Blockchain - Standardization for Intellectual Property Data

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Proposal to create a Task to prepare recommendations for Blockchain

The CWS created a new task with description to read:

a) Explore the possibility of using blockchain technology in the processes of providing IP rights protection, processing information about IP objects and their use;

b) Collect information about IPO developments in use of and experience with blockchain, assess current Industry Standards on blockchain and consider merit and applicability to IPOs;
c) Develop a model to standardize approaches of using blockchain technology in the IP field, including guiding principles, common practice and use of terminology as a framework supporting collaboration, joint projects and proofs of concept; and

d) Prepare a proposal for a new WIPO standard applying blockchain technology in the processes of providing IP rights protection, processing information about IP objects and their use”.

- The CWS approved the establishment of a new Task Force named “Blockchain Task Force”,

- Delegations of Australia and the Russian Federation as co-leaders of the new Task Force.
Task Force member states

AU - Australia
CA - Canada
CL - Chile
CN - China
DE - Germany
EM - EUIPO
ES - Spain
GB - United Kingdom
IB - WIPO
JP - Japan
RU - Russia
SE - Sweden
UA - Eurasian Patent Office
US - United States
Task Force Roadmap

1. Establish Task Force
2. Blockchain Workshop and TF Meeting
3. “Blockathon”
4. CWS/9
5. CWS/8
6. Blockchain Workshop and TF Meeting
2018/2019 Workplan

November 2018
- Commence Task Force administrative duties

December 2018
- Dispatch IPO invite circular
- Build Task Force membership
- Invite IPOs to join Task Force

January - March 2019
- Task Force members survey
- Task Force member business case collection
- Work plan and road map delivery
- 1st Round Discussion

April 2019
- Host workshop and Task Force meeting
- Objective of the Standard
- Discuss draft Standard ToC
- Consider proposed joint project business cases
- Blockchain workshop and Task Force meeting

May - June 2019
- Finalise IPO Q’aire
- Finalise draft Standard ToC
- 2nd Round Discussions

July 2019
- Task Force report
- Present 2019/2020 workplan
- Present Task Force Scope and objectives (Task No. 59) as well as Standard Scope and objectives
- Hold 2nd Face to Face Task Force meeting
- Present Task Force joint project options to CWS

CWS/7
Task Force Members Survey

1. What areas do you consider blockchain to be a high value opportunity or potential threat in the field of IP
2. Blockchain related activities within your organization
3. Blockchain related activities within your jurisdiction
4. Objectives of the blockchain standard considering potential scope items listed below:
   – Scope Statement:
   – Terminology and Definitions
   – Technologies
   – Data
   – Participation
5. Suggestions on joint project across IP Offices
What areas do you consider blockchain to be a high value opportunity or potential threat in the field of IP?
What Blockchain related activities are occurring within your organisation?

Note: Data includes Proof of concept, partnerships and prospective partnerships
Activities by IP right type
Suggestions on joint projects across IP Offices?
Standards scope statement and potential objectives

This Standard aims to guide the Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) and other Organizations that need to manage, store, process, exchange and disseminate IP data using Blockchain. It is intended that by using this Standard, the development of Blockchain can be simplified and accelerated in a harmonized manner and interoperability among IP Offices.

Draft Standard Objectives

1. For Intellectual Property Offices and other organisations to manage, store, process, exchange and disseminate IP data using Blockchain in a standardised reusable manner.
2. To ensure that Industry best practice is followed and leveraged wherever applicable
3. To establish a common technology framework to support IPO blockchain advancement and concurrent interoperability.
4. A common practice and use of terminology to support collaboration and blockchain initiatives
Candidates for Standardisation

- Standards Australia - NFTA proposal
- ISO/TC 307, Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies
- The priority order for standards development activities relating to blockchain:
  - Terminology
  - Privacy
  - Governance
  - Interoperability
  - Security
  - Risk
Candidates for Standardisation (2)

Terminology and Definitions

- Vocabulary dictionary
- Glossary of terms

Technologies and Interoperability

- Platform
- Security
- Types e.g. Smart contracts
- Coding language

Participation

- Governance
- Consensus
- Identity management
- Public, Private, Permissioned

Standard provides reference models and business cases for application

Data

- On chain or off the chain
- OPI or non-OPI
- WIPO Standards e.g. ST.3
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