

# WIPO



WIPO/GRTKF/IC/4/2

ORIGINAL:English

DATE:October12,2002

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

E

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

Fourth Session  
Geneva, December 9 to 17, 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/GRTKF/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 October 11, 2002, requested representation in the fourth 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

Arctic Athabaskan Council (ACC )

Centre for Youth Research

*Institut Borjade Bioètica*

*Fundación Nuestro Ambiente*

*Instituto Indígena Brasileiro da Propriedade Intelectual (InBraPi)*

*Société Internationale d'Éthnologie et de Folklore (SIEF)*

Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC)

The Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC) is an international treaty organization established to represent the interests of United States and Canadian Athabaskan member First Nation governments in Arctic Council fora, and to foster a greater understanding of the common heritage of all Athabaskan peoples of Arctic North America.

The founding members of AAC include four Alaskan Athabaskan communities (Chickaloon Village Traditional Council, Healy Lake Traditional Council (*Mendas Cha~Ag*), Steven Village Tribal Government, Council, Northway Tribal Council) and three Athabaskan representative bodies on the Canadian side: The Council of Yukon First Nations, representing eleven Yukon First Nations, the Dene Nation, representing 30 First Nations in the Northwest Territories. In January 2000, the Kaska Tribal Council of the Yukon Territory and northeastern British Columbia, together with the eleven Alaskan tribal and village governments were admitted as new members.

In total, Arctic Athabaskan founding member governments represent approximately 40,000 indigenous peoples of Athabaskan descent residing in Arctic and Sub-Arctic North America. The Permanent Office of the Arctic Athabaskan Council is located at 11 Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada, within the same central administrative headquarters as the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN). AAC (Canada) is a federally incorporated, non-profit entity whose board of directors is made up of the current Canadian directors of AAC (International). AAC (Canada) hosts the AAC International Secretariat.

Between Arctic Athabaskan Council meetings, general direction to the activities of the Council is provided by the International Chairperson, Ed Schultz, who is also currently the Grand Chief of the Council of Yukon First Nations. Day-to-day activities of the AAC Secretariat are managed by AAC Executive Directors (Canada and United States). AAC Secretariat provides logistical and administrative support to AAC international activities.

Full Contact Information :

11 Nisutlin Drive  
Whitehorse  
Yukon Territory  
Canada Y1A4R6

Telephone: +1 867 -393-214  
+1 867 -393-9237

Facsimile: +1 -867-633-6397

URL: [www.articathabaskancouncil.com](http://www.articathabaskancouncil.com)

Centre for Youth Research

Centre for Youth Research is a non-governmental organisation under the umbrella of African Gerontology Society (AGES). AGES International is the umbrella organisation in Africa for Ageing matters and a focus organisation on rural ageing and gerontological education. It was formed in 1989 during a World Congress of Gerontology in Mexico. The society is concerned with the plight of the ageing and aged in the African region and has 18 outlets in Africa including Nigeria with the United States of America and the United Kingdom respectively.

Aims and Objectives :

- to promote regional awareness with respect to ageing;
- to encourage African governments and non-governmental organisations to initiate and develop policies and services for the youth;
- to make grants available to members for the purpose of the study and research in the field of gerontology; and
- to cooperate with the International organisations in pursuit of the foregoing aims and objectives.

The Countries in which Organisation is primarily active :

Botswana; Cameroon; Côte d'Ivoire; Egypt; Ethiopia; Gambia; Ghana; Kenya; Malawi; Mauritius; Morocco; Nigeria; Sierra Leone; South Africa; Sudan; Tanzania; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Zimbabwe.

Full Contact Information :

Centre For Youth Research  
No 272  
Obafemi Awolowo Way  
Molete, Ibadan  
Oyo State  
Nigeria  
Fax: 234 -2-2319530  
Mobile: 08023247846

*Institut Borja De Bioètica (IBB)*  
(Borja Institute of Bioethics)

The Institut Borja of Bioethics (IBB) was founded in 1976 at the initiative of its President, Dr. Francesc Abel. During its first years, the most important achievements of the Institute have been the creation of the International Study Group in Bioethics within the structure of the IFCU (International Federation of Catholic Universities), and its participation as founder-member of the European Association of Centres for Medical Ethics (EACME/AECME). Since its foundation, the IBB has been continuously involved in both bodies including representation on its Board of Directors. The IBB also participates, yearly, in several international forums related to bioethics and biolaw.

Among the main aims of the Institute, along with its history, the most important are the following: study in depth of the philosophical and theological problems raised by biomedical progress and its implications for society; boost interdisciplinary dialogue as a working methodology among scientists and humanists; to become a platform for the dialogue between the Christian faith and other visions of the world; studying in depth the scientific, philosophical and theological foundations of ethics applied to health sciences and serve society and the Church, in general, on matters related to life and the human person's dignity. A historical evidence of that service is the continuous presence of the IBB in debate forums, whether in the mass media, universities, or the ecclesiastical institutions itself.

Since the late seventies, legal concerns have been a major topic of interest for the Organization. The IBB has been a reference for different public and private institutes. The Organization's most recent public intervention has been a report to the Law Commission of the Spanish Parliament related to the Draft of the new law concerning Biotechnological Patents.

Of all the tasks developed by the Institute, the most important activities of the Organization are:

- The creation of its Documentation Center and Library, which, following the organization model posed by the Kennedy Institute, has continually increased its collection and which currently contains more than 12,000 volumes and more than 200 journals from all over the world, standing for one of the most important libraries specialised in Bioethics in Europe. The Organization works in order to keep up to date with all the publications and latest news in this discipline.
- Its activity in the research field taking part as a partner in various projects funded by the European Union within the programmes Biomed I and Biomed II. Projects in which the Organization participated included: “ *Bioethics in Europe: survey, analysis and information* ” (1993 -1996) co-ordinated by professor Dr. Gérard Huber from Paris; “ *Basic Ethical Principles in European Bioethics and Biolaw* ” co-ordinated by Dr. Peter Kemp from Copenhagen whose research results were published under the same title in a second edition by the Institut Borja de Bioètica and the Centre for Ethic and Law in Copenhagen (1998); “ *Ethical Guidance on human Embryonic and Fetal Tissue Transplantation* ” ended in 2001. Since 1998, the Organization has been a member of the *European Ethics Network*, which assembles different ethics professors from Europe.

- In the academic and teaching field, the Organization has developed activities aimed at the training on bioethics at different levels and addressed to a variety of audiences in the form of courses, seminars, to name a few. In 1997, the Organization presented the official degree on this discipline opening its first edition of the Masters Degree on Bioethics which was initially co-organized with the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and thereafter with the Universitat Ramon Llull, in which the IBB has been integrated as a full right member since 2000. It also regularly organizes introduction and foundation courses on bioethics with the ultimate aim to introduce the bioethical dialogue to healthcare professionals.

In order to reinforce such academic and teaching activities, the IBB also has different publications that serve as disseminating tools of the main topics of bioethics. The most important is its quarterly journal “*Bioètica & Debat*” first published in 1995, “*Bioètica: orígenes, presentey futuro*” (Barcelona, 2001), “*Allocation of resources and choices in healthcare*”, written by various authors fruit of the sessions held during the Meeting of EACME in 1995, “*Cuestiones de Bioètica*” (Barcelona, 1995) by M. Cuyàs, “*Antropología del cuidar*” (Barcelona, 1998) by F. Torralba, and “*Filosofía de la Medicina*” (Barcelona, 2001).

- Finally, in advisory activity, it is worth highlighting the presence and active participation of members of the Institute in the Clinical and Research Ethics Committees of different hospitalary institutions in Catalonia. The IBB founded the first Clinical Ethics Committee in Spain, in the Hospital Infantil Sant Joan de Déu in Esplugues (Barcelona), promoted by Dr. Abellán in 1975. Equally important are its presence and advising in various commissions of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia on matters of bioethics, concretely, the Catalonia Bioethics Committee.

All along its history the IBB has preserved its institutional independence, both from an intellectual and a teaching point of view. In order to develop its task, the IBB has received funding from different humanitarian foundations, namely, the Society of Jesus, the Generalitat de Catalunya, and other private institutions such as the Fundación Mapfre Medicina, Caixa de Catalunya and the Hospitalier Order Saint John of God. Keeping faithfulness to its Christian origins, the IBB is open to the perspective of scientific and technological progress and keeps on working on this exciting discipline, always with a free and independent criteria.

#### Full Contact Information :

Borja Institute of Bioethics  
 Santa Rosa 39 -57  
 Third Floor  
 08950 Barcelona  
 Spain

Tel: +34 93 600 6106  
 Fax: +34 93 600 6110

Fundación Nuestro Ambiente  
(Our Environment Foundation)

The Fundación Nuestro Ambiente is an organization for sustainable human development and the conservation of the Parana Forest. The wooded lands in the province of Misiones (Argentina) are the last that survive of the once extensive Parana Forest, which used to cover an area in excess of a million km<sup>2</sup>, encompassing parts of Brazil and Paraguay as well as Argentina. At present the last (approx.) 12,000 km<sup>2</sup> of continuous woodland mass survive in Argentina alone (in Misiones). There are areas with "islets" of forest and areas at various stages of recovery (through ecological restoration) covering an ever-changing area that cannot be estimated. The Protected Natural Areas in Misiones now amount to 480,000 hectares. The realization of the Green Belt project, which involves more than a million hectares, would bring about the much-needed environmental stability with which to ensure the particular biological diversity of this ecosystem.

The Parana Forest, which is located in a transitional area in geological terms (between the mountain ranges of Brazil and the plains of Argentina), has a rich and little-researched biological diversity. The concern of the Organization is the future of its genetic resources, and also the intellectual property problems that might arise if any bio-prospection activities were contemplated. The Organization is also preoccupied by the gradual loss of the cultural environment of the Guarani Indians, which supports a wealth of traditional knowledge relating to natural substances, especially those with a medicinal usefulness.

This set of problems is by implication included among the general objectives of the Organization, which are:

- to engage in direct action for the protection, conservation and restoration of the Parana Forest;
- to promote the sustainable development, health and well-being of communities of rural producers, and especially the smaller producers;
- to sponsor and conduct scientific research and technological development that will serve to focus processes of sustainable livestock development and the preservation and recovery of the forest of the Misiones area;
- to train staff and to publish and circulate such information as is necessary; and
- to promote the enactment of legal provisions for the protection of the Parana Forest and sustainable human development.

The Organization came into being after a period of intense debate among technical specialists, academics and enthusiasts in general (for the most part working in various State agencies and at the University) who had failed to find in their areas of concern sufficient continuity, efficient management and other conditions that would favor whatever interdisciplinary action would allow the proposal of the United Nations on sustainable development and the environment to be implemented.

The Fundación Nuestro Ambiente conducts its action in the conviction that the best way of conserving biological diversity involves encouraging individual development initiatives on the part of the communities involved, and requires the mobilization and coordination of their own efforts and resources.

The prime condition for biodiversity conservation is society's acknowledgement of just how important biodiversity is to it.

Full Contact Information :

Bolivar 1941  
4<sup>th</sup> floor, office B  
Postcode 3300  
Posadas, Misiones  
Argentina

Telephone: +54-03752-435870  
Fax: +54-03752-436459/  
E-mail: fnuestro\_amb@xoommail.com  
funamisiones@hotmail.com  
Webaddress: <http://www.tripod.com.ar/fnuestroambiente>

Countries in which the Organization is mainly active \_\_\_\_:

Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil



*Instituto Indígena Brasileiro da Propriedade Intelectual (InBraPi)*

Objective:

Promoting links between Brazilian indigenous peoples with a view to discussing intellectual property -related subjects and the protection of traditional knowledge.

Justification:

Considering:

- the increasing discussion of the traditional knowledge of peoples relating to biodiversity and cultural heritage, which is in fact occurring all over the world;
- the absence of representation of Brazilian indigenous peoples in the discussion forum;
- the non -existence of specific legislation for the protection of collective traditional knowledge; and
- the constant economic exploitation of resources and traditional knowledge without the consent of the indigenous communities and the exclusion of these communities from the benefits obtained from such exploitation.

The participants in the “ *Introductory Intellectual Property Course for Indigenous Lawyers and Representatives of Traditional Communities* ”, which took place in Rio de Janeiro on May 6 to 9, 2002, and organized by the Brazilian National Industrial Property Institute (INPI), decided to set up the Indigenous Intellectual Property Commission so as to promote the links between indigenous peoples on this subject, largely unknown although much discussed. On the occasion of the Training Course for Indigenous Leaders, which took place in July, 2002 in Malo Grossodo Sul, the *Instituto Indígena Brasileiro da Propriedade Intelectual (InBraPi)* was set up.

Strategy:

- planning a timetable for participation in events and training courses, designed to enhance the relevant vocational training of indigenous peoples;
- establishing cooperation with universities, national and international government bodies, and also indigenous entities for the development of mechanisms for defense and protection of traditional knowledge; and
- creating a permanent area to act as a reference point for communities in relation to their requests for the protection of the Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Communities.

FullContactInformation :

Tel.: +5561313 -3535/3644  
Fax: +5561322 -7292  
Email: [vilmar@funai.gov.br](mailto:vilmar@funai.gov.br)  
[danielmunduruku@uol.com.br](mailto:danielmunduruku@uol.com.br)  
[darlene.yaminalo@bol.com.br](mailto:darlene.yaminalo@bol.com.br)  
[jofej2000@bol.com.br](mailto:jofej2000@bol.com.br)

*Société Internationale d'Éthnologie et de Folklore (SIEF)*

SIEF, the *Société Internationale d'Éthnologie et de Folklore*, founded in Athens on September 8th, 1964, is an international scholarly organization. It was the successor to the “*Commission Internationale des Arts et Traditions Populaires*” (CIAP), which owed its origin to the “*Congrès International des Arts Populaires*” held in Prague in 1928 under the auspices of the “*Institut international de Coopération intellectuelle de la Société des Nations*”. Since its foundation in 1964, one of the primary objectives of SIEF has been the effective linkage of scholars in Eastern and Western Europe, making possible scholarly exchange in complicated political times. Questions broadly pertaining to issues of culture, ethnicity, tradition and innovation in present day and historical perspective are the foundation of our inquiry; issues arising in the complex interplay of social, political and economic interests surrounding culture in a rapidly transforming world are part of the theoretical and empirical core of our work. Membership is open to interested scholars and students.

SIEF's objectives are to develop scholarly work in the field of European ethnology and folklore, to promote publication in the field, to stimulate co-operation among its scholars and scientific institutions, and to contribute to the advancement of knowledge. In addition to building strong networks among individuals and institutions in our fields, SIEF organizes scholarly meetings. SIEF has organized large congresses in three to five year intervals. The most recent congress with the theme “*Times, Places, Passages*” was held in Budapest, Hungary, in April 2001. The next big congress is planned for spring 2004 in Marseille, France. Furthermore, within the larger framework of SIEF, a number of special working groups have taken shape over the past decades. They hold their own congresses and workshops, and in some instances publish their own proceedings. For further information on our working groups, please refer to <http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/>.

In the age of a transforming European economic and political landscape, SIEF is also co-sponsoring smaller workshops on topics of vital interest to the ethnological disciplines in Europe. For 2002, a small, interdisciplinary workshop on the contribution of ethnological knowledge to issues relating to terrorism, secrecy, and state control is planned in Göttingen, Germany. For 2003, a small ethnological and folkloristic workshop on border ethnologies will be held in Norway. The small workshops bring together seasoned scholars and younger practitioners in the effort to build new, transnational, interest-based networks among ethnologists and folklorists.

Full Contact Information :

Mailing address of the president:

Prof. Dr. Regina Bendix

President, SIEF

Professor of Volkskunde and European Ethnology

Seminar für Volkskunde, Universität Göttingen

Friedländer Weg 2

D-37085 Göttingen

Germany

Tel. +49 -551-39-53-51

Fax. +49/551 -39-22-32

e-mail: [rbendix@gwdg.de](mailto:rbendix@gwdg.de)

Mailing address of the Secretariat:

SIEF

c/o Meertens Instituut

Joan Muyskenweg 25

1096CJ Amsterdam

Netherlands

Telefonenumber: +31 -20-462-85-00

Faxnumber: +31 -20-462-85-55

Email address: [sief@meertens.knaw.nl](mailto:sief@meertens.knaw.nl); Website: <http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/>

[End of Annex and of document]