

TRACIT shares findings on the negative impacts of counterfeiting on human rights, sustainable development and inward investment

Geneva, Switzerland, 02 February 2024 - The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) today hosted a side event at the World Intellectual Property Organization Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) Sixteen Session. The meeting emphasized the importance of fighting illicit trade as a critical measure to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), attract investment, protect human rights and eliminate corruption.

“If governments want to achieve their sustainable development goals, attract foreign investment, achieve their human rights objective and eliminate corruption, then they must intensify measures to mitigate illicit trade and stop counterfeiting” said TRACIT Director-General Jeffrey Hardy.

The side event featured findings from TRACIT reports:

- [Mapping the Impact of Illicit Trade on the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [SDGs and illicit trade in counterfeit and pirated goods](#)
- [The Link Between Illicit Trade and Sovereign Credit Ratings](#)
- [The Human Cost of Illicit Trade: Exposing demand for forced labor in the dark corners of the economy](#)

Panelists included representatives from national governments, intergovernmental organizations and the private sector. They were invited to share examples of how IPR infringements/counterfeiting negatively impact objectives for development, investment, and human rights.

- Ms. Amanda Lotheringen, Senior Manager, Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa
- Ms. Christine Pangilinan-Canlapan, Director, Bureau of Legal Affairs, Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, the Philippines
- Mr. Robi Mbugua Njoroge King’ a, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA), Kenya
- Ms. Warda Duale-Pfaff, Anti-Falsified Medicines Governance Manager, Novartis
- Mr. Piotr Stryszowski, Senior Economist, Working Party on Countering Illicit Trade, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD

About TRACIT

The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) is an independent, private sector initiative to drive change to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade.

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