

phased out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances, illegal trade in ODS amounting to about 30,000 tons annually was finding its way back into those countries thus undercutting the measures put in place to phase out ODS...

To date, the Amendment has been ratified by Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Djibouti, Germany, Grenada, Guyana, Hungary, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Source: <http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/archives/UNWIRE990826.cfm> (30 Aug 99)

#### ■ AGENCY ■

#### United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) <<http://www.unep.org>>

The United Nations Environment Program was founded to provide leadership and encourage partnerships in caring for the environment by enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP analyzes the state of the global environment, assesses environmental trends, provides policy advice and early-warning information on environmental threats, promotes international cooperation and action, etc. ■

#### ACTIVITY

Prepare for this class in conjunction with the science program by obtaining from them a list of all known ozone-depleting substances still in the marketplace (commercial spray items may still be suspect), and the alternatives that are available.

Have students investigate the list for items that they (or their families) might use the availability of the products locally, and, if possible, have them contact the companies to inquire about their "Ozone Depleting" policy and what they are doing or planning to do with their products. It is important for students to analyze the list of ratifying nations: Which of these nations are major industrial countries? Which are primarily rural agricultural nations? Why would the Solomon Islands be concerned (what other substances in the atmosphere might make their way to the middle of the Pacific Ocean)? Sweden and Norway have consistently supported the environmental programs of the UN; how might you account for this? What impact will the adoption of this amendment and program have on preventing future conflict?

#### WIPO TARGETS ABUSE OF TRADEMARKS ON THE INTERNET



GENEVA, April 30, 1999 - In a report... The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) sets out a

series of recommendations that are aimed at curbing the abuse of trademarks on the Internet. The WIPO report has been presented for consideration to the Interim Board of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (CANN), the new non-profit international corporation formed to oversee a select number of the Internet's core technical management functions.

With the explosive growth of the Internet and the increasing use of domain names as business identifiers, these issues have sparked great interest and worldwide debate. Among the problems identified in WIPO's report, and directly addressed by its recommendations, are bad faith, abusive registrations of domain names, also known as "cybersquatting," as well as the countervailing practice, referred to by domain name holders as "reverse domain name hijacking." "Cybersquatting" occurs when individuals register a recognized trademark as a domain name and attempt to sell it to the genuine owner of that trademark for commercial profit. So-called "reverse domain name hijacking," which has appeared as a reaction to this, involves big businesses threatening to sue legitimate domain name registrants who do not give up the right to the registration.

Source: <http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/archives/UNWIRE990826.cfm> (8 Sept 99)

#### ■ AGENCY ■

#### World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) <<http://www.un.wipo.org>>

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is an intergovernmental organization with

#### ACTIVITY

Fold a blank sheet of paper into two separate columns labeled INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY and COPYRIGHT. Examine each of the following items and identify which of the items belong in which column. Be able to defend your choice. Be careful: You may have to place an item in both columns.

List: VFW; Bug; AT&T; computer mouse; see-through plastic telephone; Nike; *Moby Dick*; Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti*; cola; watch; rollerblades; WalMart; geodesic dome; penny; Steinway piano; cotton gin; scissors; Picasso's *Guernica*; ESPN; your social studies textbook; New York Giants; Toyota Cressida; macadam road; George Washington Bridge; *Sports Illustrated*; skyscraper. (The teacher should add other items that are local to the geographical area.)

Have students discuss three important global issues:

- 1) Why is it important for all nations and people to observe the copyrights and trademarks of any individual or company regardless of where they are located?
- 2) What is the effect on intellectual property when someone takes a Jaguar auto and puts parts of lesser value and quality inside and sells it as new? What is the effect on the Jaguar auto workers in Manchester, England? What is the effect on intellectual property when someone steals and sells a best-selling Ricky Martin CD without providing royalties to the producer or performer?
- 3) What impact on world peace might either of these cases have?

headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. WIPO is responsible for the promotion of the protection of intellectual property throughout the world through cooperation among states, and for the administration of various multilateral treaties dealing with the legal and administrative aspects of intellectual property. Intellectual property comprises two main branches: *industrial property*, chiefly in inventions, trademarks, industrial designs, and appellations of origin; and *copyright*, chiefly in literary, musical, artistic, photographic and audiovisual works. ■