

# WIPO



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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

## **SINGAPORE TREATY ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS (STLT)**

### **ASSEMBLY**

**First (1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary) Session  
Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 2009**

**ASSISTANCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINGAPORE TREATY  
ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS**

*Document prepared by the International Bureau*

1. The Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty held in Singapore in March 2006, adopted a Resolution that is supplementary to the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (hereinafter referred to as “the Singapore Treaty”) and the Regulations Thereunder (hereinafter referred to as “the Singapore Resolution”), and which addresses in paragraphs 4 through 8 technical assistance for the implementation of the Treaty in Developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Paragraphs 4 through 8 of the Singapore Resolution are reproduced hereunder:

[...]

“4. With a view to facilitating the implementation of the Treaty in Developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), the Diplomatic Conference requested the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Contracting Parties to provide additional and adequate technical assistance comprising technological, legal and other forms of support to strengthen the institutional capacity of those countries to implement the Treaty and enable those countries to take full advantage of the provisions of the Treaty.

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“5. Such assistance should take into account the level of technological and economic development of beneficiary countries. Technological support would help improve the information and communication technology infrastructure of those countries, thus contributing to narrowing the technological gap between Contracting Parties. The Diplomatic Conference noted that some countries underlined the importance of the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF) as being relevant to narrowing the digital divide.

“6. Furthermore, upon entry into force of the Treaty, Contracting Parties will undertake to exchange and share, on a multilateral basis, information and experience on legal, technical and institutional aspects regarding the implementation of the Treaty and how to take full advantage of opportunities and benefits resulting therefrom.

“7. The Diplomatic Conference, acknowledging the special situation and needs of LDCs, agreed that LDCs shall be accorded special and differential treatment for the implementation of the Treaty, as follows:

“(a) LDCs shall be the primary and main beneficiaries of technical assistance by the Contracting Parties and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO);

“(b) such technical assistance includes the following:

“(i) assistance in establishing the legal framework for the implementation of the Treaty,

“(ii) information, education and awareness raising as regards the impact of acceding to the Treaty,

“(iii) assistance in revising administrative practices and procedures of national trademark registration authorities,

“(iv) assistance in building up the necessary trained manpower and facilities of the IP Offices, including information and communication technology capacity to effectively implement the Treaty and its Regulations.

“8. The Diplomatic Conference requested the Assembly to monitor and evaluate, at every ordinary session, the progress of the assistance related to implementation efforts and the benefits resulting from such implementation.”

[...]

2. In general, one of the key principles for providing technical assistance to WIPO Member States is that such technical assistance must be demand driven. At the date of the writing of this document, the International Bureau of WIPO has received very few concrete requests for technical assistance aiming at the implementation of the Singapore Treaty in Developing Countries and LDCs.

3. The recent entry into force of the Singapore Treaty and the holding of the first ordinary session of the Singapore Treaty Assembly (hereinafter referred to as “the Assembly”) provides a timely opportunity to recall the adoption of the Singapore Resolution and to invite Developing Country and LDC Members of WIPO to formulate specific demands for the provision of technical assistance in accordance with the Singapore Resolution.

4. Furthermore, paragraph 8 of the Singapore Resolution requests the Assembly to monitor and evaluate, at every ordinary session, the progress of the assistance related to implementation efforts and the benefits resulting from such implementation. Given that the Singapore Treaty entered into force relatively recently, it is suggested that Contracting Parties communicate to the International Bureau any information to which paragraph 8 of the Resolution applies. A list with all Contracting Parties to the Singapore Treaty is contained in the Annex to this document. The International Bureau will compile all information received and present it, together with all relevant information from its own technical assistance activities, to the next ordinary session of the Singapore Treaty Assembly.

*5. The Assembly is invited to take note of the present document and to indicate whether it agrees with the suggestion contained in paragraph 4 of that document.*

[Annex follows]

## ANNEX

Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks  
(Singapore 2006)  
Status on September 22, 2009

State	Date on which State became party to the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks
Australia.....	March 16, 2009
Bulgaria <sup>1</sup> .....	March 16, 2009
Denmark <sup>2</sup> .....	March 16, 2009
Estonia.....	August 14, 2009
Kyrgyzstan.....	March 16, 2009
Latvia.....	March 16, 2009
Poland.....	July 2, 2009
Republic of Moldova.....	March 16, 2009
Romania.....	March 16, 2009
Singapore.....	March 16, 2009
Spain.....	May 18, 2009
Switzerland.....	March 16, 2009
United States of America.....	March 16, 2009

(Total: 13 States)

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<sup>1</sup> With the declaration provided for in Article 29(4).

<sup>2</sup> Not applicable to the Faroe Islands nor to Greenland.

[End of Annex and of document]