

**WIPO INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES,
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE**

13TH SESSION: OCTOBER 13 TO 17, 2008

**FACILITIES FOR ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING
INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

PRACTICAL SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS & LOCAL COMMUNITIES

The WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the 'IGC') has encouraged the active participation in its work of representatives of indigenous and local communities. In line with this general support, additional arrangements have been set up to assist accredited organizations that represent indigenous and local communities. This leaflet provides a brief summary of these additional services. A separate leaflet provides general practical information for all delegates, including NGO representatives.

MEETING SUPPORT

In cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples' Center for Documentation, Research and Information (DoCip), practical support is provided for accredited indigenous and local communities:

Secretarial and documentary support: In room 1.24, on the mezzanine level of the main building, near the meeting rooms, a fully equipped office with multilingual secretarial support is available to help representatives of accredited indigenous and local communities in preparing and translating statements and other documentation. A computer with printer and internet connection is available, and wireless connectivity is available for those with wifi-ready laptop computers.

Caucusing and meeting support: Room 13.1 on the 13th floor of the WIPO building has been reserved for the meetings of the indigenous caucuses which have taken place at recent IGC sessions. With the assistance of DoCip, and funded by WIPO, interpretation support will be available for these caucus meetings.

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WIPO VOLUNTARY FUND

To enhance and support the participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the IGC, a Voluntary Contribution Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities has been set up. Only already accredited observers, which are representatives of local or indigenous communities, may apply for this funding. For more information on the Voluntary Fund, please visit this our website: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/ngoparticipation/voluntary_fund/index.html

A booklet has been published providing details of the Voluntary Fund and how to apply for support.

INDIGENOUS PANEL

The IGC has set aside the first morning of each IGC session for a panel, chaired by an Indigenous representative. Indigenous and local community representatives share their communities' concerns and experiences relation to traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources. The panel accordingly takes place on Monday, October 13, 2008, from around 10am to 1pm in Room A at the WIPO main building.

Document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/13/INF/5 gives more details.

OTHER FACILITIES

Please see the general delegate information leaflet for information on other facilities for accredited NGO observers such as:

- the general NGO briefing provided by the WIPO Secretariat at 1pm on Monday 13 October
- further rooms for group meetings and consultations
- web posting of NGO position papers and studies
- Internet café and communications facilities