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The Bahamas Strengthens Intellectual Property Framework with Signing of Five Major WIPO Treaties.

In a historic advancement for the nation's intellectual property (IP) framework, the Government of The Bahamas has officially signed five critical international treaties under the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). This bold step forward reflects the administration's commitment to empowering Bahamian creators, innovators, and entrepreneurs by modernizing the country's intellectual property landscape.

The five treaties signed include:

1. **BUDAPEST TREATY** – concerning the international recognition of the deposit of microorganisms for the purposes of patent procedure
2. **NICE AGREEMENT** – concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks
3. **VIENNA AGREEMENT** – establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks
4. **TRADEMARK LAW TREATY** – standardizing and streamlining national and regional trademark registration procedures.
5. **SINGAPORE TREATY** – creating a modern and dynamic international framework for the harmonization of administrative trademark registration procedures.

These treaties mark a major milestone in the revitalization of the Bahamas Intellectual Property Office (**BahIPO**), which had remained dormant in service delivery for more than fifty years. This administration has made the revitalization of **BahIPO** a priority, with a clear vision of positioning it as the gold standard in the Caribbean for intellectual property administration and ensuring that the Intellectual Property Office is fully aligned with the subsidiary legislation governing Trademarks, Patents, Copyrights, and Industrial Designs, as executed by the Attorney General.

The Registrar General, Mrs. Camille Gomez-Jones, praised the move, stating:

“The treaties signed by the Prime Minister serve as significant tools to arm the Office with the resources necessary to provide the Bahamian public with the quality and efficient service they deserve in preserving their rights and protecting their intellectual property.”

BahIPO currently registers Trademarks, Copyrights, Patents, and Industrial Designs and will soon be expanding its capabilities even further. In the coming months, The Bahamas is poised to sign five additional international IP treaties. This is an action that will bring the country in line with regional peers and international best practices.

This new era of IP reform represents a powerful shift toward a more inclusive, creative, and innovative Bahamian economy.

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