

ICC Global Intellectual Property Commission

Call Summary: Task Force on Anti-Counterfeiting and Piracy (ACP TF)

28 November 2022

Opening Remarks

ICC Global Policy Manager - IP, <u>Danny Grajales</u> and the Chair of this task force, <u>Isabelle Leroux</u>, opened the first meeting of the ICC Task Force on Anti-Couterfeiting and Piracy (ACP TF) by welcoming all attendees and introducing themselves. Ms. Leroux stressed her availability to receive input from members even outside of the scheduled TF Meetings as well as suggestions on specific work items.

Business at OECD (BIAC) Presentation

The substantive part of the meeting was then kick-started with a presentation by a representative of Business at the OECD, <u>Jacobo Rams-Folch</u>. He explained the core pillar of their work: BIAC was founded soon after the founding of the OECD itself, and it convenes the expertise and advocacy of the OECD countries' business associations (for instance MEDEF in France, USCIB in the USA, Confindustria in Italy, etc.). The Organisation has several committees, and Mr. Ramos is personally involved in the Anti-Illicit Trade Expert Group (AITEG), which will be moved from the Governance to the Trade Directorate as of January 2023. The Expert Group has released a roadmap for 2023, where it outlines three areas of work:

- a) Free Trade Zone Project: working on a Code of Conduct
- b) Online Markets and eCommerce
- c) Maritime Transport Security

Mr. Ramos expressed his interest in collaborating with ICC – and specifically with this Task Force – towards advancing our shared goals. The ICC Secretariat will be involved in connecting our members to BIAC and viceversa in the coming months and years. The ACP TF will work closely with BIAC in our activities related to the OECD Task Force on Illicit Trade.

Tour de Table

Members had the opportunity to introduce themselves. This exercise shed a light on the great geographical and topic diversity present in this Task Force: some of the fields mentioned ranged from the Music Industry, to Tobacco, Semi-Conductors, spirits, and members joined the call from China, Ecuador, Nigeria, USA, Canada, France, among others.

Mandate for the Task Force and Initially Identified Workstreams

This Task Force was created earlier in 2022 with a broad mandate to become ICC's focal point for all matters related to anti-counterfeiting and piracy. These work areas were formerly covered by

BASCAP (Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy). The main activities of the Task Force include representing ICC in international policy discussions, to produce messages and statements on behalf of ICC, and to direct the attention of the broader ICC network to these very important topics. Additionally, the Task Force is hosted within the Global Intellectual Property Commission, whose Policy Manager, <u>Danny Grajales</u>, will actively share insights from other Working Groups and Task Forces; moreover, ICC also works in a cross-commission fashion, for instance <u>Florence Diao-Gueye</u>, ICC Trade and Customs Policy Manager, participated in this introductory call.

In the call, there are four specific instutions/fora that were identified as key for this task force:

- 1. The EUIPO Observatory
- 2. The OECD Task Force on Illicit Trade
- 3. The EU Commission
- 4. The WIPO Building Respect for IP Division

Task force members are invited to let us know which of these for a they would like to participate on. The EUIPO and OECD hold regular meetings with a set agenda. With the EU Commission and WIPO it will be more the development of an improved institutional relationship with ICC on the subject-matter of this task force.

Some members of this task already participate in these and other groups focused on ACP issues. We invite all members who are already involved on other policy for a to please let us know.

Specific Issues from Members

When asked for further issues to raise, members discussed the need for awareness campaigns and the void of high-level messaging on this topic that ICC can fill, thanks to its renowned global reputation. Members also mentioned the ongoing challenges around online piracy as well as the need for continued enforcement on piracy on physical mediums, which has seen a resurgence in the last few years.

Task Force Logistical Set-Up

On suggestion by the Chair, members agreed to hold bi-monhtly meetings of the Task Force. The next one will then be scheduled for January. More details will follow.

We will also reach out to members of the task force to invite them to participate in one of the four fora identified here above.

The task force will begin work on elaborating a set of key messages that will drive our initial engagement on policy discussions.

And we invite to reach out to the task force chair and ICC Secretariat with any ideas or suggestions you may have regarding the work of this task force.