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PO Box 9204
Dubai - United Arab Emirates

February 7nd, 2024

To all the Members of the AIPPI - UAE National Group

Subject: 1st Circular/ 2024

AGM 2023

Dear all,

We trust you are well.

We hope you had a great holiday season and a fresh start for the year. We look forward to working with you in 2024 for a better IP community and meeting all goals of the AIPPI UAE National Group.

- **Annual General Meeting “AGM” of AIPPI UAE members:**

It was a great pleasure to see many members at the AGM for the AIPPI UAE Group on December 7, 2023. On behalf of the Board members, Communications Committee and all other committees, we want to thank you for attending and participating in the AGM and we look forward to delivering on all points agreed at the AGM.

For those who were traveling or were unable to attend in person, we would love to see you in 2024. In the meantime, here is a summary of some key take aways and decisions made during the AGM:

- 1) President Hoda Barakat and VP Bassel El Turk welcomed the group and thanked everyone for their support during the year. Hoda presented on AIPPI UAE Group journey in 2023 and the board's vision, strategies, challenges and priorities. She provided the annual report for the General Assembly on the 2023 activities and the action plan for 2024 which was approved by a vote of the members.
- 2) Treasurer Nevin Koshy presented the financials. AGM voted to approve the financial statement for 2022/2023 and the budget plan for 2024.
- 3) Secretary Hady Khawand has also briefed the attendees with the agenda of AGM and managed the voting on all changes, amendments on bylaw and facilitated the program on behalf of the board. This was the first AGM to collaboratively engage in full review of the bylaws with significant changes allowing for even more transparency and enabling a dynamic growth for the future of the group.
- 4) Membership Committee represented by (Nicole Giblin) presented a report on the activities of this Committee, plan for 2024 and strategy to increase number of members, targets and recruiting of members.
- 5) Communications Committee Chair (Munir Suboh) presented a report on all delivered tasks in 2023, priorities of CC for 2024, performance of social media pages and statistics, and overview of circulars among other projects in the pipeline for the committees. Members were encouraged to continue contribution and interaction with social media page and other communications tools. AIPPI Communications Committee has also provided Sara Foudah (AIPPI UAE Group social media freelancer) with an appreciation token for her efforts in managing and increasing the media exposure of the group and emphasized on the importance of conducting interviews with AIPPI members to create content and prepare for future posts at social media pages.
- 6) Legal Study and Training Committee (LSTC) Co-Chair and VP of UAE Group (Bassel El Turk) presented the study question as per the AIPPI's "GROW" initiative, and summarized the importance of study questions, participation and urging members to contribute to both international study questions as well as local study questions. The AIPPI 2024 Study International Questions were presented, and voting was postponed for later. The local Study Question for 2023 was widely discussed in a voting session to issue AIPPI's UAE first ever resolution. This is set out below in a sperate section of this circular.
- 7) Young AIPPI Members Advisory Committee (YAC) co-chair: (Nevin Koshy) presented on the Committee's priorities, mandates, projects, importance of supporting young practitioners to participate and be involved in all tasks of AIPPI. The continuity of this group will be by investing in brining more young new members and we urged all members to consider this strategic issue in the future.

AIPPI UAE's first resolution 1-2023

During the AGM, the members voted on AIPPI's first ever resolution in the UAE. This marks a very important milestone in the national group's history.

The resolution was a result of the local study question on Proving Trade Mark Use chaired by Hady Khawand and joined by the working group comprising of Mariam Sabet, Natalie Slabbert, Saba Al Sultani, Nour Salem and Bassel El Turk.

The members discussed the resolution one clause at a time. Very interesting discussions and valuable

amendments, remarks, insights and additions were presented. The resolution was passed with majority vote and the entire discussions were facilitated by LSTC Co-Chair, Bassel El Turk.

Thank you from the CC Committee and the Board and we wish you a wonderful 2024.

On behalf of the Communications Committee

Authored by: Bassel El Turk

Verified by: Munir Suboh

February 7nd, 2024