



UNECE United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNECE Work on IPR Enforcement



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Structure of the Presentation

- Who we are
- What we do
- UNECE's work in the area of IP



UNECE United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)





The UNECE

- brings together 56 countries located in the European Union, non-EU Western and Eastern Europe, South-East Europe, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and North America.
- to promote pan-European economic integration
- provides analysis, policy advice and assistance to governments
- focuses on the UN global mandates in the economic field
- in cooperation with other regional and global players, and other key stakeholders, notably the business community.



Road Signs – Convention on Road Signs and Signals, 1968

- designed to increase road safety and aid international road traffic by standardising the signing system for road traffic (road signs, traffic lights and road markings) in use internationally
- Some examples of warning signs:





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Customs Convention on the Int'l Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets, 1975

TIR Convention



transit international routier



TIR Convention (cont'd)

- to simplify and harmonise the administrative formalities of international road transport
- establishes an international customs transit system with maximum facility to move goods:
 - in sealed vehicles or containers;
 - from a customs office of departure in one country to a customs office of destination in another country;
 - without requiring extensive and time-consuming border checks at intermediate borders;
 - at a cost-effective price;
 - while, at the same time, providing customs authorities with the required security and guarantees.



UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI)

- Innovation and Competitiveness
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Entrepreneurship and Enterprise development
- Financing Innovation and
- **Intellectual Property Rights**



UNECE's Work on IPRs

- TOS-IP established in 2006
- provide a forum for the exchange of experiences
- collect and disseminate good practices and make policy recommendations
- engage in capacity building and policy advice at national, regional and sub-regional level



... through

- our network of experts representing
 - government ministries and agencies
 - business community
 - international organisations
 - professional associations
 - academic institutions
- and our inter-governmental process
- next meeting: July 2011



Good Practices on Enforcement

- Reduce time and cost to rights holders of taking action
 - Effective provisional measures
 - *Ex officio* powers for enforcement agencies to act
- Effective criminal sanctions for wilful infringement on commercial scale => Provide **adequate deterrence** (repeat offenders!)



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Good Practices on Enforcement

- Strengthen legal basis for fighting counterfeit and piracy in trans-shipment/ transit
- Strengthen regulatory oversight over wholesalers and retailers => **protect legitimate supply chain**
- Training of enforcement officials and members of the judiciary



Good Practices on Enforcement

- Cooperation and coordination between various IPR enforcement agencies
 - designated lead agency or
 - inter-agency coordination group
- Cooperation and coordination between IPR enforcement agencies and internal safety and health enforcement agencies => **tackle counterfeit and piracy on internal market**



Good Practices on Enforcement

- Cooperation between enforcement agencies and rights holders
- Consumer awareness campaigns
- International cooperation



Future Work

- Development of modular training tools
- National, regional and sub-regional capacity building and policy advice based on demand by UNECE member countries
- In cooperation with all stakeholders
- Forthcoming events:
 - Belgrade, Serbia, April 2011;
 - Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, May 2011



Thank you for your attention

- <http://www.unece.org/ceci/Welcome.html>
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