



The Offices, 02 Building
One Central
Dubai World Trade Centre
PO Box 9204
Dubai - United Arab Emirates

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To all the Members of the AIPPI - UAE National Group

Subject: 10th Circular/ 2023 / AIPPI WORLD Congress 2023 (Resolutions and Study Questions for 2024).

Dear all,

We hope you are all well.

We could not start a circular without sending our prayers and best wishes to all those affected by the terrible events of the past month in the region. We pray for all the innocent people and hope that your loved ones, friends and families are all safe and well.

As you all know, the AIPPI Annual World Congress was held in Istanbul recently. It was an informative and engaging event attended by the largest number of members from the AIPPI UAE Group since its establishment. Our members were able to attend many committees' meetings, participated and voted on all Plenary Sessions that covered hot topics in the Intellectual Property field. Our Board members also attended the Executive Committee (ExCo) meetings and intervened on behalf of the UAE group on all procedural and future topics. The panels and AIPPI cafes (roundtables) were also attended by our national group members who also engaged in many other social, educational and professional activities that were delivered during the Congress.

The Communications Committee tried to cover the event and pass the message to its members and public through many communications via social media, such as LINKEDIN posts and messages on WhatsApp group. The Committee also arranged for a complimentary networking gathering to the national members during the conference which was well received by the members. A healthier and professional communication that we keep in our group and strive to improve it in the future.

After the World Congress meetings, we thought of a short update to highlight the key takeaways and activities that happened during the Congress. This circular is intended to give a short summary about 2023 Congress, such as: i) the resolutions that were upheld, ii) introduction to new Study Questions for 2024, iii) panel discussions, roundtables, activity for Young AIPPI members and networking opportunities.

- **Resolutions of Study Questions for 2023 (The Resolutions”):**

Each congress annual meetings comprises of many components but the substantive legal work and the members effort to harmonize the international IP policies are considered the main motive to finalize the AIPPI’s Resolutions.

The Resolutions are issued based on International Study Questions (SQs) that were decided for 2023. The AIPPI Reporter General team at AIPPI is responsible for handling the SQs process, deliberation and voting at the congress. They manage all efforts, interventions and voting at plenary sessions. The members in each national groups typically describe their country’s position on the topic under review and suggest some harmonization steps and avenues during the preparation and/or at the voting stage.

Importantly, SQs covered different interesting topics as most of you were aware when we discussed the SQs during our AIPPI UAE Group General Assembly in December 2022. Some of those SQs were controversial this year and went through many deliberations by the groups. All final voted resolutions covering the following topics are accessible online and can be accessible on (aippi.org) website:

- **Patents: Doctrine of Equivalents.**
- **Trademarks: Proving trade marks use.**
- **Copyrights: Collecting societies.**
- **General: Responsibility of online marketplaces for online infringement.**

The UAE Group participated in preparing the response for the SQ (General: Responsibility of online marketplaces for online infringement) and hence we made many useful and upheld contributions to this topic from early stage, lead by the efforts of AIPPI UAE Group Vice President Bassel El Turk. Similar remarks and interventions were given by our group in relation to other SQs.

An introduction to SQs for 2024 was made. The Congress voted for the following questions for 2024:

- **Patents: Disclosure requirements.**
- **Trademarks: Conflict between composite trade marks.**
- **Copyrights: Defense of parody**
- **General: Unjustified allegations of infringement of IP rights.**

Work will start on the selected SQs for our group once a decision is made on which topic to cover by our national group. This will be decided on the AIPPI UAE Group General Assembly in December 2023. We urge you to consider the above topics, engage in discussions and spare time to plan and contribute to SQs under the umbrella of AIPPI UAE Group- Study Question Committee.

- **Panels, Sessions and Networking:**

The professional development of attendees is one of the key takeaways and goals that are accomplished by AIPPI during the Congress. The panel topics for this year were very interesting and covered wide spectrum of new hot topics, brought speakers with expertise and engaged attendees with many Q&As. For instance, the IP and gaming session is probably one of the most sessions that was highly attended and opened the eyes of people on latest updates of regulations, court practice and technical expertise. Many roundtables were held and our attending members were able to participate.

Networking among the 2000 members, i.e. estimated number of attendees to the Congress, was also a great thing to see. The Turkish Group, in collaboration with AIPPI staff, put tremendous efforts and resources to ensure diversity is maintained which made everyone feel welcomed at Istanbul. The quality of foods, venues, culture, heritage and entertainment during the networking opportunities made the Congress experience refreshing, unique and pleasant to all.

Attendees were able to build new contacts, strengthen their network in the IP global community which demonstrated the added value that AIPPI, as an organization, brings to the businesses and professionals.

- **Activity for Young AIPPI Members:**

At the Congress, the Young AIPPI Members (“YM”), i.e. aged 36 or below, commenced their Monday morning in the Young Members Committee Leadership Meeting. The attendees discussed potential initiatives and collaborations within the Young AIPPI Committee at the National/Regional Group level. During the Congress, many of the YM attended two IP roundtable cafes to discuss:

- “Best Practices with Generative AI”, and
- “Young IP Practitioners: Exploring Web 3.0 and Beyond”

YM were able to run a special interactive session focused on “Influencing and Motivating Others”. This was as an excellent opportunity for YM to engage and build connections at an international level. The Congress attendees from AIPPI UAE group boasts its enthusiastic Young Members Committee and surely looking forward to expand with its membership in the group.

- **Next year Congress:**

We highly encourage members to plan from now for engagement with next year Congress (2024) event which will be held in **Hangzhou (China)**. We can have more members looking up to the organization and be prepared for its future World Congress that is planned to be held in our beloved city (Dubai) in 2027 as initially announced.

Thank you to all AIPPI UAE Group members who attended the Congress this year and we hope that many more will attend in the next years. We look forward for your feedback and answer any question that you may have about the AIPPI World Congress events and how we can support your presence, participation and role within the organization in the future.

Kind regards,

Authored by: Munir Suboh

Verified by: Nevin Jacob