



Introduction to Geographical
Indications and Recent
Developments in the World
Intellectual Property Organization
(WIPO)

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.....from Swiss Cheese...

...to Swiss watches





... to Feta, Parmesan and
Emmentaler...



... to Napa Valley, Napa Ridge
and Napa parts...



TERMINOLOGY



Indication of Source

“Indication referring to a country or to a
place situated therein as being the
country or place of origin of a product”



Paris Convention 1883

- Protection against “**direct or indirect use of a false indication** of the source of goods”
- Seizure of the goods; prohibition of importation
- 164 Member States



Madrid Agreement for the Repression of False or Deceptive Indications of Source on Goods 1891

- protection against use of “**false or deceptive** indications of source”
- 31 Member States





Appellation of Origin

“The geographical name of a country, region, or locality, which serves to designate a product originating therein, the quality and characteristics of which are due exclusively or essentially to the geographical environment, including natural and human factors”



Lisbon Agreement 1958

- *For the protection of appellations of origin and their international registration*
- Definition of “appellation of origin”
- Definition of “country of origin”
- Registration and possible objection
- 20 Member States
- 844 registrations (774 valid)



Geographical Indication

“Indication which identifies a good as originating in the territory of a Member, or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographical origin” (TRIPS)



TRIPS Agreement 1994

- 146 Members
- TRIPS Articles 22 to 24
- Definition of subject matter
- Scope of Protection
- International Negotiations; Exceptions
- Built-in Agenda



Multilateral Work after 1958


- 1974/75: Multilateral protection and registration system for “geographical indications”
- Paris Convention Revision Conference
 - early 1980ies
 - protection for geographical indications and multilateral notification system
- 1990: Committee of Experts on a Multilateral Treaty on Geographical Indications



WIPO Standing Committee (SCT)


- On trademarks, industrial designs and *geographical indications*
- Working papers on
 - definition






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 - domain names



Conclusion



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Thank you!

