

Alicante, 20 June 2025
BoA/GH/AK/jb

Circular to Appeal Bodies of EU IPOs

Subject: Invitation to the 3rd meeting of the network of Appeal Bodies of IPOs on 25 September 2025

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the EUIPO Boards of Appeal (BoA), I am pleased to invite you to the third meeting of the Network of Appeal Bodies of EU IP Offices, which will take place **on 25 September 2025** at the EUIPO headquarters in Alicante.

The network has been developed as a new forum for open discussions on trends in EU trade mark and design legal practices, part of which includes the analysis of Boards of Appeal decisional practice and EU case-law. The initiative also aims to facilitate the exchange of views on common topics of interest and to foster discussion about procedures, practices and tools.

Please find attached the draft agenda for the meeting.

The meeting on 25 September 2025 will begin with **recent news from the Boards of Appeal** followed by a session dedicated to the **scope of appeal**. In this session we would like to discuss:

- *how an Appeal Body exercises its power of review in appeal proceedings in different case scenarios.*
- *whether an Appeal Body carries out a new examination of all relevant matters of fact and of law, or only grounds invoked by a party in statement of grounds.*
- *whether an Appeal Body exercises any power within the competence of the 1st instance which was responsible for the decision appealed or remit the case to that department for further prosecution.*

Afterwards, **EU and national case law on absolute and relative grounds** will be presented and discussed.

In the afternoon, there will be a **workshop on Impact of weak marks in inter partes cases**. The workshop will be an excellent opportunity to discuss practice, share views, and identify trends in this area.

The last session will be dedicated to presentation on **Streamlining mediations: A path to efficient dispute resolutions**.

Your suggestions and comments in all sessions are most welcome and greatly valued. There will be time for in-depth discussions on the various topics and the meeting will conclude with **final remarks and next steps**.

If you would like to attend the meeting, we would be grateful if you could please complete the [online registration form](#) **before 7 August 2025**.

The EUIPO will cover travel and accommodation expenses for two representatives per Appeal Body of each participating EU IPO. **The EUIPO's travel agent for events will contact you once we have received your completed registration form.** Please do not book any travel arrangements by yourself.

You are also kindly invited to a networking dinner on the evening of the meeting, for which you will also be able to confirm your attendance via the online registration form. Once your registration is confirmed, details of the dinner and event programme will follow.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at BoACooperation@euipo.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stürmann', with a stylized, flowing script.

Sven Stürmann

Encl. Draft annotated agenda