



The Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference,

Date: 19th, 20 and 23rd October, 2018.

WIPO Forum on Strengthening IP Management in African Universities

Background

Universities and Research and Development (R&D) Institutions as centers for knowledge production have a key pioneering role to play in the development and transformation of the African economies. In the knowledge based economy of today, it is important that governments create enabling environments for the protection of intellectual property (IP) rights, in relation to creations of the mind, as well as strengthen the judicial institutions that protect such property, making its ownership secure, worthwhile, and ensuring that IP owners have fair opportunities to obtain the commercial rewards for their creations that markets can confer. There is need for more awareness rising on the role of IP as an enabler for innovation, while not losing sight of and reinforcing, the educational and research mission of universities.

Guided by the principles in the WIPO Development Agenda 1, WIPO's cooperation development programs for the member states, aims to facilitate the use of IP for development across all sectors. In view of the importance of the agricultural sector in Africa which holds great promise for the continent's future growth and job creation, promoting agricultural production and transformation is therefore one of the most effective ways to drive inclusive growth and reduce poverty. Indeed, the sector employs 65-70% of the Africa workforce and accounts for roughly a third of the continent's GDP. It's worth noting that women comprise 45% of the agricultural labor force in developing countries with that figure rising to 60% in parts of Africa, thus making them the backbone of agriculture in those parts of the world². A development strategy driven by agro-industries with higher value addition and higher productivity through the economic value chain can bring about a slight distribution of economic

¹ The WIPO Development Agenda – Formally established by WIPO's Member states in 2007 ensures that development considerations form an integral part of WIPO's work. <http://www.wipo.int/ip-development/en/agenda/>



growth and wealth creation in Africa and poverty reduction in the continent's rural sector.

To continue thriving on agriculture, African countries need to build social consensus toward innovation as an important component of its development that will lead to the continent's true development, including innovation in agriculture that will increase crop yields with less acreage. There is a consensus within Africa that such a vital sector as agriculture needs to be transformed using the catalytic power of science, technology and innovation . The adoption in July 2014 of the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A), reflects this consensus through its core purpose which is to advocate the importance of science as part of the transformation process of agriculture in Africa.

Universities and Research Institutions can and should play an important role of driving the required change and supporting this development. Evidence points to the growing research capacity of African universities as shown by the increasing number of publications and technologies generated from research. The Institutions need to enhance their research output and benefits thereof through more efficient and effective use of the IP system, through direct use but also by providing relevant approaches to teaching and learning that benefit from its use. Intellectual property rights (IPR) are an important part of ensuring that benefits from university research and innovation accrue to stakeholders at all levels of in the innovation eco-system. With appropriate IP management regimes in place, farmers, entrepreneurs and universities alike would be able to fully exploit their own inventions and innovations, access others at lowest cost, and therefore enhance the use of knowledge and information generated by universities and their partners.

The significance of the IP system has also been highlighted by the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) which emphasizes the need to protect knowledge production through IPR and regulatory regimes at all levels, including academic institutions. However, among African universities, there is still limited awareness about the IP system and its role in strengthening IPR management in universities, promoting innovative ideas that can be transformed into public goods, supporting knowledge transfer to students and the public, and promoting economic benefit from the products of university research and innovation. Building capacity of universities will offer incentives for faculties to carry



out more research, facilitate successful commercialization, dissemination and adoption of university innovations.

Universities need to rethink their role and move towards Public Private Partnership (PPP) to encourage technology transfer from universities to the private sector; to enhance the competitiveness of the private sector not only through access to innovative research results but also to ensure that university research results are made available to society through their commercialization. The key challenge in achieving this means governments and the institutions have to adequately put in place the technology transfer process and mechanisms including the use of IPR for commercialization.

It is within the above context and in line with WIPO's vision aimed at promoting innovation and facilitating the use of the IP system for development that WIPO, in partnership with the Japan Patent Office (JPO) under the Funds-in-Trust (FIT) arrangement for Africa and least developed countries (LDCs), the France FIT, and in close cooperation with the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), and the Government of the Republic of Kenya through the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), are organizing the WIPO Forum on Strengthening IP Management in African Universities.

Purpose of the Side Event

WIPO is the global forum for IP services, policy, information and cooperation. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations, with 188 member states. Its mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. As the lead UN Agency tasked with promoting IP worldwide, it delivers on this mandate through a robust technical cooperation program that has progressively evolved to adjust to changing IP challenges facing the global market. In this regard, in addition to the provision of legislative support towards the establishment of appropriate IP infrastructure and administration, WIPO's technical assistance program incorporates the formulation and implementation of concrete and impactful projects as well as the development of various tools and services aimed at enhancing Member States' capacity to use and leverage IP for economic, social, technological and cultural development.

CO-ORGANISERS:





These tools and services aim, inter alia, to enhance access to knowledge and exchange of technologies; enhance technical and knowledge infrastructure; provide support in the use of IP tools for branding and adding value to local products; build Member States' capacity both in terms of industrial property and copyright protection and management, as well as human capital/resource development in terms of IP education and training. These various platforms and programs allows for a greater level of connection on the part of developing and least developed countries in Africa to the global knowledge networks that exist around the world.

Objectives of the side Event The main aim of this Forum is to increase awareness and knowledge of university leaders on the IP system to strengthen knowledge creation, transfer and exploitation to:

1. Provide an opportunity for the decision makers to have a better understanding of IPR and its use for universities;
2. Gain a broader perspective on how to effectively utilize and manage the IP system for scientific and technological development; and
3. Demonstrate the importance of institutional IP policies and strategies for management and use of IPR for university generated research and innovations

Venue Participants and The Vice Chancellors and the Principals and Deans of academic programs in their respective colleges/faculties who play a pivotal role in shaping the strategic direction within which quality educational and research experiences are programmed, delivered, evaluated and upheld

Expected Outputs

- (i) Increased knowledge of the IP system and its use by the Universities;
- (ii) Increase in the number of Universities strengthening or establishing institutional IP Policies and Strategies; and
- (iii) Increase in use of the various WIPO platforms to access information and knowledge by the universities

Contacts WIPO
The Regional Bureau for Africa

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CO-ORGANISERS:





Development Sector
Ms. Joyce Banya
E-mail: joyce.banya@wipo.int

KIPI
Mr. David Njuguna
Manager, Patents
Kenya Industrial Property Institute & Measures
E-mail: dnjuguna@kipl.go.ke

CO-ORGANISERS:





<u>Friday, October 19, 2018</u>		
8.30 – 9.00	Registration	
9.00– 9.30	Opening Ceremony	
	Welcome addresses by:	
9.30 – 9.45	The Representative of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), Nairobi The Representative of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Kampala The Representative of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), Harare	
9.45 – 10.00	The Representative of the Government of Japan in Kenya, Nairobi The Representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva The Representative of the Government of the Republic of Kenya, Nairobi	
	Group Photo	
	Coffee Break	
THEME I	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) AND INNOVATION FOR AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT Moderator: RUFORUM (TBC)	
10.00 – 13.00	Topic 1	What is IP and Why is it Important in the Innovation – Led Knowledge-based Economy ? <i>This session will discuss the role of IP in the context of an innovation-led and knowledge-based economy where intangible assets as opposed to tangible assets are the driving engines for innovation, creativity and wealth creation.</i> <i>It will also provide an overview of the fundamentals and the benefits of industrial property rights and copyright and related rights for universities and research institutions.</i> (i) The Catalytic Role of Patents and Utility Models in the Promotion of Technologies and Innovation – Regional Perspective , Japan Perspective Speakers: Dr. Dick Kamugasha Deputy Executive Director, Uganda Industrial Research Institute



	Topic 1 (Cont'd)	<p>(UIRI), Kampala, Dr. Yoshitoshi Tanaka Professor Department of Industrial Engineering and Economics , School of Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology , Tokyo</p> <p>(ii) The Importance of Commercial Identifiers for Business Competitiveness: - Industrial Designs - Trademarks - Geographical Indications</p> <p>Speakers: KIPI (TBC) Industry (Private Sector) TBC</p>
Discussions		
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch Break	
Discussions		
14.30 – 15.30	Topic 1 (Cont'd)	<p>(iii) Protecting your Publication: Copyright and Related Rights in Universities and Research Institutions</p> <p>Speakers: Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO) (TBC), Nairobi</p>
Discussions		
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break	
Discussions		
16.00 – 17.00	Topic 2	<p>Protecting New Plant Varieties to Promote Agricultural Research</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the importance of developing and protecting new plant varieties for the benefit of breeders, producers and farmers. It will also present the international legal framework for the Protection of New Plant Varieties (the UPOV system) and its role in promoting agricultural research and development (R&D).</i></p> <p>Speakers: UPOV (TBC) Plant Breeder (Local Speaker)</p>
Discussions		
	End of Day One	



19.00 – 21.00	Reception - Offered by KIPI	
<u>Saturday, October 20, 2018</u>		
THEME II	EFFECTIVE USE OF THE IP SYSTEM BY UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS	
9.00 – 11.00	Topic 3	The Strategic Importance of Public-Private Partnerships in Creating a Virtuous Circle
		Moderator : KIPI (TBC)
		<i>One of the engines of economic development is the cooperation between R&D institutions, the public and the private sector for generation and exploitation of innovative products. This session will discuss the linkages between R&D results and the market, as well as available opportunities for wealth creation.</i>
		(i) From Idea to the Market Place (ii) Collaborative Research (iii) Licensing, Assignment
		Speakers: Prof. Tom Peter Miguna Ogada, Associate Professor in Mechanical Engineering, International IP Consultant, Nairobi, RUFORUM (TBC)
	Discussions	
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee Break	



11.30 – 13.00	Topic 4	Facilitating the Use of IP for Development <i>This session will present WIPO's activities relevant to universities and R&D institutions for capacity building, human resource development, IP institutional framework and management of IP assets, as well as the different WIPO platforms for access to Knowledge.</i>
		Moderator: KIPI(TBC)
		(i) WIPO's Technical Assistance Programs: - National Innovation and IP Strategies and Plans - Institutional and Technical Infrastructure - Legislative Assistance and Policy Advice - Enhancing Human Capital – The WIPO Academy
		(ii) WIPO's Platforms for Access to Scientific Technological Information (TISC, WIPO Re:Search, WIPO Green)
		(iii) Project for Elaboration of Guidelines for Institutional IP Policy and Strategies for Universities in Africa
		Speakers: WIPO (TBC) Ms. Rose Mboya, Head of Intellectual Property Division, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), Nairobi, Dr. Dick Kamugasha,
	Discussions	
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch Break	
14.30 – 15.30	Topic 5	The Role of the Regional IP Organizations in Promoting the Effective Use of the IP System in Africa



		(i) ARIPO Speaker: A representative from ARIPO
		(ii) <i>Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle</i> (OAPI) Speaker: A representative from OAPI
	Discussions	
15.30 – 16.30		WRAP UP ON THE OUTCOME AND WAY FORWARD <i>Rapporteurs will present the outcome of discussions during the two-day meeting. Participants will agree on the way forward/next steps to be presented to the Vice Chancellors' Biennial Conference</i>
		Moderator: RUFORUM (TBC)
		All Speakers/ Participants
16.30 – 17.00		CLOSING CEREMONY

<u>Tuesday, October 23, 2018</u>	
8.30 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 9.30	Opening Ceremony
	Welcome address by:



		<p>The Representative of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), Nairobi</p> <p>The Representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva</p> <p>The Representative of RUFORUM</p> <p>The Representative of the Japan Embassy in Nairobi</p> <p>The Representative of the Government of the Republic of Kenya</p> <p>Group Photo</p> <p>Coffee Break</p>
	THEME I	<p>INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) AND INNOVATION FOR AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Moderator: To be determined (TBD)</p>
10.00 – 11.00	Topic 1	<p>What is IP and Why is it Important in the Innovation – led Knowledge-based Economy?</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the role of IP in the context of an innovation-led and knowledge-based economy where intangible assets as opposed to tangible assets are the driving engines for innovation, creativity and wealth creation.</i></p> <p><i>It will also provide an overview of the fundamentals and the benefits of industrial property rights and copyright and related rights for universities and research institutions.</i></p> <p>(i) The Catalytic Role of Patents and Utility Models in the Promotion of Technologies and Innovation</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Isaac Rutenberg (TBC) Director of the Center for Intellectual Property and Information Technology (CIPIT), Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>(ii) Protecting your Publication: Copyright and Related Rights in Universities and Research Institutions</p>



		Speaker: Dr. Marisella Ouma (TBC), Nairobi, Kenya
	Discussions	
11.00 – 12.00	Topic 2	The Strategic Importance of Public-Private Partnerships in Creating a Virtuous Circle
		<i>One of the engines of economic development is the cooperation between R&D institutions, the public and the private sector for generation and exploitation of innovative products. This session will discuss the linkages between R&D results and the market, as well as available opportunities for wealth creation.</i>
		(i) From Idea to the Market Place (ii) Collaborative Research (iii) Licensing, Assignment
		Speakers: Prof. Tom Peter Miguna Ogada, Associate Professor in Mechanical Engineering, International IP Consultant, Nairobi, RUFORUM (TBC)
12.00 – 13.00	Topic 3	Protecting New Plant Varieties to Promote Agricultural Research <i>This session will discuss the importance of developing and protecting new plant varieties for the benefit of breeders, producers and farmers. It will also present the international legal framework for the Protection of New Plant Varieties (the UPOV system) and its role in promoting agricultural research and development (R&D).</i> Speakers: UPOV (TBC) Local Speaker (TBC)
	Discussions	





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