* **Cooperation with the International Organizations**
* **United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

The Thirty-Eighth Session of the Standing Committee (Thimphu, 6-7 February 2011) had considered and approved the Note submitted by the Secretariat on the status of collaboration with the agencies/organizations with whom SAARC has MoUs. In this Note, the Secretariat intimated that representatives of UNODC Regional Office in South Asia met with the Secretary-General in November 2010 and expressed interest to review the MOU, to reflect the changes since its signing in 1995.

* **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

The First WIPO Sub Regional Forum on the Protection of Intellectual Property (organised by WIPO and the Government of Sri Lanka) was held in 1998. Since then, SAARC has participated in numerous forums of WIPO in 1998 (Colombo), 1999 (Kathmandu), Dhaka (2001), Thimphu (2002) and Dhaka (2006). Most of these forums have highlighted the importance of Intellectual Property to SAARC Countries, discussed on the regional concerns of Intellectual Property.

In 2000, the First Consultation meeting between SAARC Ambassadors in Geneva and DG/WIPO was held. Its Eighth Meeting was held in 2012. These meetings have discussed developments in IP matters and made recommendations for greater cooperation on IP issues. One of these recommendations has been to strengthen cooperation with SAARC Secretariat.

In July 2014, WIPO approached the Secretariat with a concept note proposing MoU to be finalized between SAARC and WIPO. The Secretariat forwarded the concept note and the proposed MoU for consideration and comments by the Member States.