

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Nineteenth Session
Geneva, July 18 to 22, 2011

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 May 18, 2011, requested accreditation at the nineteenth session of the Committee is annexed to this document. Applicants were invited to complete an application form and the biographical details of the organizations contained in the Annex are set out exactly as 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

Botswana Khwedom Council

Center for Studies and Research in Law of the Intangible (CERDI)

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity (Afro-Indigène)

Botswana Khwedom Council

To: Traditional Knowledge Division
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Fax: +41 (0) 22 338 70 20

Email: grtkf@wipo.int

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee

I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate in the sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore as an *ad hoc* observer. Please find our application and the required documents attached for the Committee's consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Keikabile Mogodu

President

Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore^{1,2}

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

Full name of the Organization:

Botswana Khwedom Council

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

An indigenous San organisation based in Botswana and working towards the upliftment of the economic, cultural and social status of the San people in Botswana. Also working towards documenting and protecting the indigenous knowledge of the San people of Botswana. The organization has a board of trustees from every constituency in Botswana.

The organization is also involved in advocacy and shaping government policies to go in line with the culture and tradition of the San people

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- To empower the San people of Botswana to better represent themselves in all issues that affect them.
- To lobby the government of Botswana to take into cognizance issues of traditional knowledge, culture and custom of the San people when drafting policies.

Main activities of the Organization:

- Lobby and Advocacy
- Socio-cultural and economic empowerment
- Research, Language development and Education
- Intellectual property preservation and documentation

Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.

¹ Please note that the decision on accreditation will not be made by the Secretariat, but by the Member States at the beginning of the session of the Intergovernmental Committee. It is therefore possible that certain organizations may not receive accreditation. Therefore, if the requesting organization is not based in Geneva, it might not be advisable to travel to Geneva for the sole purpose of participating in the session of the Committee until accreditation has been granted

² Please note that this application form may be presented to the Committee exactly in the form received. Please therefore, as far as possible, complete the form using a type-writer or word processor. The completed form should preferably be emailed to grtkf@wipo.int

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee: (maximum 150 words)

The organization has the mandate to preserve and protect intellectual property rights of the San people, especially indigenous knowledge and genetic resources. As custodians and primary rights holders any discussion and policies pertaining to intellectual property in so far as the mentioned two are concerned affects them. Therefore there is a need for them to be present as observers to lobby for a favourable decision making.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Botswana

Additional Information:

Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

The indigenous people, especially the San people have been left behind in issues that affect them. However, it is acknowledged that a new trend developed where the indigenous people have been recognized and their contribution to indigenous knowledge and their knowledge systems recognized, hence the introduction of working group on issues of indigenous knowledge. However, the participation of the San people in the aforementioned has been minimal, and the less recognition of their intellectual property, hence the formation of San organizations like Botswana Khwedom Council.

Full contact details of the Organization:

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P.O. Box 81103, Gaborone Botswana

Telephone number: +267 310 5646

Fax number: +267 3105639

Email address: mkmogodu@gmail.com

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Mr. Keikabile Mogodu

Executive Director

Center for Studies and Research in Law of the Intangible (CERDI)

To: Traditional Knowledge Division
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]
Antoine Latrielle

Director
CERDI

Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore^{1,2}

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

Full name of the Organization:

Center for Studies and Research in Law of the Intangible (CERDI)

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

CERDI is a research center in the field of intellectual property authorized by both the Paris 1 (Pantheon-Sorbonne) and Paris-Sud 11 Universities. It is recognized by the Ministry of Education and Research.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- to foster research and teaching
- to provide teaching and research opportunities to students and doctoral students: currently, more than twenty theses are being prepared and academic defenses are held on a regular basis
- to analyze and submit French and foreign solutions in the field of intellectual property
- to participate and prepare lecture programs
- to develop partnerships with institutions or firms in the sector

Main activities of the Organization:

- Members of CERDI are increasingly consulted whether individually or collectively by French, foreign or international administrations or governments (the Council of State, Senate, World Intellectual Property Organization, Canadian Government ...).
- With the Director of CERDI holding a permanent consultancy with the Ministry of Culture and Communication on issues with respect to copyright and new technology law, the whole team is involved in such work at present

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- CERDI has developed its own training program in the form of the DI2C Masters Program (Law, Innovation, Communication, Culture), recognized by the Paris 1 (Pantheon-Sorbonne) and Paris-Sud 11 Universities. This Masters program comprises five professional fields of study and one research subject:
- Digital law, led by Pierre Sirinelli,
- Technical innovation law, led by Antoine Latreille,
- Cultural heritage law, led by Jérôme Fromageau,
- Law and audiovisual administration, led by Pierre Sirinelli, and
- Law of new properties, led by Anne-Marie Leroyer and Alexandra Bensamoun.

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee: (maximum 150 words)

As a center of excellence in research on intellectual property, CERDI would like to participate as an observer and to be able to report relevant information to the research activity groups in the context of the legal issues of traditional knowledge, folklore and intellectual property rights.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

France

Additional information:

Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words).

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

Faculté Jean Monnet
Bâtiment D, bureau D 202
54, boulevard Desgranges
92330 Sceaux

Telephone number: +33 01 40 91 18 40

Fax number: +33 01 40 91 19 31

Email address: cerdi@u-psud.fr

Web site: <http://www.cerdi.u-psud.fr/>

Name of Organization representative and Title:

Antoine LATREILLE
Director
CERDI

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity (Afro-Indigène)

To: Traditional Knowledge Division
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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Ana Leurinda

Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer to the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore^{1,2}

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

Full name of the Organization:

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity (Afro-Indigène)

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) created in Geneva on August 8, 2000. In collaboration with local organizations, it strives to highlight afro-indigenous issues at the international level. In Honduras there are nine indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples: the Lenca, Ch'orti, Tawahka, Miskito, Nahuas, Tolupan, Pech, Garifuna and Black English-speakers, who represent 10% of the population. Our organization is aware that some of these peoples live in extreme poverty, and we are fighting for the full development of indigenous peoples thereby contributing to the dignity of women and men of African descent. The preservation of their natural environment and of their ancestral lands meets the need to ensure cultural diversity and identity, and their traditional knowledge is of vital importance to their survival and their participation in social cultural activities, considering their historical heritage as a global resource. The music, dance and language of the Garifuna have been proclaimed an "Intangible Heritage of Humanity", by UNESCO in 2001.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- to analyze the processes of cultural development before, during and after the arrival of colonizers, and the forms and strategies of resistance;
- to coordinate the research, collection and study activities in the different cultural areas of the country;
- to promote and protect human rights, in particular by means of the cultural safeguarding and preservation of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

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- to promote cultural diversity and language by means of preserving environmental biodiversity, through managing climate change, genetic resources, traditional knowledge (land, territories, water), and by bringing folklore to life;
- to contribute to protection against climate change and its negative impact on the survival of indigenous peoples

Main activities of the Organization:

- Holding seminars, workshops, and lectures in collaboration with other member organizations of its international network, and creating permanent dialogue with various experts;
- Gathering and disseminating various publications on the topic of culture and heritage (music, dance, customs, crafts, etc.);
- Implementing the cultural project “Garifuna Ballets” for the promotion of traditional art, dance, music, indigenous instruments, etc.;
- Training women in indigenous medicine for the preservation of medicinal plants and fruit extraction according to traditional cultures and knowledge with respect to community products;
- Providing a social and legal framework of indigenous territories and protection of their traditional knowledge

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee: (maximum 150 words)

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity, which is an active member of the Coordination of African Human Rights NGOs (CONGAF), which has participated in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, plays a role of relaying information to civil society and to other local indigenous organizations in the world, and carries out research with such local organizations on traditional knowledge, biodiversity and climate change. One of the ethnic groups of Honduras, the Tawahka, in the Department of Atlantida, specifically uses products of the preserved biodiversity and medicinal plants on a daily basis, and already ensures their fair and equitable sharing in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity. Therefore, WIPO is very important to our organization since, as holders of knowledge, we can also contribute to information on our ancestral culture. That is why we seek accreditation, so that indigenous representatives may fully participate in decision-making and to ensure respect for nature.

Countries in which the Organization is primarily active:

Honduras (Central America)
Switzerland (Europe)

Additional Information:

Please provide any additional information which you may feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

We wish to add the following information on the national and international context of the activities of our organization.

2011. The Honduran government created the “Secretariat for the Economic Development of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans, and the promotion of Racial Equality Policies” (SEDINAPROPIR). The Organization for Ethnic Community Development (ODECO), in which we are represented, will hold the “World Summit of Afro-descendants” (AG/RES.2550 (XL-0/10), dated June 8, 2010), from August 18 to 21, 2011 in La Ceiba (Honduras), with the support of the Honduran government and international organizations.

2011. Commemorations of the “Garifuna +14 Bicentenary”, in remembrance of the arrival of the Garifuna in Honduras after their expulsion by the British, fearing that the Garifuna would regain control of Roatan Island, close to the Honduran coast. In the end, they relocated themselves to Caribbean coastal areas, from Belize to Nicaragua, where they still live today and have kept their African customs. Decree No. 330-2002 on “African Heritage Month in Honduras”.

2002-2005. In partnership with OIDEL, the Interdisciplinary Institute of Ethics and Human Rights of UNESCO of the University of Fribourg, the Cultural Diversity Caucus and the Ethics and Values Caucus, we organized three parallel meetings:

1. “Exploring the relationship between global progress and ethics”
2. “The right to appropriate information”
3. “The relationship between the information society and intercultural dialogue” during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Our proposals were accepted under Paragraph C8 of the Universal Declaration of UNESCO and its Action Plan on Cultural Diversity.

Culture of Afro-indigenous solidarity was designated a Messenger of Peace by UNESCO for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence.

Full contact details:

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Name of Organization representative and Title:

Ana Leurinda
Founder/President