

Carmen A. M. Gianni

Mrs. Carmen A. M. Gianni is Argentinian and holds the titles of barrister, solicitor and notary public. She graduated from the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires in 1975.

Mrs. Carmen A.M. Gianni is an employee of the National Seed Institute of the Republic of Argentina. She has served as Coordinator of Intellectual Property and Plant Genetic Resources since 2009 and was Director for Legal Affairs of the institute from 1991 to 2009. From 1973, she served as legal advisor to various institutions of the current Argentinian Ministry of Agro-industry, namely: the former National Secretariat for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (from 1973 to 1975); the former National Agricultural Council (from 1975 to 1981); and the former National Forest Institute (from 1981 to 1991).

In the field of intellectual property and plant breeders' rights at the international level, she has served, inter alia, as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee of UPOV (from October 2004 to October 2010); co-editor of the draft UPOV Model Law, Act of 1991, in 1995; member of UPOV's Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA-Profiling in Particular since 2006; representative and delegate of the Republic of Argentina to UPOV since 1994 and international trainer of trainers through distance learning courses at UPOV since 2008. She has been an international legal consultant in the areas of intellectual property, breeders' rights and seed trade for MERCOSUR Group 7 on intellectual property and Group 8 on seeds and for the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI). Mrs. Gianni also served as representative of the Republic of Argentina to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and Board of Cartagena, among others, from 1994 to 2000; and as international trainer of the national seed offices of Latin American Countries from 1991 to 1998. At the national level, she has been a member of the Permanent Working Group on Intellectual Property at the National Institute of Industrial Property since 1994 and was co-editor of the guidelines on the patenting of living matter in 2004. She has been a trainer at the national level for civil servants as well as national public and private organizations since 1994 and creator of the online course "Seed law, intellectual property and genetic resources", which is in its 6th edition in the country.

In the field of genetic resources, she has been and still is Argentina's representative to the Commission on Genetic Resources and the governing body of the FAO's ITPGRFA; and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol since 1994 at various events. At the national level, she is a member of various national commissions on genetic resources at various ministerial levels and a national trainer on genetic resources and intellectual property since 2000.

Mrs. Carmen Gianni is co-author of the book "Plant Varieties in Argentina: Seed Trade and Breeder's Rights", October 1998, and author of the book "Different Facets of Plant Varieties – Intellectual Property – Agricultural Biotechnology – Genetic Resources – Seed Trade – Volume I: The Intellectual Property of Plant Varieties – Breeders' Rights", October 2010.

She is co-author of the Seed and Plant Varieties Law of the Republic of the Paraguay and of bills and regulations governing the seed trade and intellectual property for plant varieties in that country, in 1995 and 2007/2008. She is author of the draft regional agreements on breeders' rights in MERCOSUR Group 8 on seeds and was a member of the Seed Commission of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) from 1994 to 1998.

She has edited numerous articles on intellectual property, genetic resources and the seed trade.