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**September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**To all the Members of the AIPPI - UAE National Group**

**Subject: 7<sup>th</sup> Circular/ 2022**

Dear all,

We trust you are well. We take this opportunity to share with you our 7<sup>th</sup> circular for this year.

- **AIPPI World Congress- San Francisco (September 10-13, 2022):**

The annual congress took place this year in the city of San Francisco in the USA. The making of AIPPI's resolutions for this year was concluded successfully and the AIPPI UAE national group participated in the process of passing the latest resolutions based on study guidelines prepared by members globally.

This year is a special year for AIPPI. The delegates of the event celebrated the 125th anniversary of the association in the first in person meeting post the Covid pandemic restrictions. The congress program was very rich with both contents and exceptional speakers. The study committees' meetings resulted in fruitful live discussions, informative comments, and concluded with instant voting on many points by delegates and/or committee members. For instance, the initial resolution texts were finalized by each study question committee and then put forward for the plenary meetings for final deliberation and voting by all groups.

It was very interesting to see experts from different countries and regions attending the conference, sharing and exchanging thoughts and insights on various areas of IP, namely trademarks, patents, copyrights, trade secrets and alternative dispute resolution in IP disputes.

Bassel El Truk (Vice President), Motasem Abu Ghazaleh and Munir Suboh (executive board members) of AIPPI UAE Group were the official delegates of the UAE National Group. They attended the congress

on behalf of the group and board members. They participated in the discussions, gave their suggestions, proposed amendments on resolutions, took part in the voting process, and played an active role in the passing of the final resolutions. Furthermore, they attended the Executive Committee meetings held during the congress and participated in the selection process of leadership members, issuance of decisions that the AIPPI issued for the future actions and amendments of existing policies. According to the feedback received from AIPPI leadership and delegates, we are proud to learn and share that the contribution and participation made on behalf of UAE National Group this year was well received and had a considerable impact on the final texts of the resolutions as passed.

- **Study Questions for 2022 and Resolutions:**

The annual congress of AIPPI is known for being an exceptional opportunity to allow national groups to build strong network as a platform of communication among them. The congress also supports to promote substantive legal work and adopt to harmonized programmes that support IP protection as well as the professional development component among members.

Study questions result in draft resolutions demonstrating key areas where the national groups participate and describe their countries' position on the selected topic to ultimately establish for harmonization opportunities. The draft resolutions are analyzed, discussed and formulated live by the representatives during the congress. For instance, the Study questions, guidelines and resulting draft resolutions for 2022 covered the following topics:

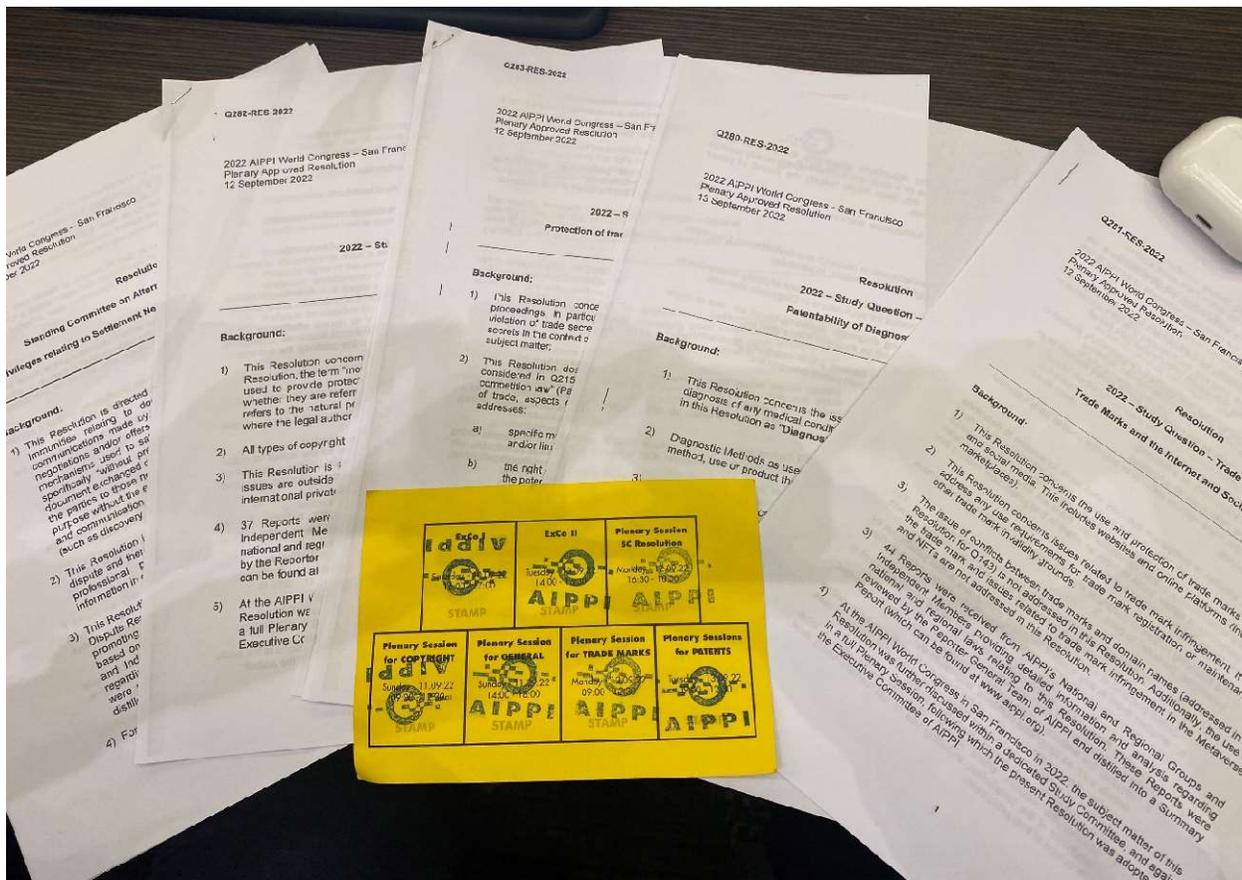
- Q280 - Patentability of diagnostic methods
- Q281 – Trade Marks and the internet and social media
- Q282 - Moral rights
- Q283 - Protection of trade secrets during civil proceedings

In addition to the above, AIPPI World Congress approved a resolution from Standing Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution: The Privileges relating to Settlement, Negotiations and Compromise Offers.

Once study questions committee finalizes and puts forward their proposed draft of resolutions, the same are put forward for “Plenary Sessions” during the congress. During the Plenary Sessions, the resolutions are discussed and further amended if necessary, following an official voting process. The UAE AIPPI Group official delegates attended all plenary sessions held for each question and made some important suggestions to the final resolutions during the plenary sessions and official delegates of all groups generally voted in favor of the UAE AIPPI Group’s proposed amendments which were lately adopted during the Executive Committee meeting. We will share with all members the final adopted resolutions by AIPPI for 2022 study questions as soon as the same are published and circulated by AIPPI.

### **Images from the Congress attended by the UAE Group Delegates**





● **Next AIPPI World Congress and Study Questions for 2023:**

As for the next AIPPI World Congress, it will be held in the city of Istanbul (Turkey) between October 14 and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

During the Congress meetings in San Francisco, it was agreed that the study question topics for the coming year to be as follows:

- **Doctrine of equivalent in Patent.** The patent focused Study Question will examine the best approach to equivalents in patent law. It will among others study what the correct test should be to assess claims in relation to equivalent infringement.
- **Genuine use in Trade Mark.** The trade mark focused Study Question will revisit the issue of genuine use, which essentially means that a registered trade mark requires a certain use to maintain its protection.
- **Collection societies in Copyright.** The copyright focused Study Question will consider collecting societies that manage and license copyrighted works on behalf of copyright owners to users, such as broadcasters, digital service providers, public performance

venues and individuals... etc. This will be a very interesting study question to the UAE national group considering the recent judgments and precedents upheld by Dubai Court to implicitly support this arrangement.

- **The responsibility of online marketplaces for online infringement.** A general study question to tackle and continue to address the ongoing issue of online marketplaces, e-commerce and marketplaces.

AIPPI usually finalizes and sends to all groups the guidelines for the next congress' study questions by the month of December of each year. We will share the same and the board of our national group will decide on the ones that we will contribute to.

We are very delighted with the outcomes of AIPPI World Congress event. Importantly, the UAE National Group official delegates were able to represent the group in all plenary sessions and executive committees that were held. The future contribution of UAE National Group to all study questions and AIPPI global activities should continue at its best form and representation. This cooperation and representation at AIPPI will serve many purposes, such as i) supporting the improvement of our IP profession in the UAE, ii) continuing to enhance the best image to our IP professionals within the international IP community, iii) ensuring harmonization of our group priorities, areas of interest and suggestions with AIPPI future strategies, policies and resolutions. We can only achieve this with the support of each current and future member in AIPPI UAE Group.

Please do reach out to us for any questions or clarification on AIPPI World Congress and/or study questions.

Kind regards,

On behalf of the Communication Committee

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