ITP: 313b
Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries; Industrial Property and Technological Capacity Enhancement
April 8th – 27th, 2018 in Stockholm, Sweden
Regional follow-up, October 28th – November 2nd, 2018

Closing date for applications: January 19th, 2018
Welcome

This International Training Programme is specially designed for persons qualified to participate in reform processes of importance on different levels and holding a position in their home organisation with mandate to run processes of change. It offers support to strengthen, adapt and maintain capacity over time in order for your organisation to define and achieve goals in both the short and the long term. As a participant you will take part of the latest development in your area of work supervised by skilled Swedish colleagues and experts, develop a network of colleagues from other countries and enhance knowledge in new working methods. The methodology used is based on the assumption that your organisation wishes to carry out changes and is willing to invest own resources to achieve these changes.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) offers, as part of its bilateral development assistance, Advanced International Training Programmes of strategic importance to the social and economic development in the participants’ countries. The International Training Programmes are specially designed for persons qualified to participate in reform processes of strategic importance on different levels and also holding a position in their home organisations with mandate to run processes of change. This methodology is based on the assumption that your country wishes to carry out changes and is willing to invest own resources to achieve these changes. In the long-term perspective the programmes shall contribute to institutional strengthening and capacity development in the participants’ countries. The training is focused on support to individual or team plans for change. The plan shall be well established in the participant’s organisation and is a basic part of the programme concept. In this brochure you will find information on the specific objectives for this particular programme, its content and structure, and how and when to apply. You will also find an application form.

The importance of intellectual property rights has increased considerably in recent years and this branch of the law has become an issue of great political and economic significance in international negotiations, especially after the establishment of the World Trade Organization. While the issue is important, it is also complex and the repercussions of various solutions are not easy to grasp. Considerable knowledge and experience is therefore necessary in order to fully understand and successfully participate in the international negotiations where the outcome may affect both national economies and international trade relations. For many developing countries this poses considerable challenges. Recognizing this fact, Sida has taken the initiative to organise, together with the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Swedish Patent and Registration Office, a training and Advisory Programme on Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries. We hope that the programme will be of interest to you and hereby invite you to nominate candidates. Women are encouraged to apply.

Charlotte Norrby
ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL
Sida

Gunilla Ström Lindahl
ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL
SWEDISH PATENT AND REGISTRATION OFFICE
Programme objectives

OBJECTIVES
The main objectives and rationale of the Training Programme are the following:

• To increase familiarity with the foundational concepts and definitions of Industrial Property for the further strengthening of IP institutions and systems in LDCs. The Programme participants learn from the long experience of Sweden, inter alia, in Industrial Property legislation, building respect for Industrial Property, and the use of the patent system as a vital resource for technical and scientific information for technological capacity building.
• To inform about and discuss a number of specific issues of development related importance in the area of Industrial Property, for example, the economic impact of Industrial Property such as trademarks, geographical indications etc. in facilitating growth and competitiveness in product areas of strategic importance for LDCs.
• To discuss and provide examples of various aspects of international negotiations in the field of Industrial Property to strengthen multilateral cooperation.
• Promote knowledge as to how patents through databases offer access to a large number of publicly available technical and scientific information which is not easily available in other literature.
• To assess the Industrial Property situation in the participating countries and identify areas of importance based on knowledge acquired from the Training Programme, as well as discussions among participants on the experiences gained from the implementation of the country projects.

Content

The Training Programme in Stockholm will focus on a number of special themes in the area of Industrial Property, including the following:

• General aspects of Industrial Property in the world today:
  – The importance of patents as a resource of technical and scientific information for technological capacity building and their role in promoting innovation and invention.
  – The role of Trademarks, service marks and Industrial designs, in contributing to economic growth and increasing competitiveness.
  – Geographical indications and their importance for socio-economic development including focus on success stories from LDCs.
• The use of flexibilities in international Industrial Property law and implications for policy making in LDCs.
• Patents and the use of scientific and technical information for the achievement of national development.
• Industrial Property and transfer of technology and licensing.
• The role of Industrial Property in key public policy issues such as public health and agriculture and the discussion of implementation issues in the national context.
• Management and enforcement of Industrial Property to facilitate technological development.
• Practical training on search for patent and non-patent information particularly in the context of specific development related issues.

BENEFITS

› Awareness raising and capacity building in the concepts and theories of Industrial Property for innovation and invention.
› Focus on the practical application of Industrial Property as a tool for technological development.
› Building technical capacity in the use of the patent system as a vital resource of technical and scientific information.

• To create networks among the Swedish and international the participants to share experiences and knowledge. Participants will also be encouraged to form national networks of stakeholders.

The Program aims to increase the capacity of the participant and her/his organisation to participate in the development of a national Industrial Property system adapted to specific national contexts, to enhance the conditions and possibilities for commercialization of national/local products including technologies through Industrial Property and to enhance the general awareness and understanding and use of Industrial Property for technological development and invention and innovation.
THE PROGRAMME IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE PHASES

The first phase is a preparatory phase where the participants should prepare a 3-4 page country report containing an analysis and review of their national Industrial Property system including the general legal and policy aspects of the use of the patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications etc. in the national context. The report should also include an assessment of the role of the industrial property system in facilitating national technological development including through the use of patent information.

The participants shall also identify and receive management approval (including budget approval) for a project on the use of Industrial Property for the promotion of national innovation and invention, preferably with conditions to become or be a part of a national project. Two weeks prior to arrival in Stockholm, a project outline shall be submitted to the organizers. This project will be dealt with during the Training Programme in Stockholm during the second phase.

The second phase consists of a three-week training in Stockholm where information will be provided as a basis for discussion, about the legal, managerial, economic benefits, practical aspects and development dimensions of Industrial Property and where also the participants’ reports and in particular their national project proposals will be discussed. Importance will be given to discussions and sharing of experiences and knowledge among the participants and the Swedish and international experts on Industrial Property for the promotion of national innovation and invention, preferably with conditions to become or be a part of a national project. Two weeks prior to arrival in Stockholm, a project outline shall be submitted to the organizers. This project will be dealt with during the Training Programme in Stockholm during the second phase.

The third phase will take place in the participants’ home countries where they should implement the project they have selected in phase one and have discussed with Swedish and international experts during the second phase of the Training Programme in Stockholm. When participants are implementing the projects in their home countries, tutors will be designated for each of the projects.

Support from Swedish and international experts through electronic means will also be available during this phase.

The final reports on the implementation of the national projects will be submitted 4 weeks before the starting date of the follow up meeting (fourth phase of the Programme). The final reports should include a project budget, a project plan with time frame, and a progress report on the implementation of the national projects.

The fifth phase consists of a project update paper after 12 months. This is of special significance for long term projects, but relevant to all, in order for the organizers to be able to evaluate the results of the training.

THE TRAINING IN STOCKHOLM

The training will be carried out through lectures, discussions, practical work, and study visits. Considerable time will be devoted to the projects (which are to be prepared at home) and to the country reports.

THE COUNTRY PROJECT

The selected individual project should aim at bringing change in institution building in the area of industrial property in the country of the participant including in the organization from where he/she is nominated from. The project should aim to induce concrete development related impact on the national level. Participants should make sure to have the support of their home organization since the financing of the project is the responsibility of the participants and their organisations.

The national project has a short, medium and long term duration. In this context, please note that the project does not necessarily have to reflect the final outcome at the time of the follow-up meeting, rather only report the progress in the implementation of the project.

FOLLOW-UP TRAINING

About six months after the conclusion of the training programme in Stockholm a follow-up training will take place in one of the target regions. During the follow up training programme, the projects will be discussed and further information will be provided as to what is to be done in the future.

DATE AND PLACE

The Stockholm training will take place in the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (PRV) from April 8–27, 2018 in Stockholm, Sweden. The follow-up phase of the Training Programme will take place from October 28–November 2, 2018 in one of the Least Developed Countries in Africa or Asia.

TEACHING

Swedish and international experts on Intellectual Property will deliver lectures and participate in discussions as well as assist the participants with their work on the projects. English will be the language of instruction for the Training Programme.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Staff of the Swedish Patent and Registration Office will be available during the Training Programme in Stockholm to support the participants. Mr. Gabriel Pino, Director International Cooperation, Technical Assistance is responsible for the Training Programme.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Admission requirements

INVITED COUNTRIES
The following countries are invited to nominate candidates: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Laos, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

TARGET GROUP
Only candidates nominated by the appropriate organization and in accordance with national rules will be considered.

TARGET REGION
Least Developed Countries in Africa or Asia.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?
The Training Programme is specially designed for senior officials and policy makers from Institutions of Higher Studies, Research Centres, Ministries of Science and Technology, Industries and Business with knowledge on how the Industrial Property system facilitates the transfer of technology and the promotion of invention and innovation.

The number of participants is limited to 27 in order to ensure a close working relationship between participants, lecturers and mentors.

Emphasis will be made on the selection of senior officials with experience in areas of transfer of technology and technological capacity building in order to promote cooperation between institutions of higher learning, research institutions, industries, and business to initiate project-based activities on invention and innovation.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS
The participants accepted to the Training Programme shall be obliged to participate in all the four phases of the Programme. Substitutes will not be accepted for any phases. Management approval for all participation and project work is mandatory and is to be confirmed in the application.

The participant should have some proficiency in the use of computers (word processing) and access to computers with Internet connection in the home country (for e-mail communications). The WIPO general course on Intellectual Property (DL101) or equivalent knowledge is recommended but not a prerequisite. The participant’s professional role in his/her home country is more important than formal qualifications. The applicant should include a motivation for participation.

An outline of the Change Project shall be submitted together with the application form. The outline should identify other stakeholders. Joint projects with different stakeholders are encouraged in order to enhance policy collaboration. For example, competent authorities for relevant intellectual property of a country could apply together with universities, NGO’s and/or private sector actors.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Application should be written on the special form attached and include a recent photograph and required information and documents.

When necessary, the application should be approved by the official nominating authority in your country.

Application in original with required signatures and attachments should be submitted to the nearest Swedish Embassy/Consulate. If there is no appropriate Swedish Embassy/Consulate in your country, the application should be submitted directly to the Training Programme Secretariat.

Applications submitted after closing date will not be considered.

Closing date for applications:
› January 19th, 2018

SELECTION PROCESS
Selected candidates will be notified by e-mail. Once selected, the candidate must confirm participation.

A letter of Acceptance will be sent out, containing information on participation in the programme and the practical arrangements. Selected candidates shall be aware of the commitment to participate in all phases of the programme.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
www.sida.se/itp
The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) offers, as part of its bilateral development assistance, capacity development activities in areas of strategic importance to the social, environmental and economic development in the participating countries. The purpose of the Advanced International Training Programmes is to provide resources and develop knowledge, skills and expertise to organisations with strong legitimacy in relation to target groups, democracy practices etc. in areas given priority in Swedish development cooperation, are based on identified priorities and needs and in which Swedish expertise is in demand.

ORGANIZER

The Swedish Patent and Registration Office has, together with Sida and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), designed the training programme and is responsible for its management. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office is the national office for registration of Industrial Property Rights such as Patents, Trademarks and Industrial Design as well as responsible for providing information to Industry. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office reports to the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications. The office is self-supporting through its fees.

We want all applications by e-mail to be sent to: international@prv.se

Please also note that applications by email need to be signed and scanned and sent to us in one file in PDF format.

Name the document with your country abbreviation and last name, ex SE_Hoffman

PARTNERS

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the specialised UN agency mandated to promote the effective protection and use of Intellectual Property throughout the world by creating an environment and infrastructure conducive to an enhanced understanding of the contribution of intellectual property to human life through economic, social and cultural development, and, in particular, by assisting developing and least developed countries in their capacity building for greater access to, and use of, the intellectual property system. WIPO is responsible for the administration of international treaties on intellectual property. Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.