12/26/2012 Events

On 21 December this year was held the meeting of the National Commission on Intellectual Property (NCIP), in which took part its members, approved by Government Decision no. 489 of 29.03.2008. The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova, Minister of Economics Valeriu LAZAR.

In accordance with the agenda, there were discussed the following issues:

- National Intellectual Property Strategy until 2020;
- Draft Government Decision amending the Regulations on the National Commission on Intellectual Property;
- Denunciation of the Eurasian Patent Convention and initiation of negotiations on the Draft Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the European Patent Organization on Validation of European Patents;
- The results of the official visit of Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between Moldova and WIPO on intellectual property;
- Competition for the creation of national symbols associated with protected geographical indications, protected appellations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed;
- The unified intellectual property information system;
- Public Awareness Campaign “STOP Piracy and Counterfeiting!”

Following discussions, ministries and institutions concerned were recommended to take the necessary measures to implement the Strategy, to submit to AGEPI, until February 28, 2013, information on the performance results of actions planned for 2012, included in the Action Plan and AGEPI will draw up the enhanced monitoring report.

To promptly, fully and strategically address issues related to the national intellectual property system and improve the efficiency of NCIP activity, it was agreed to amend the Regulations on its activity and update the nominal composition.

As mentioned at the meeting, Moldova emerged from the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), denouncing from the Eurasian Patent Convention by Law of the Republic of Moldova No. 78 of 21.04.2011. To ensure continuity of relations between RM and EAPO and to enable continuity of the legal effects of Eurasian patents in our country, an Agreement was signed between the RM Government and EAPO on legal protection of inventions in Moldova after denunciation. Further on, AGEPI will evaluate the existing legislative framework to identify the need for amending the national legislation on the protection and enforcement of rights in patents to ensure the implementation of the future Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the European Patent Organization on Validation of European Patents.

Also, AGEPI has made a commitment, as coordinator on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, to ensure the achievement of goals and activities provided for in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Moldovan Government and WIPO, signed during the visit of the Director General of WIPO in the Republic Moldova. In the same context, AGEPI will ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Program of Cooperation between AGEPI and WIPO on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and problems associated with patents and the Memorandum of Cooperation between AGEPI and WIPO on Electronic Communication under the Madrid System of International Registration of Marks.

Another NCIP decision referred to the preparation by AGEPI and submission to the Government of a draft law approving the national symbols associated with protected geographical indications, protected appellations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed – winners of the contest ended on September 10, 2012, for the purpose of their large-scale promotion.

To ensure the exchange of information between authorities responsible for the enforcement of intellectual property rights, and generate reports, analytical and statistical studies in the field, it was initiated the project of creating a unified information system in the field of intellectual property, which will include a common database as a working tool of the Unified Information System, for the exchange of information between authorities responsible for the coordination and streamlining of identification, investigation and other actions necessary to combat counterfeiting and piracy, improve the level of protection of intellectual property rights and inform the public about the measures taken to combat counterfeiting and piracy. Also, the involved authorities were recommended to enhance the collaboration to the level of the working groups and achieve the exchange of information in the format agreed by the parties.

Finally, AGEPI representatives informed the NCIP members about the results of the Public Awareness Campaign “STOP Piracy and Counterfeiting!”, the priorities of which consisted in raising the awareness of society of the need to respect intellectual property rights, raising consumer culture by informing and educating them about the negative effects of counterfeiting and piracy, increasing the degree of participation of right holders and representatives of the private sector in the process of protection and defense of intellectual property rights, diminution of the level of counterfeiting and piracy on the domestic market, to ensure the protection of IP rights and to increase the attraction of foreign investments.

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