



Mission permanente d'Israël
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies
et des Organisations Internationales à Genève

משלחת ישראל
ליד משרד האומות המאוחדות
והארגונים הבינלאומיים בג'נבה

22 April 2015

To WIPO Ambassadors who have expressed their wish to convey An Open and Equal Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a New Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and their International Registration.

Your Excellencies,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 30 March 2015.

As member of the Lisbon Union, Israel has already expressed its view on the issue of openness of the Diplomatic Conference. I would like to reiterate it here again, hoping that other members will join us.

Israel deeply identifies with the need of inclusiveness and equality of all member States in every UN forum. On a pragmatic ground, one of the goals of the Revision of the Lisbon Agreement is to attract more than its current 28 members. It seems difficult to do so by preventing WIPO members to equally participate at the Diplomatic Conference.

Looking at the history of WIPO's Diplomatic Conferences, for the last 25 years all the Conferences were open to all WIPO members. This Conference would both change a commonly agreed practice and set a problematic precedent for the future of the organization, ignoring and trespassing the vital principle of inclusiveness. For all these reasons, we would like to add our voice to the ones expressed in your letter and urge all our co-Lisbon members to reconsider their position and enable an open Diplomatic Conference including full voting rights for all members.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Eviatar Manor



Cc: All WIPO members including Lisbon members