

## **ISRAEL'S REPLY TO WIPO'S QUESTIONNAIRE**

**31 March 2009**

First and foremost, Israel wishes to emphasize that, as always, it supports WIPO's planned activities and programs.

Israel recognizes the fact that WIPO would inevitably be affected by the global financial and economic crisis, and will probably have to constantly adjust itself as required. In spite of the financial difficulties, Israel remains committed to cooperate with WIPO as much as possible, to execute its programs and activities.

Israel fully supports WIPO's goal to establish itself as the central global institution in the field of intellectual property. We see the importance of having one leading organization in the field and we are sure that all member states would benefit from it.

Israel is certain that the new leadership of WIPO will re-establish WIPO's status and will improve its performance in its traditional tasks as well as in its more recent ones. In particular, it will enable WIPO to reinforce its efforts to achieve harmonization within IP national legislations, mainly in the field of patent law.

Israeli welcomes the financial measures that have and will be taken by WIPO in order to minimize the impact of the financial and economic crisis. Nevertheless Israel believes that WIPO's Development Agenda should remain. It appears however that any related expenditure must be carefully looked into, so to balance the costs against the generated benefits.