

PRESS RELEASE

Resolution of Tangier:

9 Mediterranean countries unite to strengthen the fight against counterfeiting

Mr. Ahmed Reda Chami, Minister of Industry, Trade and New Technologies welcomes the holding of the 2nd Euro – Mediterranean Meeting of National anti-counterfeiting Committees, Friday, December 4, 2009 in Tangier, which was attended by 9 countries of the euro-mediterranean area (Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Spain).

Stressing the fact that counterfeiting is a threat to both health and consumer safety, innovation and competitiveness, but also for employment and the economies of the Euro-Mediterranean countries, Mr. Ahmed Reda Chami reaffirmed, in his closing speaking, Morocco's willingness to make intellectual property an important element of economic development and become more involved in the process of fight against counterfeiting in an international partnership.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Bouselham HILIA, Secretary General of the Ministry who chairs the National Committee for Industrial Property and Anti-Counterfeiting (CONPIAC-Morocco) and by Mr. Bernard BROCHAND, Chairman of National Committee Anti-Counterfeiting (CNAC-France).

This meeting led to the adoption of a resolution aimed at strengthening the fight against counterfeiting in these countries by:

- Maintaining and expanding the national coordination of anti-counterfeiting between the administrative authorities responsible for combating counterfeiting, on the basis of a public / private partnership:
- Supporting projects to create National Committee anti-counterfeiting;
- Strengthening their cooperation by exchanging information;
- Keeping on strengthening the training quite necessary to fight against counterfeiting;
- Consumer awareness in the fight against counterfeiting;
- Meeting at least once a year to take stock of progress made and identify actions that can be implemented to enhance the fight against counterfeiting;
- Establishing a Mediterranean network of responsible monitoring for the implementation of proposed actions;
- Fighting against e- counterfeiting.

The resolution also highlighted concrete actions to be implemented in 2010 such as missions to study the one hand the establishment and development of national committees to fight against counterfeiting and the exchange of experience between the authorities responsible for the fight against this scourge and the other creating a network with appointment of focal points in charge of anti-counterfeiting in those states.

Following this meeting, a ceremony of awards on the first edition of “Morocco Awards” took place, making the honor to the moroccan brands that are the national champions and representing the Kingdom at International, namely:

- For Manufactures Marks: AICHA
- For Service marks: BMCE
- For Trade marks and Distribution: MARWA
- For the Price of Public: MEDITEL