

## **Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore**

**Forty-Ninth Session**  
**Geneva, December 2 to 6, 2024**

### **ACCREDITATION OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. The Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”), at its first session, held in Geneva, from April 30 to May 3, 2001, approved certain organizational and procedural matters, including according *ad hoc* observer status to a number of organizations that had expressed their wish to have a role in the work of the Committee (see the Report adopted by the Committee, WIPO/GRKTF/IC/1/13, paragraph 18).

2. Since then, an additional number of organizations have expressed to the Secretariat their wish to obtain the same status for the subsequent sessions of the Committee. The applications containing the names and other biographical details of the organizations which, before October 2, 2024, requested accreditation at the Forty-Ninth Session of the Committee are annexed to this document, as received from each organization.

3. *The Committee is invited to consider and decide upon the accreditation request as ad hoc observers submitted by the organizations referred to in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE REQUESTED ACCREDITATION AS OBSERVERS  
IN SESSIONS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Blessings of the Forest (BOTF) Gabon (received in French)

UNIÓN DE MUJERES AYMARAS DEL ABYA YALA PERÚ (UMA) (received in Spanish)

Blessings of the Forest (BOTF) Gabon

To: Traditional Knowledge Division  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
34, chemin des  
Colombettes

1211 Geneva 20

Switzerland

Fax: +41 (0)22 338 81 20

Email: [grtkf@wipo.int](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO  
Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional  
Knowledge and Folklore

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate as an ad hoc observer in sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). Please find our application attached for the Committee's consideration.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,



President of BOTF Gabon

Marie Lou MIBOKA ABOGHE

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the organization:

Blessings of the Forest (BOTF) Gabon

Description of the organization: (maximum 150 words)

BOTF Gabon is a Gabonese non-governmental, non-political and non-profit organization recognized by the Ministry of the Interior and the National Parks Agency. Since 2018, our association has been committed to conserving, studying and sustainably and fairly promoting the national cultural heritage.

Main aims and objectives of the organization:

- Conserve and promote Gabon's natural and cultural heritage.
- Protect intellectual property (IP) rights associated with the use of genetic resources.
- Implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Provide local communities with technical assistance to help them to understand their IP rights.
- Provide technical support to officials involved in IP matters concerning traditional knowledge.

Main activities of the organization:

- Financing income-generating activities for local communities.
- Capacity-building.
- Restoring temples and cultural sites.
- Collecting data on the traditional knowledge of local communities.

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**Please do not enclose any attachment with your application.**

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the decision on accreditation will not be made by the Secretariat, but by the Member States at the beginning of the session of the Intergovernmental Committee. It is therefore possible that certain organizations may not receive accreditation. Therefore, if the requesting organization is not based in Geneva, it might not be advisable to travel to Geneva for the sole purpose of participating in the session of the Committee until accreditation has been granted.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that this application form may be presented to the Committee exactly in the form received. Please therefore, as far as possible, complete the form using a type-writer or word processor. The completed form should preferably be emailed to [grtkf@wipo.int](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Relationship of the organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee:  
(maximum 150 words)

Our organization was founded with a focus on several medicinal plants whose active ingredients have not only been extracted and studied worldwide but have also been patented and sourced from the traditional knowledge of local communities.

In defense of the interests of those communities, we campaign to have their ownership rights of the genetic resources of Gabon, which were appropriated without any transparency, restored.

Countries in which the organization is primarily active:

Gabon

Additional Information:

Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

Full contact details of the organization:

Postal address: B.P. 1122 - Libreville, Gabon

Telephone number:

+241 66 31 79 67

+44 78 5172 2669

+33 6 16 08 79 70

Fax number:

Email address: [info@blessingsoftheforest.org](mailto:info@blessingsoftheforest.org)

Website: <https://blessingsoftheforest.org/about-us//>

Name and title of the organization's representative:

1. Marie Lou ABOGHE MIBOKA, President of BOTF Gabon
2. Georges GASSITA, Secretary-General of BOTF Gabon

UNIÓN DE MUJERES AYMARAS DEL ABYA YALA PERÚ (UMA)

To: Traditional Knowledge Division

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

Fax.: +41 (0) 22 338 81 20  
Email: [grtkf@wipo.int](mailto:grtkf@wipo.int)

Dear Traditional Knowledge Division,

Re: Request for accreditation as an observer in future sessions of the WIPO  
Intergovernmental Committee

I am writing to express the wish of my organization to participate in the sessions of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore as an *ad hoc* observer. Please find our application attached for the Committee's consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Lic. Yeny Paucar Palomino  
DNI: 40493244  
CPP. 17309

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(Name and Signature of Representative)

**Application Form for Accreditation as *Ad Hoc* Observer  
to the  
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources,  
Traditional Knowledge and Folklore<sup>1,2</sup>**

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT  
ORGANIZATION**

Full name of the Organization:

UNIÓN DE MUJERES AYMARAS DEL ABYA YALA PERÚ (UMA)

Description of the Organization: (maximum 150 words)

Since its foundation, the Unión de Mujeres Aymaras del Abya Yala Perú (UMA, Union of Aymara Women of Abya Yala Peru) has worked to foster the active participation of women in the community. The key thematic planks of its work are intercultural communication; the involvement of Indigenous Aymara women in political life; the promotion and defense of Indigenous women's rights; environmental protection; the strengthening of organizations; the fostering of good living standards; economic activities, including tourism and handicrafts with cultural identity; and fostering recognition of the richness of ancestral knowledge.

UMA is a community-oriented organization, but each of its members has a particular role to play in conducting our activities and in establishing the work plan, which we set at the start of each year.

UMA has three teams, dedicated each to field work, administration (office) and production. Team members work *pro bono*, which we see as one of our organization's core strengths.

Main aims and objectives of the Organization:

- UMA strives to bring together Indigenous women's organizations from across the southern Andean region of Peru.
- UMA works to foster consultation with and the involvement of Indigenous women.
- UMA works in defense of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous women.
- UMA strives to ensure that Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge is respected and nurtured.
- UMA publicizes its own activities and others that take place at the international level through modern media and via analogical radio broadcasts.

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Main activities of the Organization:

- The Union's radio program, *Wlñay Panqara* ("ever flourishing" in the Aymara language), has been on the air for more than 36 years.
- UMA holds annual workshops to train communications specialists.
- UMA runs literacy courses, teaching students how to read and write in Aymara.
- UMA holds its Pachamama ("mother earth") Song and Poetry Contests as a way of recalling the importance of nurturing our habitat and our genetic resources.

Relationship of the Organization with intellectual property matters, including a full explanation of why you are interested in the issues under discussion by the Committee (maximum 150 words)

UMA believes that the intellectual property (IP), traditional knowledge and genetic resources of Indigenous Peoples are significant for the great wisdom they transmit, and that they are therefore invaluable for humanity.

It is important that our peoples be the custodians of their own intellectual resources. Our language and world view, therefore, should also be seen as IP, worthy of preservation and available, if necessary, for exclusive use by its owners. For that reason, a proper and honest registry of Indigenous People's traditional knowledge is needed in order to ensure respect for their IP rights as a community and avoiding their attribution to any one individual.

Country in which the Organization is primarily active:

Peru

Additional information:

Please provide any additional information which you feel may be relevant (maximum 150 words)

Full contact details of the Organization:

Postal address:

Telephone number: 051-997126619

Fax number:

Email address: [uma.punoperu1@gmail.com](mailto:uma.punoperu1@gmail.com)

Web site: <https://umaperu.org/>

Name of Organization Representative and Title:

Yeny Paucar Palomino

Head of the Unión de Mujeres Aymaras del Abya Yala Perú (UMA)

[End of annex and document]