

OVERVIEW AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TISCS IN ARIPO MEMBER STATES: ZIMBABWE

19-20 September 2019

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Introduction

- Registration and protection of IP in Zimbabwe by ZIPO
- ZIPO currently the national focal point and TISC.
- The office also provides, facilitates and promotes use of IP Information for the promotion of innovation to different stakeholders e.g. institutions of higher learning, research and development institutions, SMEs, among others
- Emphasis on stressing the relevance of the WIPO program on TISCs, usefulness of patent information for the promotion of innovation, capacity building on using the various patent databases and scientific publications access (Research4Life) for the promotion of innovation in Zimbabwe, available resources

2019 activities

- 20-22 February 2019, Workshop on the development of the TISC Network in Zimbabwe
- 17-18 September, second workshop, 2019, with the support of WIPO.
- Stakeholder representation

Current initiatives

- Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology development
- Provincial Program on Technology Transfer and IP
- Targeting all the 10 Provinces
- Outcome: Increase in appreciation and use of patent information for promotion of innovation
- ZIPO creating awareness on the usefulness of patent information, TISCs, and facilitating the building of a national TISC network
- 2-6 September, first provincial workshop for the Manicaland province (follow ups)

Policy framework

- National IP Policy
- Science, Technology and Innovation Policy

Way forward

- Continued efforts on awareness creation and capacity building to all relevant stakeholders through seminars, workshops, research week, World IP Day, provincial exhibitions, SMEs Expo e.t.c.
- Working with Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development to cover the remaining provinces, expansion of the network
- Facilitating the establishment of TISCs in all relevant institutions, institutional agreements, access
- Development of institutional IP policies
- Creation of a national eTISC network
- Developing a strategy to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the TISCs

Major challenges

- Low levels of awareness and appreciation of IP
- Financial resources for capacity building activities
- Lack of institutional IP policies

Conclusion

- Taking cognisance of the importance and benefits of having an effective and efficient TISC network for the promotion of innovation in Zimbabwe, ZIPO, is playing and continues to play a leading role in championing the establishment of a robust national TISC Network as well as establishment of effective and efficient TISCs in Zimbabwe
- Appreciation of the support by WIPO



THANK YOU