

Presentation of Mr. Lalloo Ramlal, representative from the Trinidad and Tobago, Intellectual Property Office

The “XXVIII Meeting of International Cooperation Directors for Latin America and the Caribbean: Cooperation for Intellectual Property”

and

the “Seminar on Opportunities for International Cooperation for Latin America and the Caribbean : Towards Greater Strengthening of Regional Cooperation”

organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin America and Caribbean Economic System (SELA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Republic of Panama be held in Panama City Panama, from November 7 to 9, 2017.

Brief Overview of Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office's Initiative

“ To strengthen the capability of the Trinidad and
Tobago Intellectual Property Office
to provide Knowledge Transfer and Intellectual Property
Rights Education, Information and Training Services
through cooperation
with
the Mexican Industrial Property Institute (IMPI)
and
El Instituto Nacional de Propiedad Industrial (INAPI) de Chile”

About Trinidad and Tobago (T&T)

- Is one of the fourteen (14) countries of the Caribbean Region
- Population : 1.3M (CSO, 2016)
- Area : 5,128 Sq Km
- GDP per Capita: US 17,935 USD (Source Carib Econ Report, April 2017)
- **Economy** (Source CSO)

Sector	% GDP	% of Labour Force/Employment
Manufacturing	8	8.0
Oil/Gas	36.2	2.9
Services	54.9	84.8

Patent and Trademark Applications

Sources of Patent Applications	Number of Applications 2014	Number of Applications 2015	Number of Applications 2016	Remarks
International Applications	185	164	135	Mainly through PCT in Pharmaceuticals, Oil and Gas and organic Chemistry
Local Applications	2	3	3	
TOTAL	187	167	138	

Sources of Trademark Applications	Number of Applications 2014	Number of Applications 2015	Number of Applications 2015	Remarks
International	1110	1296	991	
Local	368	380	408	
TOTAL	1478	1676	1339	

IPICA Policy White Paper (13 January, 2017)

- IPICA, the Spanish acronym for “Empowering knowledge transfer in the Caribbean region through effective Intellectual Property Rights and Knowledge Transfer Regimes
- 3 Yr project funded by EU:ACP-EU Co-Operation Programmes
- Completed in January 2017
- Project Team
 - 2 Universities from EU (Alicante, Austria)
 - 3 Universities from Caribbean Region
 - 2 Intellectual Property Offices
 - One Ministry from Jamaica
 - Support from IP Office T&T, Spanish IP Office, OHIM Spain, WIPO

IPICA Policy White Paper

- Situation : Lack of policy action in the Caribbean Region to stimulate IPR in general, more so in the area of science, Technology and Innovation (STI)
- Need: For the Region to use IP tools more strategically

IPICA's Policy Recommendations for Trinidad and Tobago

- Many recommendations
- However the recommendation:

“Establish support services such as Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) within existing institutions/local entrepreneurship enablers to support the commercialization of IP”

(IPICA Policy White Paper)

- is being pursued by the T&T's IP Office.

T&T IPO's Strategy to Establish a TISC

- The approach is not to “re-invent the wheel”
- Seek through South-South cooperation linkages into TISC-type services, infrastructure and expertise available in the Region
- **WIPO's consultant** (see RADAUER, A (2015). Integrating Intellectual Property into Innovation Policy formulation in Trinidad and Tobago. WIPO) **recommended that T&T “reference”:**
 - Mexico's IMPI CADOPAT system and
 - Chile's INAPI PROYECTA system

IMPI's CADOPAT: Its Expertise and Resources

- Prior art search reports
- Patent examination reports
- Patentability opinions
- Support documents

INAPI's PROYECTA; Its Expertise and Resources

- Processing, reporting and dissemination of technical knowledge
- Providing education and training services to support technology transfer

T&T Needs to progress

- Operationalize the “co-operation agreement” with Chile’s INAPI and establish another with Mexico’s IMPI
- Immediate needs
 - A description and analysis of INAPI’s PROYECTA and IMPI’s CADOPAT systems
 - The concept of an integrated TISC information system linking INAPI and IMPI services
 - A strategy to accomplish these objectives

Updates

- T&T has already signed a MOU with Chile
- Both the Controller of the T&T IPO and senior officials of IMPI met. There is preliminary agreement on both sides regarding access to CADOPAT.
- This South-South type relationship is the first of its kind in the region. An enabling mechanism is required to operationalize the agreements for cooperation.

References

- IPICA: Empowering knowledge transfer in the Caribbean through effective IPR & KT regimes - POLICY WHITE PAPER: ENCOURAGING IPR & KT GOOD PRACTICES IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION
- IPICA project (2016). Empowering knowledge transfer in the Caribbean through effective IPR & KT regimes - MICRO-LEVEL STUDY: BENCHMARKING REPORT. Universidad de Alicante.
- RADAUER, A (2015). Integrating Intellectual Property into Innovation Policy formulation in Trinidad and Tobago. WIPO.
- IPICA: Empowering knowledge transfer in the Caribbean through effective IPR & KT regimes
- - POLICY WHITE PAPER: ENCOURAGING IPR & KT GOOD PRACTICES IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION <https://cadopat.impi.gob.mx>

Thank You!!!!!!