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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
ON COMMUNICATIONS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS UNDER THE
PROCEDURES OF THE MADRID SYSTEM
BETWEEN

THE STATE AGENCY ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA (AGEPI)
AND

THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

On the basis of Section 11(a) of the Administrative Instructions for the application of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement, AGEPI and the International Bureau of WIPO mutually consent to communicate, with effect from November 1, 2012, documents electronically, according to the following understandings:

I. COMMUNICATIONS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS FROM AGEPI TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF WIPO

- (a) AGEPI will transmit forms and notifications concerning certain documents to be submitted under the procedures of the Madrid system, namely:
 - International Applications (forms MM1, MM2, MM3, MM4, MM11, MM12, MM18, MM19);
 - Requests for Recordals (MM5, MM6, MM7, MM8, MM9, MM10);
 - Rule 17 Notification of Provisional Refusal;
 - Rule 18ter Final Disposition on the Status of a Mark;
 - Rule 19 Invalidations in Designated Contracting Parties;
 - Rule 21 Replacement of a National or Regional Registration by an International Registration;
 - Rule 22 Ceasing of Effect of the Basic Application, of the Registration Resulting Therefrom, or of the Basic Registration;

- Rule 23 Division or Merger of the Basic Application, of the Registration Resulting Therefrom, or of the Basic Registration;
- Answer to Irregularities (e.g. Rules 12 or 13).
- (b) This data will be sent to the International Bureau of WIPO as a zip file containing documents in PDF format with the bibliographic data in an XML file.
- (c) AGEPI will send the documents (including images) to the following address: ftp://mecain.wipo.int.

Naming rule and compressing method of the transmittable files will be as follows:

- XML file: Byymmddx.xml (in the input\biblio folder);
- documents and trademark images file: Byymmddx.zip (in the input\images folder).
- (d) AGEPI will upload documents every day.
- (e) The International Bureau of WIPO will create an XML file containing details of the transactions received from AGEPI and loaded into the International Bureau of WIPO internal system. The International Bureau of WIPO will process these documents on weekday mornings at 7:30 a.m. (local time in Geneva); the date when AGEPI puts a document on the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) is the date on which the document is considered received by the International Bureau of WIPO.
- (f) The International Bureau of WIPO will send "MECA Upload Audit" reports to AGEPI on weekday mornings to the following email address: Sergiu.Scrinic@agepi.md.
- (g) These electronic communications will commence on November 1, 2012.

II. COMMUNICATIONS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF WIPO TO AGEPI

- (a) The International Bureau of WIPO will transmit documents, in which it notifies AGEPI of international registrations designating the Republic of Moldova and subsequent changes to such international registrations, using XML format.
- (b) The International Bureau of WIPO will send documents to the following addresses:
 - bibliographic data file: ftp://ftpird.wipo.int/wipo/madrid/notif/md,
 - images file: ftp://ftpird.wipo.int/wipo/madrid/notif/md/images,
 - PDF file: ftp://ftpird.wipo.int/wipo/madrid/notif/md/PDF.

- (c) The International Bureau of WIPO will transmit to AGEPI the images file in JPG and TIF formats.
- (d) The XML files will be encoded using ISO-8859-1. In the case of Latin special characters in electronic documents, the characters will be expressed with the numeric-coded method (e.g. Ā).
- (e) The International Bureau of WIPO will upload notifications in XML format of international registrations and changes to such international registrations every Wednesday at 9 p.m. (local time in Geneva). PDF notifications will be uploaded to the FTP server on Fridays.
- (f) These electronic communications will be the official communication as from November 1, 2012.

III. NETWORK CONNECTION

AGEPI and the International Bureau of WIPO will use FTP through public network for transmission of electronic documents.

IV. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

AGEPI and the International Bureau of WIPO will continue their cooperation in order to extend electronic communications.

V. CONTACT POINT FOR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

AGEPI:

Mr. Sergiu Scrinic Senior Programmer Programming and databases administration Division Sergiu.Scrinic@agepi.md

Mrs. Natalia Mogol Deputy Director Trademarks and Industrial Designs Department Natalia.Obriste@agepi.md The International Bureau of WIPO:

Mr. Roger Holberton Head, Business Application Architecture Section Functional Support Division, Brands and Designs Sector roger.holberton@wipo.int

VI. MODIFICATIONS

This MoU may be modified by mutual consent between AGEPI and the International Bureau of WIPO, formalized by an exchange of letters specifying the date of entry into force of the modification concerned.

VII. DURATION AND TERMINATION OF THE MOU

The duration of this MoU is not limited. Either AGEPI or the International Bureau of WIPO may terminate this MoU, subject to three months written notice. If such a case, paper notifications will replace all electronic notifications referred to under the present MoU.

VIII. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Any dispute regarding this MoU shall be resolved amicably by negotiations between AGEPI and the International Bureau of WIPO.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this MoU has been signed, in two originals in English, on October $\ref{23}$, 2012.

For the State Agency on Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI)

Mrs. Lilia Bolocar Director General For the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Mr. Francis Gurry Director General