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**Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

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## Creation of a Task to establish requirements for design electronic visual representations

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. On February 15, 2017, IP Australia sent a letter to the Secretariat proposing the initiation by the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) of discussion on a standard for design electronic graphical views, in terms of file formats, resolutions, sizes and other applicable attributes, in order to guide industrial property (IP) offices and their customers to provide consistent, quality design images. The proposal by IP Australia is reproduced in the Annex to this document.
2. It is noted that due to the lack of a WIPO standard on electronic graphic views of designs, IP offices face difficulties in providing digital services and will implement different approach in receiving design graphical representations. Consequently, their customers have to deal with different requirements for design applications from different IP offices; there is also a possibility of incurring costs to customers having to convert the design graphical representation to different formats as required. IP offices might also face issues in inconsistent format and quality while exchanging data.
3. It should be recalled that the predecessor ‘the Standards and Documentation Working Group’ (SDWG) discussed several times the creation of a task to develop recommendations for images, photographs and drawings related to patent and industrial design documents. The SDWG agreed that the decision to create such task should be postponed until completion of the recommendations for figurative elements of trademarks. (See paragraphs 63 and 64 of document SCIT/SDWG/11/14; 63 to 65 of SCIT/SDWG/10/12; 73 of SCIT/SDWG/8/14; 38 of SCIT/SDWG/4/14.) WIPO Standard ST.67 (electronic management of the figurative elements of trademarks) was adopted in 2012 by the CWS.
4. In accordance with the proposal of IP Australia, and following the previous discussions and agreement by the SDWG and the CWS, the Secretariat proposes the following for consideration and approval by the CWS:
	1. the creation of a new Task whose description would read as follows:

“Collect information about the requirements from IP offices and customers; and prepare recommendations for electronic visual representations of designs”; and

* 1. the establishment of a new Task Force, with its corresponding Task Force Leader, to handle the new task.
1. *The CWS is invited to:*

 *(a) consider the proposal from the IP Australia, referred to in paragraph 1 and Annex to this document;*

 *(b) consider and decide on the creation of the Task, referred to in paragraphs 4(a); and*

 *(c) consider and decide on the establishment of the new Task Force and appoint Task Force Leader, referred to in paragraph 4(b).*

[Annex follows]