

**CHAPTER 15**  
**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

ARTICLE 15.1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Each Party shall, at a minimum, give effect to this Chapter.

*International Agreements and Recommendations*

2. Each Party shall ratify or accede to the following agreements:

- (a) the *Patent Cooperation Treaty* (1970), as amended in 1979;
- (b) the *Convention Relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite* (1974);
- (c) the *Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks* (1989);
- (d) the *Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure* (1977), as amended in 1980;
- (e) the *International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants* (1991) (UPOV Convention);
- (f) the *Trademark Law Treaty* (1994);
- (g) the *WIPO Copyright Treaty* (1996); and
- (h) the *WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty* (1996).

3. Each Party shall make all reasonable efforts to ratify or accede to the following agreements:

- (a) the *Patent Law Treaty* (2000); and

- (b) the *Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs* (1999).

*More Extensive Protection and Enforcement*

4. A Party may provide more extensive protection for, and enforcement of, intellectual property rights under its law than this Chapter requires, provided that the additional protection and enforcement is not inconsistent with this Chapter.

*National Treatment*

5. In respect of all categories of intellectual property covered in this Chapter, each Party shall accord to nationals<sup>1</sup> of the other Party treatment no less favorable than that it accords to its own nationals with regard to the protection<sup>2</sup> and enjoyment of such intellectual property rights and any benefits derived from such rights.

6. A Party may derogate from paragraph 5 in relation to its judicial and administrative procedures, including requiring a national of another Party to designate an address for service of process in its territory, or to appoint an agent in its territory, provided that such derogation:

- (a) is necessary to secure compliance with laws and regulations that are not inconsistent with this Chapter; and

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of Articles 15.1.5, 15.1.6, 15.3.1, and 15.7.1, a “national of a Party” shall also mean, in respect of the relevant right, entities of that Party that would meet the criteria for eligibility for protection provided for in the agreements listed in Article 15.1.2 and the TRIPS Agreement.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this paragraph, “protection” includes matters affecting the availability, acquisition, scope, maintenance, and enforcement of intellectual property rights, as well as matters affecting the use of intellectual property rights specifically covered by this Chapter. Further, for purposes of this paragraph, “protection” also includes the prohibition on circumvention of effective technological measures set out in Article 15.5.8 and the rights and obligations concerning rights management information set out in Article 15.5.9.

(b) is not applied in a manner that would constitute a disguised restriction on trade.

7. Paragraph 5 does not apply to procedures provided in multilateral agreements concluded under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in relation to the acquisition or maintenance of intellectual property rights.

*Application of Agreement to Existing Subject Matter and Prior Acts*

8. Except as it provides otherwise, including in Article 15.5.6, this Chapter gives rise to obligations in respect of all subject matter existing at the date of entry into force of this Agreement, that is protected on that date in the territory of the Party where protection is claimed, or that meets or comes subsequently to meet the criteria for protection under this Chapter.

9. Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, including Article 15.5.6, a Party shall not be required to restore protection to subject matter that on the date of entry into force of this Agreement has fallen into the public domain in its territory.

10. This Chapter does not give rise to obligations in respect of acts that occurred before the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

*Transparency*

11. Further to Article 18.1 (Publication), and with the object of making the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights as transparent as possible, each Party shall ensure that all laws, regulations, and procedures concerning the protection or enforcement of intellectual property rights shall be in writing and shall be published,<sup>3</sup> or where publication is not practicable made publicly available, in a national language in such a manner as to enable governments and right holders to become acquainted with them. Nothing in this paragraph shall require a Party to disclose confidential information which would impede law enforcement or

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<sup>3</sup> For greater certainty, a Party may satisfy the requirement to publish a law, regulation, or procedure by making it available to the public on the Internet.

otherwise be contrary to the public interest or would prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private.

#### ARTICLE 15.2: TRADEMARKS

1. Neither Party may require, as a condition of registration, that signs be visually perceptible, nor may a Party deny registration of a trademark solely on the ground that the sign of which it is composed is a sound or a scent.
2. Each Party shall provide that trademarks shall include certification marks.
3. Each Party shall ensure that its measures mandating the use of the term customary in common language as the common name for a good or service (“common name”), including, *inter alia*, requirements concerning the relative size, placement, or style of use of the trademark in relation to the common name, do not impair the use or effectiveness of trademarks used in relation to such good or service.
4. Each Party shall provide that the owner of a registered trademark shall have the exclusive right to prevent all third parties not having the owner’s consent from using in the course of trade identical or similar signs, including geographical indications, for goods or services that are related to those goods or services in respect of which the owner’s trademark is registered, where such use would result in a likelihood of confusion. In case of the use of an identical sign, including a geographical indication, for identical goods or services, a likelihood of confusion shall be presumed.
5. Each Party may provide limited exceptions to the rights conferred by a trademark, including a geographical indication, such as fair use of descriptive terms, provided that such exceptions take account of the legitimate interest of the owner of the trademark and of third parties.
6. Article 6bis of the *Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property* (1967) shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to goods or services that are not identical or similar to those identified by a well-known trademark,<sup>4</sup> whether

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<sup>4</sup> In determining whether a trademark is well known, the reputation of the trademark need not extend beyond the sector of the public that normally deals with the relevant goods or services.

registered or not, provided that use of that trademark in relation to those goods or services would indicate a connection between those goods or services and the owner of the trademark and provided that the interests of the owner of the trademark are likely to be damaged by such use.

7. Each Party shall provide a system for the registration of trademarks, which shall include:

- (a) providing to the applicant a communication in writing, which may be provided electronically, of the reasons for a refusal to register a trademark;
- (b) an opportunity for the applicant to respond to communications from the trademark authorities, to contest an initial refusal, and to appeal judicially a final refusal to register;
- (c) an opportunity for interested parties to oppose a trademark application or to seek cancellation of a trademark after it has been registered; and
- (d) a requirement that decisions in opposition or cancellation proceedings be reasoned and in writing.

8. Each Party shall provide:

- (a) an electronic means for applying for, processing, registering, and maintaining trademarks, and
- (b) a publicly available electronic database, including an online database, of trademark applications and registrations.

9. Each Party shall provide that:

- (a) each registration, or publication that concerns a trademark application or registration, that indicates goods or services shall

indicate the goods or services by their names, grouped according to the classes of the classification established by the *Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks* (1979), as revised and amended (“Nice Classification”).

- (b) goods or services may not be considered as being similar to each other solely on the ground that, in any registration or publication, they appear in the same class of the Nice Classification. Conversely, each Party shall provide that goods or services may not be considered as being dissimilar from each other solely on the ground that, in any registration or publication, they appear in different classes of the Nice Classification.

10. Each Party shall provide that initial registration and each renewal of registration of a trademark shall be for a term of no less than ten years.

11. Neither Party may require recordation of trademark licenses to establish the validity of the license, to assert any rights in a trademark, or for other purposes.

#### ARTICLE 15.3: GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

##### *Procedures with Respect to Geographical Indications*

1. If a Party provides the means to apply for protection or petition for recognition of geographical indications, it shall:

- (a) accept those applications and petitions without requiring intercession by a Party on behalf of its nationals;
- (b) process those applications or petitions, as relevant, with a minimum of formalities.
- (c) ensure that its regulations governing filing of those applications or petitions, as relevant, are readily available to the public and set out clearly the procedures for these actions;

- (d) make available contact information sufficient to allow the general public to obtain guidance concerning the procedures for filing applications or petitions and the processing of those applications or petitions in general; and to allow applicants, petitioners, or their representatives to ascertain the status of, and to obtain procedural guidance concerning, specific applications and petitions; and
- (e) ensure that applications or petitions, as relevant, for geographical indications are published for opposition, and provide procedures for opposing geographical indications that are the subject of applications or petitions. Each Party shall also provide procedures to cancel a registration resulting from an application or a petition.

#### *Relationship to Trademarks*

2. Each Party shall provide that each of the following shall be a ground for refusing protection or recognition of a geographical indication:

- (a) the geographical indication is likely to be confusingly similar to a trademark that is the subject of a good-faith pending application or registration; and
- (b) the geographical indication is confusingly similar to a pre-existing trademark, the rights to which have been acquired in the territory of the Party through use in good faith.

#### *Definition*

3. For purposes of this Chapter, **geographical indications** means indications that identify a good as originating in the territory of a Party, or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation, or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographical origin.<sup>5</sup> Any sign or combination of signs (such as words, including geographical and personal names, as well as letters, numerals, figurative elements, and colors, including single colors), in any form whatsoever, shall be eligible to be a geographical indication.

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<sup>5</sup> For greater certainty, the term “originating”, as used in this Chapter, does not have the meaning ascribed to the term originating good in Article 1.3 (Definitions).

#### ARTICLE 15.4: DOMAIN NAMES ON THE INTERNET

1. In order to address the problem of trademark cyber-piracy, each Party shall require that the management of its country-code top-level domain (“ccTLD”) provide an appropriate procedure for the settlement of disputes, based on the principles established in the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy.
2. Each Party shall require that the management of its ccTLD provide online public access to a reliable and accurate database of contact information for domain-name registrants.

#### ARTICLE 15.5: COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS

1. Each Party shall provide that authors, performers, and producers of phonograms<sup>6</sup> have the right<sup>7</sup> to authorize or prohibit all reproductions of their works, performances, and phonograms,<sup>8</sup> in any manner or form, permanent or temporary (including temporary storage in electronic form).
2. Each Party shall provide to authors, performers, and producers of phonograms the right to authorize or prohibit the importation into that Party’s territory of copies of the work, performance, or phonogram that are made without authorization, or made outside that Party’s territory with the authorization of the author, performer, or producer of the phonogram.
3. Each Party shall provide to authors, performers, and producers of phonograms the right to authorize the making available to the public of the original and copies of their works, performances, and phonograms through sale or other transfer of ownership.

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<sup>6</sup> “Authors, performers, and producers of phonograms” includes any successors in interest.

<sup>7</sup> With respect to copyrights and related rights in this Chapter, the “right to authorize or prohibit” and the “right to authorize” refer to exclusive rights.

<sup>8</sup> With respect to copyrights and related rights in this Chapter, a “performance” means a performance fixed in a phonogram unless otherwise specified.

4. In order to ensure that no hierarchy is established between rights of authors, on the one hand, and rights of performers and producers of phonograms, on the other hand, each Party shall provide that in cases where authorization is needed from both the author of a work embodied in a phonogram and a performer or producer owning rights in the phonogram, the need for the authorization of the author does not cease to exist because the authorization of the performer or producer is also required. Likewise, each Party shall establish that in cases where authorization is needed from both the author of a work embodied in a phonogram and a performer or producer owning rights in the phonogram, the need for the authorization of the performer or producer does not cease to exist because the authorization of the author is also required.

5. Each Party shall provide that, where the term of protection of a work (including a photographic work), performance, or phonogram is to be calculated:

- (a) on the basis of the life of a natural person, the term shall be not less than the life of the author and 70 years after the author's death; and
- (b) on a basis other than the life of a natural person, the term shall be
  - (i) not less than 70 years from the end of the calendar year of the first authorized publication of the work, performance, or phonogram, or
  - (ii) failing such authorized publication within 50 years from the creation of the work, performance, or phonogram, not less than 70 years from the end of the calendar year of the creation of the work, performance, or phonogram.

6. Each Party shall apply Article 18 of the *Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works* (1971) (Berne Convention) and Article 14.6 of the TRIPS Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*, to the subject matter, rights, and obligations in this Article and Articles 15.6 and 15.7.

7. Each Party shall provide that for copyright and related rights, any person acquiring or holding any economic right in a work, performance, or phonogram:

- (a) may freely and separately transfer that right by contract; and
- (b) by virtue of a contract, including contracts of employment underlying the creation of works, performances, and phonograms, shall be able to exercise that right in that person's own name and enjoy fully the benefits derived from that right.

8. (a) In order to provide adequate legal protection and effective legal remedies against the circumvention of effective technological measures that authors, performers, and producers of phonograms use in connection with the exercise of their rights and that restrict unauthorized acts in respect of their works, performances, and phonograms, each Party shall provide that any person who:

- (i) circumvents without authority any effective technological measure that controls access to a protected work, performance, phonogram, or other subject matter; or
- (ii) manufactures, imports, distributes, offers to the public, provides, or otherwise trafficks in devices, products, or components, or offers to the public or provides services, that:
  - (A) are promoted, advertised, or marketed for the purpose of circumvention of any effective technological measure,
  - (B) have only a limited commercially significant purpose or use other than to circumvent any effective technological measure, or
  - (C) are primarily designed, produced, or performed for the purpose of enabling or facilitating the circumvention of any effective technological measure,

shall be liable and subject to the remedies set out in Article 15.11.14. Each Party shall provide for criminal procedures and penalties to be applied when any person, other than a nonprofit library, archive, educational institution, or public noncommercial broadcasting entity, is found to have engaged willfully and for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain in any of the foregoing activities.

- (b) In implementing subparagraph (a), neither Party shall be obligated to require that the design of, or the design and selection of parts and components for, a consumer electronics, telecommunications, or computing product provide for a response to any particular technological measure, so long as the product does not otherwise violate any measures implementing subparagraph (a).
- (c) Each Party shall provide that a violation of a measure implementing this paragraph is a separate civil or criminal offense, independent of any infringement that might occur under the Party's law on copyright and related rights.
- (d) Each Party shall confine exceptions and limitations to any measures implementing subparagraph (a) to the following activities, which shall be applied to relevant measures in accordance with subparagraph (e):
  - (i) noninfringing reverse engineering activities with regard to a lawfully obtained copy of a computer program, carried out in good faith with respect to particular elements of that computer program that have not been readily available to the person engaged in those activities, for the sole purpose of achieving interoperability of an independently created computer program with other programs;
  - (ii) noninfringing good faith activities, carried out by an appropriately qualified researcher who has lawfully obtained a copy, unfixed performance, or display of a work,

performance, or phonogram and who has made a good faith effort to obtain authorization for such activities, to the extent necessary for the sole purpose of research consisting of identifying and analyzing flaws and vulnerabilities of technologies for scrambling and descrambling of information;

- (iii) the inclusion of a component or part for the sole purpose of preventing the access of minors to inappropriate online content in a technology, product, service, or device that itself is not prohibited under the measures implementing subparagraph (a)(ii);
- (iv) noninfringing good faith activities that are authorized by the owner of a computer, computer system, or computer network for the sole purpose of testing, investigating, or correcting the security of that computer, computer system, or computer network;
- (v) noninfringing activities for the sole purpose of identifying and disabling a capability to carry out undisclosed collection or dissemination of personally identifying information reflecting the online activities of a natural person in a way that has no other effect on the ability of any person to gain access to any work;
- (vi) lawfully authorized activities carried out by government employees, agents, or contractors for the purpose of law enforcement, intelligence, essential security, or similar governmental purposes; and
- (vii) access by a nonprofit library, archive, or educational institution to a work not otherwise available to it, for the sole purpose of making acquisition decisions; and
- (viii) noninfringing uses of a work, performance, or phonogram in a particular class of works, performances, or phonograms

when an actual or likely adverse impact on those noninfringing uses is demonstrated in a legislative or administrative proceeding by substantial evidence; provided that any limitation or exception adopted in reliance upon this clause shall have effect for a period of not more than three years from the date of conclusion of such proceeding.

- (e) The exceptions and limitations to any measures implementing subparagraph (a) for the activities set forth in subparagraph (d) may only be applied as follows, provided that they do not impair the adequacy of legal protection or the effectiveness of legal remedies against the circumvention of effective technological measures:
  - (i) Measures implementing subparagraph (a)(i) may be subject to exceptions and limitations with respect to each activity set forth in subparagraph (d).
  - (ii) Measures implementing subparagraph (a)(ii), as they apply to effective technological measures that control access to a work, performance, or phonogram, may be subject to exceptions and limitations with respect to activities set forth in subparagraph (d)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), and (vi).
  - (iii) Measures implementing subparagraph (a)(ii), as they apply to effective technological measures that protect any copyright or any rights related to copyright, may be subject to exceptions and limitations with respect to activities set forth in subparagraph (d)(i) and (vi).
- (f) For purposes of this paragraph, **effective technological measure** means any technology, device, or component that, in the normal course of its operation, controls access to a protected work, performance, phonogram, or other protected subject matter, or protects any copyright or any rights related to copyright.

9. In order to provide adequate and effective legal remedies to protect rights management information:

- (a) each Party shall provide that any person who without authority, and knowing, or, with respect to civil remedies, having reasonable grounds to know, that it would induce, enable, facilitate, or conceal an infringement of any copyright or related right,
  - (i) knowingly removes or alters any rights management information;
  - (ii) distributes or imports for distribution rights management information knowing that the rights management information has been removed or altered without authority; or
  - (iii) distributes, imports for distribution, broadcasts, communicates, or makes available to the public copies of works, performances, or phonograms, knowing that rights management information has been removed or altered without authority,

shall be liable and subject to the remedies set out in Article 15.11.14. Each Party shall provide for criminal procedures and penalties to be applied when any person, other than a nonprofit library, archive, educational institution, or public noncommercial broadcasting entity, is found to have engaged willfully and for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain in any of the foregoing activities.

- (b) Each Party shall confine exceptions and limitations to measures implementing subparagraph (a) to lawfully authorized activities carried out by government employees, agents, or contractors for the purpose of law enforcement, intelligence, essential security, or similar government purposes.
- (c) For purposes of this paragraph, **rights management information** means:
  - (i) information that identifies a work, performance, or phonogram; the author of the work, the performer of the

performance, or the producer of the phonogram; or the owner of any right in the work, performance, or phonogram;

(ii) information about the terms and conditions of the use of the work, performance, or phonogram; or

(iii) any numbers or codes that represent such information,

when any of these items is attached to a copy of the work, performance, or phonogram or appears in connection with the communication or making available of a work, performance, or phonogram to the public.

(d) For greater certainty, nothing in this paragraph obligates a Party to require the owner of any right in the work, performance, or phonogram to attach rights management information to copies of the work, performance, or phonogram, or to cause rights management information to appear in connection with a communication of the work, performance, or phonogram to the public.

10. Each Party shall issue appropriate laws, orders, regulations, or administrative or executive decrees mandating that its agencies use computer software only as authorized by the right holder. These measures shall actively regulate the acquisition and management of software for government use.

11. (a) With respect to this Article and Articles 15.6, and 15.7, each Party shall confine limitations or exceptions to exclusive rights to certain special cases that do not conflict with a normal exploitation of the work, performance, or phonogram, and do not unreasonably prejudice the legitimate interests of the right holder.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a) and Article 15.7.3(b), neither Party may permit the retransmission of television signals (whether terrestrial, cable, or satellite) on the Internet without the authorization of the right holder or right holders of the content of the signal, if any, and of the signal.

#### ARTICLE 15.6: COPYRIGHT

Without prejudice to Articles 11(1)(ii), 11*bis*(1)(i) and (ii), 11*ter*(1)(ii), 14(1)(ii), and 14*bis*(1) of the Berne Convention, each Party shall provide to authors the exclusive right to authorize or prohibit the communication to the public of their works, by wire or wireless means, including the making available to the public of their works in such a way that members of the public may access these works from a place and at a time individually chosen by them.

#### ARTICLE 15.7: RELATED RIGHTS

1. Each Party shall accord the rights provided for in this Chapter with respect to performers and producers of phonograms to the performers and producers of phonograms who are nationals of the other Party and to performances or phonograms first published or fixed in the territory of the other Party. A performance or phonogram shall be considered first published in the territory of a Party in which it is published within 30 days of its original publication.<sup>9</sup>
2. Each Party shall provide to performers the right to authorize or prohibit:
  - (a) the broadcasting and communication to the public of their unfixed performances, except where the performance is already a broadcast performance, and
  - (b) the fixation of their unfixed performances.
3. (a) Each Party shall provide to performers and producers of phonograms the right to authorize or prohibit the broadcasting or any communication to the public of their performances or phonograms, by wire or wireless means, including the making available to the public of those performances and phonograms in such a way that members of the public may access them from a place and at a time individually chosen by them.

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<sup>9</sup> For purposes of this Article, “fixation” includes the finalization of the master tape or its equivalent.

- (b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a) and Article 15.5.11, the application of this right to traditional free over-the-air (*i.e.*, noninteractive) broadcasting, and exceptions or limitations to this right for such activity, shall be a matter of each Party's law.
- (c) Each Party may adopt limitations to this right in respect of other noninteractive transmissions in accordance with Article 15.5.11, provided that the limitations do not prejudice the right of the performer or producer of phonograms to obtain equitable remuneration.

4. Neither Party may subject the enjoyment and exercise of the rights of performers and producers of phonograms provided for in this Chapter to any formality.

5. For purposes of this Article and Article 15.5, the following definitions apply with respect to performers and producers of phonograms:

- (a) **broadcasting** means the transmission to the public by wireless means or satellite of sounds or sounds and images, or representations thereof, including wireless transmission of encrypted signals where the means for decrypting are provided to the public by the broadcasting organization or with its consent; "broadcasting" does not include transmissions over computer networks or any transmissions where the time and place of reception may be individually chosen by members of the public;
- (b) **communication to the public** of a performance or a phonogram means the transmission to the public by any medium, other than by broadcasting, of sounds of a performance or the sounds or the representations of sounds fixed in a phonogram. For purposes of paragraph 3, "communication to the public" includes making the sounds or representations of sounds fixed in a phonogram audible to the public;

- (c) **fixation** means the embodiment of sounds, or of the representations thereof, from which they can be perceived, reproduced, or communicated through a device;
- (d) **performers** means actors, singers, musicians, dancers, and other persons who act, sing, deliver, declaim, play in, interpret, or otherwise perform literary or artistic works or expressions of folklore;
- (e) **phonogram** means the fixation of the sounds of a performance or of other sounds, or of a representation of sounds, other than in the form of a fixation incorporated in a cinematographic or other audiovisual work;
- (f) **producer of a phonogram** means the person who, or the legal entity which, takes the initiative and has the responsibility for the first fixation of the sounds of a performance or other sounds, or the representations of sounds; and
- (g) **publication** of a performance or a phonogram means the offering of copies of the performance or the phonogram to the public, with the consent of the right holder, and provided that copies are offered to the public in reasonable quantity.

ARTICLE 15.8: PROTECTION OF ENCRYPTED PROGRAM-CARRYING SATELLITE SIGNALS

1. Each Party shall make it a criminal offense:
  - (a) to manufacture, assemble, modify, import, export, sell, lease, or otherwise distribute a tangible or intangible device or system, knowing or having reason to know that the device or system is primarily of assistance in decoding an encrypted program-carrying satellite signal without the authorization of the lawful distributor of such signal; and

- (b) willfully to receive or further distribute a program-carrying signal that originated as an encrypted satellite signal knowing that it has been decoded without the authorization of the lawful distributor of the signal.

2. Each Party shall provide for civil remedies, including compensatory damages, for any person injured by any activity described in paragraph 1, including any person that holds an interest in the encrypted programming signal or its content.

#### ARTICLE 15.9: PATENTS

1. Each Party may only exclude from patentability inventions, the prevention within its territory of the commercial exploitation of which is necessary to protect *ordre public* or morality, including to protect human, animal, or plant life or health or to avoid serious prejudice to the environment, provided that such exclusion is not made merely because the exploitation is prohibited by law.

2. Each Party shall make patents available for the following inventions:

- (a) plants, and
- (b) animals.

In addition, the Parties confirm that patents shall be available for any new uses or methods of using a known product, including new uses of a known product for the treatment of humans and animals.

3. Each Party may provide limited exceptions to the exclusive rights conferred by a patent, provided that such exceptions do not unreasonably conflict with a normal exploitation of the patent and do not unreasonably prejudice the legitimate interests of the patent owner, taking account of the legitimate interests of third parties.

4. Each Party shall provide that the exclusive right of the patent owner to prevent importation of a patented product, or a product that results from patented

process, without the consent of the patent owner shall not be limited by the sale or distribution of that product outside its territory.<sup>10</sup>

5. Each Party shall provide that a patent may be revoked only on grounds that would have justified a refusal to grant the patent. A Party may also provide that fraud, misrepresentation, or inequitable conduct may be the basis for revoking a patent or holding a patent unenforceable. Where a Party provides proceedings that permit a third party to oppose the grant of a patent, a Party shall not make such proceedings available before the grant of the patent.

6. Consistent with paragraph 3, if a Party permits a third person to use the subject matter of a subsisting patent to generate information necessary to support an application for marketing approval of a pharmaceutical product, that Party shall provide that any product produced under such authority shall not be made, used, or sold in its territory other than for purposes related to generating information to meet requirements for approval to market the product, and if the Party permits exportation, the Party shall provide that the product shall only be exported outside its territory for purposes of meeting marketing approval requirements of that Party.

7. Each Party, at the request of the patent owner, shall adjust the term of a patent to compensate for unreasonable delays that occur in granting the patent. For purposes of this paragraph, an unreasonable delay shall at least include a delay in the issuance of the patent of more than four years from the date of filing of the application in the territory of the Party, or two years after a request for examination of the application, whichever is later. Periods attributable to actions of the patent applicant need not be included in the determination of such delays.

8. Each Party shall disregard information contained in public disclosures used to determine if an invention is novel or has an inventive step<sup>11</sup> if the public disclosure:

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<sup>10</sup> A Party may limit application of this paragraph to cases where the patent owner has placed restrictions on importation by contract or other means.

<sup>11</sup> For purposes of this Article, “inventive step” shall be treated as synonymous with the term “non-obvious.”

- (a) was made or authorized by, or derived from, the patent applicant, and
- (b) occurred within 12 months prior to the date of filing of the application in the territory of the Party.

9. Each Party shall provide patent applicants with at least one opportunity to make amendments, corrections, and observations in connection with their applications.

10. Each Party shall provide that a disclosure of a claimed invention shall be considered to be sufficiently clear and complete if it provides information that allows the invention to be made and used by a person skilled in the art, without undue experimentation, as of the filing date.

11. Each Party shall provide that a claimed invention:

- (a) is sufficiently supported by its disclosure if the disclosure reasonably conveys to a person skilled in the art that the applicant was in possession of the claimed invention, as of the filing date, and
- (b) is industrially applicable if it has a specific, substantial, and credible utility.

#### ARTICLE 15.10: MEASURES RELATED TO CERTAIN REGULATED PRODUCTS

1. If a Party requires, as a condition of approving the marketing of a new pharmaceutical or agricultural chemical product, the submission of:

- (a) safety and efficacy data, or
- (b) evidence of prior approval of the product in another territory that requires such information,

the Party shall not permit third persons not having the consent of the person providing the information to market a product on the basis of the approval granted to the person submitting that information for at least five years for pharmaceutical

products and ten years for agricultural chemical products from the date of approval in the Party's territory. For purposes of this paragraph, a new product is one that contains a new chemical entity that has not been previously approved in the Party's territory.<sup>12</sup>

2. If a Party requires the submission of
  - (a) new clinical information that is essential to the approval of a pharmaceutical product (other than information related to bioequivalency), or
  - (b) evidence of prior approval of the product in another territory that requires such new information,

the Party shall not permit third persons not having the consent of the person providing the information to market a pharmaceutical product on the basis of such new information or the approval granted to the person submitting such information for at least three years from the date of approval in the Party. A Party may limit such protection to new clinical information the origination of which involves considerable effort.<sup>13</sup>

3. With respect to patents covering pharmaceutical products, each Party shall make available an extension of the patent term to compensate the patent owner for

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<sup>12</sup> As of the date of signature of this Agreement, neither Party permits third persons not having the consent of the person providing such information to market a product on the basis of such information submitted in another territory or evidence of prior approval of the product in another territory. In addition, when a product is subject to a system of marketing approval pursuant to this paragraph and is also subject to a patent in the territory of a Party, that Party may not alter the term of protection that it provides in accordance with this paragraph in the event that the patent protection terminates before the end of the term of protection specified in Article 10.1.

<sup>13</sup> As of the date of signature of this Agreement, neither Party permits third persons not having the consent of the person providing such new information to market a product on the basis of such information submitted in another territory or evidence of prior approval of the product in another territory. In addition, when a product is subject to a system of marketing approval pursuant to this paragraph and is also subject to a patent in the territory of a Party, that Party may not alter the term of protection that it provides in accordance with this paragraph in the event that the patent protection terminates before the end of the term of protection specified in Article 10.2.

unreasonable curtailment of the effective patent term as a result of the marketing approval process.

4. With respect to any pharmaceutical product that is subject to a patent, and where a Party permits authorizations to be granted or applications to be made to market a pharmaceutical product based on information previously submitted concerning the safety and efficacy of a product, including evidence of prior marketing approval by persons other than the person that previously submitted such information, that Party:

- (a) shall implement measures in its marketing approval process to prevent such other persons from marketing a product covered by a patent during the term of that patent, unless by consent or with the acquiescence of the patent owner,<sup>14</sup> and
- (b) if it allows applications<sup>15</sup> to be made to market a product during the term of a patent covering that product, shall provide that the patent owner shall be notified of the identity of any such other person who requests marketing approval to enter the market during the term of a patent notified to or identified by the approving authority as covering that product.

#### ARTICLE 15.11: ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

##### *General Obligations*

1. Further to Article 18.1 (Publication), each Party shall provide that final judicial decisions and administrative rulings of general application pertaining to the enforcement of intellectual property rights shall be in writing and shall state any relevant findings of fact and the reasoning or the legal basis on which the decisions

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<sup>14</sup> Each Party may limit such measures to patents claiming the product and patents covering approved indications.

<sup>15</sup> The Parties understand that as of the date of signature of this Agreement Morocco does not allow such applications to be made, except in cases that are consistent with Article 15.9.6, which is commonly referred to as the “Bolar provision.”

or rulings are based. Each Party shall provide that such decisions or rulings shall be published<sup>16</sup> or, where publication is not practicable, otherwise made available to the public in a national language in such a manner as to enable governments and right holders to become acquainted with them.

2. Each Party shall publicize information on its efforts to provide effective enforcement of intellectual property rights in its civil, administrative, and criminal system, including any statistical information that the Party may collect for such purpose. Nothing in this paragraph shall require a Party to disclose confidential information that would impede law enforcement or otherwise be contrary to the public interest or would prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private.

3. The Parties understand that a decision that a Party makes on the distribution of enforcement resources shall not excuse that Party from complying with this Chapter.

4. In civil, administrative, and criminal proceedings involving copyright or related rights, each Party shall provide for a presumption that, in the absence of proof to the contrary, the person whose name is indicated as the author, producer, performer, or publisher of the work, performance, or phonogram in the usual manner is the designated right holder in such work, performance, or phonogram. Each Party shall also provide for a presumption that, in the absence of proof to the contrary, the copyright or related right subsists in such subject matter.

#### *Civil and Administrative Procedures and Remedies*

5. Each Party shall make available to right holders<sup>17</sup> civil judicial procedures concerning the enforcement of any intellectual property right.

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<sup>16</sup> For greater certainty, a Party may satisfy the requirement for publication by making the decision or ruling available to the public on the Internet.

<sup>17</sup> For purposes of this Article, “right holder” includes exclusive licensees as well as federations and associations having the legal standing and authority to assert such rights. “Exclusive licensee” includes the exclusive licensee of any one or more of the exclusive intellectual property rights encompassed in a given intellectual property.

6. Each Party shall provide that:
- (a) in civil judicial proceedings, its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order the infringer to pay the right holder:
    - (i) damages adequate to compensate for the injury the right holder has suffered as a result of the infringement and,
    - (ii) at least in the case of copyright or related rights infringement and trademark counterfeiting, the profits of the infringer that are attributable to the infringement and that are not taken into account in computing the amount of the damages referred to in clause (i); and
  - (b) in determining damages for infringement of intellectual property rights, its judicial authorities shall consider, *inter alia*, the value of the infringed-on good or service, measured by the suggested retail price or other legitimate measure of value submitted by the right holder.

7. In civil judicial proceedings, each Party shall, at least with respect to works, phonograms, and performances protected by copyright or related rights, and in cases of trademark counterfeiting, establish or maintain pre-established damages, which shall be available on the election of the right holder. Pre-established damages shall be in an amount sufficient to constitute a deterrent to future infringements and to compensate fully the right holder for the harm caused by the infringement. In civil judicial proceedings concerning patent infringement, each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities, except in exceptional circumstances, shall have the authority to increase damages to an amount that is up to three times the amount of the injury found or assessed.

8. Each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities, except in exceptional circumstances, shall have the authority to order, at the conclusion of civil judicial proceedings concerning copyright or related rights infringement and trademark counterfeiting, that the prevailing party shall be awarded payment of court costs or fees and reasonable attorney's fees by the losing party. Further, each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities, at least in exceptional circumstances, shall have

the authority to order, at the conclusion of civil judicial proceedings concerning patent infringement, that the prevailing party shall be awarded payment of reasonable attorney's fees by the losing party.<sup>18</sup>

9. In civil judicial proceedings concerning copyright or related rights infringement and trademark counterfeiting, each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order the seizure of suspected infringing goods, any related materials and implements, and, at least for trademark counterfeiting, documentary evidence relevant to the infringement.

10. Each Party shall provide that:

- (a) in civil judicial proceedings, at the right holder's request, goods that have been found to be pirated or counterfeit shall be destroyed, except in exceptional circumstances;
- (b) its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order that materials and implements that have been used in the manufacture or creation of the pirated or counterfeit goods be, without compensation of any sort, promptly destroyed or, in exceptional circumstances, without compensation of any sort, disposed of outside the channels of commerce in such a manner as to minimize the risks of further infringements; and
- (c) in regard to counterfeit trademarked goods, the simple removal of the trademark unlawfully affixed shall not be sufficient to permit the release of goods into the channels of commerce.

11. Each Party shall provide that in civil judicial proceedings concerning the enforcement of intellectual property rights, its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order the infringer to provide any information that the infringer possesses regarding any person involved in any aspect of the infringement and regarding the means of production or distribution channel of such goods, including the identification of third persons involved in the production and distribution of the

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<sup>18</sup> Neither Party shall be required to apply this paragraph to actions for (a) infringement by a Party, or (b) infringement authorized by a Party.

infringing goods or services or in their channels of distribution, and to provide this information to the right holder.

12. Each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities have the authority to:

- (a) fine or imprison, in appropriate cases, a party to a litigation who fails to abide by valid orders issued by such authorities; and
- (b) impose sanctions on parties to a litigation, their counsel, experts, or other persons subject to the court's jurisdiction, for violation of judicial orders regarding the protection of confidential information produced or exchanged in a proceeding.

13. To the extent that any civil remedy can be ordered as a result of administrative procedures on the merits of a case, each Party shall provide that such procedures conform to principles equivalent in substance to those set out in this Chapter.

14. In civil judicial proceedings concerning the acts described in Articles 15.5.8 and 15.5.9, each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order or award at least:

- (a) provisional measures, including seizure of devices and products suspected of being involved in the prohibited activity;
- (b) the opportunity for the right holder to elect between actual damages it suffered (plus any profits attributable to the prohibited activity not taken into account in computing those damages) or pre-established damages;
- (c) payment to the prevailing right holder at the conclusion of civil judicial proceedings of court costs and fees, and reasonable attorney's fees, by the party engaged in the prohibited conduct; and
- (d) destruction of devices and products found to be involved in the prohibited activity.

Neither Party may make damages available against a nonprofit library, archive, educational institution, or public noncommercial broadcasting entity that sustains the burden of proving that it was not aware and had no reason to believe that its acts constituted a prohibited activity.

15. In civil judicial proceedings concerning the enforcement of intellectual property rights, each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order a party to desist from an infringement, in order, *inter alia*, to prevent, immediately after they clear customs, the entry into the channels of commerce in the jurisdiction of those authorities of imported goods that involve the infringement of an intellectual property right, or to prevent their exportation.

16. In the event that a Party's judicial or other authorities appoint technical or other experts in civil proceedings concerning the enforcement of intellectual property rights and require that the parties to the litigation bear the costs of such experts, the Party should seek to ensure that such costs are closely related, *inter alia*, to the quantity and nature of work to be performed and do not unreasonably deter recourse to such proceedings.

#### *Provisional Measures*

17. Parties shall act on requests for relief *inaudita altera parte* expeditiously, and shall, except in exceptional circumstances, generally execute such requests within ten days.

18. Each Party shall provide that its judicial authorities have the authority to require the plaintiff to provide any reasonably available evidence in order to satisfy themselves with a sufficient degree of certainty that the plaintiff's right is being infringed or that such infringement is imminent, and to order the plaintiff to provide a reasonable security or equivalent assurance set at a level sufficient to protect the defendant and to prevent abuse, and so as not to unreasonably deter recourse to such procedures.

19. In proceedings concerning the grant of provisional measures in relation to enforcement of a patent, each Party shall provide for a rebuttable presumption that the patent is valid.

*Special Requirements Related to Border Measures*

20. Each Party shall provide that any right holder initiating procedures for its competent authorities to suspend release of suspected counterfeit or confusingly similar trademark goods, or pirated copyright goods<sup>19</sup> into free circulation is required to provide adequate evidence to satisfy the competent authorities that, under the laws of the country of importation, there is *prima facie* an infringement of the right holder's intellectual property right and to supply sufficient information that may reasonably be expected to be within the right holder's knowledge to make the suspected goods reasonably recognizable by its competent authorities. The requirement to provide sufficient information shall not unreasonably deter recourse to these procedures. Each Party shall provide that the application to suspend the release of goods shall remain in force for a period of not less than one year from the date of application, or the period that the good is protected by copyright or the relevant trademark registration, whichever is shorter.

21. Each Party shall provide that its competent authorities shall have the authority to require a right holder initiating procedures to suspend the release of suspected counterfeit or confusingly similar trademark goods, or pirated copyright goods, to provide a reasonable security or equivalent assurance sufficient to protect the defendant and the competent authorities and to prevent abuse. Each Party shall provide that such security or equivalent assurance shall not unreasonably deter recourse to these procedures. Each Party may provide that such security may be in the form of a bond conditioned to hold the importer or owner of the imported merchandise harmless from any loss or damage resulting from any suspension of

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<sup>19</sup> For purposes of paragraphs 20 through 25:

- (a) **counterfeit trademark goods** means any goods, including packaging, bearing without authorization a trademark that is identical to the trademark validly registered in respect of such goods, or that cannot be distinguished in its essential aspects from such a trademark, and that thereby infringes the rights of the owner of the trademark in question under the law of the country of importation; and
- (b) **pirated copyright goods** means any goods that are copies made without the consent of the right holder or person duly authorized by the right holder in the country of production and which are made directly or indirectly from an article where the making of that copy would have constituted an infringement of a copyright or a related right under the law of the country of importation.

the release of goods in the event the competent authorities determine that the article is not an infringing good.

22. Where its competent authorities have made a determination that goods are counterfeit or pirated, a Party shall grant its competent authorities the authority to inform the right holder of the names and addresses of the consignor, the importer, and the consignee, and of the quantity of the goods in question.

23. Each Party shall provide that its competent authorities may initiate border measures *ex officio*, with respect to imported, exported, or in-transit merchandise suspected of infringing an intellectual property right, without the need for a formal complaint from a private party or right holder.

24. Each Party shall provide that goods that have been determined to be pirated or counterfeit by its competent authorities shall be destroyed, except in exceptional circumstances. In regard to counterfeit trademark goods, the simple removal of the trademark unlawfully affixed shall not be sufficient to permit the release of the goods into the channels of commerce. In no event shall the competent authorities be authorized, except in exceptional circumstances, to permit the exportation of counterfeit or pirated goods or to permit such goods to be subject to other customs procedures.

25. Where an application fee or merchandise storage fee is assessed in connection with border measures to enforce an intellectual property right, each Party shall provide that such fee shall not be set at an amount that unreasonably deters recourse to these measures.

#### *Criminal Procedures and Remedies*

26. (a) Each Party shall provide for criminal procedures and penalties to be applied at least in cases of willful trademark counterfeiting or copyright or related rights piracy on a commercial scale. Willful copyright or related rights piracy on a commercial scale includes
- (i) significant willful copyright or related rights infringements that have no direct or indirect motivation of financial gain, and

- (ii) willful infringements for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain.

Each Party shall treat willful importation or exportation of counterfeit or pirated goods as unlawful activities subject to criminal penalties to the same extent as the trafficking or distribution of such goods in domestic commerce.

- (b) Specifically, each Party shall provide:
  - (i) remedies that include sentences of imprisonment as well as monetary fines sufficient to provide a deterrent to future infringements, consistent with a policy of removing the infringer's monetary incentive, and shall further establish policies or guidelines that encourage judicial authorities to impose those remedies at levels sufficient to provide a deterrent to future infringements;
  - (ii) that its judicial authorities shall have the authority to order the seizure of suspected counterfeit or pirated goods, any related materials and implements used in the commission of the offense, any assets traceable to the infringing activity, and any documentary evidence relevant to the offense. Each Party shall provide that items that are subject to seizure pursuant to any such judicial order need not be individually identified, so long as they fall within general categories specified in the order;
  - (iii) that its judicial authorities shall have the authority, among other measures, to order the forfeiture of any assets traceable to the infringing activity and shall, except in exceptional cases, order the forfeiture and destruction of all counterfeit or pirated goods, and, at least with respect to willful copyright or related rights piracy, order the forfeiture and destruction of materials and implements that have been used in the creation of infringing goods. Each Party shall further

provide that such forfeiture and destruction shall occur without compensation of any kind to the defendant; and

- (iv) that its authorities may initiate legal action *ex officio* with respect to the offenses described in this Chapter, without the need for a formal complaint by a private party or right holder.

27. Each Party shall also provide for criminal procedures and penalties to be applied in the following cases, even absent willful trademark counterfeiting or copyright piracy:

- (a) knowing trafficking in counterfeit labels affixed or designed to be affixed to: a phonogram, a copy of a computer program, documentation or packaging for a computer program, or a copy of a motion picture or other audiovisual work; and
- (b) knowing trafficking in counterfeit documentation or packaging for a computer program.

*Limitations on Liability for Service Providers*

28. For the purpose of providing enforcement procedures that permit effective action against any act of copyright infringement covered by this Chapter, including expeditious remedies to prevent infringements and criminal and civil remedies, each Party shall provide, consistent with the framework set out in this Article:

- (a) legal incentives for service providers to cooperate with copyright<sup>20</sup> owners in deterring the unauthorized storage and transmission of copyrighted materials; and
- (b) limitations in its law regarding the scope of remedies available against service providers for copyright infringements that they do not control, initiate, or direct, and that take place through systems or

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<sup>20</sup> For purposes of this paragraph, “copyright” includes related rights.

networks controlled or operated by them or on their behalf, as set forth in this subparagraph.<sup>21</sup>

- (i) These limitations shall preclude monetary relief, and provide reasonable restrictions on court-ordered relief to compel or restrain certain actions, for the following functions, and shall be confined to those functions:<sup>22</sup>
  - (A) transmitting, routing, or providing connections for material without modification of its content, or the intermediate and transient storage of such material in the course thereof;
  - (B) caching carried out through an automatic process;
  - (C) storage at the direction of a user of material residing on a system or network controlled or operated by or for the service provider; and
  - (D) referring or linking users to an online location by using information location tools, including hyperlinks and directories.
- (ii) These limitations shall apply only where the service provider does not initiate the chain of transmission of the material and does not select the material or its recipients (except to the extent that a function described in clause (i)(D) in itself entails some form of selection).
- (iii) Qualification by a service provider for the limitations as to each function in clause (i)(A) through (D) shall be

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<sup>21</sup> This subparagraph is without prejudice to the availability of defenses to copyright infringement that are of general applicability.

<sup>22</sup> Either Party may request consultations with the other Party to consider how to address under this paragraph functions of a similar nature that a Party identifies after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

considered separately from qualification for the limitations as to each other function, in accordance with the conditions for qualification set forth in clauses (iv) through (vii).

- (iv) With respect to functions referred to in clause (i)(B), the limitations shall be conditioned on the service provider:
  - (A) permitting access to cached material in significant part only to users of its system or network who have met conditions on user access to that material;
  - (B) complying with rules concerning the refreshing, reloading, or other updating of the cached material when specified by the person making the material available online in accordance with a generally accepted industry standard data communications protocol for the system or network through which that person makes the material available;
  - (C) not interfering with technology consistent with industry standards accepted in the Party's territory used at the originating site to obtain information about the use of the material, and not modifying its content in transmission to subsequent users; and
  - (D) expeditiously removing or disabling access, on receipt of an effective notification of claimed infringement, to cached material that has been removed or access to which has been disabled at the originating site.
- (v) With respect to functions referred to in clause (i)(C) and (D), the limitations shall be conditioned on the service provider:
  - (A) not receiving a financial benefit directly attributable to the infringing activity, in circumstances where it has the right and ability to control such activity;

- (B) expeditiously removing or disabling access to the material residing on its system or network on obtaining actual knowledge of the infringement or becoming aware of facts or circumstances from which the infringement was apparent, such as through effective notifications of claimed infringement in accordance with clause (ix);and
  - (C) publicly designating a representative to receive such notifications.
- (vi) Eligibility for the limitations in this subparagraph shall be conditioned on the service provider:
  - (A) adopting and reasonably implementing a policy that provides for termination in appropriate circumstances of the accounts of repeat infringers; and
  - (B) accommodating and not interfering with standard technical measures accepted in the Party's territory that protect and identify copyrighted material, that are developed through an open, voluntary process by a broad consensus of copyright owners and service providers, that are available on reasonable and nondiscriminatory terms, and that do not impose substantial costs on service providers or substantial burdens on their systems or networks.
- (vii) Eligibility for the limitations in this subparagraph may not be conditioned on the service provider monitoring its service, or affirmatively seeking facts indicating infringing activity, except to the extent consistent with such technical measures.
- (viii) If the service provider qualifies for the limitations with respect to the function referred to in clause (i)(A), court-ordered relief to compel or restrain certain actions shall be

limited to terminating specified accounts, or to taking reasonable steps to block access to a specific, non-domestic online location. If the service provider qualifies for the limitations with respect to any other function in clause (i), court-ordered relief to compel or restrain certain actions shall be limited to removing or disabling access to the infringing material, terminating specified accounts, and other remedies that a court may find necessary, provided that such other remedies are the least burdensome to the service provider among comparably effective forms of relief. Each Party shall provide that any such relief shall be issued with due regard for the relative burden to the service provider and harm to the copyright owner, the technical feasibility and effectiveness of the remedy and whether less burdensome, comparably effective enforcement methods are available. Except for orders ensuring the preservation of evidence, or other orders having no material adverse effect on the operation of the service provider's communications network, each Party shall provide that such relief shall be available only where the service provider has received notice of the court order proceedings referred to in this subparagraph and an opportunity to appear before the judicial authority.

- (ix) For purposes of the notice and take down process for the functions referred to in clauses (i)(C) and (D), each Party shall establish appropriate procedures for effective notifications of claimed infringement, and effective counter-notifications by those whose material is removed or disabled through mistake or misidentification. Each Party shall also provide for monetary remedies against any person who makes a knowing material misrepresentation in a notification or counter-notification that causes injury to any interested party as a result of a service provider relying on the misrepresentation.
- (x) If the service provider removes or disables access to material in good faith based on claimed or apparent infringement,

each Party shall provide that the service provider shall be exempted from liability for any resulting claims, provided that, in the case of material residing on its system or network, it takes reasonable steps promptly to notify the person making the material available on its system or network that it has done so and, if such person makes an effective counter-notification and is subject to jurisdiction in an infringement suit, to restore the material online unless the person giving the original effective notification seeks judicial relief within a reasonable time.

- (xi) Each Party shall establish an administrative or judicial procedure enabling copyright owners who have given effective notification of claimed infringement to obtain expeditiously from a service provider information in its possession identifying the alleged infringer.
- (xii) For purposes of the function referred to in clause (i)(A), **service provider** means a provider of transmission, routing, or connections for digital online communications without modification of their content between or among points specified by the user of material of the user's choosing, and for purposes of the functions referred to in clause (i)(B) through (D), **service provider** means a provider or operator of facilities for online services or network access.

#### ARTICLE 15.12: TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Each Party shall:

- (a) implement the obligations set out in Article 15.4 within one year of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, and shall implement the obligations set out in Article 15.11.28 by January 1, 2006, and
- (b) ratify or accede to the agreements listed in paragraph 2(d), (e), and (f) of Article 15.1 by January 1, 2006.