



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

Department of Policy and Business Practices

Intellectual property related activities in chambers of commerce

Organisation	: KUWAIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (KCCI)
Country	: KUWAIT
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1. General comments

Kuwait Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) is actively involved in IP through:

- Proposing or expressing opinions on new or existing laws and regulations pertaining to IP.
- Creating public awareness among the business community about IP.
- Providing business counseling on IP to its members, particularly to small business.
- Holding seminars, conferences, workshops on IP.
- Disseminating information about this subject through its publications.
- Undertaking training of its staff, locally and internationally, on subjects related to IP.
- Participating in workshops, conferences, locally and internationally on IP subjects.
- Advisory role to the Government of Kuwait in the implementation of TRIPS Agreement as well as other international Conventions, Agreements and protocols on IP.

2. Communication Tools

What kind of communication tools do you offer? Please elaborate.

a) **On-line e.g. website**

www.kuwaitchamber.org.kw

b) Hard copy publications (e.g. guides, newsletters)

Magazines, brochures, pamphlets, CD's and others.

c) Others

KCCI has a unique search engine for chambers of commerce and industry worldwide, which implies that KCCI is among the few chambers of commerce that have such service worldwide.

Direct counseling to Chamber's members, personal contacts, telephone service, fax and e-mail.

3. Training

Do you offer any training programs? Please elaborate.

a) Seminars/ workshops

Yes through KCCI Training which offers all sorts of training programs to businessmen and their executives on IP subjects.

b) On-line tutorials

No

c) Others

ABDUL AZIZ H. AL-SAGER TRAINING CENTER, counseling, workshop.

4. Consultancy/ Advisory Services

Do you offer any IP-consultancy services? This could include a helpline, legal/ financial/ commercial/consulting services etc.. Are Intellectual property aspects included in general commercial/business advice provided by your chamber?

Yes. KCCI offers direct counseling services to businessmen and executives on topics related to IP.

5. Information gathering/ awareness raising

Do you conduct surveys or gather information in any other way? Do you carry out any awareness raising activities? Please elaborate.

Yes, KCCI conducts surveys, carries out questionnaires and gathers and disseminates information pertaining to IP and KCCI carries out regular IP awareness activities, as

well as promoting and holding exhibitions and trade fairs, where IP awareness is emphasized.

6. SME case studies

Do you publish case studies of SMEs who have actively used IP in their businesses? Can you provide us with any such case studies?

SME in Kuwait are not accustomed to provide KCCI with such case studies. However, KCCI encourages publishing and disseminating of such studies through media.

7. Facilitation of IP business opportunities

Do you provide any services to help businesses trade in IP eg IP business matchmaking, marketplaces etc?

KCCI is ready to do so, but they are not within our disposal for the time being. However, KCCI is interested in advising the Kuwaiti business community on ways and means to protect their IP interests in developed countries like US, EU and Japan. However, KCCI feels that IP organisations as well as regulatory bodies in western countries are not doing their minimum requirements to help in this area. Therefore, KCCI requests ICC to address this issue, besides the lack of transparency in many cases.

8. Policy advocacy

Do you engage in policy advocacy in the IP field? Please provide details.

Yes, through the following means.

- Proposing new laws and regulations, pertaining to IP.
- Expressing opinions on existing laws and regulations pertaining to IP.
- Expressing opinions on international agreements and conventions on IP which the Government of Kuwait is considering.
- Advisory role to the Government of Kuwait on TRIPS Agreement within WTO/GATT.
- Consultation with the Governmental bodies on many issues pertaining to IP.
- Active participation in permanent or Adhoc Government committees on IP subjects including enforcement.

9. Encouragement of innovation and IP asset development

Do you have any initiatives to encourage innovation or the development of IP assets e.g. awards, competitions, technology showcases etc ?

Yes, through technology showcases and encouragement of Kuwaiti inventors. Helping University Graduates who have creative ideas and technology. Furthermore KCCI collaborates with other institutions and NGOs to promote IP assets development, especially among small business and business initiators.

10. Others

No

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We consent to the above information being posted on the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) website.

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Date: 22/10/2007