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Coenraad Visser is Professor of Intellectual Property Law in the University of South Africa, Pretoria, where he specializes in international intellectual property law with special emphasis on developing countries.

In December 1996, he was the alternate head of the South African delegation at the Diplomatic Conference on Certain Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Questions in Geneva, organized under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). At this conference, which adopted the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, he acted as the spokesperson of the African group of countries on questions of substantive law; he also served as vice-chairperson of the conference's drafting committee.

He was an advisor to the American Law Institute's project on Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments in International Intellectual Property Disputes, and a special adviser to the president of The World Bank on Civic Engagement, Empowerment, and Respect for Diversity. He was one of the contributors to the Scenarios for the Future Project of the European Patent Office, and co-authored a study on patent exceptions and limitations, commissioned by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). He was a consultant to the secretariat of the African Union on its treaty proposal for Copyright Exceptions and Limitations for Persons with Disabilities, Educational and Research Institutions, Libraries and Archives, and to the International Association of Library Associations and Institutions on its treaty proposal for Copyright Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries & Archives.

He has delivered papers at seminars and presented workshops organized by the Actores Intérpretes Sociedad de Gestión de España (AISGE), the European Commission, the Fédération Internationale des Musiciens (FIM), the International Law Institute, the Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches und internationales Patent, Urheber- und Wettbewerbsrecht, the Policy Sciences Center, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Southern African Development Conference (SADC), WIPO, and The World Bank; in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire), Accra (Ghana), Arusha (Tanzania), Casablanca (Morocco), Cotonou (Benin), Geneva, Kampala (Uganda), Lilongwe (Malawi), Madrid (Spain), Maputo (Mozambique), Mombasa (Kenya), Munich, Nairobi (Kenya), Pretoria, Tunis (Tunisia), Washington DC, and Windhoek (Namibia).

He has written and edited a number of books on commercial law and intellectual property law. He is the editor-in-chief of the *Annual Survey of South African Law*, and was a member of the international advisory board of *Computer Law Review International*, and the *International Review of Industrial Property and Copyright Law*.