science, Technology and Innovation.*
 - Main role: Coordination of Scientific Research and Technology Development in the country.

TISCS PROGRAMME AND INITIATIVES IN URT

- Establishment of TIPASIC - Tanzania Intellectual Property Advisory Services and Information Centre
 - Year 2007;
 - WIPO, BRELA (National IP Office) and COSTECH
 - Hosted at COSTECH
- Purpose:
 - To provide patent information and advise in IP and IPR;
 - Assist innovators to prepare patent application docs.

CONT'-1

- TIPASIC achievements:
 - IPR sensitization seminars to R&D institutions and academia.
 - Supported the development of IP mechanisms i.e. Institutional IP policies to R&Ds and Universities(SUA, UDSM, MUHAS,TPRI).
 - Facilitate the establishment of IPMOs (SUA).
 - IP Awareness programmes to institutions and other stakeholders including policy makers.

CONT'2

- Year 2015
 - SLA between GoT and WIPO signed on TISCs initiatives
 - Upgrading TIPASIC affairs to include facilitation of TISCs initiative in HEIs and R&Ds.
 - COSTECH (National Coordinating Institution) of TISC Networks Members for this project.

CONT'3

- Implementation Phases:

- i. Trainings on TISCs project to R&Ds & HEIs, in 2014, 2015 and 2016;

- Achievement:

- i. At least 05 institutions registered to/using ARDI and ASPI programs (2017).
 - ii. At least 2 institutions established TISCs units/focal - Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST) and Muhimbili Health and Allied Science University (MUHAS).

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- Challenges:

- Incomplete phases, readiness of institutions (signing MoU with institutions);
- Budget constrains;
- Human resources (permanent; changes of jobs, inconsistency of selected focal persons, trained persons);
- Inadequate facilities/infrastructures (effective internet).
- Change of managements (i.e. Universities)

PROGRESS (2018- DATE)

- Plans and activities done jointly by BRELA and COSTECH
 1. Awareness creation and sensitization seminars/training to R&D institutions and universities on use of patent information and databases (Research4Life, ARDI);
 - College of Engineering (UDSM),
 - St. Joseph University of Engineering,
 - Nelson Mandela Institution of Science and Tech,
 - Centre for Agriculture and Rural Mechanization (CAMARTECH),

CONT'1

2. Capacity Development

- Introduction of MIP course/programme (ARIPO, WIPO, BRELA); an opportunity and ensuring training/studies on use of patent and non-patent information search techniques and TISCs activities are incorporated.

3. Implementation of TISCs phases and activities; one university ready to strengthen its IP management matters.

WAY-FORWARD

1. Liaise with institutions for the implementation of TISCs programme (at least two institutions);
2. Fully TISCs implementation phases in HEIs institutions
3. Capacity Development and Building programme
4. Scouting for focal persons (through institutions)
5. Facilitation of required Training for capacity development and operations of TISCs.