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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

WIPO COORDINATION COMMITTEE
Forty-Ninth (16th Extraordinary) Session
Geneva, March 24 and 25, 2003

REPORT

adopted by the Coordination Committee

1. In accordance with the decision taken by the WIPO General Assembly (the General Assembly) and the WIPO Coordination Committee (the Coordination Committee) at their Thirty-Seventh Series of Meetings in September 2002 (see document A/37/14, paragraph 134), the Coordination Committee was convened to meet at the headquarters of WIPO on March 24 and 25, 2003.
2. The meeting was opened and presided over by the Chair of the Coordination Committee, Ambassador Joaquín Pérez Villanueva y Tóvar (Spain).
3. The following Member States of the Coordination Committee were represented at the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia (61).

4. The following States were represented in an observer capacity: Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Congo, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lithuania, Malta, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Slovenia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen (21).

5. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented in an observer capacity: the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (3).

6. The list of participants appears in the Annex to the present report.

Adoption of the Agenda of the Session

7. The Coordination Committee adopted the agenda as proposed in document WO/CC/49/1.

Nomination Received For the Post of Director General of WIPO

8. Discussions were based on document WO/CC/49/2 (“Nomination Received for the Post of Director General of WIPO”).

9. The Chair of the Coordination Committee, Ambassador Joaquín Pérez Villanueva y Tóvar (Spain), introduced the document relating to the nomination to the post of Director General.

10. The Delegation of South Africa made the following statement on behalf of the African Group:

“It is a particular honor for me, as the current Chairman of the African Group in Geneva, to formally present the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of WIPO for endorsement by the Coordination Committee.

“In December 2002, the African Group had already notified you in writing, in your capacity as Chairman of this Committee, of the candidature of Dr. Idris, in accordance with the unanimous decision of the 38th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (now African Union) that was held in Durban, South Africa in July 2002, to nominate Dr. Idris for a second mandate to the post of Director General of WIPO.

“Since then, Dr. Idris has been adopted as the only candidate to the post, having received the unanimous support of WIPO’s membership. The overwhelming expressions of support for Dr. Idris’ candidature, expressed during the last Assemblies of Member States held from September 23 to October 1, 2002, have been particularly gratifying for the African Group. For this, the African Group would like to put on record its profound appreciation to other regional groups for their support.

“Allow me to say a few words about the main achievements of Dr. Idris, since he assumed office, which inspired the African Group to give him our full support for re-election.

“We can all agree and appreciate that Dr. Idris has significantly transformed WIPO in breadth, clarity, simplicity and visibility of its activities. He has literally and figuratively pulled the Organization into the new century and hence the new millennium.

“Dr. Idris’ efforts as Director General have injected a sense of motivation and increased interest in intellectual property issues in the African Group as well as other regional groups. Slowly but surely, our countries are looking positively toward intellectual property as a potential tool for economic, social and cultural development. We are particularly happy that for the first time, we are freely and openly debating development, in WIPO’s meetings.

“On an assumption of office, Dr. Idris quickly developed a Digital Agenda for the Organization, which, *inter alia* aims to assist developing countries in maximizing the benefits of information technology in the field of intellectual property. WIPO, under his leadership is carrying out a major project to develop and establish WIPOnet – a global intellectual property information network. WIPOnet is relevant to developing countries, in particular Africa, as it will facilitate the electronic integration of our countries in the international digital environment, thus narrowing the information gap that exists between the developed and developing countries.

“Dr. Idris created the WIPO Worldwide Academy believing, as we all do, that the human capital of developing countries particularly for our continent is key to their realizing the full benefits of the national and international intellectual property systems. The Academy helps to develop those human resources, setting up modern and tailor-made training programs for policy advisors, development managers, and other target groups, such as we diplomats here in Geneva.

“Dr. Idris has set up a program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), which underlines the importance of the exploitation of the intellectual property system by SMEs to promote their innovative and creative capacity in a sector which forms the backbone of the economies of many developing countries particularly African countries.

“A special Unit has been created to address the concerns of the 49 least-developed countries, which requires special attention and assistance so that they too, can reap the benefits of intellectual property.

“In the field of copyright and related rights, a special division has also been created to assist developing countries in the creation and strengthening of collective management systems for copyright and related rights on a national and regional scale.

“Dr. Idris has not shied away from difficult and controversial issues. He has transformed WIPO into a forum where issues of interest and importance to all members, and in particular, developing countries, can be addressed. An example is the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, addressing three themes of profound importance to developing countries, namely (i) access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing; (ii) protection of traditional knowledge, whether or not associated with those resources; and (iii) the protection of expressions of folklore. Dr. Idris has energetically worked towards mainstreaming these issues in the different activities of WIPO.

“Mr. Chairman, another effective strategy designed by Dr. Idris to assist developing countries and in particular African countries is the National ly-Focused Action Plan (NFAP), an integrated plan of tailor -made assistance at country and regional levels.

“Dr. Idris has also instituted a veritable outreach philosophy and program in WIPO. WIPO has designated April 26 as World Intellectual Property Day – a day now celebrated in most developing countries. WIPO now reaches out to new sectors, new users and potential users of intellectual property, to all countries, new organizations, and institutions.

“In the area of Cooperation for Development, WIPO has intensified its efforts towards providing technical assistance and capacity -building programs for African countries to reap maximum benefits from intellectual property.

“I have spoken about Dr. Idris’ accomplishments from a developing world perspective, because that is my Group’s perspective. But all members have benefited from his leadership. He has personally reached out to all regions of the world, visiting them, meeting their leaders, visiting their institutions, meeting ordinary people and always trying to make a positive difference to all men and women without regard to nationality, race, religion, language or political persuasion.

“Under his leadership, WIPO’s contribution to the intellectual property system can truly serve to make our world a place rich in technological, economic, social and cultural development for the benefit of all peoples.

“The field of intellectual property has witnessed important changes in past years. It is now, maybe more than ever before, characterized by a diversity of opinions regarding the benefits of intellectual property, its costs as well as its cross -sectoral implications for important public policy goals such as the protection of the environment and public health. We think that this diversity of opinions enriches the field of intellectual property and should be encouraged. It has certainly contributed towards bringing developmental concerns to the heart of intellectual property matters. We therefore hope that in the coming years, under the able leadership of Dr. Idris, WIPO will intensify its efforts towards integrating the development dimension in intellectual property rights.

“Once again, we salute Dr. Idris and his loyal and devoted staff as so much has been achieved in such a short time. So, after six years of Dr. Idris’ successful mandate, the African Group is privileged to nominate him and urge all Member States to support his re -election for another term of six years, to enable him build on the impressive momentum he has generated.”

11. The Delegation of Belarus made the following statement on behalf of the Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European States:

“On behalf of the regional group of the countries of the Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European countries, and with reference to the declaration made during the General Assemblies of 2002, we would like to support the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for re -election for a second term of office as Director General of WIPO. We would also like to support the dates suggested for the holding of the extraordinary session of the General Assembly of WIPO.”

12. The Delegation of Portugal made the following statement on behalf of Group B:

“I would like to declare that Group B supports the candidacy of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second mandate as Director General of WIPO, to lead this Organization for the period 2003 -2009.

“It is an honor to add our voice to other regional Coordinators who spoke before me in support of the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris.

“We recognize, with appreciation, the efficiency with which he has been organizing WIPO’s work during his first term of office, and the importance of the reform strategy he has established for the Organization so that intellectual property will better serve the causes of economic growth and sustainable development.

“Group B particularly wishes to pay tribute to his active outreach to all Member States, and to thank him for his constant effort to promote intellectual property throughout the world.

“We would like to express our satisfaction with the work done by the Director General and to congratulate him on the significant results the Organization has achieved. We would especially like to commend him for the successful effort to reach a better understanding of intellectual property, and for his efforts in introducing greater openness, transparency and results-based budgeting within the WIPO Secretariat.

“Group B appreciates WIPO’s performance and activities, ranging from rule making and information technology to development cooperation. Faced with emerging new global challenges, and recognizing that this excellent performance should be credited to WIPO’s leadership directed by the Director General, Group B looks forward to participating actively and constructively in all WIPO activities, and to further strengthening our cooperative relationship with WIPO.

“Group B is confident that WIPO’s achievements will grow in the future.

We recognize that broad and substantial progress has been made by WIPO during the first term of Dr. Kamil Idris’ leadership, and Group B believes it is highly desirable that he continue to lead the Organization.

“In this context, we would like Dr. Idris to be re-nominated by the Coordination Committee for appointment to a second term in office as Director General of the WIPO International Bureau. Group B is confident that under his dynamic leadership, together with his management capacity, vision and skills, WIPO will be able to successfully pursue a vital global agenda for intellectual property.

“Finally, Group B joins the political consensus in favor of an accelerated procedure to allow the recommended candidate time to prepare for a second mandate. So, on this understanding and to accelerate the procedure, we also support the idea of having an extraordinary session of the General Assembly in late May 2003.”

13. The Delegation of Brazil made the following statement on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC):

“It is an honor for the Delegation of Brazil to speak on behalf of GRULAC on the matter of the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

“During the Thirty-Seventh WIPO Assemblies, the Member States of this Organization expressed overwhelming support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris. On that same occasion, GRULAC also recognized and expressed appreciation for the outstanding work done by Dr. Idris during his first term, and voiced its support for his re-appointment as Director General.

“It is now our great pleasure to officially confirm, once again, that the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term in office as Director General of WIPO enjoys the full support of all members of GRULAC.

“Mr. Chairman, the re-election of Dr. Idris, with the unanimous support of WIPO’s membership, does justice to the manner in which he discharged his duties during his first term. We all acknowledge that he has been a dynamic and efficient Director General, and has greatly contributed to the modernization of WIPO and its working methods. The work carried out by WIPO under his leadership in a number of areas has earned the acclaim of Member States, including developing countries.

“During the debate in the last WIPO Assemblies, many developing countries, including the members of GRULAC, pointed out several of those activities which were of particular relevance to them, and to the advancement of which they felt Dr. Idris had contributed much. These included the activities undertaken under the aegis of the Cooperation for Development program, as well as the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

“In recent times, intellectual property has become a much debated issue in the international agenda. The recognition of the cross-cutting nature of intellectual property, with its implications for important areas of public policy, has lent an even greater significance to the work that is being carried out in WIPO.

“Dr. Idris has lived up to the importance and challenging nature of his task as Director General. He has shown a willingness to listen to and take into account the concerns and needs of developing countries. During his term, developing countries have become increasingly active in WIPO’s work. There is growing recognition of the need to mainstream discussions on the development dimension of intellectual property rights into the Organization’s activities. It is important to further this contemporary and highly relevant debate on intellectual property, as a means of ensuring that intellectual property effectively works as a tool for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries and peoples.

“Hence, Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris and his able staff for the excellent job done over the last six years, and to join other Group Coordinators who have spoken before me in fully supporting his re-election as Director General of WIPO.”

14. The Delegation of Pakistan made the following statement on behalf of the Asian Group:

“It gives me immense pleasure to extend our support for the re-election of His Excellency Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization for another term of six years.

“I would like to recall the overwhelming support Dr. Kamil Idris' candidature received from the Member States during the last session of the WIPO General Assemblies. It was a clear manifestation of the confidence that the Member States repose in him.

“Since assuming the leadership of the Organization, Dr. Kamil Idris has brought a marked change in the outlook of WIPO and transformed it into one of the most dynamic and leading organizations in the United Nations System. Under his leadership, WIPO is now poised to effectively meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

“A significant feature of this process of change has been the balance that Dr. Kamil Idris has maintained between taking new initiatives on the one hand and consolidating and updating the already existing intellectual property instruments on the other. The new initiatives on the protection of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, the Organization's leading role in the Internet Domain Name Dispute Resolution process and the establishment of the World Wide Academy are a few noteworthy examples of Dr. Idris' leadership. The elaboration of WIPO's Digital Agenda, with projects of far-reaching benefits, such as WIPOnet, IMPACT, Intellectual Property Digital Libraries and Intellectual Property Office Automation assistance program has put WIPO in the league of organizations using cutting edge technologies to the benefit of its Member States.

“A particularly praiseworthy aspect of the policies pursued by Dr. Idris has been the support extended to developing countries in improving their intellectual property systems and enhancing their understanding of the role of intellectual property in social, cultural and economic development. The program of “Nationally Focused Action Plans” aimed at providing assistance tailored to the specific needs of individual countries has demonstrated WIPO's ability to appreciate the socio-economic and cultural diversity existing among its Member States.

“Mr. Chairman, the process of development of intellectual property regimes is complex, and at times, divisive. However, the commitment and political acumen of Dr. Idris has helped us all in narrowing differences on critical issues in the true spirit of multilateralism. With an evenhanded approach, Dr. Idris has successfully forged consensus on many difficult issues during the last five years.

“The Asian Group would like to express its appreciation for the unrelenting efforts Dr. Kamil Idris has made to promote intellectual property at all levels. In this context, the Group would like to laud his initiative to organize, in collaboration with the Government of China, a Summit on Intellectual Property and the Knowledge Economy in Beijing. We are confident that the Summit will go a long way in promoting intellectual property worldwide and in increasing the awareness of the benefits its use could accrue – a key objective set out in Dr. Idris' vision of WIPO.

“In conclusion, on behalf of the Asian Group, I would like to assure Dr. Idris of our continued support, cooperation and constructive contribution during his second term as Director General of WIPO.”

15. The Delegation of Romania made the following statement on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States:

“During the last session of the WIPO General Assembly, Member States considered the procedures for the appointment of the Director General and decided to convene a special session of the General Assembly in 2003 to endorse the nomination of the Director General by the WIPO Coordination Committee.

“On the same occasion, the countries of the Central European and Baltic States joined the unanimous view and expressed their appreciation of the way in which the Organization, under the leadership of the incumbent Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, has implemented its policy agenda and carried out its planned activities. The activities of WIPO have indeed been managed in a dynamic, effective and transparent way, and the performance of the Organization has enabled it to establish itself as one of the leading United Nations specialized agencies in the knowledge-based economy. Today, the Organization is much better prepared to meet the challenges of the future, and its vision and action are of a nature to bring a direct tangible contribution to the efforts of the international community as a whole in meeting these challenges.

“The Group of Central European and Baltic States wishes to underline the important work being carried out by Dr. Kamil Idris as the Director General of WIPO. Indeed, the new vision of the Director General on the work of the Organization would allow it to take up new challenges and pursue its agenda. Under his office, the Organization has put forward and has implemented projects and initiatives which, on the one hand, have met the needs and expectations of the Member States, while at the same time enhancing WIPO's transition from a purely regulatory body into an Organization with an integrated vision, where intellectual property serves as an important tool for development and wealth creation.

“We consider that in the periods since Dr. Kamil Idris took over the leadership of the Organization, significant attention has been given to the problems that very much concern the countries in our region. The promotion and development of intellectual property systems in our respective countries as well as issues that are of high importance for the economic and social development of our region have been adequately addressed in the work of WIPO.

“We have embarked on new fields and forms of cooperation. Under the current policy framework and working modalities in the Organization our countries can pursue even more ambitious goals in the future – further develop their intellectual property systems, actively participate in the international cooperation in perfecting both the international system of protection of intellectual property rights and the benefit sharing from the existing regimes, raise the level of awareness in our societies on the importance of intellectual property rights and last but not least – contribute to the development of intellectual property rights and standards through the work of the Organization itself.

“Convinced of the achievements attained and of the opportunities ahead, the Group of the Central European and Baltic States wishes to express the Group’s appreciation of the performance of Dr. Kamil Idris, as Director General of WIPO and commits its support for a second mandate for Dr. Kamil Idris as the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.”

16. The Delegation of China made the following statement:

“The Delegation of China appreciates the contribution the Director General Dr. Kamil Idris has made in the past few years in strengthening the role of WIPO in international affairs and in rendering technical assistance to developing countries. Under his personal leadership WIPO has established the Intergovernmental Committee on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, as well as provided for the production and protection of the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises. There has been great progress in this respect for the benefit of the Member States under his leadership. The Government of China therefore would like once again to clearly express its full support for the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second mandate as Director General of WIPO and we also support the dates fixed for the extraordinary session of the General Assembly.

“We are convinced that the experience that the Director General possesses and his remarkable talents as a leader, are of extreme importance in strengthening the important role of WIPO in international affairs.”

17. The Delegation of Morocco made the following statement:

“On this occasion, as a member of the Committee, I wish to reaffirm the support that the Kingdom of Morocco gives to the renewal of the term of office of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. His re-election will without any doubt enable him to continue to pursue successfully the implementation of the common objectives that will make it possible for all Member States to derive the necessary advantages from the intellectual property system.

“It is difficult to list all the important achievements and radical changes that have taken place in the course of Dr. Idris’ first term; one can only point to the evidence, to the illustrations of his efficacy and of his skill in managing the International Bureau of our Organization.

“In all objectiveness, the re-election of Dr. Idris will enable WIPO to continue to improve its operational, administrative and financial efficiency in the interest of the accomplishment of its task in the field of intellectual property, a field that in future will have to be looked upon in a holistic manner, with sectors as crucial as food, health, employment, culture, trade, investment and scientific and technological development being brought into the equation.

“Against a background of development of international intellectual property law WIPO, under the direction of Dr. Idris, has succeeded at all times in taking due account of technological progress and trade practice in responding to the specific concerns of Member States, notably in areas of conflicting interest.

“It behoves us to show our gratitude by expressing our profound thanks to the Director General for his determination to bridge the gap that separates the various

countries in terms of development and the use of the intellectual property system by means of a set of relevant initiatives, including in particular the continuous exchange of information and experience in all areas of intellectual property.

“Dr. Kamil Idris’ successful modernization of the activities of WIPO, which is now endowed with an indisputable transparency and energy, has assisted in the implementation of the strategic plan for the strengthening of development cooperation for the benefit of developing countries. The latter are more and more aware of the role of intellectual property as a factor of socio-economic and cultural development.

“With this in mind Dr. Idris has provided decisive guidance in the task of putting intellectual property to work towards lasting and integrated development in developing countries, this being done through close collaboration with regional bureaux, notably the Development Cooperation Bureau for Arab States, which we commend here for its efficiency, professionalism and permanent availability. We should like also to mention the initiatives of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, the role of information technology and computerization in the form of the IMPACT and WIPO NET projects, the action on the simplification of the PCT system, the improvement of the international patent and trademarks systems and the highly interesting work on the intellectual property rights in genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore.

“Having spoken of the man and his vision, I should like to add a few words on his style as, to paraphrase an old adage, style maketh man: style for Dr. Idris dialogue elevated to the rank of management tool, dialogue not only with Member States but also among States and groups.

“Style is also having an ear for the concerns of developing and the least-developed countries, by means of an exercise in rapprochement that has made it possible to bring the Tenth Floor close to the countries of the South and their aspirations.

“Style, finally, is a search for consensus that is careful not cavalier, conducted according to a policy of awareness, and development of the features that will reconcile the positions of States and groups. This morning’s consensus, on granting Dr. Idris a second term of office, is the ultimate illustration of this culture of consensus which has characterized his action and his initiatives during the last six years.

“For all these reasons my country reaffirms its support for the present Director General’s candidature for another term of office. To that end Morocco supports the holding of an extraordinary session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Unions on May 26 and 27, 2003, for the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO.”

18. The Delegation of the United Arab Emirates made the following statement on behalf of the Arab Group:

“I have the pleasure to speak before this meeting in the name of the Arab Group and would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Kamil Idris, Director General of WIPO, and to all his aids and WIPO staff members, for their restless endeavor to promote intellectual property, now that its contribution to economic, social and intellectual

development has become a cle ar tool for the promotion of invention and innovation at the service of humanity as a whole.

“New horizons have opened up in recent years for intellectual property. Although intellectual property is deeply embedded in history, WIPO had to address many fields of concern which appeared as a result of progress in science, technology and communication. More research and studies became necessary not only to maintain acquired rights but also to disseminate the advantages resulting from human talents, as creation in all fields is but the result of collective genius and continuous experience to which all civilizations and peoples have contributed.

“It has been observed in the recent years that WIPO’s activities have been oriented towards adaptation to the evolution of international intellectual property law and exploring means for cooperation with WTO under the TRIPS Agreement.

“In the light of those and other developments, many countries, including Arab countries, have enacted or revised their national legislation in the field of intellectual property. We would like, on this occasion, to underline the efforts provided by WIPO, through the Arab Bureau and other departments, in providing technical assistance and advice to various countries, an assistance that needs to be pursued and intensified in view of the increasing importance of intellectual property and its expansion to cover such fields as culture, science, industry, trade, economy and environment.

“It is in a spirit of responsibility and gratitude that WIPO should be encouraged and helped in its efforts to bridge the digital divide resulting from progress achieved in communication technology which ensures exchange of experience, rapid communication and access to information. This issue is of high significance for the countries of the South that need to acquire and be able to use such technology in the achievement of the desired goals in the field of intellectual property.

“We all know that the field of intellectual property rights is a field of multi-facets, multi-laws and multi-perceptions. However, the working method adopted by WIPO has provided the necessary transparency to achieve positive results and pursue the debate on constitutional reform which will facilitate work, create synergies within the Organization and avoid bureaucratic obstacles and complicated procedures.

“Regarding the relationship between WIPO, on one hand, and SMEs and Government sectors, on the other, we would like to commend the efforts provided by WIPO in respect of intellectual property enforcement issues and strategies. We believe that research and progress in this field will bring further clarity and smoothness to the various dimensions of that relationship that links all parties concerned with intellectual property.

“In the last Assemblies held in September, many countries expressed their support, in more than 130 interventions, for a unanimous re-appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second mandate.

“Speaking in the name of the Arab Group, I would like to join the delegation that have expressed, during the preceding Assemblies, support for the re-appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second mandate.”

19. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea made the following statement:

“The Korean Government wholeheartedly supports the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of WIPO. Korea would like to take this opportunity to express our great satisfaction with the outstanding achievements of Dr. Idris in his first term of office.

“During his tenure we have witnessed significant development in the intellectual property rights field under his capable and dynamic leadership. After his appointment as Director General in 1997, WIPO has been more efficiently transformed to meet the challenges of the future.

“A wider range of information technology projects such as WIPO NET, IMPACT, PCT-SAFE and IPDL have been successfully carried out in accordance with his forward-looking vision and dynamism in addressing the new digital age. The progressive activities of WIPO under the direction of Dr. Idris have made it possible to raise awareness of intellectual property systems worldwide and to ensure a pivotal role of intellectual property protection in social and economic development.

“Korea has also enjoyed cooperating with Dr. Idris and his colleagues under the Framework Agreement of Cooperation between the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Korean Intellectual Property Office, which was signed in November 2001.

“The Korean Government fully supports the re-election of Dr. Idris for a second term of office as Director General of WIPO and looks forward to his continued success in the future. Finally, the Government of Korea expresses its support for the dates proposed for the extraordinary session of the General Assembly for the appointment of the Director General in May this year.”

20. The Delegation of Myanmar made the following statement:

“The Delegation of Myanmar wishes to associate itself with the Asian Group statement delivered by the Delegation of Pakistan. The Delegation of Myanmar fully endorses the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for his second term of re-election as the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization. Since he assumed the duties of the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization six years ago, Dr. Idris has worked tirelessly for the advancement of the role of intellectual property in the knowledge-based economy of the world today. I should like to pay particular tribute to Dr. Kamil Idris for his commitment and for his unwavering support extended to the developing countries in the development of their intellectual property systems and the promotion of the role of intellectual property in their economic, social and cultural development. I should also like to offer my congratulations for his excellent book entitled “A powerful tool for economic growth” recently published by WIPO. This book has made a substantial contribution in demystification and elucidation of the role of intellectual property in the economic, social and cultural development of countries, large and small, and rich and poor. We hope that he will be well placed to make further advances on the solid and substantive achievements he has so far accomplished. We wish Dr. Kamil Idris every success in his new endeavors during his second term.”

21. The Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran made the following statement:

“As we all know well, one of the main and fundamental objectives of the World Intellectual Property Organization is to develop, improve and enhance protection of intellectual property rights across the world through cooperation with different States and other international organizations.

“In order to attain the said objective, the Convention establishing WIPO has made this Organization responsible for a number of tasks and commitments.

“Taking into account the above objectives and responsibilities of WIPO, His Excellency Dr. Kamil Idris, during the past six years, has been working hard in order to fulfil each of the said tasks and has exerted every possible effort to achieve those objectives in order to promote intellectual property and thus he has a very outstanding and brilliant record. His never-tiring activities and sensible persistent management during the said period has resulted in the fact that WIPO, as the only organization administering intellectual property matters worldwide, has gained a prominent and outstanding position and status. Moreover, due to his untiring efforts, intellectual property has become one of the main factors of economic and social development on both the national and international levels, and has thus become an inseparable and integral part of economic policies of countries.

“The following are a few of these activities:

“(a) Providing technical and legal assistance to Member States particularly least-developed and developing countries.

“(b) Numerous fruitful efforts of the Organization for the purpose of harmonization of national laws and bringing them up to the international levels and standards through provision of model laws.

“(c) Close cooperation and assistance with other international organizations and acceptance of and accession to international agreements and treaties that have been prepared for the purpose of the promotion of intellectual property protection.

“(d) Great and outstanding achievements in international registration and protection of intellectual property rights through supporting services that facilitate the international protection of intellectual property.

“(e) Creditable efforts and activities of the Organization in the field of training in a manner that by using the most advanced training material has been able to attract numerous interested people from various corners of the world.

“(f) Increasing public as well as experts' awareness through holding training workshops, national, regional and international seminars in Member States.

“(g) Serious efforts of this Organization in order to achieve a workable and practical mechanism for national and international protection of Traditional Knowledge, Folklore and Genetic Resources as one of the most important human heritages.

“(h) Untiring and selfless efforts of all different sections and departments of the Organization such as the Secretariat.

“(i) Adequate and discreet reactions and approaches towards challenges and appropriate and well-timed manipulation of opportunities.

“Taking into account all the above factors, it is obvious that this Organization, under the strong and robust management and leadership of His Excellency Dr. Idris, has been able to fulfill all its tasks in the best possible manner and has gained a brilliant record as compared with other organizations.

“While extending its full support of Dr. Idris and his nomination for another period of six years as the Director General of WIPO, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran is firmly confident that his re-election will create the opportunity for WIPO and its Member States to enjoy and benefit from his scientific, able, strong, creative and robust management for another period of six years.”

22. The Delegation of Singapore made the following statement on behalf of the ASEAN member countries:

“The ASEAN countries (i.e. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam) associate ourselves with the statement made on behalf of the Asian Group by the Delegation of Pakistan, and we are pleased to reaffirm our strong support for the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term as Director General of WIPO.

“The members of ASEAN place great emphasis on WIPO and its work. This comes out of recognition of the critical importance of promoting and protecting intellectual property, which in turn spurs innovation, investment, and ultimately economic development.

“Thank to the dynamic leadership of Dr. Idris, we have witnessed WIPO develop further into an international leader in the field of intellectual property. Dr. Idris has made extensive efforts to position development concerns at the heart of WIPO's programs and activities. Developing countries, including the members of ASEAN, have benefited from WIPO's various initiatives.

“We are confident that WIPO will progress further under Dr. Idris' continued leadership. We in ASEAN look forward to even closer collaboration and engagement with WIPO, and Dr. Idris, in the years to come.”

23. The Delegation of Singapore made the following statement:

“Singapore-WIPO ties are strong, underpinned by our shared strategic vision that intellectual property systems are a key driver in promoting economic development, enhancing global trade and stimulating cross-border investment. Like other countries, Singapore has benefited from the assistance and advice of Dr. Idris as we constantly strive to enhance our intellectual property regime.

“WIPO has evolved into a blue-chip Organization under Dr. Idris' able leadership. Dr. Idris has been at the forefront of WIPO's efforts to increase global awareness of the importance of intellectual property in assisting Member States respond to the opportunities and challenges posed by new technological and legal developments. We are confident that Dr. Idris' continued leadership would reinforce WIPO's efforts in

engaging all intellectual property stakeholders to shape, adapt to and benefit from a responsive, inclusive and efficient international intellectual property system.

“In conclusion, Singapore joins others in restating our endorsement and support for Dr. Idris to assume a second term as Director General of WIPO.”

24. The Delegation of Hungary made the following statement:

“This extraordinary session of the Coordination Committee is of paramount importance in the modern history of WIPO embracing at present 179 countries of the world. The members of the Committee have been convened to take a stand on the nomination received for the post of Director General of WIPO, a specialized agency of the United Nations with a very wide competence. On behalf of the Government of Hungary having century-long traditions in the field of the international protection of intellectual property, and also in my capacity as President of the Hungarian Patent Office, I fully support the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris.

“At the 13th ordinary session of the WIPO General Assembly, in September 1997, the Delegation of Hungary expounded in its intervention that “the election of Dr. Idris to the post of Director General is a welcome event... We have elected not only a competent manager, but also a recognized specialist.” We were convinced that “his election will be a contributing factor to the further development of the world intellectual property institutions, which play, especially in our technology-driven era, a decisive role in the life of developing, developed and transition economies alike.”

“In his acceptance speech on September 22, 1997, the new Director General said that WIPO is “unique in having a dual character as both an intergovernmental organization which serves the international community of States, a global, market-oriented organization which serves the interests and needs of a large, dynamic and growing market of users.” In its first function, WIPO “is responsible for the formulation of the policy framework which best encourages creativity and the generation and valorization of intellectual property. As a market-oriented organization, WIPO is, through its Secretariat, entrusted with the task of providing the various services...” Dr. Idris expressed his “commitment to the basic mission of WIPO of promoting creativity through the protection of intellectual property” and said that “with political imagination, with goodwill and with collaboration among member States, market-sector interests and the Secretariat, this mission can be advanced.

“The Hungarian Delegation is of the opinion that in the six years elapsed since then, Director General Kamil Idris has well deserved the Member States’ confidence and has lived up to their expectations. Under his leadership, with a staff of more than 1000 and in close cooperation with the member States, WIPO is on the right track to becoming “an organization for the future.” With the practical implementation of the declared principles (accountability, transparency) and with the formation of a new strategy and intellectual property policy, “relevance, efficiency, communication and international cooperation” have in the meantime become the keywords for WIPO as an organization.

“The World Intellectual Property Organization led by the Director General carries out an extremely wide range of activities, to mention but a few: development of international intellectual property law (23 international treaties administered by WIPO),

new approach to the enforcement of rights, the so-called Digital Agenda (with the dramatic rise in Internet use, especially for e-commerce and information and knowledge exchange, the intellectual property system becomes crucial for the orderly development of the digital society), the global protection systems and services provided by WIPO (PCT, IM PACT project, Madrid and Hague systems, WIPO NET), assistance to countries (the activity of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, relations with the WTO, WIPO Nationally-Focused Action Plans), functioning of the WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center and the global intellectual property issues (establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore). All these show that WIPO is ready and able to face many new challenges.

“The personality, preparedness, diplomatic and professional positions and extensive relations of the Director General give us the best assurance as to the excellent managerial direction of this wider range of activities. Many countries acknowledged this by conferring upon him academic and honorary degrees and awarding him distinctions.

“The traditional commitment of Hungary to the activity of WIPO has also manifested itself in that the representatives of our country have held and still hold leading posts in the various bodies of WIPO. Hungary, like other countries of the World, looks for replies to the challenges facing the intellectual property system. We are absolutely certain that WIPO, under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris will be able to find these replies.”

25. The Delegation of the United States of America made the following statement:

“With great pleasure and full confidence in the prospects for WIPO under Dr. Idris' continuing leadership, the United States of America associates itself with the statement of Group B endorsing the nomination of the Director General for a second term.”

26. The Delegation of Mexico made the following statement:

“Like the representative of Brazil when he spoke on behalf of GRULAC, the Delegation of Mexico welcomes, and is delighted with, the Coordination Committee's decision to recommend to the Assemblies, when they convene in extraordinary session on May 26 and 27, that they re-elect Dr. Kamil Idris to the position of Director General of our Organization.

“I should like to propose that you, in your capacity as Chair of the Committee, convey to Dr. Idris the essence of the decisions that we have just adopted, together with our warmest greetings, our pleasure on his reelection and our certainty that under his direction WIPO will continue both to grow stronger as an institution and to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with its Member States.

“In conclusion I wish to confirm that, throughout this new term of office, Dr. Kamil Idris will be able to rely on the full cooperation and support of Mexico.”

27. The Delegation of Sudan made the following statement on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC):

“The OIC would like to express with great pleasure its support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO for a second term.

“The OIC fully subscribes to the extensive statement made by the Arab League, the African Group and the Asian Group. The OIC is proud of Dr. Idris’ expertise, dedication and achievements and fully supports his re-election.”

28. The Delegation of Sweden made the following statement:

“On behalf of the Delegation of Sweden I should first stress that we wholeheartedly agree with the statement made by the Spokesman of Group B and we warmly support the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a new term of six years.

“We are very satisfied with the work that Dr. Idris has carried out during his presently running mandate. The economic and trade policy importance of intellectual property has increased tremendously in recent years and at the same time it has also to face unprecedented challenges in various countries and for various reasons. It is certainly difficult to steer an organization such as the World Intellectual Property Organization in times like these and we consider that Dr. Idris has managed to do just that with consummate political skill in moving the Organization and what it represents into the mainstream of the international developments in the world today. We appreciate very much the official visit that he made to our country, we are impressed by his work as Director General of this Organization and we are also impressed by some specific initiatives of his work for the benefit of the Organization, such as the outreach program and, for instance, the publication of the book on “Intellectual Property, a Power Tool for Economic Growth” which we received some time ago and which we found particularly interesting.

“In conclusion, this Delegation supports the dates proposed for the extraordinary session of the General Assembly and would just like once more to express its great satisfaction with the work of Dr. Idris during the time passed and support warmly his nomination for a new term.”

29. The Delegation of Norway made the following statement:

“As spelled out by the Spokesman of Group B, this Delegation – as a member of that Group – fully supports the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for another term as Director General of this Organization.

“I would, however, like to take this opportunity to acknowledge this Delegation’s satisfaction with the restructuring of this Organization and its programs and also the opening up of the work of the Organization to the outside world, which was long needed.

“In our view, Dr. Idris has all the personal qualities to fill the post of Director General in a very successful way for another term. We look forward to giving him our full support throughout the year to come.”

30. The Delegation of the Russian Federation made the following statement:

“Our Delegation, with pleasure, expresses its support for the decision of the Coordination Committee to put forward the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General for a renewed term of office. This is based on our satisfaction with the level of cooperation between our country and WIPO which we have achieved thanks, to a large extent, to the personal initiative and efforts of Dr. Kamil Idris. We are working on the basis of a bilateral Cooperation Agreement between the Russian Federation and WIPO, and we are very pleased with the place and influence of WIPO under Dr. Kamil Idris’ leadership. We associate ourselves with the words spoken by all previous delegations.

“Dr. Idris’ work as Director General and his personal abilities enabled him to successfully lead such a complex but successful and important Organization, and in conclusion we would like to reiterate our support for Dr. Idris’ work and thank him for the achievements that he has enabled our Organization to attain, and I would like to express our conviction that under his leadership WIPO will continue to develop in a dynamic way and for the benefit of the well-being of all our countries. We also support the holding of an extraordinary session of the Assemblies at the end of May this year.”

31. The Delegation of France made the following statement:

“France wholeheartedly approves the proposal of the Coordination Committee in favor of the renewal of the term of office of Dr. K. Idris as Director General of WIPO.

“In the course of the last six years at the head of this Organization Dr. Idris has demonstrated his unflinching determination to transform the management of WIPO with bold measures designed to enable the Organization to address the main issues confronting intellectual property today and to make progress on such sensitive matters as:

- the fight against infringement;
- access to medicine for all in a patent system made stronger by the current reform of the PCT and of substantive patent law;
- the reform of the Hague Agreement on industrial designs;
- the protection of traditional knowledge;
- access to genetic resources and to the information society;
- the enhancement of training and international cooperation;
- the extension of the role of geographical indications.

“The above list is not exhaustive.

“Everyone here knows the importance that France has attached for more than two centuries to the development of all aspects of intellectual property.”

“Indeed ever since the discussions engaged in at the time of the French Revolution the ownership of creations of the mind has been held up as one of the most important of man’s substantive rights.

“France therefore looks forward with interest, goodwill and confidence to every initiative that Dr. Idris sees fit to propose to the General Assembly to ensure that intellectual property plays its part fully for the benefit of fair trade and lasting development.”

32. The Delegation of Finland made the following statement:

“We fully endorse the statement made on behalf of Group B, and strongly support the candidacy of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term in office as WIPO Director General.

“I would like to express our satisfaction for the excellent work done by the Director General Dr. Idris in promoting the international system of intellectual property and in introducing greater openness, transparency and results-based budgeting within the WIPO Secretariat. We also know his great capacity. Hereally is a great person having skills, experience and diplomacy. It is very important for WIPO to continue to benefit from his dynamic leadership. We are also very satisfied with the good cooperation between Finland and WIPO and especially with Dr. Idris.

“Finally, we also support the accelerated procedure for Dr. Idris’ re-appointment as Director General of WIPO and therefore we support the proposal of having a special session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and the Berne Unions in late May 2003.”

33. The Delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea made the following statement:

“I wish to join previous speakers in expressing our full support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. As my Government highly appreciates the great achievements and abilities shown by Dr. Kamil Idris I would like to stress that my country will extend continued support and cooperation to Dr. Kamil Idris in discharging his important and honorable duty as Director General of our Organization.”

34. The Delegation of Cuba made the following statement:

“I would like to say that I was at a meeting when there was a call from the Deputy Minister who had been Director of the Cuban Intellectual Property Office, and she instructed me to come to this meeting to support the election of Dr. Kamil Idris. First of all I would like to say that Dr. Kamil Idris has submitted his nomination, the Committee has supported it and we would like to thank WIPO and Dr. Idris in particular for all the efforts and resources made available to developing offices in other regions, specially the Cuban office. Knowing his interest in development as one of the priorities of this Organization, our Delegation would like to go on record to say that we give our full support to Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of this Organization.”

35. The Delegation of Panama made the following statement:

“Acting on instructions from the high echelon of our Government, the Delegation of Panama wishes to add to the statement by GRULAC and convey its great appreciation of the extraordinary work done by Dr. Kamil Idris in the interest of the development and transformation of the socio-economic culture of intellectual property, which has had a far-reaching effect in our country, that effect being reflected in the policies and programs associated with its inventive resources. Our Government makes

use of this statement to reiterate its intense satisfaction with the unanimous nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term of office as Director General of this singular, this outstanding Organization.” s

36. The Delegation of Jamaica made the following statement:

“Jamaica endorses the statement by the Delegation of Brazil on behalf of GRULAC. Jamaica supports the re-appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of WIPO. We were part of the consensus which emerged at the last WIPO General Assembly concerning the accelerated procedure for the appointment of Dr. Idris, and for the convening of an extraordinary session of the WIPO Assembly and the Paris and Berne Union Assemblies to this effect.

“We believe that Dr. Idris has displayed strong leadership of the Organization, and has ensured that WIPO responds fully and effectively to the needs of developing countries. For these reasons, we are of the view that a second mandate for the Director General is in order.

“WIPO gave full and tangible support to the establishment of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, to the work of the Caribbean Copyright Link and other intellectual property stakeholders in Jamaica and the Caribbean sub-region as a whole.

“We look forward to WIPO’s continued support with Dr. Kamil Idris at its helm.”

37. The Delegation of Italy made the following statement:

“This Delegation would like to reaffirm its full support for the election for a second mandate of the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Kamil Idris, as already expressed by the Representative of Group B.

“Italy which already declared its full support for the re-election during the General Assembly of 2002, believes that under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris WIPO has achieved outstanding results.

“For this reason we are deeply convinced that this re-election will allow WIPO and its Member States, both developing and developed countries, to accomplish further important achievements in the future.”

38. The Delegation of Bangladesh made the following statement:

“We associate ourselves with the statement made by the Delegation of Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group.

“It is my pleasure to reaffirm the full and strong support of the Government of Bangladesh to the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term as the Director General of WIPO.

“I would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt felicitation to the Director General for his outstanding achievement during his first term in office and wish him every success in the coming days.”

39. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia made the following statement:

“We would like to echo the statement made by the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the Arab countries and we would like to say that we support the re-election of the Director General so that he can achieve the objectives of intellectual property.”

40. The Delegation of Japan made the following statement:

“Japan fully associates itself with the statement made by the Delegation of Portugal on behalf of Group B.

“On this occasion, we would like to simply express Japan’s full support for the re-appointment to a second term for Dr. Kamil Idris.

“As recognized by every member in this Organization, intellectual property is now moving in uncharted directions, so we believe strong will and excellent leadership is needed and Dr. Kamil Idris is just the person to flourish in such an environment, with his firm belief in the very important role that intellectual property plays for the future innovation and wealth of humankind.

“We also support the convening of the extraordinary session of the General Assembly on the dates proposed.

41. The Delegation of Denmark made the following statement:

“On behalf of Denmark, I would like to express our full support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term of office as Director General of WIPO.

“Innovation is a prerequisite in creating economic wealth on a global scale and it is of the highest importance to have an effective worldwide protection of intellectual property rights. We can therefore only express the highest respect for Dr. Kamil Idris’ work in revitalizing the Organization and in constantly generating and evolving WIPO’s work in the field of intellectual property rights.

“Under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris, the Organization has flourished and many new initiatives have been launched. I would like to take this opportunity to mention some of the initiatives that I believe are of the uppermost importance.

“Discussions have during Dr. Kamil Idris’ term of office been launched in WIPO on how to create a completely new patent system. We take great interest in the work being done under the Patent Agenda and find it both farsighted and wise that this initiative has been launched at this precise time in order to assure the development and constant improvement of the systems.

“One of the characteristics of Dr. Kamil Idris’ first term of office is the enthusiasm and energy that he has put into visiting the member countries of WIPO. A visit by the Director General of a large FN organization is a very important opportunity to promote intellectual property rights in their home country.

“The latest effort achieved by Dr. Kamil Idris is the creation of the first summit on intellectual property to be held in Beijing in April this year. We believe that this event is of the highest importance and that the way has now been paved for promoting

intellectual property rights worldwide and to put discussion on intellectual property rights on the international agenda for the benefit of all users of the system.

“Finally, I would like to add that we can support the proposed accelerated procedure for the election of the General Director and once again to assure you, Dr. Kamil Idris, of our full consent to your election and of our full support and cooperation during your second term of office.”

42. The Delegation of Turkey made the following statement:

“I am not going to repeat all that has been said about the personal qualities of Dr. Idris, nor the remarkable job he has done in his first term of office. We fully share the views of Portugal who spoke on behalf of Group B.”

43. The Delegation of India made the following statement:

“It was our understanding that general statements at today’s meeting would be made by regional Coordinators. But clearly the overwhelming support for Dr. Kamil Idris has naturally prompted several individual delegations to take the floor. I am one such delegate. First of all my Delegation would like to fully support the statements made by the Delegation of Pakistan, on behalf of the Asian Group. As said in the Asian Group statement, we warmly welcome Dr. Kamil Idris’ second term in office. During his first term, we have seen positive achievements made in WIPO. We are confident that this second term will be equally successful. As a developing country, we particularly look forward to the integration of the development dimension in the programs of WIPO during Dr. Kamil Idris’ second term.

“My Delegation would like to once again convey our full support to Dr. Kamil Idris.”

44. The Delegation of Costa Rica made the following statement:

“My Delegation endorses the declaration made by the Delegation of Brazil on behalf of GRULAC and also joins in the existing consensus to support the recommendation to submit to the extraordinary session of the General Assembly, the candidacy of Dr. Idris for a new mandate as Director General of the Organization.”

45. The Delegation of Benin made the following statement:

“The Group of Least -Developed Countries (LDCs) is convinced that together we shall work out wise courses of action in the deliberations of this session of the Coordination Committee of WIPO.

“We still remember the proceedings of the last session of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, in Geneva from September 23 to October 1, 2002, during which the Group of LDCs, and also several other regional groups as well as individual delegations, expressed firm support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the position of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

“The broad support thus gained by Dr. Idris is testimony to the quality of the work that he is doing to make intellectual property into an instrument that is truly at the service of the promotion of economic and social development in the Member States of

WIPO, especially the least -developed countries, faced as they are with even greater challenges in that connection.

“It is with that in mind that WIPO’s undertakings towards LDCs have been made and carried through, and it was those worthy acts that our Ministers made a point of saluting in the Cotonou Declaration of August 2002 .

“We recognize that it is through acceptance and application of the tools, rules and principles around which intellectual property is organized that innovation, creativity and economic and social development become possible.

“It is in this perspective that we situate the work of the Director General of WIPO.

“The bold step that he has put in hand confirm his commitment, and with it the commitment of the whole team headed by him, to making the intellectual property tool into an essential component of development in the third millennium.

“Here at the headquarters of WIPO and in the field, in countries and regions , this determination to achieve, to produce results, to innovate and above all to integrate LDCs effectively in the process of change, is showing and proving itself.

“Consequently the Group of LDCs wish to reaffirm its express support for the re-election of Dr. Kamill Idris to the position of Director General of WIPO so that he may continue the highly appreciated action that he has undertaken. ”

46. The Delegation of Jordan made the following statement:

“The Delegation of Jordan shares the views expressed by the Asian Group and the Arab Group and indeed the statement of the Organization of the Islamic Conference concerning the re-election of Dr. Kamill Idris as Director General of WIPO. The Delegation of Jordan thanks the Director General for the work he has undertaken in order to reinforce intellectual property, and for his cooperation with us which we hope to continue to work with him during his second term of office as has been agreed by us all here this morning.”

47. The Delegation of Malaysia made the following statement:

“From the outset, the Malaysian Delegation would like to associate itself with the statements made by Pakistan, on behalf of the Asian Group and Singapore on behalf of ASEAN this morning.

“Malaysia wishes to reaffirm its strong support for the nomination of Dr. Kamill Idris for a second term as Director General of WIPO.

“Malaysia highly appreciates the various initiatives introduced by Dr. Idris during his six year tenure. Malaysia for one has benefited tremendously from WIPO’s activities. In conclusion, Malaysia looks forward to having closer future collaboration with WIPO.”

48. The Delegation of Iraq made the following statement:

“My Delegation supports the statements made on behalf of the Arab Group, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and the Asian Group at the re-election for a second term of Dr. Idris, and this because of the excellent work he has done during his first term as Director General of this Organization.”

49. The Delegation of Sudan made the following statement:

“The President of the Republic of the Sudan has honored me with the task of addressing your present session to convey and express our pride and gratitude for the overwhelming and unanimous support, the consensus or rather the unanimity expressed by the Member States of WIPO during the last meetings of the Assemblies in September 2002 for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term. On behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of the Sudan and on my own behalf, I would like to thank all those countries of the world that showed a strong and rather unique support for Dr. Idris. We are extremely proud of that support.

“The unanimous support expressed by regional group Coordinators and individual Member States reflects clearly sincere recognition of the dynamic leadership qualities of Dr. Idris, his impressive performance and outstanding contribution to modernize WIPO and make it fit the requirements of the new millennium. His vision: “intellectual property a tool for economic growth and development” has benefited all countries to generate wealth.

“Such an outstanding leadership and guidance enabled WIPO to assert itself as one of the leading UN specialized agencies in the era of the knowledge-based economy. Dr. Idris exerted sustained, laudable and decisive efforts with a view to promoting the concept of intellectual property in an increasingly globalized economy. It is against this background that all countries, developed, developing and least developed countries are benefiting from his vision.

“The determination of Dr. Idris in developing the international patents system, promoting intellectual property throughout the world, his pursuit of the vital global agenda for intellectual property, his future vision and strategic orientation prepared the organization to meet the challenges of the future. WIPO became an organization that steps boldly into the future.

“The vision of Dr. Idris contributed effectively and decisively to the creation of a modern, forward-looking and innovative intellectual property framework. His laudable efforts and various initiatives enabled WIPO to streamline its policies and activities, expand the scope of its activities into many other areas such as the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center for domain names, traditional knowledge and biotechnology, WIPO patent agenda and WIPO deliverables for LDCs. WIPO achieved considerable success and expansion in the various areas of its activities as well as in improving and updating the intellectual property system. WIPO successfully advanced from its traditional mission of protection and promotion of intellectual property to the development of intellectual property systems so that they become instruments of social and economic development of all peoples in a balanced manner. Empowerment of the people and organizations became central. The gradual and successful integration of developing countries in the intellectual property systems are undoubtedly the fruit of

the new momentum Dr. Idris has been able to instill in WIPO's work. WIPO is helping countries achieve sustainable development through the protection, the promotion and full use of the intellectual property system. In doing this, WIPO benefited from Dr. Idris' innovative and integrated vision of the future crucial role of intellectual property in the third millennium as a major source of economic, technological, scientific and cultural development.

"Dr. Idris is a son of Africa but his loyalty is remarkably global and his moral standards and his fidelity are extremely beyond any reproach. Dr. Idris has proved to be the loyal and dynamic son of the international community with a remarkable commitment for the growth and development of all countries.

"History remembers great builders of physical infrastructure and monuments. History remembers those who build on great ideas. Dr. Idris will always be remembered and recognized as a leader and statesman, a builder of physical infrastructure for the even expansion of invention and innovation and for articulating his vision of intellectual property, a powerful tool for growth and economic development, wealth creation and the eradication of poverty.

"Allow me in the end, Mr. Chairman and honorable delegates to express once again and reiterate the true feelings of all the countrymen of Dr. Idris. All the people of the Republic of the Sudan are proud of him and they are more proud to witness this clear consensus among Member States of WIPO for his re-appointment for a second term."

50. The Delegation of the African Union made the following statement:

"Thank you very much for according us this opportunity to add our voice and express, on behalf of the African Union, the delight and pride we feel for the distinguished son of Africa Dr. Kamil Idris. The current Chairman of the African Group, His Excellency Ambassador Nene of the Republic of South Africa, has eloquently elucidated the vision and achievements of Dr. Idris since his assumption to the WIPO leadership. We agree and support the statement.

"During the last Summit of the Organization of African Unity, held in Durban South Africa, in 2002, the Heads of State and Government unanimously endorsed the candidature of Kamil Idris for a second mandate and as the sole candidate for Africa. This was in recognition of his positive contribution and achievements during his first term of office. It is for this reason that we in the African Union, feel that the merits re-election to the post of Director General of WIPO to enable him continue the commendable work program embarked upon. We appreciate the expression by other regions of adopting Dr. Idris as the only candidate during the last September/October Assemblies.

"The Kamil Idris Vision in WIPO has reaped dividends and benefited the entire WIPO membership. Its ripple effects are felt even among countries that have not yet joined the World Intellectual Property Organization. The increased membership applications in recent years attest to the importance of the Organization and its availability to member States and civil society. When Intellectual Property is proffered as a tool for development, as under the leadership of Dr. Idris, we think that sustainable development in Africa - least developed countries stands a chance. This clear vision has

translated into an organization with activities that are better known and visible. The future of real growth in Africa and development may well lie in the management of intellectual property, in the fields of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore, which were little known. It was Dr. Kamil Idris who worked tirelessly and decided to mainstream them in all other activities.

“In Africa, where dissemination of information is many times difficult due to the gaping digital divide and poor technological advances, intellectual property is playing a vital role in bringing knowledge to the people. The launch of the IMPACT project for PCT information management and the implementation of WIPO net equipping intellectual property offices in developing countries with internet connectivity, automation projects for global networking, distance learning and training thus contributing to human resource capacity development. The WIPO Academy remains an outstanding institution for capacity building and we wish to commend the high standards and quality of work that the Academy has placed at the disposal of Member States.

“We are grateful for the continued co-operation and help to the Organization of African Unity and now to the African Union with its organs and programs. We are confident that the relationship between the African Union and WIPO will continue to grow.

“The Director General of WIPO has a talent for making complicated things simple and factoring intellectual property rights into everyday living. Through his strategic decision making capability, he has delivered a program unique to each region yet dealing with the same activities in intellectual property. The programs of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, LDC’s Unit, Nationally Focused Action Plan which is a customized assistance to countries and regional levels is part of such strategic planning.

“Alitany of Dr. Idris’ achievements and its global benefits have been well articulated by many delegations. We are gratified and proud to be party to this day, as there is no loftier work that can surpass humanity than that which uses the natural endowment of God’s gifts – IMAGINATION.”

51. The Delegation of the League of Arab States made the following statement:

“It is an honor for me to speak in the name of the League of Arab States (LAS).

“We avail ourselves of this opportunity to express once more support for the renewal of the mandate of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. Such a support does not emanate from protocol necessities nor is it intended to support a candidate from our region; it is a support that comes in recognition of the leadership of Doctor Kamil Idris throughout the changing process undergone by WIPO to bring it to the top-level international organizations with a universal dimension, and in recognition of the immense advantages offered to all regions and continents of the world. I can briefly mention a number of indicators showing the position reached by WIPO today:

“a. Practical and effective relevance of WIPO in the changes occurring in international law, particularly in economy and trade;

“b. Recognition by the international community of the close link between development and intellectual property legislation;

“c. Adaptation to, follow up of and application of communication technology in the field of intellectual property, for building public awareness of intellectual property, as well as the exchange and dissemination of information among Governments, concerned institutions and the civil society. As a result, the activities of WIPO may be described as horizontal as well as vertical, leading to the ‘ globalization of intellectual property ’. Such globalization can benefit the developed and developing countries, the rich and the poor, those who have made significant advances in technology and those who are endeavoring to acquire such technology.

“These are the main pivots, the veracity and significance of which are recognized by all. Speaking in the name of the League of Arab States, I would like to express full support for Dr. Kamil Idris to remain at the leadership of this Organization, thus maintaining its illuminating role and contributing to the establishment of a world where security, development, justice and the sovereignty of law prevail.”

Date for Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Union to Appoint the Director General

52. The Chair recalled that the General Assembly and the Coordination Committee, at their September 2002 session, had authorized the Coordination Committee to fix the date for an extraordinary session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Union to appoint the Director General and approved a derogation from the Procedures for the Nomination and Appointment of Directors General of WIPO for this purpose.

53. In the ensuing discussion, there was consensus to fix the dates of May 26 and 27, 2003, for an extraordinary session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Union to appoint the Director General.

54. The Chair of the Coordination Committee announced that Dr. Kamil Idris was unanimously nominated by the Coordination Committee for re-appointment to the post of Director General of WIPO for the period December 1, 2003, to November 30, 2009. The Coordination Committee also fixed the dates of May 26 and 27, 2003, for the extraordinary session of the General Assembly and the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Union to appoint the Director General for the period from December 1, 2003, to November 30, 2009.

55. This report was unanimously adopted by the Coordination Committee on March 25, 2003.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

I. MEMBRES/MEMBERS

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SiphoGeorgeNENE,Ambassador,PermanentRepresentative,PermanentMission,Geneva

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ARABIESAOUDITE/SAUDIARABIA

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CHINE/CHINA

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RÉPUBLIQUE-UNIE DE TANZANIE/UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

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ISLAMICCONFERENCE

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SophieAsimenyeKALINDE(Ms.), Ambassador, Permanent Observer, Permanent Delegation, Geneva

IV. BUREAUX/OFFICERS

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Secrétaire/Secretary: EdwardKWAKWA(OMPI/WIPO)

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PROPRIÉTÉINTELLECTUELLE(OMPI)/INTERNATIONALBUREAUOF
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FrancisGURRY, sous -directeur général, conseiller juridique/Assistant Director General,
Legal Counsel

EdwardKWAKWA, conseiller juridique adjoint/Deputy Legal Counsel

FlorenceROJAL(Ms.), juriste au Bureau du conseiller juridique/Legal Officer, Office of the
Legal Counsel

[Findel'annexe et du document/
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