

Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)

Assembly

Sixteenth (8th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, July 6 to 14, 2023

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION REGARDING THE SINGAPORE TREATY ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS (STLT)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. In its Resolution Supplementary to the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (hereinafter referred to as “the Singapore Treaty”), the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, held in Singapore in March 2006, requested the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty to monitor and evaluate, at every ordinary session, the progress of the assistance related to implementation efforts and the benefits resulting from such implementation (paragraph 8 of the Resolution Supplementary to the Singapore Treaty, adopted by the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, Singapore, March 13 to 27, 2006).
2. At its 1st ordinary session, the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty agreed that Contracting Parties would communicate to the Secretariat any information on technical assistance activities related to the implementation of the Singapore Treaty and that the Secretariat would compile the information received and present it, together with all relevant information from its own technical assistance activities, to the next ordinary session of the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty (document STLT/A/1/2, paragraph 4, and document STLT/A/1/4, paragraph 10).
3. On that basis, the Secretariat has regularly submitted to the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty information on technical assistance and cooperation for developing and least developed countries (LDCs) to implement and take full advantage of the Singapore Treaty. This information included the activities of the WIPO Secretariat as well as those communicated by Contracting Parties to the Secretariat.

4. The related activities for the period from June 2021 to April 2023 are included in Annex I. Further information is available in the WIPO Intellectual Property Technical Assistance Database (IP-TAD: <http://www.wipo.int/tad/>) and the Secretariat may be contacted as required.

5. A list of STLT Contracting Parties, as of April 2023, is contained in Annex II, for information purposes.

6. The Assembly of the Singapore Treaty is invited to take note of the information on “Technical Assistance and Cooperation Regarding the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)” (document STLT/A/16/1).

[Annexes follow]

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION
FOR DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs)
REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE SINGAPORE TREATY ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS (STLT)
FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 2021 TO APRIL 2023

1. From June 2021 to April 2023, the Secretariat provided technical assistance and cooperation to developing and least developed countries (LDCs)¹ with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)². The assistance covered two main areas: (a) Establishment of an enabling legal framework and (b) Awareness raising and information activities.

2. These activities were aligned with the Development Agenda recommendations aiming at strengthening institutional and technical infrastructure of IP offices and institutions.

A. Establishment of an Enabling Legal Framework

3. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to provide, on request, legislative advice on STLT draft implementing national trademark provisions. Depending on the individual requirements, the Secretariat sent written commentaries on draft legal texts and provided support to prospective acceding countries. In view of the travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic during the period under review, it was not possible to organize expert missions or host study visits from those countries at WIPO headquarters.

4. The assistance described in the preceding paragraph was provided to Brazil, Ethiopia, Montenegro, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste and Uruguay.

B. Awareness Raising and Information Activities

5. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to provide assistance through awareness raising and information activities concerning the administrative and procedural features introduced by the Treaty. Such activities included seminars and workshops at the national, sub-regional and regional level, organized in partnership with national IP Offices, as well as with the Andean Community General Secretariat (SC-CAN) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

6. Representatives of the following countries attended these activities: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Morocco, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan and Uruguay.

7. In response to a request by Brazil and in accordance with STLT Article 31(1)(b), the Secretariat provided a draft version of the Treaty in Portuguese language for consultation and agreement by Lusophone countries. The consultation process among that group of countries is still ongoing.

[Annex II follows]

¹ The technical assistance and cooperation was provided both to STLT Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties, independently of whether or not they were in the process of acceding to, or ratifying, the STLT.

² This report includes activities that were undertaken in relation to the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), the international instrument that was revised by the Singapore Treaty and which therefore contains all the substantive provisions included in the latter.

Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks
(Singapore 2006)
Status on April 12, 2023

State/IGO	Date on which State/IGO became party to the Treaty
Afghanistan	May 14, 2017
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) ^{1,2}	February 13, 2016
Armenia	September 17, 2013
Australia	March 16, 2009
Belarus	May 13, 2014
Belgium	January 8, 2014
Benelux Organization for Intellectual Property	January 8, 2014
Benin	February 13, 2016
Bulgaria ¹	March 16, 2009
Canada	June 17, 2019
Croatia	April 13, 2011
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	September 13, 2016
Denmark ³	March 16, 2009
Estonia	August 14, 2009
Finland	August 7, 2019
France	November 28, 2009
Germany	September 20, 2013
Iceland	December 14, 2012
Iraq	November 29, 2014
Ireland	March 21, 2016
Italy	September 21, 2010
Japan ⁴	June 11, 2016
Kazakhstan	September 5, 2012
Kyrgyzstan	March 16, 2009
Latvia	March 16, 2009
Liechtenstein	March 3, 2010
Lithuania	August 14, 2013
Luxembourg	January 8, 2014
Mali	February 13, 2016
Mongolia	March 3, 2011
Morocco	July 22, 2022
Netherlands ⁵	January 8, 2014

¹ With the declaration provided for in Article 29(4).

² With the declaration provided for in Article 29(2).

³ Not applicable to the Faroe Islands nor to Greenland.

⁴ With the declaration provided for in Article 29(1).

⁵ Accession for the Kingdom in Europe and the Netherlands Antilles. The Netherlands Antilles ceased to exist on October 10, 2010. As from that date, the Treaty continues to apply to Curaçao and Sint Maarten. The Treaty

State/IGO	Date on which State/IGO became party to the Treaty
New Zealand ⁶	December 10, 2012
North Macedonia	October 6, 2010
Norway	March 1, 2023
Peru	December 27, 2018
Poland	July 2, 2009
Republic of Korea	July 1, 2016
Republic of Moldova	March 16, 2009
Romania	March 16, 2009
Russian Federation	December 18, 2009
Serbia	November 19, 2010
Singapore	March 16, 2009
Slovakia	May 16, 2010
Spain ¹	May 18, 2009
Sweden	December 16, 2011
Switzerland	March 16, 2009
Tajikistan	December 26, 2014
Trinidad and Tobago	January 4, 2020
Ukraine	May 24, 2010
United Kingdom ⁷	June 21, 2012
United States of America	March 16, 2009
Uruguay ¹	April 29, 2020

(Total: 53)

[End of Annex II and of document]

also continues to apply to the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba which, with effect from October 10, 2010, have become part of the territory of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Europe.

⁶ This ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory.

⁷ The United Kingdom extended the application of the Treaty to the territory of the Isle of Man with effect from January 1, 2021.