

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE

Fourteenth Session
Geneva, June 29 to July 3, 2009

ACCREDITATION OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”), at its first session, held in Geneva, from April 30 to May 3, 2001, approved certain organizational and procedural matters, including according *ad hoc* observer status to a number of organizations that had expressed their wish to have a role in the work of the Committee (see the Report adopted by the Committee, WIPO/GRKTF/IC/1/13, paragraph 18).
2. Since then, an additional number of organizations have expressed to the Secretariat their wish to obtain the same status for the subsequent sessions of the Committee. A document containing the names and other biographical details of the organizations which, before April 30, 2009, requested accreditation at the fourteenth session of the Committee is annexed to this document. The biographical details of the organizations contained in the Annex were received from each organization.
3. *The Committee is invited to approve the accreditation of the organizations referred to in the Annex to this document as ad hoc observers.*

[Annex follows]

ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE REQUESTED ACCREDITATION
AS OBSERVERS IN SESSIONS OF
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Elders Council of the Shor People

Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables (CAMV)

Olaji Lo Larusa Integrated Program for Pastoralists Development (OLIPAD)

Nepal Indigenous Nationalities Preservation Association (NINPA)

Groupe de Recherche sur les Savoirs (GRS)

Afrikan Virtual Resource (NALANE)

Samburu Women for Education and Environmental Development Organization (SWEEDO)

The Nama First Indigenous People's Forum in Namibia (NIPFIN)

Indigenous Laikipiak Maasai Integrated Youth Organization (ILAMAIYO FOUNDATION)

Consejo de Caciques de la Nación Mbya Guaraní

Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador (CONAIE)

Cadre de Concertation des Associations des Veuves du Burundi (CCAVB)

Community Development and Empowerment Association (CEDA)

Centrale Sanitaire Suisse Romande (CSSR)

Elders Council of the Shor People

Main Objectives of the Organization:

The Elders Council of the Shor People is a non-governmental and non-profit indigenous peoples' NGO, for the protection and promotion of the fundamental human rights and freedoms of the Shor Indigenous People of the Russian Federation. Its main goal is to protect the rights, freedom and interests of the Shor people through regeneration, establishment and development of the traditional forms of self-governance, spirituality and increased ethnic self-awareness.

In order to reach this main goal, the Organization works towards the following objectives:

- Preserve the Shor people as a distinct ethnos;
- Revive the distinct culture, customs and traditions and preserve the language and traditional economic practices of the Shor people;
- Assist in the fulfillment of the rights of indigenous populations to territories of traditional nature management and, in accordance with universally recognized international standards, of the rights of the Shor people to self-determination and self-governance;
- Participate in the legislative process, including the elaboration of a new legislation concerning indigenous peoples;
- Assist in the protection of the rights of indigenous persons through judicial means;
- Participate in the work of executive and legislative agencies of the Russian Federation through own representatives; and
- Resolve the issue of employment of indigenous populations.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The Elders Council of the Shor People develops traditional forms of self-governance based on the preservation and development of its distinct culture, traditional economic practices and spiritual heritage. Elders are the holders and guardians of traditional knowledge, culture and language. With time, elders pass on, taking with them whole layers of traditional knowledge, heroic and epic poems of the Shor people. For this reason, the Council engages in the recording and digitization of traditional knowledge. The Council hopes that these activities will find support within WIPO. Furthermore, the Council carries out considerable work in identifying, inscribing and mapping sacred sites of the Shors and listing them as protected historical and cultural heritage sites. The Shor people's sacred sites are essential elements of their cultural heritage. Sacred sites and rituals performed on these sites contribute to the protection of the original habitat of indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge and encourage their traditional morality and religious worldviews.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Russian Federation

Full Contact Information:

Elders Council of the Shor People
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Organization Representative:

Mr. Mikhail Todyshev, Head

Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables (CAMV)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

The *Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables* (CAMV), a non-profit indigenous association, was established as a result of the disillusionment of a group of indigenous pygmies, who were educated with the help of members of a religious order. As they were well educated, they examined the extreme difficulties that their brothers or people in general experienced, such as ignorance, poverty, severe illiteracy, marginalization and social discrimination, exploitation, low social esteem, expulsion from the forest, deforestation, disappearance of culture and traditional knowledge.

In a search for solutions to these problems, the group set up the CAMV, on February 2, 1995, in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in order to protect and defend their interests.

The objectives are to:

- Provide humanitarian assistance to the indigenous pygmies;
- Defend and protect the rights of the indigenous pygmies;
- Inform the indigenous pygmies of their rights and duties through the information and communication newsletter “*Écho des Pygmées*”;
- Implement sustainable development projects; and
- Promote the traditional knowledge of the indigenous pygmy peoples.

The organization has a clearly defined gender policy: to have 30–40 per cent women in all departments and lower-level structures of the organization.

Areas of intervention: humanitarian assistance, information-communication, education and culture, human rights, peace and reconciliation, environment, protection of nature and sustainable management of natural resources, AIDS, sustainable development. Of these sectors, the priorities are as follows: environment, conservation of nature and sustainable management of natural resources, human rights, information-communication, sustainable development, education and culture.

Main Activities of the Organization:

CAMV operates in the field through Local Support Centres, that is, committees of indigenous pygmies set up in the villages or territory of its field of action, to:

- Disseminate the land, forest, mining and family codes of the DRC;
- Monitor the management of the forest resources and rights of the indigenous peoples;

- Send pygmy children to school;
- Defend the interests of pygmy families who have been evicted without compensation from their ancestral lands that have been turned into national parks and affected by the exploitation of natural resources (i.e. forests and mines);
- Organize self-help activities for pygmy families (income-generating activities);
- Lobby for the acquisition of land to benefit pygmy families;
- Provide psychosocial and legal counselling for pygmy women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence;
- Educate the indigenous pygmies in civil rights, democracy and the electoral process;
- Promote greater recognition of the cultures of the pygmy indigenous peoples; and
- Bring out an information-communication newsletter (*Écho des Pygmées*) on the life of the indigenous pygmies in Central Africa.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

CAMV is a non-governmental organization of indigenous pygmies. One of its goals is to promote greater recognition of the culture and traditional knowledge of the indigenous pygmy peoples. The traditional knowledge of these peoples is recognized as its intellectual property.

The indigenous pygmies are peoples of the forest; they both live there and live from it. They know its secrets, have mastered its ecosystems, biodiversity; the floral essences used in traditional medicine, the movements of the bees and meteorology, and have developed an inner compass to find their bearings in the forest easily regardless of the weather.

The pygmies, who are hunters and gatherers, have always viewed the forest as their foster mother. It links them to both their ancestors and their children. As a result, they show great consideration for the forest and use it wisely, taking only what they need to feed, clothe, house and treat themselves – without ever exploiting, damaging or destroying it. Pygmies climb a tree with their axe to collect honey, but they never cut the tree down or kill the bees. When they go hunting, pygmies traditionally rely only on lances, arrows and nets: they eschew the use of firearms and do not kill pregnant female animals. Taboos, totems and prohibitions serve to protect biodiversity. Tales and songs exalt the forest and urge all to protect it. It is sacred, and must be protected. For the pygmies, the forest is synonymous with physical, identity, cultural and spiritual survival – not a good with mere economic value.

Thanks to their knowledge of the forest, their culture, lifestyle and practices, these first inhabitants of the Democratic Republic of Congo have passed on to the other Congolese who came after them one of the ten richest countries of the world in terms of the mega-biodiversity of the fauna, flora, soil and subsoil.

It goes without saying that such traditional knowledge should be encouraged and preserved. The problem, however, is that such precious knowledge and practices are fast disappearing. Owing to the systematic expropriation of their land, and for want of a policy for the preservation of traditional knowledge, even pygmies from the younger generation are losing their bearings – the traditional knowledge of their parents and grandparents.

Additional Information:

Over the last five years, the organization has worked together with the following donors: Forest People Programme (FPP), Rainforest Foundation UK and Norway; Minority Rights Group (MRG); Norway Christian Aid – Bukavu Branch (NCA); World Health Organization (WHO), Bukavu Branch; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); Tribal Links Foundation, United States; International Labour Office (ILO); Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations; Front Line Ireland: the international foundation for the protection of human rights defenders; Netherlands Committee for International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Grassroots Foundation, Germany; Bread for the World, Germany; Forest Fund for the Congo Basin (CBFF)

Countries in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Congo-Brazzaville and Central African Republic

Full Contact Information:

Centre d’accompagnement des autochtones pygmées
et minoritaires vulnérables (CAMV)

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Website: www.camv-pygme.org

Organization Representative:

Mr. Pacifique Mukumba Isumbisho, Executive Director

Olaji Lo Larusa Integrated Program for Agro-Pastoralists Development (OLIPAD)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

Olaji Lo Larusa Integrated Program for Pastoralists Development (OLIPAD) is a non-governmental organization formed by community representatives together with other learned members of the Larusa Community. This responded to the need of the community to have an organization, which could facilitate them and act as a catalyst in their struggle to alleviate poverty, improve livelihoods and attain sustainable development.

The objectives are:

- Lead the community mentioned in its struggle to alleviate themselves from poverty and achieve improved livelihoods;
- Assist the community to maintain the agro-pastoral economies in order to attain the needs of such societies;
- Play an advocacy role for its target community on various matters of primary concern to them;
- Initiate and coordinate development initiatives which enhance resources for livelihood security; and
- Promote enterprises between community and investors, the business sector, private public institutions, government, civil society organizations, and any other legally recognized groups of people in accordance with the organization's and national objectives.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The Larusa Community is well endowed with ethno-veterinary, folklore as well as ethno-pharmacology as regards to livestock and human treatments and medication (drugs). The elderly members of the community are renowned for their vast knowledge on the above- mentioned fields.

Since the Organization has its roots in the community and actively works with the community, intellectual property matters are of high esteem to this community.

Many vendors selling medicinal herbs in the municipality come from the community.

The organization needs to be well placed on matters pertaining to intellectual property matters to help its community members against bio-piracy, amongst others.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Tanzania

Full Contact Information:

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Organization Representatives:

Mr. Arnold Laisser, Chairman
Mr. Christopher Siara, Executive Secretary

Nepal Indigenous Nationalities Preservation Association (NINPA)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

Nepal Indigenous Nationalities Preservation Association (NINPA) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 2003. Nepal is a multicultural, multireligious and multilingual country where people of different groups, professions and castes live together in harmony, form a society by developing a brotherhood relationship among themselves. Although Indigenous Nationalities have been living with their original culture in the society for the past hundred of years, the language, culture, economic, social, educational, biodiversity and other development of these people have been almost negligible and are in danger of extinction. Acknowledging the bitter fact and with the need to make these indigenous people aware of the biodiversity, traditional knowledge and intellectual property rights, a unified social service organization, Nepal Indigenous Nationalities Preservation Association (NINPA), has been established to develop the overall status of the Indigenous Nationalities.

The objectives are:

- Advocacy and lobbying for the intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples of the country in the international area;
- Make the international community aware of the effects of global warming on the mountains of the country;
- Disseminate and share knowledge on biodiversities, genetic resources and traditional knowledge of Nepal;
- Inform the international community on the limited availability of natural resources to the indigenous communities;
- Share the problems faced by the biological diversities of Nepal and gain knowledge to solving these problems with or without the help of the international community;
- Raise issues and problems faced by the indigenous communities while establishing reserves and protected areas since these are established within the residing areas of the indigenous communities without their consultation or approval;
- Inform the international community on how the biological diversities of the country can be preserved by the traditional knowledge of the indigenous peoples of Nepal; and
- Contribute to fulfilling the target “The 2010 Bio Diversity Target” and Millennium Development Goals on time.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The NINPA is active at the national and international levels and conducts research on traditional knowledge and biodiversity. Lobbying and advocating at the national level, it also applies pressure to the government for national legislation for the benefit of indigenous people.

Additional Information:

Nepal is a well-known and culturally, biologically and ethnically diverse country where nearly 38.7 percent of the population is indigenous. Nepal is the 23rd most bio-diverse country in the world and the 11th in Asia. NINPA is primarily active for the issues of intellectual property rights, biological diversity and traditional knowledge.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Nepal

Full Contact Information:

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Organization Representative:

Mr. Ngwang Sonam Sherpa, Executive Chairperson

Groupe de Recherche sur les Savoir (GRS)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

The *Groupe de Recherche sur les Savoirs (GRS)* is an academic research team, affiliated to the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* in Paris. Founded in 1970, the GRS is committed to studying the interactions between different knowledge systems, including among science and traditional knowledge, observed in various historical, social and ethnic contexts.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

WIPO's activities on intellectual property issues related to the use of traditional knowledge draw their attention. The interactions between traditional knowledge and biotechnology illustrate the complexity of a multicultural dialogue they are interested in.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

France

Full Contact Information:

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France

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Organization Representative:

Mrs. Leila Mamoni, Research Assistant

Afrikan Virtual Resource (NALANE)

Main objectives of the Organization:

The Afrikan Virtual Resource, herein known as Nalane, is a content provider of Afrikan historical cultural heritage. Its mission is to develop, uphold and preserve Afrikan cultural heritage through research studies, documentation and packaging of its solutions to their users, using information and communications technologies as the core infrastructure. Its vision is to become a global player on cultural doctrines and establish itself as primary information providers pertaining to African culture, tradition, heritage and history. Its purpose is to provide a platform where cultural diversity can be explored and solicit respect and tolerance towards a diverse cultural society.

Main Activities of the Organization:

Heritage Domains: To establish individual sites, within its Nalane domain, which are dedicated to all indigenous cultural groupings in South Africa. Each site will cover the historical aspects of heritage, language, culture, tradition and norms for the given group. Nalane likes to publish every site in both the indigenous language and an English version.

Publications: To publish various publications on the subject of culture and heritage. The information Nalane currently publish on its sites is condensed for online viewing and reading, most of it can be published in book formats to enable more detailed descriptions of the topics. The founder of Nalane currently publishes poetry written in indigenous languages and wishes to establish a network of writers for publishing poetry and other forms of writing. The focus of these poetry writings is the development of indigenous languages.

Research: To undertake academic research into the topic of Afrikan heritage and these research papers should be made available to Nalane for the possibility of practical implementation.

Language Translations: To provide language translations between English and the various indigenous South African languages. Nalane has been providing this service already for a select few organizations.

Market Positioning: To become the preferred providers of information on cultural and historical Afrikan matters for the establishment of a network of cultural interactions via the electronic media, primarily the internet.

Consumer Promise: To establish a network of cultural interactions between world cultures and act as online cultural education providers.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

As an African who grew up within a traditional environment where all matters relating to its history and heritage were proudly observed and taught. These teachings formed the basis for the lives of many Africans who find themselves in big cities doing professional jobs.

The advent of urbanization has had a negative impact on indigenous people in South Africa given its apartheid past, where anything and everything African was shunned and systematically destroyed. To date, many things in South Africa remain legislated that are counter to the progress of indigenous knowledge systems.

The interest of the Organization in intellectual property matters is two-fold: firstly, to reclaim all the knowledge they grew up with regarding traditional systems. This means their recollection as well as finding out about other aspects that they may not have been exposed to. Secondly, to devise a proper documentary system of their heritage, for obvious reasons of record, but also for educational purposes.

Since their way of life is strongly entrenched in oral narration and the practice of rituals, it is imperative that these are accurately maintained and developed where necessary. The generation of their parents and grand-parents is fast leaving them, and a quick program is needed to capture their knowledge before they pass on.

However, the interest of the Organization in these matters is for the general good of its society and as such its work must be easily accessible and have direct benefits to society. Nalane, therefore, must be different from academic and archival institutions whose resources are only available to members and funders. The knowledge they gather and document must be accessible to the general public for the sole aim of developing their communities.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

South Africa

Full Contact Information:

African Virtual Resource (NALANE)
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South Africa

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Web site: www.nalane.net

Organization Representative:

Mr. Fezekile Futhwa, Founder

Samburu Women for Education and Environmental
Development Organization (SWEEDO)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

To promote and protect the fundamental rights and freedom of Samburu women, youth and children through integrated activities of consultative planning and networking, capacity building and advocacy. Going by its mission and vision statement, SWEEDO promotes and recognizes pastoralist's, women's and youth challenges with a bid to uplift their livelihoods in all aspects of life. SWEEDO believes that women and youth empowerment is not about meeting legally mandated targets and quotas, but, creating sustainable livelihoods that reflect their daily realities in the community setup.

The objectives are to:

- Promote and protect the fundamental rights and freedom of Samburu women, youth and children;
- Enhance awareness and equity as pertaining to land and property rights on the principle of free prior and informed consent;
- Protect the environment and create awareness of the importance of traditional knowledge protection, culture preservation through documentation and research training;
- Advance access to educational opportunities for indigenous women, youth and children; and
- Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through sensitization and training among the local and national policy developers.

Main Activities of the Organization:

- Research and documentation of indigenous culture, folklore and herbal medicines, policy implementation, advocacy and networking;
- Conservation of biological diversity and indigenous knowledge;
- Peace and conflict resolution through existing indigenous mitigation;
- Land use, land change and forestry activities to avert climate change and global warming; and
- Youth cultural exchange program.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The traditional knowledge, genetic resources and traditional cultural expressions have been vital to the sustainable livelihoods of many indigenous people. It is through traditional knowledge that the pastoralists like the Samburu of North frontier conduct land use, land management and herbal treatment. They live sustainably by grazing and preserving their ancestral land, being a clear significance of the Samburu having unique genetic resources associated with folklore and traditional knowledge.

The Intergovernmental Committee has been debating the possible development of a binding regime to prohibit patenting, misuse and misappropriation of traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources. The Samburu people have rich links to the different seasons. Mostly the elders who have more information have failed to transmit the knowledge to the younger generation due to increased respect of western education. This has left many of the young generation falling victims to an unhealthy environment since forest and land have been destroyed.

By participating as an *ad hoc* observer in the meetings of the Committee, it will be a genesis for liberation of the once-rich Samburu indigenous culture. It is on this basis, among others, that the Samburu indigenous people deem fit to be included in the whole process discussing the regime and more so in the application of the document domestically, as soon as it has been approved by Member States.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Kenya (upper Eastern Province)

Full Contact Information:

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Development (SWEEDO)
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Organization Representative:

Ms. Jane Nani Meriwas, Executive Director

The Nama First Indigenous People's Forum in Namibia (NIPFIN)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

The organization was established on April 10, 1999, as “The Nama First Indigenous People's Forum in Namibia” (NIPFIN) “NAMA TA !ÛNISEN”. Its main objective is to rehabilitate the Nama to revival of worthy citizenship and dignity as most of the ancient Nama culture and traditional practices in Southern Africa have been assimilated into the ways of life and values brought by the colonialist and migrating ethnic groups.

The Namas are deeply saddened by the loss of their culture and lack of understanding, which still prevails in relation to their traditional practices and beliefs. The Namas have been left out for quite a long time from the mainstream of the Namibia's economy before and after independence and feel that now is the time to enjoy equal rights and respect.

The objectives are:

- To protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions, create the conditions for cultures to flourish and freely interact in a mutually beneficial manner;
- To encourage dialogue among cultures with a view to ensuring wider and balanced cultural exchanges throughout Namibia and in the world in favor of intercultural respect and cultures of peace;
- To encourage investments in human resources and economical development ventures for a better future;
- To initiate and facilitate workshops in partnership with knowledgeable persons, institutions and groups so as to disseminate information and development skills;
- To train Namas to know their fundamental and indigenous people's rights and mechanisms; and
- To encourage its members and Nama at large to know their history, language, norms and traditions to respect and preserve it for future generations.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The relationship or link of the Organization with intellectual property matters is “intellectual hi-jacking” of Nama people's traditional knowledge and culture. This has usually occurred at the hands of individuals and companies involved in the media, tourism industries, mining, although well meaning, researchers, authors and scientists have also infringed the rights of the Nama people. The other very important matter is that multi-national companies with international capital alienate valuable natural resources, which place both biodiversity and cultural diversity in jeopardy.

Country in which the Organization is Primarily Active:

Namibia

Full Contact Information:

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Organization Representative:

Mr. C.S. Rhoman, Acting First Secretary

Indigenous Laikipiak Maasai Integrated Youth
Organization (Ilamaiyo Foundation)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

- To support the youth by giving them assistance on how to participate and contribute towards project development as a way of improving their social-economic well-being;
- To promote and establish a level playing ground regardless of gender, good bargaining power to women to be regarded and given a sense of belonging and dignity by men;
- To fundraise, mobilize and solicit funds and resources for the promotion of the objectives of the group;
- To advocate for a positive attitude and behavior change within the community through grass-root sensitization by organizing awareness workshops, seminars and meetings;
- To encourage the Laikipiak youth to initiate income-generating activities in order to build self-recognition and self-reliance;
- To sensitize the community on the importance of cultural integrity, conservation and respect;
- To mobilize and involve the Laikipiak youth and the community as whole on environmental conservation and management;
- To envision a society in which the Laikipiak youth will be able to explore their talents maximally and decide for their own future;
- To enable the youth to live, desire, identify and work with the community toward positive transformation of lives.

Main activities of the Organization:

The following are key priority areas which Ilamaiyo perceives viable and of paramount importance to the community:

Community health and HIV/AIDS: Ilamaiyo Foundation educates and trains the community on basic health care. This includes personal hygiene; community-based health care system, reproductive health, sanitation and waste management through proper disposal. The Foundation also creates awareness on the HIV/AIDS pandemic through sensitization workshops, seminars and trainings.

Environment/Wildlife Conservation: Through use of existing structures, the Foundation introduces basic principles on sustainable use of natural resources without creating pressure on the already delicate environment. Strategies to rehabilitate degraded range lands and other landscapes will be initiated.

Research and Development: Research and field study will be the focal point for project development, through problem identification, data collection, interpretation and findings. This will enable the Foundation to initiate new and effective approaches to existing and looming problems. The areas to be covered by research will have direct connection to the cause and effects.

Publication and Resource Centre: Due to non-existence of any communication media within the Mukogodo division, Ilamaiyo has established the monthly newsletter “The Wings” to cover Laikipiak Maasai pastoral issues that involves their social-cultural and economic well-being.

Women and Girl Child Empowerment: Ilamaiyo will promote and strengthen the involvement and active participation of women in development projects in the community. These involve sensitization, training and giving of legal assistance linkages to appropriate organs. The Foundation will secure data related to child abuse and neglect and intervene where possible. However, Ilamaiyo is closely working with the children’s department in order to assist in carrying out its activities in grass-root levels. It has however, fundraised to enable children from needy and poverty stricken households access secondary education with special considerations given to the girl child and orphans.

Sustainable Livestock Management: Ilamaiyo will coordinate with livestock departments to incorporate mechanisms that will improve and advance the local breeds available. These ranges from inter breeding, cross breeding, artificial insemination, among others.

Income Generating Activities (IGA): Ilamaiyo will reorganize its members and give them entrepreneurial training so as to invest on opportunities available and develop ideas that will improve their economic status. Ilamaiyo has given widows a special attention by reorganizing them to form groups of beadwork and markets their products. Other indicators of IGAs include: livestock marketing, sand harvest, cultural centers and dances, bee keeping, weaving, hides and skins and other small scale enterprises.

Human-Wildlife Conflict: Ilamaiyo will secure data and statistics related to the human-wildlife conflict. The Foundation will call upon all stakeholders to intensify, educate and declare their positions to bring an end to the conflict between the community and wildlife. Ilamaiyo will lobby for indicators that will make the community benefit from the wildlife to safeguard them and appreciate their presence.

Conflict resolution: New challenges to pastoralists are constantly threatening the peaceful co-existence. Proliferations of small arms into pastoralists hands has brought appalling results causing great suffering to innocent people and the wild fauna in terms of loss of lives, mass displacements of populations, destruction of moral and spiritual degradations and creation of state of fear, helplessness, uncertainty, destruction of infrastructure leading to abject poverty among pastoralists facilitating fight and conflict. Ilamaiyo will spearhead a regional Pastoralists Conflict Transformation Network (PCTN), aimed at airing early warning systems, conflict resolution and aftermath mitigation.

Networking: Ilamaiyo will be networking with other youth groups, women groups and other development organizations with similar or different activities so to share and exchange ideas. At grass root level, it has established a youth network comprising other youth groups and clubs that work together for the improvement of the entire Laikipiak Maasai society in terms of awareness and overall development.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

Intellectual property in the Foundation includes the rich traditional knowledge of the Laikipiak Maasai. Traditional knowledge depicts itself in this ethnic group through cultural expressions, customs, healing and treatment methods. Methods for protecting such knowledge, from passing to other unauthorized groups of persons (traditional intellectual property protection systems).

The WIPO Intergovernmental Committee meetings are fundamental foundation pillars for addressing and seeking solutions for the various problems facing the Laikipiak youth and the community at large.

Ilamaiyo works within a strong cultural conforming society whose values and taboos derogates women as inferior and worse too for widows and single mothers. It is within this fabric that Ilamaiyo chose widows to support. The Maasai people of East Africa have the most preserved culture that goes along with beautiful ornaments and varied artifacts. Ilamaiyo picks items from selected pastoralist women, to blend, add value and finish, to meet favorable standards, solicit markets and ship items to potential customers. After sales, 80% goes to the women and 20% remain for administration and other development activities like Girls Education and HIV/AIDS

Intellectual property can enhance the export opportunities of their beaded items in the following ways: IP rights are ‘territorial’, as patents may open up new export opportunities, and trademarks may help to develop an advantageous market position in export markets. IP rights enhance the opportunity of winning loyal clientele for products and services in export markets.

The Foundation is also committed to IP protection for medicinal products derived from medicinal knowledge and curative properties carried by the plants of the ancestral territories of the Ilamaiyo.

Additional Information:

Indigenous Laikipiak Maasai Integrated Youth Organization (Ilamaiyo Foundation) is an indigenous youth organization founded by the youth and educated elites of Mukogodo division. A Kenyan registered NGO [NGOB/218/051/20070192(9)], Ilamaiyo Foundation is a civil society body, charitable and development focused that works to foster sustainable development in the most marginalized and underdeveloped areas. The program’s primary goal is the creation of safer and sustainable livelihoods amongst people affected by situational subordination, retrogressive social - cultural systems, diseases, natural phenomena and illiteracy.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Kenya

Full Contact Information:

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Organization Representative:

Dr. Olesarioyo Joseph Seneiya, Executive Director

Consejo de Caciques de la Nación Mbya Guaraní

Main Objectives of the Organization:

The *Consejo de Caciques de la Nación Mbya Guaraní* is an organization representing 90 communities that are settled throughout the Province of Misiones in the Argentine Republic. It has legal recognition and undertakes activities in accordance with the Comprehensive Development Plan adopted by the General Assembly of Chiefs (*Asamblea General de Caciques*), in particular for the reclaiming of culture and food sovereignty and the recovery of appropriate and sufficient land so that these communities may lead a dignified life.

The Council consists of 90 Chiefs. The supreme authority is the General Assembly of Chiefs. The Executive Committee is formed of: Executive Coordinators for each of the six zones. They have equal responsibilities and there is no head or leader. The Secretary of the Council of Chiefs coordinates information and action. The Counselor is an elder who possesses a high level of knowledge of the world views of the native peoples of America. The Counselor also fulfils the role of spokesperson.

The main objectives are: organization; training: political, social, cultural, gender-related; land surveys; community censuses; community development planning; coordination with related and official organizations; technical training using our world view: ecology, law, health, education and ancestral food, as well as professional and technical training in western disciplines.

Main Activities of the Organization:

The *Consejo de Caciques*, in addition, works in cooperation with the Council of Elders and Spiritual Guides and the Women's Council for the purposes of information, training and action.

The *Consejo de Caciques de la Nación Mbya Guaraní* coordinates the implementation of State public policy with State organizations. The Council often challenges these organizations over the lack of implementation of national and provincial laws and international agreements and declarations. The organization has arranged many forums, workshops, meetings and summits for regional and American native peoples. Their Counselor, José Bautista Flores, was the Coordinator of the III Peoples' Summit of the Americas, which took place in Mar de Plata in 2005. They are currently preparing for the Summit of the Indigenous Peoples of South America, which will be held in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, in July 2009.

In addition, they have submitted various draft laws to both provincial and Argentine national legislative bodies:

- Draft Law on the Federalization of Crime among Native Populations.
- Draft Law on Community Intellectual Property, Province of Misiones.
- Draft Indigenous Law for the Province of Misiones.
- Publications of the following books and documents: *Collection of Customary and Positive Law*, by José Bautista Flores; Collection: *Ecology and Indigenous Thinking*, by José Bautista Flores; Manual on Ancestral Health; various other documents.
- Aside from the many activities that they do in defense of their rights, they attended the 1992 Rio Summit (Kari Oka), as well as other international events. They were a member of the Indigenous Council for the drafting of Section 75(17) of the Argentine National Constitution.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The organization is very involved in campaigning for legislation that guarantees our right to defend the intellectual property of native peoples from the biopiracy that is carried out by multinationals, with the support of the States that are dependent on them. The plunder of genetic material from our lands has long been widespread, and we have never received an equitable share from it.

They have been doing preparatory work towards creating a national and provincial law and ensuring that the international intellectual property system includes it, as such a law is necessary for global welfare and the equitable use of our knowledge that is associated with biodiversity.

From the Rio Summit of 1992, when they were involved in seeking the inclusion of Article 8(j) in the Convention on Biological Diversity, we have always taken part in cooperation projects and other events aimed at guaranteeing our intellectual property rights.

They do not wish simply to be observers at the WIPO session on this topic, or to receive information from NGOs that act as intermediaries: they want to participate directly in the creation of a legal instrument that recognizes community intellectual property.

Additional Information:

The organization works with indigenous groups throughout America, in particular with Guarani people in Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. Community intellectual property is a very important subject for their peoples.

Countries in which the Organization is primarily active:

Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Countries where Guarani people live.

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Organization Representatives:

Mr. José Bautista Flores, Counsellor
Cacique Alejandro Méndez, Secretary

Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador (CONAIE)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

- Consolidate the self-determination of the country's indigenous nationalities and peoples;
- Fight to achieve protection and respect for the territorial rights and natural resources of indigenous peoples and nationalities;
- Strengthen and develop bilingual intercultural education;
- Strengthen the cultural identity, ancestral knowledge and forms of social organization of indigenous peoples and nationalities;
- Promote the exercise of the collective rights of indigenous peoples and nationalities of Ecuador, as recognized in the State Political Constitution;
- Construct a plurinational State and promote participation through the establishment of a participatory democracy, in order to achieve the decentralization of power and economic resources, solidarity and equity;
- Achieve equality and justice for indigenous peoples and nationalities, and therefore in society in general; and
- Maintain international relations between the ABYA-YALA indigenous nationalities of the continent and the world, in order to make viable alternative communication between indigenous peoples, and with other social sectors committed to the cause.

Main Activities of the Organization:

CONAIE has been recognized as one of the most representative and solid organizations designed to ensure the integrity of indigenous peoples and nationalities, in defense of their right to territorial identity in Ecuador.

The main activities of CONAIE relate to the defense of the territory, strengthening, cultural valuation, preservation and conservation of natural resources, strengthening of bilingual intercultural education, protection, valuation and preservation of ancestral knowledge as a strategy to promote the self-management and sustainability of the biodiversity resources of indigenous peoples and nationalities.

The main activities being developed are the:

- Preparation of a plan to handle and conserve natural flora and fauna resources from the territories of the indigenous peoples and nationalities of Ecuador;
- Preparation of the territorial life plan to improve the quality of life of the communities and peoples of the 14 indigenous nationalities of Ecuador;
- Accountability to the competent legal authorities for the violations and infringements of human and territorial rights of the Kichwa people of the Waorani nationality, caused by the interference of oil companies, in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

- Recover and strengthen the historical links of consanguinity, political organization and unity of the peoples and nationalities of Ecuador; and
- Preparation of the laws on food security, health, water, biodiversity and protection of collective knowledge, ancestral learning and traditional cultural expressions of indigenous nationalities and peoples, rural-coastal people, Afro-Ecuadorean people, and the ancestral communes and communities of Ecuador.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

CONAIE and the native peoples and nationalities have considered that collective traditional knowledge constitutes a firmly established part of their heritage in terms of its permanent nature and embodiment within their territorial constituencies. In this context, it represents a fundamental value for global sustainable development. In this connection, CONAIE and the native peoples and nationalities of Ecuador are currently facing new challenges and topics for discussion resulting from changes in the world and the numerous players involved on the stage of international relations.

The protection of ancestral knowledge in relation to biological resources and cultural expressions emerges in this context as a new theme of relevance in terms of its strategic and important role in environmental and commercial relations between States and their interaction with other external agents. Thus, ancestral knowledge is relevant in terms of its strategic role in conservation and the establishment of wellbeing (Sumak Kawsay) as they relate to natural resources as a source of new uses, processes and products based on biodiversity, as well as the products resulting from the cultural expression and wealth of native peoples and nationalities. Owing to the non-existence of protection standards, the practice of biopiracy and dissemination of spiritual and ancestral cultural expressions and knowledge has become widespread, thereby infringing the sovereignty and intangible heritage of native nationalities and peoples.

Additional Information:

The collective knowledge and ancestral learning associated with the conservation, use and handling of biodiversity, as well as that which refers to traditional cultural expressions, constitutes a fundamental bulwark for the survival of indigenous nationalities and peoples, which also enrich the cultural heritage of their country. However, this knowledge is subject to change within a specific environment and to a particular historical cultural process, but has a practical application in the daily life of the community in relation to its environment, and through its own configuration generates a fertile breeding ground for exploitation by third parties for other purposes, on many occasions without the knowledge, and even worse the consent, of its traditional owners.

In this connection, CONAIE, in the fulfillment of the obligations assumed by the State in its own Political Constitution and the international agreements referring to indigenous peoples, such as International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries; the United Nations Declaration on

the Rights of Indigenous People, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); and Decision 391 on Genetic Resources and 486 on Industrial Property of the Andean Community (CAN), in coordination with the Ecuadorean Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI), is developing a proposal for legal protection of the collective knowledge and ancestral learning of indigenous nationalities and peoples, rural-coastal people and Afro-Ecuadorean people, in order to produce a national law, as part of the process of socialization and discussion, which will then be sent to the Constituent National Assembly.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Ecuador

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Website: www.conaie.org

Organization Representative:

Mr. Fausto Daniel Santi Gualinga, National Coordinator

Cadre de Concertation des Associations des Veuves du Burundi (CCAVB)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

- To promote and defend the rights of widows for a State governed by the rule of law in Burundi;
- Combat any violation committed against women in general and widows in particular; and
- Provide nutritional support for women who are HIV positive.

Main Activities of the Organization:

- Strengthen the capacities of the community for the protection of rights, support and reduction of the economic impact of HIV/AIDS;
- Provide nutritional support for widows who are HIV positive;
- Organize groups to speak, on behalf of the parents or guardians of those who are HIV positive, in relation to therapy education; and
- Provide legal assistance for widows who are HIV positive, where necessary.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

The Organization is interested in the issues examined by the Committee, for the purposes of participating as an ad hoc observer in sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

Folklore in Burundi is an incontrovertible tradition. Inanga, the Agasimbo Abiyeretsi tambourine players and dancers are the main ambassadors of the Burundian tradition.

Additional Information:

The Organization needs external support, in particular with regard to experience and exchange. Taking into account the problems experienced by widows in Burundi, the Association needs support in order to eradicate such social injustice.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Burundi

Full Contact Information:

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Burundi

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Organization Representative:

Mrs. Pascaline Nyabenda, President

Community Development and Empowerment Association (CEDA)

Main Objectives of the Organization:

CEDA's vision is to be the civil society partner of choice in ensuring that communities are developed and economically empowered, human rights upheld, there is a reduction of prevalence rates of HIV, capacity is built in critical areas, and poverty eradicated through the application of sustainable and holist approaches.

CEDA's mission is to reduce poverty, built capacity, provide paralegal services, ensure economic empowerment, reduce the prevalence rates of HIV/AIDS amongst the affected and infected communities including the youth, school drops outs, marginalized communities and women.

The objectives are:

- To research and identify, manage and handle socio-economic challenges on a community level by establishing certain task groups or sub-committees in order to purposefully initiate action to prevent such socio-economic challenges at all levels;
- To alleviate poverty by embarking on income generating projects in order to promote the interests of the members of the Association and provide job opportunities;
- To foster a spirit of cooperation and shared responsibility with the government and member organizations in achieving economic and social equality, including gender sensitivity by obtaining representation on any board or body or council, government, regional, municipal or otherwise, concerned with any regulation or legislation affecting directly or indirectly the interest of the members;
- To encourage partnership and cooperation between the communities and the Association, coordinate development plans and to promote self-help and income generating projects in order to foster involvement in the operations of the Association;
- To facilitate the establishment of tuition and training facilities, create employment opportunities, facilitate the capacity building of communities, support and enhance entrepreneurial skills and to maximize open labour market job placements in order to equip them with entrepreneurial skills allowing them to become economically and financially independent;
- To continuously conduct awareness campaigns on socio-economic challenges by means of workshops and seminar in order to create a society where the marginalized, unemployed youth and school drop-outs can develop into productive citizens;

- To lobby for fundamental human rights, provide paralegal services and advice at local, national and regional level in order to assist communities to partake in the planning and policy-making process of governments as well as draw communities neglected by development into active participation; and
- To educate, train and raise awareness amongst the youth and sexually active population on HIV/AIDS and related issues in order to reduce HIV/AIDS prevalence rates at national, regional and local level.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

CEDA undertakes actions as well as participatory research related to intellectual property rights of marginalised and indigenous populations and how these are affected. CEDA advocates and lobbies for better management and recognition for intellectual property rights, cultural and traditional knowledge.

Additional Information:

CEDA is currently involved in the following activities and programmes: research, establishment of tuition and training facilities, capacity building of communities, materials development and training provision, skills transfers through internships and volunteer programs, marginalized communities capacity building, entrepreneurial skills development, gardening project in rural communities, micro-finance for economic empowerment, HIV/AIDS – focus – prevention and support, youth empowerment and development program, integrated early childhood development program, advocacy campaigns for teenage mothers education.

Countries in which the Organization is primarily active:

Namibia, Botswana

Full Contact Information:

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Empowerment Association (CEDA)
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Website: www.orgsites.com/dc/ceda/index.html

Organization Representatives:

Mr. Samuel Haraseb, Executive Director

Mrs. Victoria Haraseb, Director

Centrale Sanitaire Suisse Romande (CSSR)

Main Objectives of the Organisation:

- Fight against social, political and economic injustices preventing fair access for all to the essential means of guaranteeing the health of the individuals in a community;
- Organize actions designed to achieve solidarity for underprivileged and oppressed population groups so as to provide them with healthy living conditions; and
- Seek to raise public awareness in Switzerland with regard to certain causes of the lack of fairness and access to care in the countries of the South.

Taking into account the CSSR's limited means, the Organization endeavors to act not only to reduce the lack of fairness by strengthening health resources on the ground, but also to influence in a sustainable manner the local or inter-regional causes of such a lack of fairness.

The action of the CSSR is therefore designed to: identify and support in specific terms on the ground initiatives designed to achieve sustainable change; generate awareness in Switzerland, together with action to mobilize a larger number of people to achieve such an aim.

Main Activities of the Organization:

Information work. Publication of regular "newsletters" and "diary" (six issues per year); production of a work on the effects of the civil and military use of depleted uranium ("contribution to the debate on depleted uranium" [2002]); production of a brochure devoted to the TRIPS Agreement and access to drugs ([2006] see following point).

Field programs (status of activities in progress as at May 6, 2009):

Eritrea: Pilot program to prevent obstetric fistula in rural areas.

Guatemala: Training of traditional midwives and care centers for pregnant women.

Nicaragua: Prevention of early pregnancy among teenagers.

Palestine: Video production unit producing advertising awareness campaigns broadcast on local TV channels.

Projects are implemented by partner associations from local civil societies and financed by public donors (public authorities via Cantonal development federations).

CSSR helps to formulate objectives and create activities, and documents and assesses the work done; it also carries out information work on field activities, in parallel with administrative and financial follow-up intended for its public donors.

Relationship of the Organization with Intellectual Property Matters:

Within CSSR, a small group of researchers attempts to analyze problems relating to public health. This group endeavors to shed light on the reasons underlying certain political and social injustices which have negative repercussions in terms of health for populations in developing countries.

In 2006, the work of the group led to the publication of a brochure entitled “*Intellectual Property and Access to Drugs*”, in which the impact of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) is analyzed in relation to access to drugs and considers the possibilities of using the flexibility mechanisms contained in the Agreement. The document describes the main players and stages of implementation of the Agreement, gives explanations of the mechanisms in question and evaluates its possible consequences. Through case studies, it illustrates the complexity of the problem and shows that, according to the political will of governments, the application of the Agreement may have disastrous consequences for public health or, by contrast, be a positive contribution to a particular country’s development program.

Produced by means of financial support from the Geneva Cooperation Federation, this publication, available in English, Spanish and French, is designed to stimulate trade and action by facilitating the understanding for non-specialists of the challenges and risks linked to this Agreement. CSSR distributes this brochure (available by means of downloading on the site (<http://www.css-romande.ch/projets-information-adpic>) to medical organizations in the countries of the South and to different civil society bodies.

Currently, the group is continuing its research work into possible opposition which is generated between increased intellectual property protection and respect for human rights, in particular as regards the right of access to drugs, by attempting better to understand the positions adopted and the decisions taken by various international organizations such as WIPO, UPOV and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Additional Information:

CSSR is a recognized charity in Geneva (No. 080.025.550).
It is a member of the Geneva and Vaud cooperation federations (FGC, FEDEVACO).

Countries in which the Organization is primarily active:

Switzerland, Eritrea, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Palestine

Full Contact Information:

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Organization Representative:

Mr. Bastien Briand, Secretary and Project Coordinator

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