



29 September 2023

(23-6560)

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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: INFORMATION FROM OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

At its meeting of 14-15 June 2023, the Council for TRIPS agreed to invite intergovernmental organization observers to the Council to update the information on their technical and financial cooperation programmes relating to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement.

The present document reproduces the information which has been received from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by means of a communication dated 17 September 2023.

INTRODUCTION

1. The UNCTAD Secretariat, in accordance with its mandate under Bridgetown Covenant (2021) and taking into account international and regional initiatives, such as those by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Health Organization (WHO), and the African Union, implements a work programme on advancing the development dimension of intellectual property (IP) rights as they relate to key economic sectors. The work programme is implemented by its Intellectual Property Unit, located within the Division on Investment and Enterprise.

2. UNCTAD focuses on improving the effective participation of developing countries in international IP norm setting, upgrading national IP policies and advancing regional cooperation on IP rights. It also works on building coherence between IP, investment and trade policies to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, to address the changes brought by frontier technologies and to build productive capacity in vital sectors of developing countries' economies, with a priority on the bio-pharmaceutical and vaccine sectors. The work programme is partially funded by donor governments and institutions. Currently, the work programme targets technical assistance and capacity building in areas related to: (1) local pharmaceutical and vaccines production, including in the context of COVID-19 and anti-microbial resistance (AMR); and (2) regional and national IP policies.

ANNEX¹

Name of programme or project	Global event on enhancing the sustainability of investment for vaccine manufacturing in Africa
Date and end date	27 June 2023 - 29 June 2023
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Algeria; Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eswatini; Ethiopia; Gabon; The Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Libya; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Morocco; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Tunisia; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	UNCTAD, the African Vaccine Manufacturers Initiative (AVMI) and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) co-convened the event, with the financial support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). 147 industry representatives from Africa and the rest of the world, technology and finance providers and development partners came together to exchange views on how to make vaccine manufacturing initiative in Africa sustainable; to match and create synergies between their respective offers and demands; and identify appropriate business models to move the Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) forward.
Beneficiary institution or audience	Representatives of vaccine industry and other investors interested in investing for vaccine manufacturing in Africa, international finance providers, technology facilitators, regional organizations, and development partners.
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Outputs or impact	The Global event demonstrated various innovative and diverse initiatives of the industry and development partners for the realization of the Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM). An industry statement was adopted at the end of the meeting. To seize the opportunities, the event demonstrated the need to translate plans into action; to address market shaping mechanisms to ensure sustainability; accelerate the rolling out of investment finance and programmes for skills development; and increase the opportunity for business-to-business interactions.
Website for further information	https://unctad.org/meeting/global-event-enhancing-sustainability-investment-vaccine-manufacturing-africa
Contact point for further information	Ermias Biadgleng, Legal Affairs Officer, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD. ermias.biadgleng@un.org

¹ In English only.

Name of programme or project	Regional policy framework for the promotion of antibiotics production and supply in the East African Community
Date and end date	29 November 2022 - 30 November 2022
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Burundi; Kenya; Rwanda; Tanzania; Uganda
Brief description	UNCTAD in collaboration with the EAC Secretariat organized a regional experts' workshop on the development of draft regional policy framework for the promotion of antibiotics production and supply in the East African Community (EAC). The main objectives of the regional workshop were (1) for regional experts to provide input for a policy framework on promotion of production and supply of antibiotics with key stakeholders and (2) enhancing regional cooperation for information exchange and pooled procurement of antibiotics.
Beneficiary institution or audience	The participants included representatives of EAC partner states from the Ministry responsible for Industrialization (Focal person for Pharmaceuticals); Ministry of Health (Focal person responsible for pharmaceutical production policy); National Medicines Procurement Agency; National Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association and development Partners (ReAct Africa- Action on Antibiotic Resistance, GARDP Africa- Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and World Health Organization)
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	The regional experts adopted two instruments: (1) Draft Policy Framework on Production and Supply of Antibiotics; and (2) Regional cooperation mechanism for information exchange on supply of antibiotics. The two instruments were adopted by the 38th Extra Ordinary Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance, and Investment (SCITIFI) on 1st April 2023 (EAC/ExSCTIFI 38/Decision 5 and EAC/ExSCTIFI 38/Decision 6). Following the adoption of the regional instruments, UNCTAD organized a series of capacity building and national consultation workshops in collaboration with EAC Secretariat in Rwanda (16-17 May 2023), Burundi (18-19 May 2023), Tanzania (22-23 May 2023), Uganda (19-21 July 2023), South Sudan (24 July 2023) and Kenya (25-27 July 2023).
Website for further information	https://www.eac.int/news-and-media/calendar-of-events/event/1093-regional-experts%E2%80%99-workshop-on-the-development-of-draft-regional-policy-framework-for-the-promotion-of-antibiotics-production-and-supply-in-the-eac
Contact point for further information	Ermias Biadgleng, Legal Affairs Officer, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD. Ermias.biadgleng@un.org

Name of programme or project	Training and technical advice on regional cooperation on intellectual property rights
Date and end date	1 August 2022 - 30 November 2022
Beneficiary Member(s) or observer(s)	Algeria; Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eswatini; Ethiopia; Gabon; The Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Libya; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Morocco; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Sao Tomé and Príncipe; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Tunisia; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe
Brief description	UNCTAD provided advisory services on the best means to advance regional cooperation on IP rights in the context of the negotiation for Intellectual Property Protocol under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
Beneficiary institution or audience	The AfCFTA Secretariat and negotiators of the Intellectual Property Protocol of the African Continental Free Trade Area
Technical cooperation provider(s)	UNCTAD
Outputs or impact	AfCFTA has adopted its regional Intellectual Property Protocol during the 4th Meeting of the Committee on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). UNCTAD's input supported the elaboration of cooperation mechanism, policy coherence between IP rights and other policy domains, with a focus on the promotion of pharmaceutical sector development and the interface between IP and regional trade.
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	Ermias Biadgleng, Legal Affairs Officer, Intellectual Property Unit, UNCTAD. Ermias.biadgleng@un.org