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**DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RULE 77 OF THE RULES
OF PROCEDURE OF BOARD**

**Application from the Arab Federation for Protection of Intellectual Property
Rights (AFPIPR)**

*Note by the UNCTAD secretariat**

Executive summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Arab Federation for Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (AFPIPR) requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's Rules of Procedure.

Subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, AFPIPR may be classified in the Special Category under the provisions of paragraph 12(b) of Board decision 43 (VII), so that it may participate in the activities of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities and the activities of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues.

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its forty-first executive session.

Information on the Arab Federation for Protection of International Property Rights is annexed hereto.

* This document was submitted on the above-mentioned date as a result of processing delays.

Annex

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE ARAB FEDERATION FOR PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

History

1. The Arab Federation for Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (AFPIPR) was formed at a meeting of the General Assembly of AFPIPR establishing members in Cairo on 19 May 2005, and it subsequently received full legal NGO status as recognized by member States in the League of Arab States.

Aims and objectives

2. The aim of AFPIPR is to assist and cooperate with governmental, public and private sector organizations in Arab countries in order to establish transparent, non-discriminatory intellectual property regimes and systems that adhere to international norms and correspond to national and regional economic and social conditions.

3. It provides its members with the necessary consultative and executive support to facilitate the expansion and improvement of national and regional conditions for sustainable development and to promote harmonization of national laws related to intellectual property rights.

4. In addition, AFPIPR seeks to pave the way for the international community to direct its technological, innovative and investment capacities to the Arab region in order to boost national economies.

Membership

5. AFPIPR is open to individuals and organizations from countries in the League of Arab States. It is also open to trading and investment houses, industrial and academic forums, national and regional professional associations, and trade, industrial and investment federations. It has the following types of membership:

Full members (organizations/professionals/individuals);

Associate members;

Monitoring members;

Honorary members (public officials).

6. Currently, members of AFPIPR are based in Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Structure

7. The AFPIPR General Assembly elects the Board of Directors, which consists of seven members elected for a four-year term and is headed by a President. The General Assembly and the Board of Directors elect the President, the Executive Vice-President and the Vice-President.

8. Current office holders are as follows:

H.E. Mr. Rashed Mohamed Al Mazrouei (United Arab Emirates), President;

Dr. Bassem Aslan (Lebanon), Executive Vice-President;

Dr. Ali Abdul Rahman (Egypt), Vice-President.

Financial resources

9. The organization's financial resources come from members' subscriptions and contributions, as well as from donations.

Relations with other international organizations

10. AFPIPR cooperates with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Publications

11. It publishes a monthly newsletter on IPR matters in the Arab world.

Liaison

12. Liaison with UNCTAD will be assured by H.E. Mr. Rashed Mohamed Al Mazrouei, President of AFPIPR, and Dr. Bassem Aslan, Executive Vice-President of AFPIPR.

Headquarters address

7th Floor, 97B, Corniche Elnile

Cairo, Egypt

Tel/Fax: +202-458 40 70

Mobile: +2012 73 96 200

Languages

13. The working languages of the organization are English and Arabic.

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