

# WIPO



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

Third Session  
Geneva, June 13 to 21, 2002

### ACCREDITATION OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. The Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (hereinafter referred to as “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 non-governmental organizations that had expressed their wish to have a role in the works of the Committee (see the Report, as adopted by the Committee, document WIPO/GRKTF/IC/1/13, paragraph 18).

2. Since then, an additional number of non-governmental organizations have expressed to the Secretariat their wish to obtain the same status for the subsequent sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee. A document containing the names and other biographical details of the organizations which, before April 12, 2002, requested representation in the third session of the Intergovernmental Committee is attached to this document as an Annex. The biographical details on the organizations contained in the Annex were received from each organization.

3. *The Intergovernmental Committee is invited to approve the accreditation of the organizations referred to in the Annex to this document as ad hoc observers.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE REQUESTED  
REPRESENTATION AS OBSERVERS IN SESSIONS OF  
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Association Bouregreg

Asociación Civil Comunidad Aborigen - “Toba, Pilaga, Wichí” - To.Pi.Wi.

Pauktuutit - Inuit Women's Association

Society for Research into Sustainable Technologies and Institutions (SRISTI)

Association Bouregreg

Description and Aims of the Organization:

The Association Bouregreg operates in the social and cultural fields, as well as in relation to town planning and behavioral matters. The promotion of the role of women in economic development represents a major part of the Association's activities. This is embodied by the activities undertaken by the Casablanca Bureau as part of the International Women's Forum for the promotion of women's business activities, which launches numerous projects relating to the strengthening of the role of women in the economy.

The presentation of the heritage and the process of making the population aware of its riches help society to develop. Thus, in terms of the urban and architectural heritage the Bouregreg Association has helped to provide a better understanding of the value and wealth of the historical town, which is over 3000 years old.

The Association has responded to numerous calls for proposals, in particular from the European Commission, and cooperates with ENDA, UNICEF, Cooperation Canada, and United Nations bodies such as UNDP, UNFPA and UNIFEM (Casablanca Office).

As regards the promotion of the role of women in economic development, the Bouregreg Association established the International Women's Forum for the promotion of women's business interests. This activity highlights in particular the development of certain trades and skills for women, related to the heritage. Thus, more than 250 women, for the most part in crafts-related activities, are regularly involved and trained. The work done within the Forum has allowed us to face the risks of the disappearance of certain skills specific to our area, for example: Chekba work, weaving and the tea ceremony. It should be specified that many of these skills constitute employment and a source of income for population groups. The river has also allowed us to meet the difficulties caused by these heritage-related products: dispersal, denaturation, artistic impoverishment, lack of development of recognition, low cost of income generated (a woman weaving carpets earns the equivalent of 40 Euros per month).

Numerous activities have been conducted at local level with a view to revitalizing such professions. At the regional and international level, our activity has been punctuated by meetings in Casablanca designed to strengthen the role of women in economic development.

There is a need to integrate knowledge into a dimension of social life and to give pride of place to manual work, which has been overshadowed by intellectual undertakings.

The Human Resources Network concept is the driving force behind the community of the Great Book which the project aspires to produce. Collecting, preserving, transmitting and enhancing skills and know-how are the central aspects of the project, and are evaluated, chosen, analyzed, summarized and presented by a representative committee which acts as a source of protection and distribution. The consultants are close to the world of arts and crafts: writers, novelists, poets, art historians, economists and so on. In each sub-region, the intellectuals, artists and thinkers could set up a supervisory committee guaranteeing preservation and quality.

Association recognized as being of public interest by Decree No.280 201 of April 8, 1988. The Founding President of the Association is Mr. Mohamed AOUAD erstwhile Minister and Ambassador, Advisor to His Majesty the King.

The activities of the Association consist of the association for cultural, social and economic development which carries out its activities with complete independence from political and trade union bodies, often in close cooperation with decision makers of all types and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The resources consist of the membership fees of active and honorary members, subscriptions, subsidies received from the State and local communities, and donations from national and international bodies. Currently there are 5,100 plus members.

In 1992, the Association set up a branch in Casablanca, comprising more than 1,500 members. In 1996, the Association established the International Women's Forum in order to promote the business interests of women.

The Association has the following structure:

- General Assembly
- Governing Council
- The Bureau implements the guidelines defined by the two bodies referred to above and manages activities, with the assistance of an administrative secretariat.
- The committees act on a sectoral basis, work according to their own agendas and implement a program of action examined and ratified by the "enlarged Bureau," consisting of Bureau members and committee chairmen.
- The clubs have activities coordinated by a Bureau member, be they scientific, related to children, theatrical or in women's circles.
- The district branches which help to provide a more effective regional base and bring the activities closer to the residents of the various districts of the communes of Salé.

#### Different aspects

- *Social and humanitarian aspects*: comprise all activities linked to the fight against poverty, illiteracy and integration.
- *Development aspects*: making the economy more dynamic and related aspects, and preserving the heritage.
- *Scientific and cultural aspects*: the aim here is to provide cultural, artistic and scientific activities.
- *Units*: sports, human resources, communication and partnership, financial resources, future-oriented projects and legal affairs.

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Asociación Civil Comunidad Aborigen  
“Toba, Pilaga, Wichí” - To.Pi.Wi.

Description of the Organization:

The Aboriginal Community Association TOBA, PILAGA WICHÍ (Indigenous Peoples) was founded in 1995 by indigenous brothers and sisters and holds legal status certificate No. 127.

TOPIWI works in 121 indigenous communities, including 12 marginal urban indigenous communities in Buenos Aires (brothers who migrate from country to city for economic reasons). The Association does not receive finance from any agency, and conducts its work with the aid of supporting indigenous brothers whenever they have them; they have many professional, non-indigenous brothers who provide voluntary assistance. TOPIWI has been constituted as a response of the Indians to work together to further their development in a climate of respect.

Main Objectives:

- to work towards the eradication of poverty and discrimination as its central task, and to achieve indigenous peoples' rights under customary law;
- to work towards the achievement of indigenous rights, democracy with equal opportunity, with the aim of sustainable development.

Our specific objectives are the following:

- to achieve education and training in all areas, and specifically in land rights, biological diversity and development projects with a view to the strengthening of indigenous peoples;
- to plan and program agricultural development and reforestation projects;
- to build up networks and workshops to promote the creation of public policies and international instruments that will favor the rights of indigenous peoples;
- to achieve participation for women in the role that they play in generating and handing down our ancestral indigenous culture, and also for young people, in order that they may learn the skills of leadership and protection and care for their rights.

The president of TOPIWI is Estebán Vega, who works in the Province of Formosa and Cecilia Rosalía Paiva is the Buenos Aires representative.

Full Contact Details of the Organization:

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Pauktuutit - Inuit Women's AssociationMain Objectives:

Pauktuutit is the representative organization of Inuit women in Canada. Its primary mandate is to address the range of social and health issues that affect Inuit women, their families and their communities. The Association also addresses equality-related issues, both within Inuit communities and within Canada as a whole. Economic development and the associated needs to protect the traditional, cultural, and intellectual property rights of Inuit women has been a growing priority over the last several years.

Pauktuutit has worked internationally with other indigenous women on issues related to craft commercialization and the protection of traditional knowledge and culture. The Association is a member of the Indigenous Women of the Americas Initiative which has sponsored workshops in Canada and in South and Central America that explore the common intellectual property concerns shared by indigenous women throughout the hemisphere. Additionally, the Association continues to work closely with the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (Canada) on issues of mutual concern and relevance to Inuit women in the circumpolar world.

Since 1996 Pauktuutit has participated in the discussions and negotiations associated with the Convention on Biological Diversity, specifically those associated with Article 8(j). Representatives have attended COP meetings, the 1997 Madrid workshop on traditional knowledge, as well as other related meetings.

With respect to WIPO's work, Pauktuutit met with members of the Fourth Fact-finding Mission in November 1998. Additionally, Pauktuutit participated in WIPO's 1999 Round Table discussions on traditional knowledge held in Geneva.

Currently, the Association is exploring the IPR implications associated with a traditional Inuit women's parka. In May 2001 a workshop was conducted in the Arctic to inform Inuit designers and seamstresses about existing IP laws and about issues being discussed by WIPO and within the CBD. The workshop also took the opportunity to evaluate their IP needs and expectations. The project is intended to serve as a case study for IPR consultations within indigenous communities. The long-term objectives are to seek legal protection for products based on traditional designs, motifs, and knowledge.

Countries in which the Organization is primarily active:

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Society for Research into Sustainable Technologies and Institutions (SRISTI)

Main Objectives:

SRISTI is a non-governmental organization setup to strengthen the creativity of grassroots inventors, innovators and ecopreneurs engaged in conserving biodiversity and developing eco-friendly solutions to local problems.

SRISTI research aims at generating practical approaches of sustainable development through a major emphasis on linking innovations, investments and enterprise where possible. Non-market options are also given special attention particularly to strengthen the propensity to experiment and innovate. Here we outline the status of some such initiatives:

1. Documentation, dissemination and networking

2. Value addition

On-farm and on-station trials on farmers innovations; indigenous herbal insecticides; indigenous veterinary medicines; plant extracts for bacteriostatic and bactericidal activity; agricultural implements.

3. Organic certification and ecological indicators

4. Natural Resource Management

Studies on indigenous soil and water conservation practices; studies on local initiatives for tree and forest management and germplasm conservation; research on institution building, ecological economics; Study and assimilation of folkloric traditions of the conservation ethic.

5. Educational innovations

...for embedding local ecological knowledge in the curriculum and stemming drop out and improving learning achievement through informal network of teachers innovators.

6. Models of Rewarding Innovations

Action research on material and non-material rewards for individual and collective/community innovations - INSTAR (International Network for Sustainable Technology Applications and Registrations); venture capital support through SVCF (SRISTI experimental Venture Capital Fund) for new product development as well as scaling up new innovations.



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