

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Emphasizing excellent bilateral cooperation in the field of intellectual property (IP),

Having regard to the intention of the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan to further develop its capacities in the field of IP in order to ensure a better integration of the country into the global economy,

Having regard to the readiness of WIPO to render assistance to the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan to achieve its goals in the field of IP,

Have decided to sign the following Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “MoU”):

I. GOALS OF THE MOU

The goal of this MoU is to cooperate and develop joint activities of WIPO and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan aimed at:

- Elaborating and implementing the national IP strategy in the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Enhancing the capacity of universities and R&D institutions, business entities, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to use of the IP system;
- Carrying out the measures on modernizing of management of copyright in digital environment, including preparing the platforms based on blockchain technology and supporting its application;
- Developing innovation infrastructure, including establishing of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs);
- Strengthening the support for the measures on sustainable development of creative economy and increasing its share in GDP;
- Broadening the cooperation in the field of systematizing, identification, registration and exchange of intangible cultural heritage including folklore expressions (traditional cultural expressions) and traditional knowledge;
- Strengthening the system of enforcement of IP rights, including measures to fight against counterfeiting and piracy;

Strengthening the judicial administration of intellectual property;

- Providing training in frame of WIPO Academy Professional Development Programs and IP related human resource development programs in order to enhance capacities of specialist in the field of IP;
- Organizing national and international scientific and practical conferences, symposiums and other events including experience exchange among specialists with participation of international experts;
- Expanding legal awareness issues in the field of forming intellectual property culture.

II. ACTIVITIES

The Parties shall undertake joint projects in a number of IP fields for the attainment of the goal of the MoU. Any particular cooperation project will be taken up upon mutual consent of the Parties and executed with due account paid to budgetary and personnel limitations faced by the Parties. The preliminary Action Plan for the years from 2018 to 2021 is attached to this MoU.

The terms and concrete conditions for executing any of the planned activities referred to in the present MoU or as outlined in the preliminary Action Plan, shall require supplementary agreements that shall establish the operational and financial responsibilities of each Party.

III. PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

The Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan will determine in each case the respective government bodies and authorities, entities, organizations or persons to be involved in the activities carried out under this MoU.

IV. AMENDMENTS

This MoU may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of both Parties, formalized through an exchange of letters specifying the date of entry into force of the amendment concerned.

V. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Any dispute between the Parties regarding this MoU shall be settled amicably through negotiations between the Parties.

VI. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Nothing in or relating to this MoU shall be deemed or interpreted as a waiver of any privileges and immunities accorded to WIPO as an international organization and specialized agency of the United Nations.

VII. ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

This MoU shall enter into force on the date of receipt by WIPO of the written notification, through diplomatic channels, confirming the completion of internal procedures of the Republic of Azerbaijan required for the entry into force of this MoU.

This MoU shall remain in force for an unlimited period of time unless either of the Parties submits to the other a written notice, two months in advance, of its intention to terminate this MoU.

If one of the Parties decides to terminate this MoU, the obligations previously entered into force through projects or activities being implemented under this MoU shall not be affected thereby, unless otherwise agreed.

This MoU has been drafted in two original copies in the English and Azerbaijani languages.

Signed on 5 June 2018, in Baku.

For the Government of
the Republic of Azerbaijan

For the World Intellectual
Property Organization
(WIPO)

Signatory

Signatory