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The IP Negotiations Monitor summarizes the latest developments in multilateral and regional fora where intellectual property negotiations are taking place, and informs on upcoming meetings and events.



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WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)

Future TRIPS Council Meetings

The next TRIPS Council will meet on **28-29 October 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR): Twenty-Eighth Session

The Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights held its 28th session from **30 June to 4 July 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Martin Moscoso from Peru.

Members continued discussions on the subject of a potential treaty to protect broadcasting organizations. In this respect, the Chair proposed to have technical presentations of external stakeholders. However, Member States could not achieve consensus on the appropriateness and transparency of the procedures on this matter. Debates were held informally and mainly focused on the scope of protection of the proposed treaty and the rights to be given to broadcasting organizations. There were no text-based negotiations.

Member States also continued its work towards an international legal instrument/s related to limitations and exceptions for libraries and archives. The first difficulty of this issue was the text that would be used as a basis for the discussions. While the African Group and other developing countries such as Brazil, Ecuador and Uruguay were in favour of using the working document that was on the table (SCCR/28/REF/SCCR/26/3), Group B declared their preference to use the paper submitted by the US on Objectives and Principles for Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives (SCCR/26/8). After informal consultations, the compromise solution was to use the latter.

Likewise, on the subject of limitations and exceptions for educational and research institutions and for persons with other disabilities, Member States continued exchanging their views but no agreement could be reached.

Since no recommendations to the GA could be agreed, the three items will be included in the agenda for the next session of the SCCR.

Regarding the contribution of the SCCR to the implementation of the respective Development Agenda Recommendations, developing countries demanded that this agenda item have an

appropriate allocation of time in future sessions. Indonesia, supported by other developing countries, proposed that the issue could be debated following the agenda item on a potential treaty for broadcasting organisations. However, no consensus could be achieved on this.

There was general disappointment among developing countries' delegations since the allocation of time devoted for the agenda items was not equal (most of the time was dedicated to the potential treaty for the protection of broadcasting organisations).

After lengthy discussions and given the inability of Member States to reach consensus on recommendations or conclusions of the meeting to be sent to the General Assembly, the session ended with conclusions prepared by the Chair¹.

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

IGC Twenty-Eighth Session

The 28th session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Genetic Resources was held from **7-9 July 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador Wayne McCook from Jamaica. Consultations were facilitated by Mr. Ian Goss from Australia who acted as Friend of the Chair.

One of the agenda items was related to the participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in IGC meetings. In this respect, a proposal by Australia, Finland, New Zealand and Switzerland² was considered and the Committee took note of it. This proposal was also presented at the PBC meeting in September 2014 but did not find consensus for its approval. The IGC called upon members and all interested public or private entities to contribute to the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities.

The session was expected to do a cross-cutting Review on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions as well as stocktaking the progress in order to make recommendations to the General Assembly.

Developing countries, in particular the Like-Minded Group and the African Group, pushed for the IGC to agree on the convening of a Diplomatic Conference in 2015. However, Group B countries

¹

http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/copyright/en/sccr_28/sccr_28_ref_conclusions.pdf

² See document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/10.

considered that the text is not mature enough to call for a Diplomatic Conference. In addition, developed countries such as CEBS and the EU indicated their concerns with regard to the requirement of disclosure of origin or source of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in patent applications since they considered it could bring legal uncertainty to the patent system.

Given the impossibility of achieving consensus on the future work programme of the Committee that should have been suggested to the General Assembly, the African Group, Kenya, the EU and United States presented their respective proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration.³

Finally, the meeting could not conclude on its stock-taking mandate to inform the progress of its work to the General Assembly and make recommendations. Instead, "the Committee decided that statements made on this matter during the final discussion in the Twenty-Eighth session under this agenda item on Wednesday, July 9, 2014, be recorded in the report of the Committee and that those statements be transmitted to the WIPO General Assembly".

Program and Budget Committee: Twenty-Second Session

The 22nd session of the WIPO Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took place from **1–5 September 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland. It was chaired by Ambassador Gabriel Duque from Colombia.

The PBC is one of the main bodies in which member States carry out their oversight function of the WIPO Secretariat's activities in implementing the program and budget, as approved by member States.

The meeting addressed many different topics including the consideration of the report of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC), report of the External Auditor and report of the Director of the Internal Audit and Oversight Division (IAOD). In addition, other agenda items were the revisions to the Internal Oversight Charter, the Progress Report on the Implementation of the Joint Inspection Unit's (JIU) Recommendations and the review of WIPO's financial situation and its policies related to reserves.

Also, a proposal by Australia, Finland, the Holy See, New Zealand and Switzerland for the

participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC), governance issues including a proposal by Belgium, Mexico and Spain for increasing efficiency in WIPO meetings, external offices and a definition of "Development Expenditure" have been discussed. The Committee did not find agreement between Member States on these issues.

The PBC recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to take note of the reports by the WIPO IAOC and IAOD and requested the Secretariat to continue to take action in response to their recommendations. The PBC also requested the IAOC to continue to review and oversee the actions taken by the Secretariat with a view to reporting to the PBC.

The PBC recommended the General Assembly and other WIPO Assemblies to take note of the report by the External Auditor.

The PBC recommended the General Assembly to approve the proposed revisions to the WIPO Internal Oversight Charter except two recommendations dealing with confidentiality of investigation reports and materials.

The PBC took note of the status of the implementation of the JIU recommendations noting that 12 recommendations have been implemented, 10 remain under consideration and 2 are under implementation.

Additionally, the PBC took note of the Secretariat's comments on the JIU report and decided to request the Secretariat to present a follow-up report of the next PBC on the implementation of JIU Management and Administration report recommendations.

With regard to the Program Performance Report (PPR) 2012-2013, countries presented their views on it. Concerning programme 2, Germany mentioned that even when they continue in favour of having a Diplomatic Conference on DLT as soon as possible, they also recognise that the substance has been watered down to the point that there is no clarity whether a treaty or a set of recommendations is being negotiated. Consequently, the delegate indicated that consideration should be given to "freeze" the negotiations on the Design Law Treaty.

After reviewing the comprehensive report and, recognising that it is a self-assessment of the Secretariat, the PBC noted the improvements made to the report as requested by Member States. Similarly, Member States requested the Secretariat to duly take into account the lessons

³ The proposals were included in the IGC report (document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/11 Prov.)

learnt from the implementation in the 2012/13 biennium for the 2014/15 period.

The PBC recommended the General Assembly and other WIPO Assemblies to approve the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements 2013 as well as the Financial Management Report 2012/13 Biennium.

Relating to the Annual Report on Human Resources, the PBC considered its content. Developing countries made statements on the need for a broader a more balanced geographical diversity. It was recommended that the General Assembly request that the suggestions formulated by Member States are included in future reports.

The PBC recognised the opportunity to improve biennial performance and financial reporting, welcomed the Secretariat's proposal to move to an integrated Biennial Performance Report and requested the Secretariat to submit a detailed proposal on the format and content of such a report for the next session of the PBC.

Discussions were held on a proposal made by Australia, Finland, the Holy See, New Zealand and Switzerland to fund through the regular budget the participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). Although Member States agreed on the importance of the participation of those groups and communities in the IGC work, many of them were concerned of this proposal as a precedent for the future to have the budgets of other WIPO committees expanded to include the participation of non-Member States, not being able then to reach a consensus on this subject matter. The main problem identified by different countries has been the lack of resources of the WIPO voluntary fund. In this respect, while opposing to the proposal under analysis, the United States offered to make a contribution to the fund. Finally, the PBC recommended that the Secretariat continues looking for funds to support indigenous and local communities' participation.

Concerning the establishment of new WIPO external offices, the PBC considered a document containing the draft Guiding Principles but there was no consensus during the meeting. As described by Ambassador Fitschen of Germany during the PBC, the most controversial issue is that related to the Evaluation / assessment of the functioning of the External Offices network (document WO/PBC/22/25, paragraph 22). The document includes proposals of three groups of countries on that matter, namely African Group, Group B, and Chile/Mexico/ Panama. Due to the lack of consensus, the PBC recommended to the General Assembly to further consider this issue.

With regards to the definition of development expenditure, divergent views were expressed. Developing countries such as the African Group and Brazil, insisted on having an outcome in this session using the proposal drafted in 2012 as the basis for a new definition on development expenditure. On the other hand, developed countries such as the Group B and the United Kingdom expressed their support for the current definition to continue being applicable. After long discussions, the Secretariat did not receive instructions from the PBC to prepare the budget for the biennium 2016/2017. Also, the PBC was even unable to reach an agreement concerning the venue to continue the discussions, that is whether the next PBC session or the General Assembly. As a result, the chair prepared its own report on this issue to the General Assembly. The Chair's summary affirms that while no decision was reached, some progress on this topic was made. Although not clarifying any venue, it also mentions that future discussions could take into account the previous proposals, the texts circulated and the ideas and suggestions expressed during the plenary session.

Additionally, the PBC could not reach any agreement on any recommendation regarding review of WIPO governance. In addition, Member States could not agree on language to present any recommendation to the General Assembly. Thus, as there was no decision, the chair would prepare its own report on this matter. Similarly to that reported for the definition of development expenditure, while recognising the diversities of views among Member States, the chair affirmed that "some progress was made, including the consideration of short term and long term measures". He added that future discussions could take into account the texts produced by the Vice-Chair through informal consultations and ideas and suggestions expressed during the PBC.

During the 21st session of the PBC, the African Group had circulated its proposal on Governance at WIPO, Document WO/PBC/21/20. The proposals extracted a number of Member States' submissions on improving WIPO Governance as contained in WO/PBC/17/2.Rev with a view to kick start and advance the discussion.

The proposals were under the following pillars:

- (i) Improving the work of the Program and Budget Committee: the need for PBC to meet twice a year regularly, need to review HR issues,
- (ii) Improving the work of the Coordination Committee (COCO): need to clearly divide responsibilities between PBC and COCO; COCO to be empowered with executive functions.
- (iii) Improving the interaction between

Member States and the Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC): establishment of a smaller PBC Working Group to consider IAOC/JIU recommendations; need for quarterly reports and meetings of IAOC.

- (iv) Improving interaction between Member States and the auditors: need for more regular and formal meetings
- (v) Establishing a fair and efficient mechanism to select Chair and Vice Chairs of WIPO Bodies: need to ensure quality, fairness and expertise and clear selection process. The proposal also called for an inter-sessional meeting to be held in February 2014 with a view to present specific recommendations for PBC 22.

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO: Fifty-fourth Series of Meetings

The Fifty-fourth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO took place from **22 to 30 September 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland with the participation of Member States and observers. The General Assembly was chaired by Ambassador Päivi Kairamo of Finland.

The WIPO Assemblies include the main decision making bodies of WIPO which are the General Assembly and the WIPO Coordination Committee, and the nineteen assemblies and other bodies of the member States of WIPO and of the Unions for various Treaties administered by WIPO. These meetings bring together WIPO's member States, allowing them to take stock of the progress in the organization's work and to discuss future policy directions.

As last year's General Assembly, this year it was also characterised by a heavy agenda including complex issues.

The election of officers of the Coordination Committee, the Paris Union and the Berne Union Executive Committees was subject to informal consultations. After those consultations, Ambassador Nguyen Trung Thanh of Vietnam was elected as Chair of the Coordination Committee, and Ahlem Sara Charikhi (Algeria) and Virág Krisztina Halgand Dani (Hungary) as Vice-chairs. Additionally, Grace Issahaque (Ghana) and Martha Menjivar Cortez (El Salvador) were elected as Chair and Vice-chair of the Paris Union Executive Committee, and Grega Kumer (United Kingdom) and Miklós Bendzsel (Hungary) as Chair and Vice-chair of the Berne Union Executive Committee.

The meeting of the Coordination Committee decided on the appointment of Mario Matus

(Chile), John Sandage (United States of America), Wang Binying (China) and Anne Leer (Norway) as Deputy Directors General. Moreover, the Committee gave its advice on the appointment as Assistant Directors General of Minelik Getahun (Ethiopia), Yoshiyuki Takagi (Japan), Ramanathan Ambi Sundaram (Sri Lanka) and Naresh Prasad (who was the Chief of Staff).

In addition, following a proposal by the United States⁴, the Coordination Committee discussed the provision of advice to the Lisbon Union Assembly regarding the convening of a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of a revised Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications in 2015. Given the dissimilarities of the views expressed, the Committee took note of the statements presented by Member States. This issue was also discussed under the agenda item relative to the Lisbon system. Member States repeated the positions previously expressed in the Coordination Committee. United States, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Uruguay, Republic of Korea and Chile consider that it is necessary that being the inclusion of geographical indications in the Lisbon system a substantial change that changes the subject matter of the agreement, any possible diplomatic conference should allow the participation of all interested WIPO Member States. Conversely, the EU and its Member States are very interested in the convening of the Diplomatic Conference as soon as possible and do not think that the broader approach proposed by US and other delegations is needed. Furthermore, they do not consider that the inclusion of geographical indications changes the subject matter of the agreement but will make it more attractive for other countries to ratify it.

The Annual Report on Human Resources was also considered in the Coordination Committee. Proposed amendments to Staff Regulations were also considered and approved by the Committee.

The General Assembly took note of the Report by the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC), the Report by the External Auditor, the Report of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) and Review of the Implementation of the Development Agenda Recommendations and reports on other WIPO Committees, namely: Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP); Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT); Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS); and Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE).

⁴ Document WO/CC/70/4.

The documents under consideration regarding the PCT system, Hague system and Madrid system were adopted by the respective Assemblies with no changes. With regard to the Lisbon Union, an increase of fees could not be agreed so the issue was referred to the Working Group on the Lisbon system for its consideration.

With regard to the consideration of the report of the Program and Budget Committee, the topic of external offices was treated separately in informal consultations since the beginning of the General Assembly. Developing countries expressed their interest of having a decision on the definition of development expenditure and governance and were reluctant to take the issue back to the PBC. On the other hand, developed countries manifested that since the issues were not explicitly included in the agenda of this meeting, the issues should continue being discussed under the PBC. After informal consultations, the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO and the Unions administered by it decided to request the PBC to continue the discussion on governance at WIPO and the definition of development expenditure at its 23rd Session. As a result, the next PBC will find Member States deliberating once more on these two issues.

The most controversial topics and those that finally concluded with no decisions are the consideration of the Convening of a Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Design Law Treaty (DLT), Matters relating to the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), matters concerning the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) and the consideration of External Offices derived from the Program and Budget Committee discussions last September.

On the subject of matters concerning the SCCR, Members States presented divergent views in particular on three issues: the consideration of convening a Diplomatic Conference (DC) for the adoption of a treaty on the protection of broadcasting organisations, exceptions and limitations for libraries and archives, as well as exceptions and limitations for educational, teaching and research institutions. Group B, the EU and CEBS Group insisted on the need of convening a DC in 2016 whereas other members mentioned that some work still needs to be done. Developing countries, in particular Brazil, South Africa, Paraguay on behalf of GRULAC and Peru pointed out that informal consultations including the three issues should be the way forward. After several days of consultations, Member States could not agree on the way forward and the General Assembly finished with a Chair's conclusion stating that there was no decision.

Despite this lack of progress, it is important to mention that many Member States stated that they are in the internal process for the ratification of the Beijing and Marrakesh treaties.

The agenda item on the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) was largely subject to informal consultations. Nevertheless, the gap in views of Member States did not make it possible to reach consensus and thus no decision was adopted by the General Assembly on this matter. It is important to recall that the main subject under consideration was the adoption of a work programme for the IGC to continue its work. The interventions repeated already known positions. Developing countries have been pushing for the adoption of a work programme with a view of convening a diplomatic conference in 2015 so to adopt a legally binding instrument/s. Nonetheless, developed countries have continued to declare their preference for a non-binding text that is "flexible and sufficiently clear", stating that still technical work needs to be done so to bridge the gap between both positions.

The third controversial topic was that of the establishment of new WIPO external offices. Following intense and lengthy consultations, Member States were not able to agree on any decision on this subject. While some countries emphasise the importance of finishing the guiding principles that would rule the functioning of the offices, the African Group considers of outstanding importance that two new offices be set up in that continent. As a result, the Chair concluded that no decision was adopted.

Finally, regarding the consideration of the Convening of a Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Design Law Treaty (DLT) the closing plenary found Member States reiterating its positions: developing countries highlighted the importance of an article on technical assistance to be included in the text, and developed countries declared their disappointment for the inability to agree to convening a Diplomatic Conference.

Future WIPO Meetings

The Twenty-First Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents will take place from **3-7 November 2014**.

The 14th Session of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) will take place from **10-14 November 2014**.

The 22nd session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and

Geographical Indications will be held from **24-26 November 2014**.

The 29th session of the SCCR will take place from **8-12 December 2014**.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Annual meetings of WHO Regional Committees

WHO Regional Committees will meet from 1 September – 22 October 2014 to set policy and approve budgets and programmes of work for each of the six WHO regions. The following schedule applies:

- WHO Regional Committee for Africa: 1-5 September 2014
- WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia: 9-12 September 2014
- WHO Regional Committee for Europe: 15-18 September 2014
- WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific: 13-17 October 2014
- WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean: 19-22 October 2014
- WHO Regional Committee for the Americas: 29 September to 3 October 2014

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES (UPOV)

Future UPOV meetings

The Forty-Eighth Ordinary Session of the UPOV Council will meet on the **16 October 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)

Future ITPGRFA Meetings

The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing will be held from **8-12 December 2014** in Geneva Switzerland.

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD)

Future CBD Meetings

The twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity will take place from **6-17 October 2014** in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea.

The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing will be held from **13-17 October 2014** in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea.

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)

Technology Executive Committee (TEC)

Ninth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee

The Ninth TEC Meeting was held on **18-21 August 2014** in Bonn, Germany.

The TEC is the policy branch of UNFCCC's Technology Mechanism. Its goal is to provide an overview of technological needs, and conduct analyses of policy and technical issues related to the development and transfer of technologies for mitigation and adaptation.⁵

The TEC considered works under process on good practices of the technology needs assessments and linkages between technology needs assessments and nationally appropriate mitigation actions, national adaptation plans, and national communications, involving national designated entities. It also considered draft key messages to be submitted to the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties. Finally, there was an in-session thematic dialogue on climate technology financing.

Future UNFCCC Meetings

The Bonn Climate Change Conference - the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/bodies/body/6437.php>

Enhanced Action (ADP) will hold the sixth part of its second session from **20-25 October 2014** in Bonn, Germany.

The 20th session of the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC will be held from **1-12 December 2014** in Lima, Peru.

The 10th session of the TEC will be held at some point during the week commencing on **9 March 2015** in Bonn, Germany.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

Future UNCTAD Meetings

From **26-28 November 2014** there will be an Inter-sessional Panel of the Commission of Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) 2014-2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.

The 18th session of the Commission of Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) will be held from **4-8 May 2015** in Geneva, Switzerland.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

Future ITU Meetings

The 19th Meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) will take place from **29 September to 1 October 2014** in Geneva, Switzerland.

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference will be held from **20 October to 7 November 2014** in Busan, Republic of Korea.

INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS (ICANN)

Future ICANN meetings

The 51st Meeting of ICANN will be held on **12-16 October 2014** in Los Angeles California, U.S.A.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (TPP)

The TPP chief negotiators' met from **3-12 July 2014** in Ottawa, Canada, and from **1-10 September 2014** in Hanoi, Vietnam.

During the meeting that Chief negotiators had in July 2014, there were also technical meetings of the following working groups: Intellectual Property,

Investment, Stated Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and Textiles. No ministerial meeting was organised for that occasion.⁶

Then, chief negotiators and working groups met again in September 2014 with a view of working on pending issues. Besides the previously mentioned working groups, there were also discussions on rules of origin, transparency and anti-corruption, labour, market access, including goods, services, financial services, and government procurement.⁷

To make additional progress, the United States trade chief committed to work with his TPP counterparts on a bilateral basis.⁸ In this respect, on 24 September there was a bilateral meeting between Japan and the US but no progress could be achieved.⁹

Future TPP meetings

A TPP Ministerial meeting will take place from **25-27 October 2014** in Sydney, Australia.

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

EU-US FTA (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership – TTIP)

Sixth Round of Negotiations

The sixth round of TTIP talks took place on **14-18 July, 2014** in Brussels.

Negotiations were held on different of the components of the agreement like market access (including trade in goods, tariffs, services, investment and public procurement) and the regulatory component (including technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, textiles, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, ICT and pesticides). Additionally, negotiators worked on rules, principles and modes of cooperation on energy/raw materials, trade and sustainable development/labour and environment, rules of origin, competition, intellectual property rights/geographical indications and small and medium sized enterprises, among others.

⁶ <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-ptp/rounds-series.aspx?lang=eng#a8>.

⁷ <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-ptp/rounds-series.aspx?lang=eng#a9>.

⁸ <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/press-releases/2014/September/TPP-Negotiators-Make-Important-Progress-on-Agreement>.

⁹ <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/press-releases/2014/September/Readout-of-Meeting-between-USTR-Froman-and-Japanese-Minister-Amari>.

According to public information, both sides are engaged in discussions in order to define the potential scope of a chapter on intellectual property rights. Concerning geographical indications, both the EU and the US are willing to include the issue. Negotiations on this issue have been held on the basis of EU papers.¹⁰

Future TTIP Negotiations

The seventh round of negotiations of the TTIP will be held from 29 September - 3 October 2014.

Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

In September 2014, the EU and Canada concluded negotiations for a trade agreement. As can be seen in the consolidated text¹¹, CETA covers various areas. As regards the chapter on intellectual property rights, it covers copyrights and related rights, trademarks, geographical indications, designs, patents, pharmaceuticals, plant protection products and plant varieties.

EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

Ninth Round of Negotiations

The ninth round of negotiations took place from **22-26 September 2014** in Danang, Vietnam.

Discussions in this meeting were particularly focused on trade in goods, services, investment, and state owned enterprises. Also, there was substantial progress in the chapter on trade and sustainable development, and the chapter on cooperation was closed.¹²

Future meetings EU-Vietnam FTA

There will be a new meeting for chief negotiators in **October 2014**.

EU-Ecuador Free Trade Agreement

In 2007 negotiations for a trade agreement between the EU and the Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) were launched. However, in 2009 Ecuador decided to leave the process. Recently, after continued

contact between the EU and Ecuador, negotiations were reconvened in January 2014.

After four rounds of negotiations, an agreement was achieved on 17 July 2014.¹³ As a result, Ecuador joins the trade agreement already concluded between the EU, Colombia and Peru.

¹⁰

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2014/july/tradoc_152699.pdf.

¹¹ <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/toc-tdm.aspx>.

¹²

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1157>.

¹³

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1156>.