

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Thirteenth Session **Geneva, November 10 to 14, 2025**

SUMMARY BY THE CHAIR

Document prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Thirteenth Session

1. The thirteenth session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) was opened by Mr. Ken-Ichiro Natsume, Assistant Director General, Infrastructure and Platforms Sector of WIPO, who welcomed the participants. The two Vice-Chairs, Mr. Ali Alharbi (Saudi Arabia) and Mr. Alexandre Ciano (Brazil) presided over the session as the acting Chair. Mr. Young-woo Yun, Head, Standards Section, acted as Secretary.

Agenda Item 2: Election of the Chair and two Vice-Chairs

2. The CWS unanimously elected, for two consecutive sessions, fourteenth and fifteenth sessions, Mr. Sudeep Acharya (Canada) as Chair and Mr. Alexandre Ciano (Brazil) and Mr. Ali Alharbi (Saudi Arabia) as the Vice-Chairs, whose terms will begin with the closure of the thirteenth session.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of the agenda

3. The CWS unanimously adopted the agenda as proposed in document CWS/13/1 Prov. 2.
4. The Delegation of the Russian Federation, as the group leader of CACEEC, made a general statement. The Delegation of Germany also gave feedback regarding the structure of the agenda and improvements that could be made.

Agenda Item 4: Progress reports by CWS Tasks Forces

5. The CWS noted that the Secretariat has updated the list of membership of the CWS Task Forces, which is available on WIPO website at:
<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/cws/taskforce/members> .

Agenda Item 4(a): Report on Task No. 41 by the XML4IP Task Force

6. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/2.
7. The CWS noted the content of the document. The CWS also noted the release of WIPO ST.96 version 9.0 on April 1, 2025, challenges and the work plan of the XML4IP Task Force. Several Delegations support the centralized repository pilot and the CWS encouraged the intellectual property (IP) offices to participate in this pilot.

Agenda Item 4(b): Report on Task No. 44 by the Sequence Listings Task Force

8. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/3.
9. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the proposed revision of WIPO ST.26 being presented for consideration and approval at agenda item 5(b). They noted the work plan and challenges experienced by the Sequence Listings Task Force.

Agenda Item 4(c): Report on Task No. 47 by the Legal Status Task Force

10. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/4.
11. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the work plan and the challenges of the Legal Status Task Force. The CWS also approved the proposed revision to the description of Task No. 47 which reads:
- “Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.87 and ST.61; prepare supporting materials to assist the use of those Standards in the IP community; and support the XML4IP and API Task Forces to improve existing XML components and to develop JSON components respectively for legal statuses, where necessary.”
12. The Delegation of the Russian Federation indicated its intention to provide updated mapping tables.

Agenda Item 4(d): Report on Task No. 50 by the Part 7 Task Force

13. Discussions were based on documents CWS/13/5, CWS/13/5-INF and the presentation by the International Bureau.
14. The CWS noted the content of the documents and approved the Part 7 Task Force work plan, in particular conducting two surveys, namely “Concerning Citation practices in intellectual property offices” and “Examples and kinds of patent documents”.
15. The CWS noted the challenges faced by the Secretariat in updating Parts 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation (the WIPO Handbook), as outlined in document CWS/13/5-INF. The CWS requested its Members and Observers to verify the information concerning the current and former application and priority number practices of their IP offices, which are published in Annexes I and II of document CWS/13/5-INF respectively. The CWS requested its Members and Observers to submit any necessary corrections or updates to the Secretariat by November 21, 2025, by email to cws.mail@wipo.int. The CWS also requested that the Secretariat collect and publish the updated information in Parts 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook after this date.

16. In terms of the mode of updating Part 7, the CWS approved Option 3, which is a hybrid approach consisting of conducting a survey periodically while also allowing ad-hoc submissions by IP offices when and if updates to Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook are required. The CWS also approved the template to be used for the revision and requested the Secretariat to undertake the update of Part 7.3. The CWS also agreed to apply the same approach for updating other similar information published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook such as Part 7.1, Part 7.2 and Part 7.6. The CWS requested that the Secretariat prepare templates to collect information for these additional referenced Parts of the WIPO Handbook.

17. The CWS approved the revised survey questionnaire on citation practices, after some additional editorial changes were proposed and agreed, requested the Secretariat to conduct the survey in 2026 and subsequently update Part 7.9 of the WIPO Handbook based on the survey results.

Agenda Item 4(e): Report on Task No. 52 by the Public Access to Patent Information Task Force

18. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/6.

19. The CWS noted the content of the document. It approved discontinuing Task No. 52 and the Public Access to Patent Information Task Force.

Agenda Item 4(f): Report on Task No. 55 by the Name Standardization Task Force

20. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/7 and document CWS/13/7 Rev.

21. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the work plan and the challenges of the Name Standardization Task Force. The CWS also noted the progress made in preparing the final draft for WIPO Standard ST.93.

22. The CWS noted the analysis of the *Survey on the Implementation and Potential Revision of WIPO Standard ST.20* and the proposal by the Name Standardization Task Force to not proceed with the revision of the Standard at this stage. However, the Task Force requested that this item be retained on the list of future action items.

Agenda Item 4(g): Report on Task No. 56 and No. 64 by the API Task Force

23. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/8.

24. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular the work plan and the challenges of the API Task Force.

25. The CWS noted the availability of the Application Programming Interface (API) Catalog for IP and encouraged its Members and Observers to participate.

26. The CWS encouraged its Members and Observers to test the upgraded version of the XSD2JSON Transformation Tool, once available.

Agenda Item 4(h): Report on Task No. 58 by the ICT Strategy Task Force

27. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/9.

28. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the work plan and the challenges of the information and communication technology (ICT) Strategy Task Force as well as the results of the implementation survey.

Agenda Item 4(i): Report on Task No. 59 by the Blockchain Task Force

29. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/10.

30. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the work plan of the Blockchain Task Force and the challenges regarding the varying levels of experience with this technology at Offices.

31. The CWS encouraged IP offices currently implementing or planning to implement the blockchain technology to join the Blockchain Task Force to share their experiences.

Agenda Item 4(j): Report on Task No. 61 by the 3D Task Force

32. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/11.

33. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the challenges and the work plan of the 3D Task Force as well as the results of the analysis of the survey on the legal framework and publication of 3D models and 3D images for IP rights, which was conducted within the 3D Task Force.

34. The CWS considered the working draft for a new Annex to WIPO Standard ST.91 which provides recommendations for developing and implementing 3D model search systems, and is reproduced in the Annex to the working document.

Agenda Item 4(k): Report on Task No. 62, No. 63 and No. 65 by the Digital Transformation Task Force

35. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/12.

36. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the Digital Transformation Task Force work plan and the challenges experienced by this Task Force.

37. The CWS reviewed and commented on the working draft of the DOCX2XML converter functional specification document, as reproduced in the Annex to the document. The Delegations of Brazil, India, Singapore and Spain support the request that the International Bureau consider producing a DOCX2XML converter, implementing the drafted functional specification document. They also requested that Offices whose applicants filed in DOCX format share their experiences in how they managed this transition from PDF filings with Task Force members.

Agenda Item 4(l): Report on Task No. 66 by the Authority File Task Force

38. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/13.

39. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular, the work plan and challenges of the Authority File Task Force. The CWS also noted the new version of WIPO Standard ST.37 that will be presented for consideration and approval.

40. The CWS encouraged interested IP offices, in particular the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) International Searching Authorities (ISAs) to join the Authority File Task Force.

Agenda Item 4(m): Report on Task No. No. 67 by the IP Data Exchange Task Force

41. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/14.

42. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular the work plan and challenges of the IP Data Exchange Task Force after including amendments to the work plan, at the request of the Delegation of China, specifically resolving outstanding questions raised by the project brief on IP Data Exchange Framework and Platform and then proceed to improve the draft standard in the next phase considering the outcomes of the survey.

43. The CWS noted the analysis of survey results on practices and challenges on IP data exchange conducted within the IP Data Exchange Task Force.

44. The CWS approved preparing and conducting a new survey in 2026 to gather IP offices' practices and suggestions to facilitate IP data exchange.

Agenda Item 5: Development of WIPO Standards

Agenda Item 5(a): Proposal for a new WIPO Standard supporting the data cleaning of names

45. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/15 and CWS/13/15 Rev.

46. The CWS did not adopt draft WIPO Standard ST.93 because consensus was not reached.

Agenda Item 5(b): Proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.26

47. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/16 Rev.

48. The CWS approved the proposed revision to WIPO Standard ST.26 as version 2.0 and approved the date of entry into force as July 1, 2027. The CWS also agreed on the transitioning option proposed by the Sequence Listings Task Force in the working document. The CWS also agreed to present version 2.0 of WIPO ST.26 to the WIPO General Assembly in 2026.

Agenda Item 5(c): Proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.37

49. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/17 Rev. 2.

50. The CWS approved the proposal for revision to WIPO Standard ST.37, as version 3.0, which is effective from the date of publication.

Agenda Item 5(d): Proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.60

51. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/18 and CWS/13/18 Rev.

52. In response to the proposed revisions, the Delegation of China requested a clarification be made regarding the use of INID codes (861), (862) and (866). The CWS approved the revision to WIPO Standard ST.60, after a newly proposed footnote was added to the draft, as proposed in the document CWS/13/18 Rev.

Agenda Item 5(e): Proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.90

53. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/19.

54. The CWS considered and approved the proposal for revision to WIPO Standard ST.90, as version 2.0.

Agenda Item 5(f): Proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.92

55. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/20 Rev.

56. The CWS noted the content of the document in particular the results of the survey on WIPO Standard ST.92 Implementation Plan.

57. The CWS approved the proposal for revision to WIPO Standard ST.92, after including minor amendments proposed by the Representative of the European Union to paragraphs 11 and 25, as version 2.0.

58. The CWS noted the analysis of the WIPO Standard ST.92 implementation plan and approved the sunset date as June 30, 2028.

59. The CWS approved the proposed new description of Task No. 65 which reads:

“Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.92 and support IP offices for their implementation of the Standard before July 1, 2028.”

Agenda Item 6: Implementation of WIPO Standards by Offices

Agenda Item 6(a): WIPO Standard ST.26

60. The CWS noted presentations by the Delegations of India, Kenya and the Russian Federation on WIPO Standard ST.26 implementation and challenges experienced in processing sequence listings compliant with this format.

Agenda Item 6(b): WIPO Standard ST.37

61. The CWS noted presentations by the International Bureau and Delegation of Brazil, the Representative of the Eurasian Patent Organization, and the Delegations of Ireland, Poland and the Russian Federation who shared their implementation experiences and challenges experienced in the production of their patent authority files compliant with this format.

Agenda Item 6(c): WIPO Standard ST.96

62. The CWS noted presentations by the Delegation of Australia, the Representative of Eurasian Patent Organization and the Delegation of the Russian Federation who shared their implementation experiences and challenges experienced in the production of WIPO ST.96-compliant XML instances.

Agenda Item 7: Technical assistance and collaboration on global information systems

Agenda Item 7(a): Report by the International Bureau on the provision of technical advice and assistance for capacity building to industrial property offices in connection with the mandate of the CWS

63. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/21.

64. The CWS noted the content of the document, including the activities taken place in 2024 by the International Bureau related to providing technical advice and assistance for capacity building to IP offices regarding dissemination of IP standards information.

65. The CWS noted that this document would serve as the basis of the relevant report to be presented to the WIPO General Assembly to be held in 2026, as requested at its 40th session held in October 2011 (see paragraph 190 of document WO/GA/40/19).

Agenda Item 7(b): WIPO Standard ST.26 and WIPO Sequence Suite

66. The CWS noted the presentation by the International Bureau on the development activities for the WIPO Sequence Suite conducted by the International Bureau since the last session of the CWS, as well as the plans for future development. The CWS noted the release of version 3.1.0 of the WIPO Sequence Validator as well as the plans to release version 3.1.0 of WIPO Sequence to the WIPO Sequence Insider group.

Agenda Item 7(c): WIPO Standard ST.37 and Authority File Portal

67. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/22 Corr.

68. The CWS noted the presentation by the International Bureau on the updates made to the WIPO Authority File Portal since the last session of the CWS. Several delegations raised questions regarding the particular document kinds that should be provided within an authority file and sought advice on how to split authority files, as they are increasing in size.

69. The CWS encouraged its Members to provide the International Bureau with any WIPO ST.37-compliant authority files generated by Offices, and to send to the International Bureau any suggestions regarding improvements to the Authority File Portal.

Agenda Item 7(d): WIPO Standard ST.90 and API Catalog for Intellectual Property

70. The CWS noted the presentation by the International Bureau on the improvements made to the API Catalog for IP by the International Bureau since the last session of the CWS and future plans.

71. The CWS noted presentation by the International Bureau on its experience on developing WIPO APIs and implementing WIPO ST.90. The Delegations of Brazil and Germany also orally shared their experience on developing APIs and WIPO ST.90 implementation.

Agenda Item 7(e): WIPO Standard ST.92 and WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS)

72. The CWS noted the update and implementation plan provided by the International Bureau on WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS) in terms of migrating participating Offices to provide and receive priority documents through WIPO DAS, by the agreed sunset date, June 30, 2028. The CWS also noted that WIPO DAS would be ready to support the transition to WIPO Standard ST.92 implementation from July 1, 2026.

73. The CWS also noted presentations by Delegations of the European Union and Republic of Korea, who shared their plan on implementing WIPO Standard ST.92.

Agenda Item 8: Policies and activities relating to intellectual property (IP) data, information systems and information services

Agenda Item 8(a): Results of the first session of WIPO ICT Leadership Dialogue (WILD)

74. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/23.

75. The CWS noted the results of the first session of the WIPO ICT Leadership Dialogue and that the second session of the WILD would be held from April 14 to 16, 2026. Several delegations indicated their support for this new global forum and are looking forward to the next session. Several delegations suggested topics for discussion at the second session of WILD. The Delegation of China requested that its statement be recorded in the Meeting Report.

Agenda Item 8(b): Proposal for revision of WIPO Handbook Part 6.1 Recommended Content for Intellectual Property Web Sites

76. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/24.

77. The CWS approved the proposed update to the WIPO Handbook Part 6.1, after inclusion of amendments in paragraphs 1, 4, and 8.

Agenda Item 8(c): Update of WIPO Handbook Part 4 PCT Minimum Documentation

78. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/25 Rev.

79. The CWS verified the contents of Part 4.1 of the WIPO Handbook and then approved both the new digital format and the proposed editorial note, as reproduced in the Annex to the document. Several delegations noted that there were corrections to be made, and the Secretariat requested that any necessary corrections be provided to them by email at: cws.mail@wipo.int by November 30, 2025.

Agenda Item 8(d): Implementation of Recommendations on information and communication technologies (ICT) for Offices

80. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/26.

81. The CWS noted the content of the document in particular the summary of the survey on “10 ICT Recommendations for IP offices” responses presented by ICT Strategy Task Force.

82. The CWS agreed that the ICT Strategy Task Force will continue its work under Task No. 58 for one more year and to evaluate the need for Task No. 58 and the Task Force at the fourteenth session of the CWS next year.

83. The CWS approved the proposals of the Task Force for further actions to facilitate the implementation of the 10 ICT Recommendations by IP offices during Task Force meetings or at a workshop event, with an initial focus on Recommendation 10 and an option of exploring other high priority or high interest Recommendations. The CWS also approved the proposal to further evaluate ways to maintain the relevance of the Recommendations, both while the ICT Strategy Task Force remains active and once it is inactive as well as the proposals to explore the concept of key performance indicators (KPIs), mechanisms for receiving feedback on the Recommendations, and any existing proposals throughout the year.

Agenda Item 8(e): Intellectual property data exchange framework and platform

84. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/27.

85. The CWS reviewed and commented on the working draft of the “Recommendations for the Exchange of Intellectual Property Data and its Use” presented by the IP Data Exchange Task Force. Several delegations provided comments in relation to the data redistribution policies, data privacy concerns and collecting feedback from IP industry. This feedback will be considered to further improve the draft standard.

86. The CWS noted amendments to the Task Force work plan, provided at the request of the Delegation of China, specifically to resolve outstanding questions raised by the project brief on IP Data Exchange Framework and Platform before proceeding to improve the draft standard in the next phase considering the outcomes of the survey.

Agenda Item 8(f): Digitization of intellectual property documentation

87. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/28.

88. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular the challenges experienced by Offices during the production of machine-readable IP documents.

89. The CWS approved the proposal for conducting a survey via joint Circular inviting the members of CWS and PCT Contracting Parties.

90. The CWS noted that the International Bureau intends to organize a meeting to discuss the preparation of the digitization guidelines in the first half of 2026 and encouraged its Members to participate in both the above-mentioned survey and the meeting. The outcomes of the meeting will be presented at the fourteenth session of the CWS.

91. The CWS noted that the International Bureau is planning to organize a workshop on WIPO Standards ST.36 and ST.96 in the second quarter of 2026 and encouraged its Members and Observers to participate in the workshop.

Agenda Item 8(g): Global identifier for natural persons and legal entities

92. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/29.

93. The CWS noted the content of the document, in particular the decision of the International Bureau to focus on the work of the IP right transfer, which has been considered as the most interesting use case of the Global Identifier. In this regard, the International Bureau has initiated a project to collect and analyze business requirements for transferring IP rights across different jurisdictions (or global assignment), and for developing IT solutions that support the global assignment. The necessity of the Global Identifier in the global assignment processes will be examined in further detail during the project.

Agenda Item 8(h): Report on 2024 Annual Technical Reports (ATRs)

94. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/30.

95. The CWS noted the report provided by the International Bureau, in particular the statistics on the implementation of WIPO Standards, collected through ATRs, and that the International Bureau is working on improving the means of collecting and publishing the ATRs.

96. The CWS considered the listed WIPO Standards and options in the ATR templates and requested the Secretariat to update the template if needed.

Agenda Item 9: CWS Work Program

97. Discussions were based on document CWS/13/31 Rev. 2.

98. The CWS approved that the Secretariat incorporate the agreements reached at this session into the CWS Work Program which is provided as the Annex to the document.

99. The CWS encouraged its Members and Observers to participate in the CWS Task Forces and requested the Secretariat to issue a CWS circular inviting IP offices to nominate their subject matter experts to the CWS Task Forces.

100. The CWS considered and supported the analysis of Task complexity and activity level, and the proposal for Task prioritization, as presented by the Secretariat in Annex II to the document.

101. The Delegation of Germany at the beginning of the session, indicated that the structure of the CWS agenda could be improved in order to ensure that documents relating to a particular Task Force or Task could be discussed together. The Delegations of Australia, Brazil, Denmark, India, Kenya, Norway, Singapore, United Kingdom and the United States of America as well as the Representative of the European Patent Office supported the grouping of agenda items by topic, as was done previously for example at the ninth session of the CWS. The International Bureau agreed to consider this suggestion at the next session.

MEETINGS OF THE CWS TASK FORCES

102. During this session, the following CWS Task Forces held meetings: Digital Transformation, Sequence Listings and IP Data Exchange Task Forces, where any interested participants and Members of the relevant Task Force were invited. The CWS noted the results of Task Force meetings.

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