

**Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption
of a Revised Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and
Geographical Indications**

Geneva, October 30 and 31, 2014

REPORT

adopted by the Preparatory Committee

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (hereinafter referred to as “the Preparatory Committee”) was held in Geneva on October 30 and 31, 2014.

2. The following States Members of the Lisbon Union were represented at the meeting: Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, Gabon, Georgia, Haiti, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Mexico, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovakia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia (27).

3. The following States Members of WIPO participated in the meeting in an observer capacity: Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Finland, Germany, Greece, India, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, New Zealand, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay (37).

4. The following International Intergovernmental Organization participated in the meeting in an observer capacity: European Union (EU), International Trade Centre (ITC), International Vine and Wine Office (IWO), West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) (4).

5. The following International Non-Governmental Organizations also participated in the meeting in an observer capacity: European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA), Association of European Trademark Owners (MARQUES), International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI), Consortium for Common Food Names (CCFN), International Trademark Association (INTA), Knowledge Ecology International, Inc (KEI), Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (oriGIn) (8).

II. ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS

6. The Preparatory Committee unanimously elected Mr. Mihály Ficsor (Hungary) as President and Ms. Ana Gobechia (Georgia) and Mr. Alfredo Rendón Algara (Mexico) as Vice-Presidents. Mr. Edward Kwakwa, Legal Counsel, acted as Secretary to the Preparatory Committee.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The draft Agenda, as contained in document LI/R/PM/1 Prov.4, was unanimously adopted.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

8. Discussions were based on documents LI/R/PM/2 and LI/R/PM/5 Rev.2.

9. The proposal submitted by a Member State of the Lisbon Union, Israel, together with the following Observer States (Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Canada, Chile, Japan, New Zealand, Panama, Republic of Korea, Singapore, United States of America and Uruguay) did not receive the support of any other Member State of the Lisbon Union.

10. While noting the statements made by a number of WIPO Member States participating in the meeting in an observer capacity, the Preparatory Committee, with the exception of one Member of the Lisbon Union, agreed to transmit the draft Rules of Procedure of the Diplomatic Conference (document LI/R/PM/2, with the editorial changes as announced by the Secretariat) to the Diplomatic Conference and agreed to recommend them for adoption at the Diplomatic Conference meeting in Plenary.

The said changes concerned Rules 1 and 29 of the Draft Rules of Procedure which would read as follows:

“Rule 1 (1) The objective of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a New Act of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration (hereinafter referred to as “the Conference”) is to negotiate and adopt such a New Act and Regulations under that New Act”.

“Rule 29 (1) (a) Documents LI/DC/3 and 4 shall constitute the basis of the discussions in the Conference and the text of the draft Agreement and the draft Regulations contained in those documents shall constitute the “Basic proposal”.”

A reference to “or the draft Regulations” would also be added in Rule 29 (1) (b).

11. The Preparatory Committee also agreed to set a deadline of February 1, 2015 for all WIPO Member States to submit their proposals in writing for the amendments to the basic proposal on issues that were identified as pending by the Lisbon Working Group. The Secretariat would compile the said submissions and forward them to the Diplomatic Conference for information.

V. CONSIDERATION OF THE LIST OF INVITEES TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE AND THE TEXTS OF THE DRAFT LETTERS OF INVITATION

12. Discussions were based on document LI/R/PM/3.

The Preparatory Committee approved the proposals in document LI/R/PM/3, with the following corrections.

Annex I: replace “Romania” with “Hungary” in the List of States proposed to be invited as Member Delegations.

Annex III: replace “Hungary” with “Romania” in the List of States proposed to be invited as Observer Delegations.

Annex II through Annex V: where it appears, replace “Revised Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications” by a “New Act of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration”.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA, DATES, VENUE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

13. The Preparatory Committee took note of the withdrawal of the offer of the Government of Portugal to host the Diplomatic Conference in Lisbon, Portugal. The Preparatory Committee agreed that the Diplomatic Conference shall be held in Geneva at the New Conference Hall of WIPO from May 11 to 21, 2015.

14. The Preparatory Committee approved the draft Agenda for the Diplomatic Conference.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. The Delegations unanimously adopted the draft Report. The Preparatory Committee also agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a verbatim Report of its deliberations. The verbatim Report would be posted on the WIPO Website by December 1, 2014. Member States and observers would have a deadline of January 1, 2015, to submit any comments on the verbatim Report.

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