

Special Union for the International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Union)

Committee of Experts

Fourteenth Session
Geneva, November 18 to 21, 2019

REPORT

adopted by the Committee of Experts

INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) held its fourteenth session in Geneva from November 18 to 21, 2019. The following members of the Committee were represented at the session: China, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom (19). The following States were represented by observers: Afghanistan, Algeria, Israel, Nicaragua, Saudi Arabia and United States of America (6). A representative of the following international intergovernmental organization took part in the session in an observer capacity: Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO). The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.
2. The session was opened by Mr. Yo Takagi, Assistant Director General, Global Infrastructure Sector, WIPO, who welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director General.

OFFICERS

3. The Committee unanimously elected Ms. Natalie Morgan (United Kingdom) as Chair, and Ms. Peggy Breuil (France) and Ms. Jitka Streitberg (Czech Republic) as Vice-Chairs.
4. Ms. Alison Züger (WIPO) acted as Secretary of the session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Committee unanimously adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex II to this report.

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

6. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings held from September 24 to October 2, 1979 (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), the report of this session reflects only the conclusions of the Committee (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participant, except where a reservation in relation to any specific conclusion of the Committee was expressed or repeated after the conclusion was reached.

PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE TWELFTH EDITION OF THE LOCARNO CLASSIFICATION

7. Discussions took place on the understanding that:
 - (i) for amendments and additions to the Locarno Classification (hereinafter referred to as the "Classification") not entailing a transfer of goods from one class to another, a simple majority of the countries of the Locarno Union was required under Article 3(4) of the Locarno Agreement;
 - (ii) for the transfer of goods from one class to another, unanimity among the countries of the Locarno Union was required under the same Article 3(4).
8. The Committee noted that countries of the Union not represented at the session or not having expressed their vote during the session or within the period prescribed by the Rules of Procedure of the Committee were considered to have accepted the decisions of the Committee, as set forth in Article 3(6) of the Locarno Agreement.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE TWELFTH EDITION OF THE LOCARNO CLASSIFICATION

(a) VARIOUS PROPOSALS

9. Discussions were based on project [LO142](#), [Annex 1](#), which contained a summary table of proposals for amendments and additions to the current (twelfth) edition of the Classification.
10. The Committee adopted an important number of changes to the Classification. The decisions of the Committee are available on the electronic forum, project [LO140](#).

(b) CHANGES CONCERNING THE USE OF “OTHER THAN”, “EXCEPT FOR” AND SQUARE BRACKETS

11. Discussions were based on project [LO142](#), [Annex 2](#), submitted by the International Bureau (IB), which contained a proposal to harmonize the use of the expression “except for” between square brackets throughout the list of goods.

12. The Committee adopted the proposal with some modifications. The decisions of the Committee are available on the electronic forum, project [LO140](#).

(c) CHANGES CONCERNING THE CREATION OF NEW SUBCLASSES

13. Discussions were based on project [LO142](#), [Annex 3](#), submitted by China. The proposals aimed at creating two new subclasses for spectacles and for hair removing and hair styling apparatus and instruments that would group goods with similar characteristics, and by making certain transfers from other subclasses.

14. The overall principle of the proposals did not obtain consensus, and although some amendments were adopted by the Committee, the delegation of China withdrew the majority of its proposals. The decisions of the Committee are available on the electronic forum, project [LO140](#).

UPDATES ON LOCARNO-RELATED IT MATTERS

15. The Committee noted the recent and upcoming improvements regarding various IT-related matters, as outlined by the International Bureau:

- (i) the recent introduction of the WIPO IP Portal into the online publication of the Locarno Classification (LOCPUB);
- (ii) the upcoming restructuring and updating of the Locarno E-forum with a slightly different look and feel, whilst maintaining its main functions;
- (iii) information about the Revision Management Solution (RMS) project across all Classifications, of which development with regards to the Locarno Classification is expected to begin in the second half of 2020. This project aims to facilitate the revision process of the Classification. The Committee noted that the RMS may not be available for the next Locarno revision cycle, but that Member States would be kept informed of any possible developments through the mailing list/E-forum and some changes might be introduced as a transitional step at the next revision cycle, such as the use of a harmonized Excel template for submitting proposals.

NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE NEXT EDITION

16. The Committee agreed that the next (fifteenth) session would be held in Geneva in the fall of 2021.

17. The Committee noted that the IB would prepare and publish online the new (thirteenth) edition of the Classification, in English and in French, in December 2020 and that the notification of entry into force would be sent by the end of June 2020.

18. The Committee agreed that amendments and additions to the twelfth edition of the Classification would enter into force on January 1, 2021.

CLOSING OF THE SESSION

19. The Chair closed the session.

*20. The Committee of Experts
unanimously adopted this report by
electronic means on
December 9, 2019.*

[Annexes follow]

ANNEXE I/ANNEX I

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS/LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

I. ÉTATS MEMBRES/MEMBER STATES

(dans l'ordre alphabétique des noms français des États)
(in the alphabetical order of the names in French)

ALLEMAGNE/GERMANY

Kristin EBERSBACH (Ms.), Head, Design Unit, German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA), Jena

Evelyn HARDRAHT (Ms.), National Expert for Classification and Product Indication, Design Unit, German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA), Jena

CHINE/CHINA

QU Yi (Ms.), Deputy Director, Design Department, China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), Beijing

ZHOU Yun (Ms.), Examiner, Design Department, China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), Beijing

ESPAGNE/SPAIN

Elena BORQUE SANZ (Sra.), Técnica Superior Examinadora, Patentes e Información Tecnológica, Oficina Española de Patentes y Marcas (OEPM), Ministerio de Industria, Comercio y Turismo, Madrid

FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE/RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Olga DARINA (Ms.), Senior Researcher, Classification and Standards Division, Federal Institute of Industrial Property (FIPS), Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks (ROSPATENT), Moscow

FINLANDE/FINLAND

Olli TEERIKANGAS (Mr.), Head of Unit, Patents and Trademarks, Finnish Patent and Registration Office, Helsinki

FRANCE

Peggy BREUIL (Mme), juriste dessins et modèles, Service des dessins et modèles, Institut national de la propriété industrielle (INPI), Courbevoie

Géraldine EL FENE (Mme), examinatrice dessins et modèles, Service des dessins et modèles, Institut national de la propriété industrielle (INPI), Courbevoie

GRÈCE/GREECE

Aristeidis PITTARAS (Mr.), Director, Directorate of Applications and Grants, Hellenic Industrial Property Organization (OBI), Paradissos Amaroussiou

Maria VOUTZOULIA (Ms.), Designs Formalities Examiner, Documentation and Publication Department, Hellenic Industrial Property Organization (OBI), Paradissos Amaroussiou

HONGRIE/HUNGARY

Virag Eszter NAGY (Ms.), Legal Officer, Trademark and Design Department, Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO), Budapest

INDE/INDIA

Vinod Prakash VASAVA (Mr.), Assistant Controller, Patents and Designs, Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi

ITALIE/ITALY

Alfonso PIANTEDOSI (Mr.), Head, Italian Patent and Trademark Office, Directorate General for the Fight against Counterfeiting (UIBM), Ministry of Economic Development, Rome

Silvia COMPAGNUCCI (Ms.), Examiner, Marks, Designs and Models, Italian Patent and Trademark Office, Directorate General for the Fight against Counterfeiting (UIBM), Ministry of Economic Development, Rome

JAPON/JAPAN

Hideo SAKUYAMA (Mr.), Deputy Director, Design Division, Patent and Design Examination Department Physics, Optics, Social Infrastructure and Design, Japan Patent Office (JPO), Tokyo

MEXIQUE/MEXICO

Sonia HERNÁNDEZ ARELLANO (Sra.), Subdirectora Divisional de Asuntos Multilaterales y Cooperación Técnica Internacional, Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI), Ciudad de México

Luis Silverio PÉREZ ALTAMIRANO (Sr.), Coordinador Departamental de Examen, Área de Diseños Industriales y Modelos de Utilidad, Dirección Divisional de Patentes, Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI), Ciudad de México

NORVÈGE/NORWAY

Kjersti GRAVKLEV (Ms.), Adviser, Design Section, Norwegian Industrial Property Office (NIPO), Oslo

POLOGNE/POLAND

Elżbieta DOBOSZ (Ms.), Head, Design Division, Trademark Department, Polish Patent Office, Warsaw

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CORÉE/REPUBLIC OF KOREA

HUH Yoonmin (Ms.), Examiner, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), Seoul

KANG Byungwan (Mr.), Examiner, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), Seoul

KIM Sang Yun (Mr.), Examiner, Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), Daejeon

RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE/CZECH REPUBLIC

Jitka STREITBERG (Ms.), Search Specialist, Patent Information Department, Intellectual Property Office, Prague

ROYAUME-UNI/UNITED KINGDOM

Natalie MORGAN (Ms.), Head, Trade Mark Classification and Design Law and Practice, UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO), Newport

Darrel HENDY (Mr.), Classification Examiner, Trade Mark and Design Classification, UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO), Newport

Morwenna BELL (Ms.), Trade Marks and Designs Training Officer, UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO), Newport

SLOVAQUIE/SLOVAKIA

František ŠRAMOTA (Mr.), Trademark and Design Expert, Trademark and Design Department, Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, Banská Bystrica

SUISSE/SWITZERLAND

Simon KROPF (Mr.), Deputy Head Designs, Designs and Topographies, Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, Bern

II. ÉTATS OBSERVATEURS/OBSERVER STATES

AFGHANISTAN

Fareed Ahmad ROUDWALL (Mr.), Market Access Negotiator, Permanent Mission, Geneva

ALGÉRIE/ALGERIA

Mustapha CHAKAR (M.), assistant technique, Ministère de l'industrie et des mines, Alger

ARABIE SAOUDITE/SAUDI ARABIA

Hisham ALBIDAH (Mr.), Head, Industrial and Layout Designs Department, Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP), Riyadh

ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE/UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Brandon ROSATI (Mr.), Technology Center Operations Manager, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia

ISRAËL/ISRAEL

Alice MAHLIS ABRAMOVICH (Ms.), Head, Designs Department, Israel Patent Office (IPO), Ministry of Justice, Jerusalem

NICARAGUA

Erick Ariel ZÚNIGA CASTELLÓN (Sr.), Especialista en Examinación de Patentes y Nuevas Tecnologías, Dirección Específica de Patentes y Nuevas Tecnologías, Dirección General del Registro de la Propiedad Intelectual, Ministerio de Fomento, Industria y Comercio (MIFIC), Managua

Carlos Ernesto MORALES DÁVILA (Sr.), Embajador, Representante Permanente, Misión Permanente, Ginebra

Mirna Mariela RIVERA ANDINO (Sra.), Consejera, Misión Permanente, Ginebra

III. ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE/
INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

ORGANISATION EURASIENNE DES BREVETS (OEAB)/EURASIAN PATENT
ORGANIZATION (EAPO)

Andrey KONDRAT (Mr.), Director, Patent Application Docflow Operation and Control Division,
Examination Department, Moscow

IV. BUREAU/OFFICERS

Présidente/Chair: Natalie MORGAN (Mme/Ms.)
(Royaume-Uni/United Kingdom)

Vice-présidentes/Vice-Chairs: Peggy BREUIL (Mme/Ms.) (France)
Jitka STREITBERG (Mme/Ms.)
(République Tchèque/Czech Republic)

Secrétaire/Secretary: Alison ZÜGER (Mme/Ms.) (OMPI/WIPO)

V. SECRÉTARIAT DE L'ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ
INTELLECTUELLE (OMPI)/SECRETARIAT OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

Secteur de l'infrastructure mondiale/Global Infrastructure Sector

Yo TAKAGI (M./Mr.), sous-directeur général/Assistant Director General

Kunihiko FUSHIMI (M./Mr.), directeur, Division des classifications internationales et des
normes/Director, International Classifications and Standards Division

Alison ZÜGER (Mme/Ms.), chef, Section des classifications pour les marques et les dessins et
modèles, Division des classifications internationales et des normes/Head, Mark and Design
Classifications Section, International Classifications and Standards Division

Helen WHITTINGHAM (Mme/Ms.), administratrice aux classifications, Section des classifications
pour les marques et les dessins et modèles, Division des classifications internationales et des
normes/Classifications Officer, Mark and Design Classifications Section, International
Classifications and Standards Division

[L'annexe II suit/
Annex II follows]

ANNEX II
(see paragraph 5 of this report)

AGENDA

| | <u>Paragraphs</u> (Annexes) |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Opening of the session | 2 |
| 2. Election of a Chair and two Vice-Chairs | 3 |
| 3. Adoption of the agenda See the present document. | 5 (II) |
| 4. Consideration of proposals for amendments and additions to the twelfth edition of the Locarno Classification | |
| (a) Various proposals See project LO142 , Annex 1 . | 9, 10 |
| (b) Changes concerning the use of “other than”, “except for” and square brackets See project LO142 , Annex 2 . | 11, 12 |
| (c) Changes concerning the creation of new subclasses See project LO142 , Annex 3 . | 13, 14 |
| 5. Updates on Locarno-related IT matters | 15 |
| 6. Next session of the Committee of Experts. Entry into force of the next edition | 16 - 18 |
| 7. Closing of the session | 19 |

[Annex III follows]

TECHNICAL ANNEXES

[The Technical Annexes are available on the Electronic Forum, under Project [LO140](https://www3.wipo.int/classifications/nef/public/locarno/en/)
<https://www3.wipo.int/classifications/nef/public/locarno/en/>]

[End of Technical Annexes and of document]