MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE STATE PATENT BUREAU OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

AND

THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGENCY, MINISTRY OF ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania ("the SPB") and The Intellectual Property Agency, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia ("the AIPA"), hereinafter referred to as "the Offices",

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION:

That industrial property plays a vital role in the creation of national wealth by fostering creative activities and stimulating the transfer and acquisition of modern technology worldwide;

The recognition that both countries seek to strengthen the industrial property rights protection and to create better economic conditions for their own industries, in particular small and medium enterprises, applying for protection of the industrial property rights;

The desire to prolong a successful cooperation between the SPB and the AIPA on practical and organizational aspects of industrial property protection;

Their willingness to join efforts in pursuit of the protection of industrial property rights as well as to exchange viewpoints and have regular updates on matters concerning industrial property protection procedures and practice, use of the information technology in the offices which creates the most effective conditions to fulfill the functions of the industrial property office;

Their conviction that the establishment of bilateral relations is appropriate to meet these objectives, such bilateral relations between the Offices being without prejudice to existing or future cooperation on a multilateral or bilateral level in which the Offices are participating or may participate;

That the SPB and AIPA have the human, technical and material means necessary to implement the objectives and commitments set out in this Memorandum;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Industrial property practice

The Offices will inform each other on their respective practices for industrial property objects examination and registration. In particular, they will exchange views and experience on classification, search, examination, opposition procedures and quality control.

Article 2

Exchange of information on informatics systems

1. The Offices will cooperate in exchange of information concerning their integrated data processing systems, particularly in regard to the technical aspects, automation of registration procedures and information flows, electronic filing of the industrial property applications, search requests and search reports.
2. The Offices will provide each other with the information on their search criteria and strategy in regard to prevention of possible infringement of the industrial property objects.
3. The Offices will provide each "other with the information on possible developments in electronic tools relating to the classification and registration procedures of the industrial property objects.

Article 3

Exchange of experts

1. The Offices agree to establish technical cooperation in the field of industrial property protection comprising of technical training and the organization of information meetings, lectures and seminars.
2. The Offices will cooperate by exchanging their experts by providing on-the-job training programs within their own premises upon request.

Article 4

Dissemination activities

The Offices will join in efforts to promote and participate mutually in activities and events enabling better knowledge and understanding of the national industrial property systems outside their respective territories.

Article 5
Legal matters

The Offices will inform each other on significant legal matters, in particular regarding new legislative developments, jurisprudence and practice.

Article 6
Meetings between the Offices

In order to have regular updates on the latest developments in industrial property rights meetings will take place between the Offices, to alternate between Vilnius (Lithuania) and Yerevan (Armenia), the frequency and dates to be fixed by common agreement.

Article 7
Correspondence

All communications relating to the execution of the present agreement shall be writing and shall refer to this Memorandum.

Article 8
Travel expenses

As a general principle, unless otherwise agreed, each Office shall bear all travel costs and allowances for any personnel traveling on their own behalf to the other Office.

Article 9
Funding and resources

1. Unless otherwise agreed between the Offices all activities according to Articles 3 and 4 shall be funded by external funds. No activity shall be commenced until such funding has been established or the Offices have agreed that no external funding is required. The Offices will cooperate in relation to providing external funding for activities relating to the Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The specific funding, content and timeframe of cooperation according to Articles 3-7 shall unless otherwise agreed be laid down in separate individual agreements between the Offices.

Article 10

Termination of the Memorandum of Understanding

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will terminate:

   1.1 if the AIPA gives the SPB a written notice to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding; or

   1.2 if the SPB gives the AIPA a written notice to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding.

2. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding under paragraph (1) will take effect six (6) months after the date on which the other party received the notice, unless a longer period is specified in such notice or unless both parties consent to a shorter period.

Article 11

Entry into Force

1. The present Memorandum shall enter into force on the day following its signature.
2. Done in Geneva on 22.09.2008, in six copies, in three languages, Lithuanian, Armenian and English, in two copies each, all texts being original. In case of any controversy between the Parties the English text must be considered.

For the SPB

Mr. Rimvydas Naujokas Director

For the AIPA

Mr. Armen Azizyan Head of Agency