

## **Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications**

### **ACCESSION OF THE AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (OAPI)**

1. On December 15, 2022, the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) deposited with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) its instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications, which was adopted in Geneva on May 20, 2015.
2. The instrument of accession was accompanied by the following declarations:
  - Pursuant to Article 28(1)(iii) of the Geneva Act, OAPI declares that it has been duly authorized, in accordance with its internal procedures, to become a party to the Geneva Act and that, under Annex VI of the Bangui Agreement Instituting an African Intellectual Property Organization (Act of December 14, 2015), regional titles of protection can be obtained in respect of geographical indications;
  - Pursuant to Article 7(4) of the Geneva Act, OAPI declares that the protection resulting from international registration of each appellation of origin and each geographical indication shall extend to OAPI only if a fee is paid to cover its cost of substantive examination of the international registration;
  - Pursuant to Article 29(4) of the Geneva Act, OAPI declares that it shall extend by one year the time limit referred to in Article 15(1), and the periods referred to in Article 17, in accordance with the procedures specified in the Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications; and
  - Pursuant to Rule 5(3)(a) of the Common Regulations, OAPI requires, for the protection of a registered appellation of origin or geographical indication in its territory, that the application also include, in addition to the mandatory contents referred to in Rule 5(2) of the Common Regulations, in the case of an appellation of origin, information concerning the quality or characteristics of the product and its relationship with the geographical environment of the geographical area of production and, in the case of a geographical indication, the quality, reputation or other characteristics of the product and its relationship with the geographical area of origin.
3. The amount of the individual fee referred to by OAPI under Article 7(4)(a) of the Geneva Act will be indicated in a separate notice.

4. Pursuant to Rule 4(1) of the Common Regulations, OAPI has provided the International Bureau with the following name and contact details of its Competent Authority for the purposes of the procedures provided for by the Geneva Act:

African Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
Rue Hyppodrome 158  
Place de la Préfecture  
P.O. BOX 887  
Yaoundé  
Cameroon  
Tel: (237 2) 222 057 00  
8239 KN  
E-mail: [oapi@oapi.int](mailto:oapi@oapi.int)  
Website: <http://www.oapi.int/>

5. Pursuant to Rule 4(3) of the Common Regulations, the Competent Authority referred to in paragraph 4 will make available information on the applicable procedures in its territory to challenge and enforce rights in appellations of origin and geographical indications. This information will be published at [https://www.wipo.int/lisbon/en/applicable\\_procedures.html](https://www.wipo.int/lisbon/en/applicable_procedures.html).

6. The Geneva Act will enter into force, with respect to OAPI, on March 15, 2023.

February 24, 2023