

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Tenth Session

Geneva, November 21 to 25, 2022

AGENDA ITEM 18. REPORT BY THE 3D TASK FORCE (TASK NO. 61)

Statements delivered by the 3D Task Force Leader

1. At its ninth session in 2021, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) noted the progress of the 3D Task Force on Task No. 61, which is led by the Russian Federation. The CWS considered proposal for a new WIPO Standard to cope with new demands from IP Offices (IPOs), IP users, and other stakeholders. The standard provides recommendations for IPOs and others to manage, store, process, exchange or disseminate IP data containing 3D digital objects. It aims to help establish common 3D formats to facilitate filings at multiple IPOs, reduce processing time, facilitate data exchange between IPOs, harmonize filing requirements, and create guidelines for publishing IP data with digital 3D objects.

2. A number of clarifying edits were suggested by Delegations to the text of Standard ST.91 during the 9th session of the CWS. These include indicating that “at least one of” the recommended file formats should be used; striking several unused file formats from the list of definitions; clarifying that 3D to 2D conversions in paragraph 15 of the proposed standard are only recommended for IPOs that require 2D images; that IPOs not be required to convert 3D objects to 2D images under paragraph 25 of the proposed standard (Annex to document CWS/9/6); and that paper publications under paragraph 26 of the proposed standard may publish a link to an online 3D object instead of a 2D representation of the object. Another proposal was to add “CDX” to the definition for “MOL” format. The Secretariat recommended adding WIPO Standards ST.67 and ST.88 to the list of references in the proposed standard.

3. After discussions among interested delegations, the language of paragraphs 15 and 25 was slightly adjusted. The Task Force Leader presented an updated draft incorporating the suggestions. CWS adopted new WIPO Standard ST.91 with the name “Recommendations on digital three-dimensional (3D) models and 3D images”. WIPO Standard ST.91 is publicly and freely available on the WIPO website.

4. The CWS approved the revision of Task No. 61, which now reads: “Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.91, including methods of search for 3D models and 3D images.”

5. Following the adoption of the WIPO Standard ST. 91 at the ninth session of the CWS, the task No. 91 was accordingly modified. Since the adopted ST.91 is relatively new, therefore there is no need for its urgent revision and update, except the agreed editorial remarks from the Member States provided at the 9th session of CWS.

6. As a follow-up of the discussions held at the ninth session of the CWS, the 3D Task Force Leader is working on a proposal for a potential editorial update to reflect the comments from the Member States. The updated version will be initially discussed with the Task Force Members.

7. Moreover, the Task Force plans to develop and discuss search and comparison methods for 3D visual representations in line with the updated Task. The initial idea of the action plan in this

regard has been discussed during the Webex meeting in 2021. The Task Force Leader noted that Task Force Members need more time to work on 3D search methods, given the ongoing investigations and studies, as well as limited experience many Task Force Members currently have with the subject matter. Following the discussion within the Task Force it is planned to present an agreed proposal for respective update at later sessions of the CWS.