



Traditional Knowledge Protection in the European Context

Genève, 24 avril 2006

We are pleased to invite you to a **lunch meeting** which will bring together Geneva negotiators, administrative, international organisations, civil society and academia for an informal exchange of views on key issues related to protection of Traditional knowledge in Europe. The meeting aims to provide some examples of initiatives of TK protection in Europe in order to allow participants to share their personal thoughts and ideas and thereby help to move the debates forward.

Within the great variety of regional cultural traditions in Europe, local knowledge and practices have been playing a vital role. For centuries, European traditional rural societies have been preserving their own systems of knowledge, especially about natural resource management and agriculture. This knowledge has been gaining growing interest in the last few decades, and several initiatives have already been undertaken in Europe for its documentation and preservation. This side event will focus on the intellectual property aspects of these knowledge and practices that fall within the mandate of WIPO's Intergovernmental Committee on Traditional Knowledge, Folklore and Genetic Resources.

Draft Program

Chairman : **Alois Leidwein**, Austrian Presidency of the EU and **Laurence Tubiana**, Director of Iddri, France

Speakers :

- **Nuno Pires de Carvalho** (on the behalf on Carlos Godinho, Portugal): The sui generis Portuguese Law
- **Laurence Bérard and Philippe Marchenay**, CNRS, France : Geographical Indications, TK and biodiversity in France
- **Pietro Laureano**, IPOGEA, Italy : The Traditional Knowledge World Bank,
- **Mme Westman-Clément**, Sweden : The Swedish approach of TK protection,
- **Richard Balling**, Germany (**to be confirmed**) : The Bavarian TK registry