

Contribution of the French authorities to the geographical indications questionnaire of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

I. National and regional systems that can provide some protection for geographical indications

1.1 Which definition of geographical indications (GIs) is used in your country, the one found in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) or another definition?

1.2 What is the range of GI protection in your country? What products are covered?

1.3 In your country, is the protection mechanism *ex officio* or *ex parte*?

1.4 Are any anti-counterfeiting measures enforced in relation to GIs in your country, particularly through border controls and customs seizure of counterfeit products?

1.5 Does the protection mechanism in your country protect against usurpation (identical or similar products) but also against misappropriation of notoriety (other products)?

1.6 In addition to registration as an intellectual property right, are there other means of protecting a GI (such as food standards, court decisions, sectoral legislation or regulations)?

Describe the various laws, mechanisms and/or systems for obtaining exclusive use of a GI.

II. The lawful or unlawful use of geographical indications, country names and geographical terms on the Internet and in the DNS, in particular in TLDs, gTLDs and ccTLDs (examples, cases, mechanisms to combat unlawful use, basis for protection where appropriate).

2.1 Do you have any legal (binding or otherwise) or technical tools to prevent illegal uses of GIs on websites (including social networks, non-commercial platforms) in your country? If there are legal tools of a non-binding nature (such as cooperation agreements) or technical measures (such as upstream blocking), which websites have adopted them?

2.2 What legal and/or technical means are available to identify the holder of a domain name in your country?

2.3 What are the timeframes and costs of proceedings against a domain name holder in your country in case of abusive registration?

2.4 In your country, what types of infringements of the GI are punishable (such as cybersquatting, typosquatting, misappropriation of notoriety, dilution, denigration, other services, infringements on the domain name itself, metatags, keywords and other methods allowing referencing)?

2.5 Are there any systems in place to supervise registrars through, for example, state supervision or controls, or have they themselves made commitments in respect of protection?