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Status of ISPM 15 Symbol Registration

Agenda item 11.3

Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

I. Background

1. CPM-8 (2013) endorsed the strategy proposed by the CPM Bureau to move forward with the registration of the ISPM 15 symbol¹. CPM-9 (2014), encouraged Contracting Parties to actively pursue the registration of the ISPM 15 symbol, including registration renewals in countries where registration was due to expire. The CPM encouraged Contracting Parties to reimburse the IPPC Secretariat for the cost of registration renewals. CPM-11 (2016) also encouraged Contracting Parties to continue to support the process of registration of the ISPM 15 symbol, including renewals of registrations that are due to expire as well as to reimburse the IPPC Secretariat for registration and registration renewal costs as soon as practically possible.

II. Progress and Current Status²

2. Applications for renewal have been filed in all countries in which the registration was due to expire. The respective dates for the next renewal in each country are indicated in Attachment 1 to this document.

¹ See Appendix 5 to CPM-8 Report.

² Attachment 1 to this document provides information on the status of registration in each country.



3. As for new registrations, in accordance with the decision made by the CPM-8, the IPPC Secretariat, in close collaboration with the FAO Legal Office, started the registration process in countries in which the ISPM 15 symbol was not yet protected. The filing of applications was split across the five-year plan endorsed by CPM-8 and on the basis of criteria for the selection of countries that included legal and trade-related indicators as well as the commitment by countries to reimburse registration costs. In particular:

- 1) in 2014, FAO started the first round of registrations in 17 countries (the countries in which the process is still ongoing are identified in Attachment 1 as “I round”). The total allocated budget for this purpose was USD 65,000;
- 2) in 2015, 15 countries were identified for the second round of registrations (“II round”, for countries in which the process is still ongoing). The total allocated budget was USD 40,000;
- 3) in 2016, the Secretariat identified 17 countries for the third round of registrations (the countries in which the process is still ongoing are identified as “III round”). The total allocated budget was USD 45,000;
- 4) between 2017 and 2018, the IPPC Secretariat initiated a new round of registrations in 8 countries (“IV round”). The total allocated budget was USD 90,000.
- 5) This last round of registrations in 2019 will cover the remaining 16 countries (“V round”). The total estimated budget is USD 40,000.

4. It is important to note that annual budgets also include allocations for extra legal fees that are paid for completing registrations that were initiated in previous years. Also, cost of registration per country can vary significantly due to the specifics of intellectual property law in the specific country and many other factors.

5. Since 2013 other relevant progress includes:

- Letter to Ministers. In order to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the symbol and assist the NPPOs in their interaction with their respective government, the IPPC Secretariat sent a letter to the responsible Minister in each country, explaining the purpose of registration and highlighting the need for political and financial support in registering or renewing the registration. The letters were sent out throughout 2014 and 2015.
- Letter on the reimbursement of cost for registration renewal. The IPPC Secretariat also sent a letter to the NPPOs providing information on the procedures for reimbursing the costs for registration renewals done in 2013. Many countries expressed their willingness to reimburse such costs. Many countries already reimbursed the costs to the IPPC Secretariat.
- The Q&A webpage was posted on the IPP portal in 2014³.

6. The work plan for the upcoming years includes:

- The completion of new registrations.
- Unless there are unexpected problems (such as, for example, objections and other legal issues raised by National Patent Offices), the necessary registration renewals and new registration rounds should be completed in due course, under the total agreed budget of USD 350,000. The contracts with the two trademark firms selected by FAO to carry out the registration process on its behalf expired in September 2018. Both have been extended to allow for the completion of the registration process, both for applications already filed and for new applications. Towards the end of the period, the budget may be revised for adjustment, as appropriate.

³ See <https://www.ippc.int/faq>

7. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *note* the progress made in 2018 and the work plan for 2019 with regard to the registration of the ISPM 15 symbol.
- 2) *encourage* contracting parties to continuously support the process of registration of the ISPM 15 symbol, including renewals of registrations that are due to expire, and
- 3) *encourage* contracting parties to reimburse the IPPC Secretariat for registration and registration renewal costs as soon as practically possible.

Attachment 1**Update on the ISPM 15 symbol registration***Contracting Parties*

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
1	Afghanistan		IV round (in process)
2	Albania	26/09/2023	
3	Algeria	26/09/2023	
4	Antigua and Barbuda	26/09/2023	
5	Argentina	15/04/2025	
6	Armenia	26/09/2023	
7	Australia	26/09/2023	
8	Austria	04/04/2023	
9	Azerbaijan	26/09/2023	
10	Bahamas	31/08/2030	
11	Bahrain	26/09/2023	
12	Bangladesh		IV round (in process)
13	Barbados		II round (in process)
14	Belarus	20/06/2026	
15	Belgium	04/04/2023	
16	Belize	31/03/2025	
17	Benin*	03/10/2028 * 24/12/2028 *	
18	Bhutan	26/09/2023	
19	Bolivia		IV round (in process)
20	Bosnia and Herzegovina	26/09/2023	
21	Botswana	26/09/2023	
22	Brazil	19/05/2019	

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
23	Bulgaria	26/09/2023	
24	Burkina Faso*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
25	Burundi		III round (in process)
26	Cambodia	26/09/2023	
27	Cameroon*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
28	Canada	27/07/2020	
29	Cape Verde		V round
30	Central African Republic*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
31	Chad*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
32	Chile	30/12/2019	
33	China	26/09/2023	
34	Colombia	26/09/2023	
35	Comoros*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
36	Congo*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
37	Cook Islands	08/02/2021	
38	Costa Rica	30/07/2025	
39	Côte d'Ivoire*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
40	Croatia	26/09/2023	
41	Cuba	26/09/2023	
42	Cyprus	04/04/2023	
43	Czech Republic	26/09/2023	
44	Democratic Republic of the Congo	22/09/2024	

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
45	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	26/09/2023	
46	Denmark	04/04/2023	
47	Djibouti		V round
48	Dominica		II round (in process)
49	Dominican Republic	02/05/2028	
50	Ecuador		III round (in process)
51	Egypt	26/09/2023	
52	El Salvador	02/07/2028	
53	Equatorial Guinea*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
54	Eritrea		X
55	Estonia	26/09/2023	
56	Ethiopia		V round
57	European Union (CTM)	04/04/2023	
58	Fiji	26/07/2031	
59	Finland	04/04/2023	
60	France	04/04/2023	
61	Gabon*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
62	Gambia	26/09/2023	
63	Georgia	26/09/2023	
64	Germany	04/04/2023	
65	Ghana	26/09/2023	
66	Greece	04/04/2023	
67	Grenada	07/04/2026	
68	Guatemala	05/10/2027	
69	Guinea*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
70	Guinea Bissau*	03/10/2028*	

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
		24/12/2028*	
71	Guyana	22/01/2026	
72	Haiti	02/06/2026	
73	Honduras	23/09/2025 and 13/11/2025	
74	Hungary	26/09/2023	
75	Iceland	26/09/2023	
76	India		I round Under negotiation with Min of Agriculture
77	Indonesia	06/11/2023	
78	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	26/09/2023	
79	Iraq		IV round (in process)
80	Ireland	04/04/2023	
81	Israel	26/09/2023	
82	Italy	04/04/2023	
83	Jamaica	16/05/2026	
84	Japan	26/09/2023	
85	Jordan	12/07/2027	
86	Kazakhstan	26/09/2023	
87	Kenya	26/09/2023	
88	Kuwait		V round
89	Kyrgyzstan	26/09/2023	
90	Lao People's Democratic Republic	26/09/2023	
91	Latvia	26/09/2023	
92	Lebanon		IV round (in process)
93	Lesotho	26/09/2023	
94	Liberia	26/09/2023	

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
95	Libya		V round
96	Lithuania	26/09/2023	
97	Luxembourg	04/04/2023	
98	Madagascar	26/09/2023	
99	Malawi	08/03/2019	
100	Malaysia	02/04/2023	
101	Maldives	02/07/2020	
102	Mali*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
103	Malta	04/04/2023	
104	Mauritania*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
105	Mauritius		IV round (in process)
106	Mexico	01/10/2023	
107	Micronesia (Federated States of)	01/03/2027	
108	Moldova	26/09/2023	
109	Mongolia	26/09/2023	
110	Montenegro	26/09/2023	
111	Morocco	26/09/2023	
112	Mozambique	26/09/2023	
113	Myanmar		I round (in process)
114	Namibia	26/09/2023	
115	Nepal		IV round (in process)
116	Netherlands	04/04/2023	
117	New Zealand	02/04/2023	
118	Nicaragua	12/02/2027	
119	Niger*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
120	Nigeria	14/07/2023	

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
121	Niue		V round
122	Norway	26/09/2023	
123	Oman	26/09/2023	
124	Pakistan	27/07/2026	
125	Palau	27/07/2020	
126	Panama	11/05/2025	
127	Papua New Guinea	28/02/2027	
128	Paraguay		II round (in process)
129	Peru	21/06/2026	
130	Philippines	15/09/2021	
131	Poland	26/09/2023	
132	Portugal	04/04/2023	
133	Qatar		V round
134	Republic of Korea	26/09/2023	
135	Romania	26/09/2023	
136	Russian Federation	26/09/2023	
137	Rwanda	26/09/2023	
138	Samoa		III round (in process)
139	Sao Tome and Principe	26/09/2023	
140	Saudi Arabia	25/07/2026	
141	Senegal*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
142	Serbia (Rep. Of)	26/09/2023	
143	Seychelles	12/06/2025	
144	Sierra Leone	26/09/2023	
145	Singapore	26/09/2023	
146	Slovakia	26/09/2023	
147	Slovenia	26/09/2023	
148	Solomon Islands		IV round (in process)

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
149	South Africa	01/09/2024	
150	South Sudan		X
151	Spain	04/04/2023	
152	Sri Lanka	10/11/2027	
153	Saint Kitts & Nevis		II round (in process)
154	Saint Lucia	25/02/2026	
155	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	27/06/2026	
156	Sudan	26/09/2023	
157	Suriname		II round (in process)
158	Swaziland	26/09/2023	
159	Sweden	04/04/2023	
160	Switzerland	26/09/2023	
161	Syria	26/09/2023	
162	Tajikistan	26/09/2023	
163	Thailand	01/10/2023	
164	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	26/09/2023	
165	Togo*	03/10/2028* 24/12/2028*	
166	Tonga	31/07/2027	
167	Trinidad and Tobago		II round (in process)
168	Tunisia	26/09/2023	
169	Turkey	26/09/2023	
170	Tuvalu		V round
171	Uganda	07/03/2024	
172	Ukraine	26/09/2023	
173	United Arab Emirates		I round (in process)
174	United Kingdom	22/01/2026	
175	United Republic of Tanzania		V round

	Contracting Party	Registration expiry date (renewal)	Notes
176	United States of America	24/01/2026	
177	Uruguay		III round (in process)
178	Vanuatu		V round
179	Venezuela		I round (in process)
180	Viet Nam	26/09/2023	
181	Yemen		V round
182	Zambia	26/09/2023	
183	Zimbabwe	26/09/2023	

Non-Contracting Parties

	Non Contracting party	Registration expiry date	Not registered
1	Angola	16/03/2026	
2	Brunei Darussalam		V round
3	Kiribati		V round
4	Liechtenstein	26/09/2023	
5	Marshall Islands		V round
6	Monaco	26/09/2023	
7	Montserrat		II round (in process)
8	Nauru		V round
9	San Marino	26/09/2023	
10	Timor Leste		V round
11	Turkmenistan	26/09/2023	
12	Uzbekistan	26/09/2023	
13	Faroe Islands	04/04/2023	
14	Tokelau	02/04/2023	

* OAPI countries have two registration expiry dates due to the fact that applications to register the ISPM 15 symbol in different classes of products and services were filed or accepted on different date/s