



STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE 59TH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION INCLUDING THE PCT UNION ASSEMBLY

Item Agenda No. 17 - Report on the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT)

The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago wholeheartedly supports the continuing efforts of the Standing Committee on Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications. The issues arising from the deliberations in this important Committee continue to inform Trinidad and Tobago's legislative agenda in respect of the laws of trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications.

Mr. Chairman, the Senate of Trinidad and Tobago assented to the Trade Marks Act, 2015 on June 12th, 2015. This new Act will replace the existing Trade Marks Act, Chap. 82:81 and facilitate the electronic filing of trade marks and the registration of new types of marks such as sound, scent, smell and motion marks. The Act will also implement the most recent version of the Nice Classification system.

Upon completion of the Trade Marks Regulations by the Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) and Chief Parliamentary Counsel, a proclamation

will bring the new Act into effect. I am pleased to advise that the TTIPO has done its final review of its Trade Marks Regulations, Trade Marks (International Registration) Regulations and Trade Marks (Border Enforcement Measures) Regulations.

The package of legislation which accompanies the Trade Marks Act No. 8 of 2015 is to be laid in Parliament subject to negative resolution before they come into effect later this year.

We are also pleased to inform this committee that Trinidad and Tobago signed the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks on September 3rd, 2019 and will formally accede during the General Assemblies.

With respect to Industrial Designs, Trinidad and Tobago has sought technical assistance from WIPO to draft national legislation in preparation for accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs. The legislation is being vetted by the TTIPO. The TTIPO expects to be in a position to accede at the 2020 General Assemblies.

Trinidad and Tobago looks forward to the continuing work in this Committee as it seeks to guide Member States along their developmental paths. Our continued gratitude is of course extended to WIPO for its assistance in developing and preparing the Trade Marks Act and Regulations and the proposed legislative amendments for accession to the Hague Agreement. We look forward to working together with other member states regarding

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their operations. We wish to express our gratitude to World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the support and training offered to the staff of the TTIPO.

Mr. Chairman, with these comments, I thank you.