



ARIPO

*African Regional Intellectual
Property Organization*

Workshop on the Promotion of ARIPO Protocols

Mauritius, 31 May – 2 June 2023

Overview of ARIPO and its Mandates

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Cooperation, ARIPO*



Fostering Creativity and Innovation for Economic Growth and Development in Africa

About ARIPO

Established by the Lusaka Agreement, 1976
(ESARIPO → ARIPO)

Vision

- To be Africa's leading IP Organization that promotes socio-economic development.

Protocols

- Harare, 1982
- Banjul, 1993
- **Swakopmund, 2010**
- Arusha, 2015
- Kampala, 2021

Member States

- **22** Member States (Eastern, Southern & Western Africa)
- Population: over 170 million



Mandates

- Patents, Utility Models, Industrial Designs
- Trademarks
- New Plant Varieties
- Copyright & Related Rights
- Traditional Knowledge, Geographical Indications



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Regional Intellectual Property Organization



ARIPO Membership

- Botswana
- Cape Verde
- Eswatini
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Rwanda
- Sao Tome & Principe
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

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Potential MS:

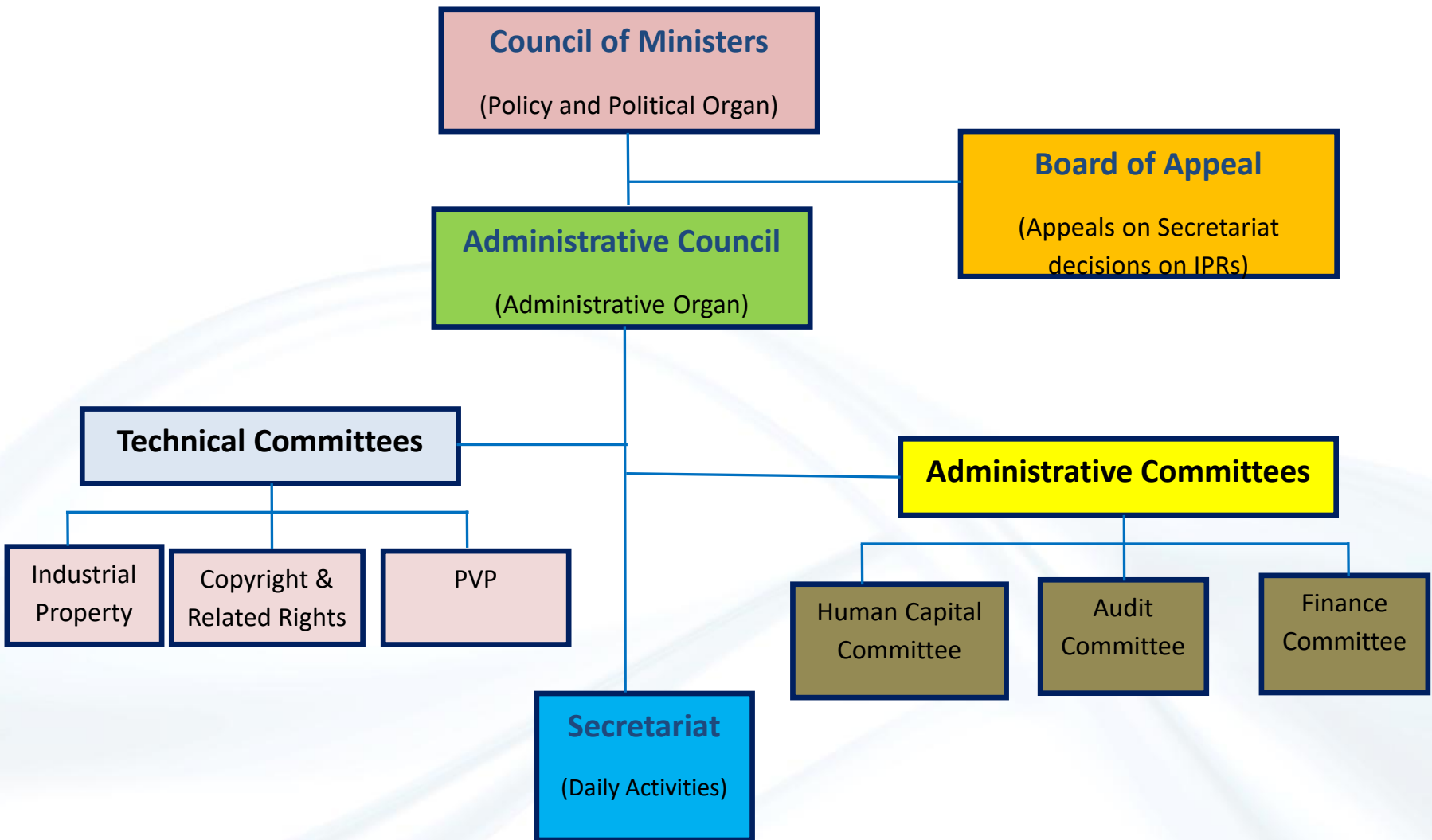
- Angola
- Burundi
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Eritrea
- Nigeria
- South Africa
- South Sudan

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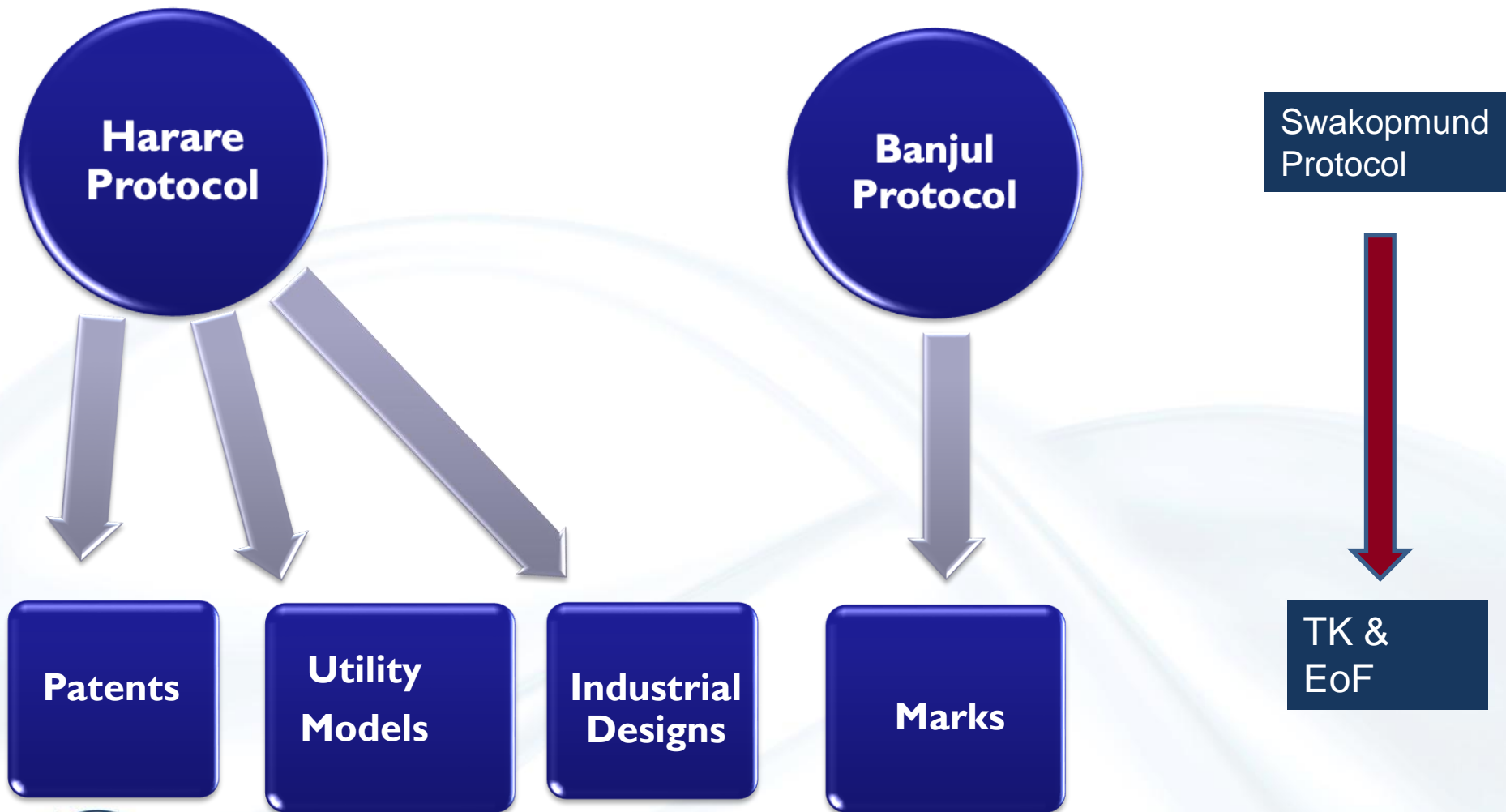


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Organs of ARIPO



Grant/Registration of IP Rights – ARIPO route

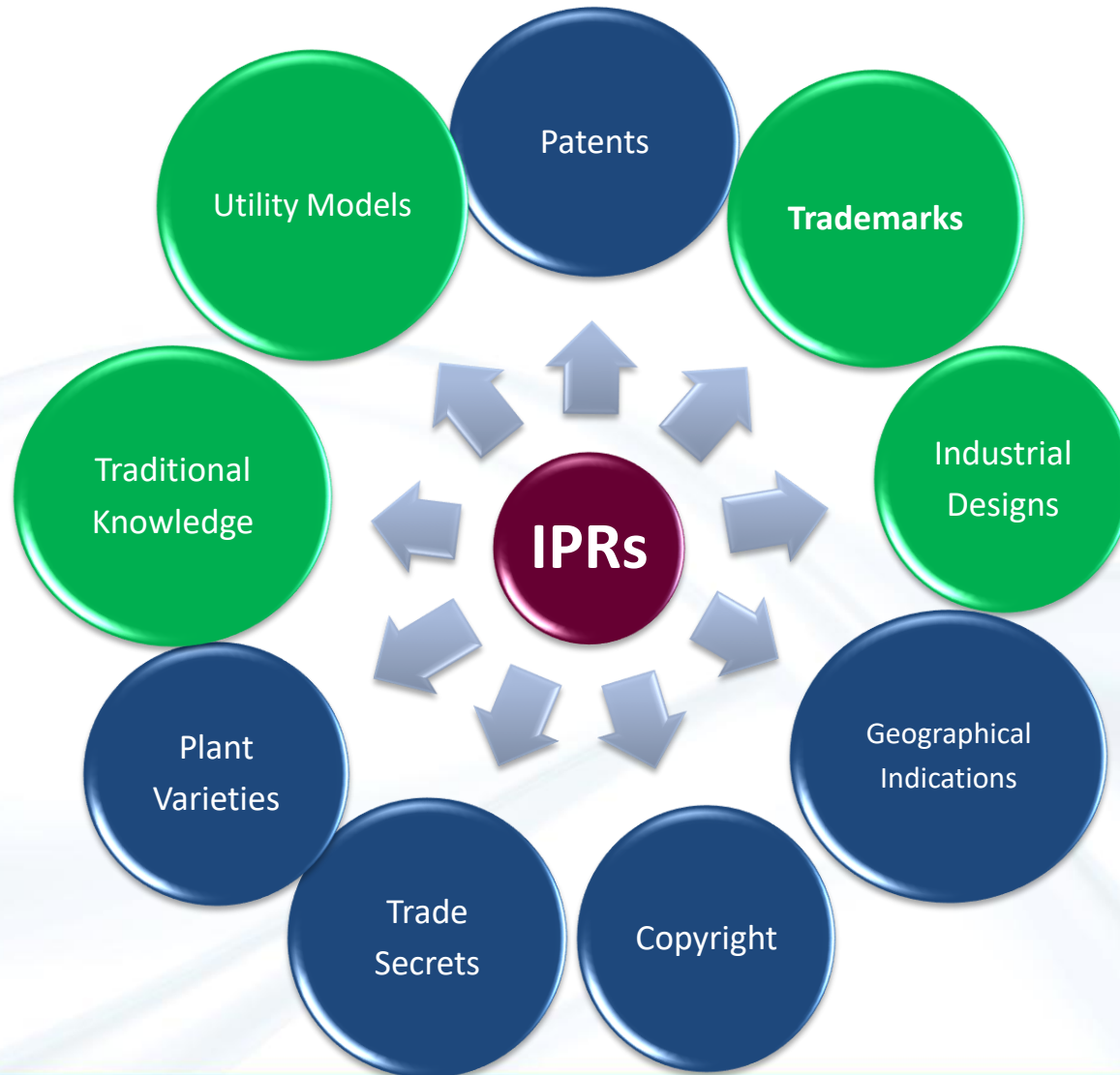


ARIPO Finances



- The operations of ARIPO are financed through two main sources of income:
 - ❖ Annual contributions of Member States (Statutory obligation)
 - ❖ Revenue generated from processing applications under the Protocols

Awareness creation, Training & Capacity Building on IP



Awareness Raising Programs

❖ Seminars, Workshops and Conferences on:

- general IP and related rights
- acquisition of IP rights (international, regional and national routes)
- IP portfolio management

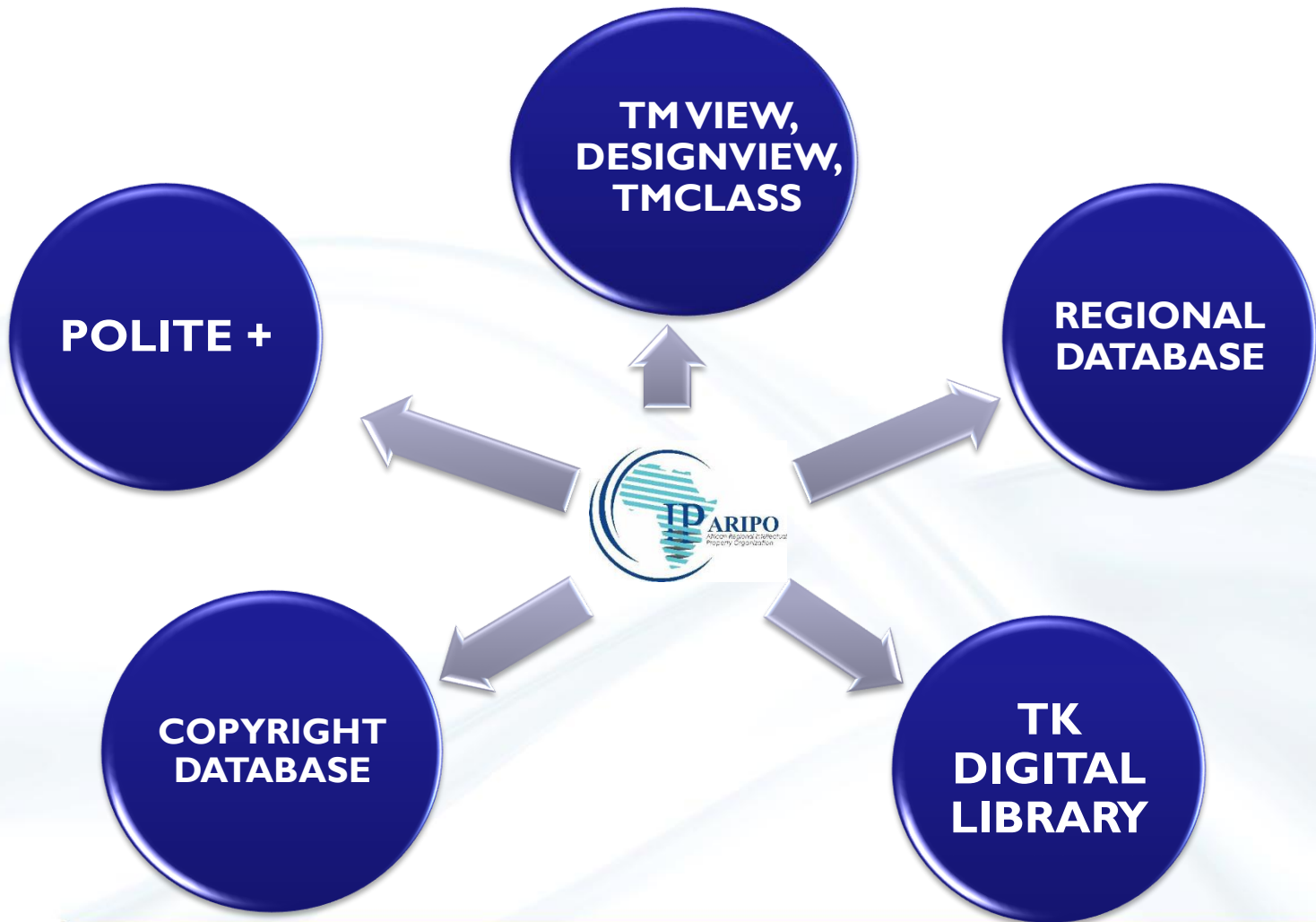


Capacity Building

- ❖ Masters Degree Programmes in IP (MIP) - offered at the **African University**, Mutare, Zimbabwe; **University of Dar es Salaam**, Tanzania and **Kwame Nkrumah University** of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana



ARIPO as an IP ICT Hub



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Cooperation...



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



ARIPO's achievements on IP Development in Africa (1)

- Driving force for development of IP in the Member States
- Growing **number of accessions to ARIPO** and its Protocols
- Raising awareness on the need to domesticate ARIPO Protocols at national level to mitigate uncertainty on enforceability of titles granted or registered by ARIPO
- Growing number of grants/registrations of IPRs
- Assisted Member States in the development of IP policies



ARIPO's achievements on IP Development in Africa (2)

- Established 3 MIP programmes – over **400 graduates in 14 years**
- Trained Member States IP Office staff on IP
- Undertaken awareness raising programmes in the Member States (public awareness and academic research institutions)
- Modernization of ICT infrastructure for the Member States – integration of the **Member States Module** with **IPAS** in 13 Member States (target: all MS)



THANK YOU



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