



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)  
BETWEEN  
THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND  
AND  
THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC  
(IPO CZ)  
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC  
CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN THE AREA  
OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Whereas,

**WIPO AND IPO CZ (hereinafter referred to individually as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”)**

A. WIPO is an intergovernmental organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations system of organizations with its headquarters located in Geneva, Switzerland, dedicated to developing a balanced and effective international intellectual property (IP) system. Through its Arbitration and Mediation Center (WIPO Center) WIPO offers Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) services for the resolution of IP disputes, as well as assistance in the promotion of IP ADR generally.

B. IPO CZ is the central authority of public administration providing protection of industrial property in the Czech Republic.

**OBJECTIVE**

C. The WIPO Center provides international services for the resolution of disputes relating to IP, in particular, by administering cases under the WIPO Rules for Mediation, Arbitration, Expedited Arbitration, and Expert Determination, as well as procedures for the resolution of Internet domain name disputes. As an independent, neutral, and non-profit service provider, the WIPO Center maintains an up-to-date dispute management infrastructure and an international database of IP mediators, arbitrators and experts. The WIPO Center furthermore supports member states in the establishment and promotion of IP ADR resources.

D. IPO CZ supports the establishment and maintenance of ADR services at the national level. IPO CZ raises awareness of ADR services among stakeholders and users of the IP protection system in the Czech Republic. In this area, IPO CZ wishes to strengthen cooperation with other partners at the international, regional and national levels.

E. The Parties recognize the potential usefulness of ADR as a private means of resolving IP disputes. In particular, the neutrality, flexibility and expertise offered by ADR can suit the needs of parties to such disputes. The Parties wish to promote specialized IP ADR in the Czech Republic.

Now therefore the Parties confirm the following:

## **I. AREAS OF COLLABORATION**

The Parties endeavor to collaborate in the promotion of ADR services and such collaboration may include the following:

1. Raising awareness of ADR procedures, including WIPO services, among IP stakeholders in the Czech Republic.
2. Identifying and training specialized IP mediators and arbitrators based in the Czech Republic.
3. Where appropriate, support the development of IPO CZ ADR policies and procedures.
4. Where applicable, utilizing case administration services of the WIPO Center, particularly in international disputes.
5. Providing tailored mediation and arbitration seminars or other training programs for interested parties.

## **II. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The Parties remain open to exploring additional areas of collaboration of common interest, including IPO CZ facilitating cooperation between the WIPO Center and other relevant entities in the Czech Republic engaged in the resolution of IP disputes.
2. This MOU does not create any enforceable rights or impose any legally binding obligations on the Parties.
3. Any provision of this MOU may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the Parties, formalized through an exchange of letters specifying the date of entry into force of the amendment concerned.
4. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses in implementing this MOU in accordance with each Party's budget, as available.
5. This MOU shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed by the Parties.
6. This MOU shall continue for an indefinite period of time, and may be terminated by either Party with three months' prior written notice to the other Party.

7. Nothing in this MOU may be deemed or interpreted as a waiver of any privileges or immunities accorded to WIPO as an international organization and specialized agency of the United Nations.

8. Any dispute between the Parties regarding this MOU shall be resolved amicably by negotiation between the Parties.

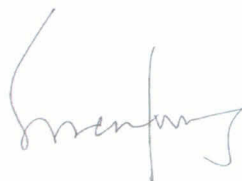
This MOU has been signed in two original copies in English.

For the Industrial Property Office  
of the Czech Republic (IPO CZ)



Mr. Josef Kratochvíl  
President  
Date:

For the World Intellectual  
Property Organization (WIPO)



Mr. Daren Tang  
Director General  
Date: November 25, 2020