



ANBPPI
Association Nationale Belge
pour la Protection de la
PROPRIETE INDUSTRIELLE
A.S.B.L.

BNVBIE
Belgische Nationale Vereniging
voor de Bescherming van de
INDUSTRIELE EIGENDOM
V.Z.W.

National Group Activity Report 2019

AIPPI Belgium Activity Report 2019

- Changes to membership numbers:

We ended the year 2019 with a total of 169 members (out of which 137 are also international members and 32 are only national 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, 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 2019:

In 2019, the General Assembly of members took note of the resignation of Mr. Daniel Dessard from the Board of administrators. During this Assembly, our Board of administrators was also renewed. All afore mentioned administrators, with exception of Mr. Dessard, had their mandates renewed for five years.

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

In 2019, the Board met on 23 January at Liedekerke law firm (Brussels), on 14 March at Stibbe law firm (Brussels), on 9 May at CMS DeBacker law firm (Brussels), on 20 November at Simont Braun law firm (Brussels). There were also several phone conference meetings on the following dates: 12 June, 11 July, 27 August, 9 September, 2 October.

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

- Reports on AIPPI resolutions to authorities.

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- Submitted the reports on the Questions and resolutions adopted at the Milan AIPPI Congress 2019 (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 (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 day.
- Participation of two representatives of the EU Commission, a representative of WIPO and a representative of the Public Federal Service Economy to our Study day of 21 November 2019.
- Registration in the European Transparency Register.
- 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 the protection of fashion "How to encourage and protect fashion creations, by valorizing style peculiarities and know-how", on 28 February 2019
 - “Lunch-causerie” meeting on “Plausibility” in preparation of the AIPPI World Congress, on 14 March 2019
 - Regular meetings among the members of the working groups in preparation of the AIPPI World Congress in London
 - Joint Study Day LES Benelux – BMM – AIPPI Belgium – A tribute to Florent Gevers, in memoriam, on 21 March 2019
 - Half Study Day and General Assembly on 9 May 2019, with presentation and discussion of the draft Belgian reports for the AIPPI London Congress
 - Young members event: presentation on Architecture and IP "Recent developments in Belgium and The Netherlands" and walking reception, on 17 October 2019
 - Study day on Contracts, Arbitration, Mediation, Artificial intelligence and Intellectual Property – “Crossed Academic, public and private views”, with the participation of speakers coming from the industry and foreign countries, on 21 November 2019
 - Reports on AIPPI working questions 2019:
 - General: “IP damages for acts other than sales”. Participants: Bernard Vanbrabant (chairman), Judith Bussé, Eric De Gryse, Blandine de Lange,



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Michaël Devroey, Olivia Hottat, Sophie Lens, Simone Vandewynckel and Dietger Glorieux (rapporteur)

- Copyright: “Copyright in artificially generated works”. Participants: Benoit Michaux (chairman), Julien Cabay, Michaël De Vroey and Sophie Lens (rapporteur)
 - Patents: “Plausibility”. Participants: Emilie Blanche, Nele D’Halleweyn, Annemie Jaecken, Ben Brigou, Philippe Campolini, André Clerix, Christian Dekoninck, Francois Gevers, Kristof Neefs, Domien Op de Beeck, Natasja Duhayon and Koen Vanhalst (chairman and rapporteur)
 - Trademarks: “Consumer survey evidence”. Participants: Emmanuel Cornu (chairman), Alizée Jolie, Guillaume de Villegas de Clercamp, Olivia Santantonio, Geert Philipsen, Florence Van Damme Christian Dekoninck, Sarah van den Brande, Sandra Bauwens and Geoffrey Froidbise (rapporteur)
- Contribution to Specific questions raised by AIPPI:
 - Not applicable.
 - Participation to the AIPPI world congress 2019:

In 2019, 27 members of the Belgian Group participated to the London congress: Blanche Emilie, Bounaga Sakina, Callens Pieter, Campolini Philippe, Clerix André, Cornu Emmanuel, De Clercq Ann, De Gryse Eric, de Visscher Fernand, Dupont Renaud, Froidbise Geoffrey, Fygis Jurgen, Glorieux Dietger, Haegeman Christophe, Jaeken Annemie, Kaesmacher Dominique, Lens Sophie, Meyer Gunther, Michalík Andrej, Minoodt Rik, Mottet Annick, Muylle Joost, Neefs Kristof, Op de Beeck Domien, Paemen Liesbet, Ronse Christophe, Santantonio Olivia, van den Brande Sarah, Vanbrabant Bernard, Vanhalst Koen, Voortmans Gilbert.

Belgian permanent delegates	Belgian delegates and subsitutes in Cancun
Dominique Kaesmacher (as president of AIPPI Belgium)	Dominique Kaesmacher
Bernard Vanbrabant (General Question)	Bernard Vanbrabant
Koen Vanhalst (Patents)	Koen Vanhalst
Fernand de Visscher (Designs)	Fernand de Visscher
Emmanuel Cornu	Emmanuel Cornu
Benoit Michaux	Benoit Michaux

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- Other membership activities:
 - Participation in the activities of the international permanent Committees: Christophe Ronse (Pharma), Dominique Kaesmacher and Sophie Lens (Trade secret).
- New initiatives that have been planned for this coming year (2020), but will have to be adapted and/or postponed due to covid-19 safety measures:
 - Joint Study Day AIPPI Belgium & EPO “AIPPI-BE meets European Judges & EPO”, on 17 January 2020 at Hilton Brussels Grand Place (took place as planned).
 - “Lunch-causerie” meeting on AI & Inventorship, on 20 March 2020 via Zoom (took place online)
 - Regular online meetings among the members of the working groups in preparation of the EXCO meetings of October 2020
 - Half Study Day and General Assembly on 26 May 2019 via Zoom (took place online)
 - Young members event on 17 September 2020 (to be confirmed)
 - Study day on 3 December 2020, topics to be determined
- Major legislative changes and critical court decisions in our jurisdiction:
 - Law of 4/04/2019 on contracts, proof, the prohibition of abuse of economically dependent position, abusive clauses in B2B relations, unfair trade practices.
 - Draft legislation to transpose the European directive (EU) 2019/790 of 7/04/2019 on copyright in the unified digital market.
 - Trademarks: amendment Protocols of 11/12/2017 in the Benelux convention of Intellectual Property, entered into force in March 2019.
 - Draft legislation to transpose the European directive (EU) 2019/789 “Kabsat” of 17/05/2019.
 - Implementation of the law of 8/07/2018 on the dispositions concerning the protection of the title of patent attorneys.

Yours sincerely,

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

Dominique KAESMACHER
President of the Belgian Group