National Group Activity Report 2018

AIPPI Belgium
Activity Report 2018

- Changes to membership numbers:

We ended the year 2018 with a total of 154 members, which represents an increase.

- Group officers and leadership (board members):

AIPPI Belgium (BNVBIE/ANBPPI) is a non-profit association chaired by Mr. André Clerix, and Ms. Dominique Kaesmacher is the president of the Belgian group of AIPPI (sub group of the Belgian association AIPPI Belgium).

The members of the board of AIPPI Belgium (BNVBIE/ANBPPI) are André Clerix, Emmanuel Cornu, Daniel Dessard, Fernand de Visscher, Nele D’Halleweyn, Renaud Dupont, François Gevers, Dominique Kaesmacher, Francis Leyder, Kristof Neefs, Christophe Ronse, Bernard Vanbrabant, Koen Vanhalst, Sarah van den Brande, Francis Walschot.

- Elections held in 2018:

In 2018, no elections were held.

- Frequency and location of Board meetings during the last year (dates, attendees, agenda):

In 2018, the Board met on 27 March at Stibbe law firm (Brussels), on 3 May at CMS DeBacker law firm (Brussels), on 12 June at Simont Braun law firm (Brussels), on 6 September at the restaurant "Les Petits Oignons" (Brussels) and on 25 October at Altius law firm (Brussels).

- Interaction with local/regional IP authorities (government authorities, courts and IP offices):

  o Reports on AIPPI resolutions to authorities.

    ▪ Submitted the reports on the Questions and resolutions adopted at the Cancun AIPPI Congress 2018 (i.e. personal meetings with government officers or judges (local or regional)) to the Office for the Harmonisation of the Internal Market (OHIM), the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property.
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<tr>
<th>ANBPPI</th>
<th>BNVBIE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Association Nationale Belge pour la Protection de la PROPRIETE INDUSTRIELLE A.S.B.L.</td>
<td>Belgische Nationale Vereniging voor de Bescherming van de INDUSTRIELE EIGENDOM V.Z.W.</td>
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(BOIP), the Belgian Office for Intellectual Property (OPRI) and the Belgian minister of Economy.
- Invited the Director of the OPRI (Belgian Office of Intellectual Property) to our General assembly, and the directors of the OPRI and BOIP (Benelux Office of Intellectual Property) to our Study days.
- Participation of two representatives of the EU Commission, and a representative of the Public Federal Service Economy to our Study day of 20 April 2018.

- Written submissions (e.g. amicus briefs, publications, opinions).
- Informal contacts with members of the IP administration and ministerial Offices.

- Membership activities (including AGMs) and methods used to make the group attractive for new and old members:

  - Educational meetings (nature, subjects and number of participants):
    - “Lunch-causerie” meeting on recent jurisprudence concerning "Indirect infringement on product and method conclusions in Belgium", on 27 March 2018
    - Regular meetings among the members of the working groups in preparation of the Cancun congress
    - Half- Study day on "Platforms, internet providers and the enforcement of intellectual property rights on the Internet", in collaboration with our sister organisation on copyright ("ABA"), on 20 April 2018
    - General Assembly on 3 May 2018, with presentation and discussion of the draft Belgian reports for the AIPPI Cancun Congress
    - “Lunch-causerie” meeting on "Trademarks after Brexit", on 12 June 2018
    - Young members event: presentation on "Cooking and IP" and walking reception, on 18 October 2018
    - Study day on "Recent developments on patents, trademarks, designs, trade secrets, and Client-attorney privilege in Europe and Belgium", with the participation of speakers coming from the industry and foreign countries, on 22 November 2018

  - Reports on AIPPI working questions 2018:
    - General: “Joint liability for IP infringement”. Participants: Bernard Vanbrabant (chairman), Blandine De Lange, Domien Op de Beeck, Dietger Glorieux, Olivia Hottat, Sophie Lens, and Thomas Dubuisson (rapporteur)
    - Designs: “Partial designs”. Participants: Fernand de Visscher (chairman), Domien Op de Beeck, Christian Dekoninck, Emmanuel Cornu, Geert Philipsen, Annick Mottet, and Judith Bussé (rapporteur)
Please send all correspondence to the secretariat of ANBPPI / Belgian Group of AIPPI at:
BNVBIE/AIPPI – C/o Nele D'Halleweyn / Anémone Seutin – Arnold + Siedsma – Meir 24/17 – 2000 Antwerpen
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ANBPPI
Association Nationale Belge pour la Protection de la PROPRIETE INDUSTRIELLE A.S.B.L.

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- Patents: "Conflicting patent applications". Participants: André Clerix, Philippe Campolini, Nele D'Halleweyn, Francis Leyder, Domien Op de Beeck, Simone Vandewynckel, and Koen Vanhalst (chairman and rapporteur)
- Trademarks: "Registrability of 3D trademarks". Participants: Emmanuel Cornu (chairman), Judith Bussé, Geoffrey Froidbise (rapporteur), Geert Philipse (rapporteur), Guillaume de Villegas de Clercamp (rapporteur), Olivia Santantonio (rapporteur), and Julie Kever (rapporteur)

  o Contribution to Specific questions raised by AIPPI:
    - HCCH judgement report (WG with Fernand de Visscher and Bernard Van Brabant)
    - Inventor's remuneration (WG with André Clerix)
  o Participation to the AIPPI world congress 2018:

In 2018, 9 members of the Belgian Group participated to the Cancun congress: Philippe Campolini, Dominique Kaesmacher, Geoffrey Froidbise, Kristof Roox, Ewan Van Minnebruggen, Marie-Paule Vandeberg, Christophe Ronse, Sarah van den Brande, Bernard Vanbrabant, Koen Vanhalst.

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<tr>
<th>Belgian permanent delegates</th>
<th>Belgian delegates and substitutes in Cancun</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dominique Kaesmacher (as president of AIPPI Belgium)</td>
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<td>Bernard Vanbrabant (General Question)</td>
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<td>Koen Vanhalst (Patents)</td>
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<td>Fernand de Visscher (Designs)</td>
<td>Sarah van den Brande (substitute for Fernand de Visscher)</td>
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<td>Emmanuel Cornu</td>
<td>Geoffrey Froidbise (substitute for Emmanuel Cornu)</td>
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<td>Benoit Michaux</td>
<td>Christophe Ronse (substitute for Benoit Michaux)</td>
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  o Other membership activities:
    - Participation in the activities of the international permanent Committees: Christophe Ronse (Pharma), Dominique Kaesmacher (Trade secret), Fernand de Visscher (Design).
- New initiatives that have been planned for this coming year (2019):
  
  ▪ “Lunch-causerie” meeting on the protection of fashion, comparing Italian and European law: how to encourage and protect fashion designs, by valorising particularities in style and know-how, on 28 February 2019
  ▪ “Lunch-causerie” meeting on “Plausibility in patent law” in preparation to the AIPPI International Congres in London, on 14 March 2019
  ▪ Regular meetings among the members of the working groups in preparation of the London congress
  ▪ General Assembly on 9 May 2019
  ▪ Young members event on 17 October 2019
  ▪ Study day on 22 November 2019, topics to be determined

- Major legislative changes and critical court decisions in our jurisdiction:
  
  ▪ Law of 8 July 2018 laying down provisions for the protection of the title of patent attorney (“Loi du 8 juillet 2018 portant des dispositions en vue de la protection du titre de mandataires en brevets”)

Yours sincerely,

André CLERIX
President AIPPI Belgium (BNVBIE/ANBPPI) of AIPPI

Dominique KAESMACHER
President of the Belgian Group of AIPPI

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