

Africa Intellectual Property Newsletter Vol. 96

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Copyright Matters: May-June 2024 Issue No. 24
- OAPI:** Denis Ekani Intellectual Property Academy (APIDE) announces diversified and ambitious training programs
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OAPI Protected Geographical Indications
Training on "Intellectual Property Litigation in the OHADA area"

OAPI held a technical meeting with the research centers accredited for the technical examination of Distinctness, Homogeneity and Stability (DUS) of new plant varieties

South Africa: During the WIPO General Assembly in Geneva, EUIPO Executive Director and the Commissioner of the CIPC held a bilateral meeting to discuss their cooperation under the EU-funded project

Global Alliance Africa Project between Innovate UK Business Connect and ZA NIPMO

Tanzania: Tanzania participates in the 65th General Meeting of the Member States of the Organization of Innovation (WIPO)

Strengthening IP Adjudication: WIPO and Tanzanian Judiciary Collaborate on Judicial Training

Uganda: Don't cry over spilled beer IP: How Anton Piller can help keep trade secrets

Zambia: Zambia reaffirms commitment to protecting and incentivizing creativity

News

1. Important topics

ARIPO: ARIPO - SADC Sign MOU to Bolster Partnership¹

During the 7th SADC Industrialization Week held in Harare, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The partnership between SADC and ARIPO will be guided by the key areas of cooperation as outlined in the MOU. The key areas include, but are not limited to, the promotion of the IP system as a tool for trade and investment; harmonization of policies, laws, and strategies; promotion of innovation and creativity; strengthening regional and national IP administration systems; and enhancing business competitiveness for SMEs in local, regional, and international markets, amongst other areas of collaboration.

Cabo Verde: Cabo Verde and EUIPO forge new IP cooperation agreement^{2, 3}

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and Instituto de Gestão da Qualidade e da Propriedade Intelectual (IGQPI) was signed to strengthen cooperation and reinforce an efficient IP system in Cabo Verde. The EUIPO has committed to supporting Cabo Verde in bringing its national IP framework in line with regional and international standards. The MoU confirms Cabo Verde's intention to integrate the European Union Intellectual Property Network tools, i.e., TMClass, DesignClass, TMview, and DesignView.

Nigeria: Nigeria and EUIPO sign MoU to strengthen IP collaboration^{4, 5}

The Nigerian Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation and bolster the institutional capacity of the IP system in Nigeria. The MoU confirms the intention of the Trademark Registry of the FMITI to integrate the European Union Intellectual Property Network (EUIPN) tools, i.e., TMview and TMclass in its systems. The FMITI and EUIPO will cooperate to align trademark examination practices, share IP management experience, and develop joint initiatives in areas of enforcement, IP awareness, and education.

¹ <https://www.aripo.org/public/news/ARIPO+-+SADC+Sign+MOU+to+Bolster+Partnership-1722417593>

² https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=496856669529564&id=100076157045831&mibextid=qi2Omg&rdid=VpY9RnZSqLHfnTuK

³ https://afripi.org/en/news/cabo-verde-and-euipo-forge-new-ip-cooperation-agreement?fbclid=IwY2xjawEZoKBleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHSeqIWMrwzuz2Ab1gs3LcHTjJNLETXxle0wEPwxg0scqSelDpBaD163CNg_aem_-8CvM-DWcBX5Jx1QRgz_Lw

⁴ <https://afripi.org/en/news/nigeria-and-euipo-sign-mou-strengthen-ip-collaboration>

⁵ https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=496254599589771&id=100076157045831&mibextid=qi2Omg&rdid=36aF6h9TMIG6TmZO

OAPI: WIPO General Assemblies: Summit Meetings^{6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11}

The OAPI delegation led by its Director General Mr. Denis L. BOHOUSOU attended the 65th series of meetings of WIPO Member States in Geneva which commenced on 9 July 2024. The OAPI delegation met with amongst others the following national representatives, associations, and groups related to intellectual property to discuss common points of collaboration and to negotiate and build on future projects: WIPO, International Trademark Association (INTA), China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), Singapore Intellectual Property Office (IPOS), National Institute of Industrial Property of Argentina, Canadian Intellectual Property Office, Japan Patent Office (JPO) and International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organization (IFRRO).

OAPI: 10th Extraordinary Session of the OAPI Board of Directors¹²

The Board of Directors of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) met on 26 July 2024 for the 10th Extraordinary Session to discuss the progress of establishing the Invention and Innovation Financing Mechanism. The mechanism will allow innovators and innovative SMEs in the OAPI member states to have better access to financing for development or expansion based on the operating model of an innovation supported by an intellectual property title. The Board of Directors approved the operationalization of the OAPI invention and innovation financing mechanism in partnership with the African Guarantee Funds- AGF.

2. Additional topics

Africa:

The AfriPI handbook on Geographical Indications in Africa is now available

<https://www.facebook.com/100076157045831/posts/490236296858268/?rdid=zN6ASLZpem9MMgOp> (05.07.2024)

AFRIPI met with the African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat and EU TAF Support to the AfCFTA to discuss experiences and future collaboration on AfCFTA

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=497485359466695&id=100076157045831&mibextid=qi2Omg&rdid=udV7PT5Vr4urGqhZ (17.07.2024)

⁶<http://oapi.int/index.php/fr/component/k2/item/884-les-assembl%C3%A9es-g%C3%A9n%C3%A9rales-de-l%E2%80%99OMPI-2024,-c%E2%80%99est-parti>

⁷<http://oapi.int/index.php/fr/component/k2/item/885-assembl%C3%A9es-g%C3%A9n%C3%A9rales-de-l%E2%80%99OMPI-rencontres-au-sommet>

⁸<https://www.facebook.com/100076157045831/posts/493871583161406/?rdid=NLJRBlis9GRmCZl>

⁹https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=817903780443323&id=100066711241602&mibextid=qi2Omg&rdid=gzs2qSpERj4i8aIf

¹⁰https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_indicationsgeographiques-pme-proprietetzintellectuelle-activity-7218676259298439168-NJ9-/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

¹¹https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_intelligenceartificielle-activity-7217559091605352451-pKnE/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

¹²<http://oapi.int/index.php/fr/component/k2/item/891-communique-de-presse-10%C3%A8me-session-extraordinaire-du-conseil-d%E2%80%99administration-de-l%E2%80%99OAPI>

5th Annual Africa Intellectual Property Summit Holds Nov 28 – 30 in Kigali, Rwanda

<https://africanmediaagency.com/5th-annual-africa-intellectual-property-summit-holds-nov-28-30-in-kigali-rwanda/> (22.07.2024)

ARIPO:

The Director General of ARIPO met with the International Trademark Association (INTA)'s Chief Representative Officer for Europe & Intergovernmental Organizations, and Chief Policy Officer

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization_wipoga-aripo-trademarks-activity-7217510317558288385-mscy?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

(12.07.2024)

Cultivating Young Minds: The Success of Intellectual Property School Clubs

<https://www.aripo.org/success-stories/cultivating-young-minds-the-success-of-intellectual-property-school-clubs-8555> (22.07.2024)

Upcoming activities - 'Women in IP' conference for ARIPO Member States

<https://afripi.org/en/activities/women-ip-conference-aripo-member-states> (25.07.2024)

Upcoming activities - Technical training on trade marks for examiners, and engagements with IP agents of ARIPO Member States

<https://afripi.org/en/activities/technical-training-trade-marks-examiners-and-engagements-ip-agents-aripo-member-states> (25.07.2024)

CNIPA and ARIPO's PPH partnership bears its First Fruit

<https://www.aripo.org/public/news/ARIPO+Celebrates+First+Application+under+ARIPO+-+CNIPA+PPH+Pilot+Program-1722004956> (26.07.2024)

ARIPO at 7th SADC Industrialization Week

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization_sadc-harare-aripo-activity-7223682640908812288-Scco/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (30.07.2024)

ARIPO - EUIPO Bilateral meeting at WIPO General Assembly

<https://www.facebook.com/100076157045831/posts/493541459861085/?rdid=ogS7gDwaRMcnCrXw> (11.07.2024)

ARIPO is at the Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the WIPO

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization_wipoga-activity-7217110678245933058-pOPD/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (11.07.2024)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/african-regional-intellectual-property-organization_intellectualproperty-wipoga-activity-7217157958013493248-Pvw0/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Burkina Faso/OAPI:

The Minister of Industrial Development, Trade, Handicrafts and Small and Medium Enterprises of Burkina Faso (Mr. Serge Gnaniodem PODA) visited the headquarters of the [OAPI](#) in Yaoundé, Cameroon, on Monday, July 22, 2024

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedln_oapi-burkinafaso-cameroun-activity-7221164125547073545-N38f/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (22.07.2024)

<http://oapi.int/index.php/fr/component/k2/item/890-%C2%AB-je-suis-venu-vous-f%C3%A9liciter-pour-le-travail-abattu-%C2%BB> (26.07.2024)

Cabo Verde:

Cabo Verde Signs WIPO/WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge

<https://iggpi.cv/cabo-verde-assina-tratado-da-wipo-ompi-sobre-propriedade-intelectual-recursos-geneticos-e-conhecimentos-tradicionais-associados/> (11.07.2024)

Chad/OAPI:

Discussions on the protection of Intellectual Property Rights and Geographical Indications in Chad, feedback workshop held on 22-23 July 2024

<https://afripi.org/en/news/afripi-and-oapi-collaborate-protect-and-promote-gis-chad> (22.07.2024)

Day 1: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/W44UYCwoEyvsVxY2/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (22.07.2024)

Day 2: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/3rXEFbwdjsJssvto/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (23.07.2024)

Video <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/mxA8wHUMoErHqPe6/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (24.07.2024)

Discussions on the protection of Intellectual Property Rights and Geographical Indications in Chad

<https://www.facebook.com/100076157045831/posts/504851922063372/?rclid=JAoxjmzqRdRIYweF> (29.07.2024)

AfriPI supports the registration of geographical indications in Member States of the African Intellectual Property Organization

https://afripi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/Afripi_2024_press-release_COMMUNIQUE_DE_PRESSE.pdf (22.07.2024)

Ethiopia:

First training by IP academy

<https://eipa.gov.et/first-training-by-ip-academy/> (08.07.2024)

Notice TM Registration Renewal

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/MCZBpdum8GY7yDrZ/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (12.07.2024)

Ghana:

AfriPI Drives IP Awareness at EU-Ghana Business Forum

<https://afripi.org/en/news/afripi-drives-ip-awareness-eu-ghana-business-forum> (18.07.2024)

Kenya:

ACA-Kenya and Apple - awareness and brand ID training session

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anticounterfeitauthority_the-anti-counterfeit-authority-kenya-activity-7223945906541252608-tcfP/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (30.07.2024)

Liberia:

Deputy Director for Copyright, spearheaded a successful meeting with WIPO's Judicial Institute Director, advancing IP case handling and adjudication in Liberia

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/sufbwxUF9H26TUch/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (11.07.2024)

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/fgaTftLaVEJafWC9/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (12.07.2024)

Mauritius:

Upcoming activities - Support the registration of pilot GIs in Mauritius

<https://afripi.org/en/activities/support-registration-pilot-gis-mauritius> (25.07.2024)

Morocco:

OMPIC's services at your fingertips thanks to the "OMPIC Online Services" application available on Google Play

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ompic_ompic-innovationdigitale-marque-activity-7213853732508237825-7mXG?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (2.07.2024)

Nigeria:

EU – Nigeria Business Forum

<https://www.facebook.com/100076157045831/posts/492147960000435/?rdid=k26dOc4xNffetbZg>
(11.07.2024)

Director-General's, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), meeting with Members of Electronic Media Content Owners Association of Nigeria (EMCOAN), at the Headquarters, on 24th July 2024

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/HgA4zLWdVMXU2xtn/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (25.07.2024)

Copyright Matters: May-June 2024 Issue No. 24

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/RCWjctfDufN5QmJ/?mibextid=qj2Omg> (25.07.2024)

OAPI:

Denis Ekani Intellectual Property Academy (APIDE) announces diversified and ambitious training programs

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_catalogue-2024-de-lapide-activity-7216145248471654400-e55N?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (08.07.2024)

The School of Régionale Supérieure de la Magistrature (ERSUMA), in partnership with the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), organizes a bimodal training session on July 30th and 31st, 2024

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_formation-sur-le-contentieux-de-la-propri%C3%A9t%C3%A9-activity-7221494432561336320-xzVJ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (23.07.2024)

OAPI Protected Geographical Indications

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_indicationsgeographiques-oapi-activity-7220122421909950466-e5i3/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (24.07.2024)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_indicationsgeographiques-oapi-activity-7221826736970207233-dXhs/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (24.07.2024)

Training on "Intellectual Property Litigation in the OHADA area"

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_formation-sur-le-contentieux-de-la-propri%C3%A9t%C3%A9-activity-7221494432561336320-xzVJ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (26.07.2024)

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https://www.linkedin.com/posts/oapi-linkedin_cirad-irad-cnra-activity-7218941279492022272-1e7E/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (16.07.2024)

South Africa:

During the WIPO General Assembly in Geneva, EUIPO Executive Director and the Commissioner of the CIPC held a bilateral meeting to discuss their cooperation under the EU-funded project

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=494558199759411&id=100076157045831&mibextid=qj2Omg&rdid=B4WHk9fnljKsXrcO (12.07.2024)

Global Alliance Africa Project between Innovate UK Business Connect and ZA NIPMO

<https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/casestudy/global-insights-intellectual-property-right-challenges-south-africa/> (30.07.2024)

Tanzania:

Tanzania participates in the 65th General Meeting of the Member States of the Organization of Innovation (WIPO)

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/B6SNjbEX4m7CL1bC/?mibextid=qi2Omg> (17.07.2024)

Strengthening IP Adjudication: WIPO and Tanzanian Judiciary Collaborate on Judicial Training

https://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/judiciaries/news/2024/news_0006.html (16.07.2024)

Uganda:

Don't cry over spilled beer IP: How Anton Piller can help keep trade secrets

<https://www.bizcommunity.com/article/dont-cry-over-spilled-trade-secrets-anton-piller-can-help-670081a> (01.07.2024)

Zambia:

Zambia reaffirms commitment to protecting and incentivising creativity

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pacrazambia_pacra-businessstartshere-activity-7217178801657548801-9vpT?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop (18.07.2024)

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