

## **Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

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

### **REPORT ON TASK NO. 47 BY THE LEGAL STATUS TASK FORCE**

*Document prepared by the Legal Status Task Force Leader*

#### **SUMMARY**

1. The Legal Status Task Force is responsible for the development and revision of the WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87. Since the last session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS), the Task Force has discussed possible revisions to those Standards, identified several areas for potential improvement such as the addition of new events, the merging or removal of existing events, the reclassification of events and refinements to event descriptions or titles. The Task Force has also worked on collecting information on the implementation of those Standards by intellectual property (IP) offices and the mapping tables which are published in [Part 7.13 of the WIPO Handbook](#) on Intellectual Property Information and Documentation.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. At its third session in 2013, the CWS created Task No. 47, the description of which reads as follows:

*“Prepare a proposal to establish a new WIPO standard for the exchange of patent legal status data by industrial property offices. Once this task is completed, the corresponding proposal should be extended to trademarks and industrial designs.”*

The CWS also established the Legal Status Task Force and designated the International Bureau as the Task Force Leader. (See paragraphs 50 to 54 of document CWS/3/14.)

3. At its fifth session in 2017, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.27, “Recommendation for the exchange of patent legal status data” (see paragraphs 50 and 51 of document CWS/5/22).

4. At its sixth session in 2018, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.87, “Recommendation for the exchange of industrial design legal status data” (see paragraphs 102 to 105 of document CWS/6/34).

5. At its eighth session in 2020, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.61, “Recommendation for the exchange of trademark legal status data” (see paragraphs 26 to 28 of document CWS/8/24). At that same session, the CWS revised Task No. 47, whose updated description reads as follows:

*“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 IP community; analyze the potential of merging the three standards ST.27, ST.87, and ST.61; and support the XML4IP Task Force to develop XML components for legal status event data.”*

(See paragraphs 114 to 117 of document CWS/8/24.)

6. At its ninth session in 2021, the CWS approved a revision to WIPO ST.27 to add “event indicators”. The CWS also requested the Legal Status Task Force to study how to adapt the event indicators and “procedure indicators” for WIPO ST.61 and WIPO ST.87 (see paragraphs 45 to 53 of document CWS/9/25).

7. At its tenth session in 2022, the CWS noted the suggestion by the Legal Status Task Force to discontinue the merger work and approved the resulting revision of Task No. 47, the updated description of which now reads as follows:

*“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 Task Force to develop XML components for legal status event data.”*

(See paragraphs 75 and 76 of document CWS/10/22.)

8. At its eleventh session in 2023, the CWS approved the proposed revision to Annex II of WIPO Standard ST.61. The CWS was invited to provide specific feedback on whether the balance of the number of detailed and key events is appropriate (see paragraphs 122 and 146 of document CWS/11/28). At that same session, the Legal Status Task Force encouraged IP offices to provide their mapping table or update their mapping tables which are published in [Part 7.13 of the WIPO Handbook](#).

9. At its twelfth session in 2024, the CWS approved the proposed revision of WIPO standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87, which were related to legal status events. The revision to WIPO ST.87 expanded the supplementary data that is captured in Annex II to the Standard. The other revisions were intended to ensure that the three Standards remain aligned.

## PROGRESS REPORT ON TASK NO. 47

### Objectives

10. Under the framework of Task No. 47, as revised at the tenth session of the CWS, the Legal Status Task Force has identified the following objectives:

- To improve WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.87 and ST.61 as necessary;
- To encourage and support IP offices in the implementation of WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.87, and ST.61;
- To collaborate with IP offices in maintaining up-to-date mapping tables of legal status events aligned with the events defined in Standards ST.27, ST.61, and ST.87;

- To work jointly with the XML4IP Task Force in the development of XML schemas designed to capture trademark and industrial design legal status data;
- To monitor IP offices needs for the addition of event indicators within WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.61, and ST.87; and
- To consider outstanding proposals within the Task Force concerning event and category revisions in WIPO Standard ST.27.

#### Relevant actions for 2025

11. To achieve these objectives, the Legal Status Task Force has planned the following activities for 2025:

- Continue discussions on revising WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.61, and ST.87 as necessary;
- Provide training on legal status standards upon request from IP offices;
- Facilitate the sharing of implementation experiences and intentions via the Task Force's wiki; and
- Encourage IP offices to regularly update their mapping tables for Standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87.

#### Potential challenges or dependencies

12. The Task Force has identified several challenges and dependencies that may affect its ability to carry out its work:

- The active participation and contributions of IP offices in improving legal status-related WIPO Standards;
- Prioritization by IP offices of the implementation of legal status-related WIPO Standards; and
- The level of engagement of IP information users, including official observers of the CWS, in the implementation and revision processes of these standards. Such feedback is considered essential by IP offices when determining the priority for implementing the standards.

#### **PROGRESS EVALUATION**

13. Since the last session of the CWS, the Legal Status Task Force convened an online meeting on May 27, 2025 to discuss the implementation of and potential revisions to WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87. With regard to the potential revisions to WIPO Standard ST.27, the Task Force discussed the addition of new events, the consolidation or removal of existing events, the reclassification of certain events, and refinements to event descriptions and titles. However, the Task Force noted that no formal proposals have been made to date.

14. The Task Force agreed on the update of WIPO Handbook Parts 7.13.1, 7.13.2 and 7.13.3, with the objective of incorporating an indication of the most recent update provided by each IP office. The Task Force noted that the International Bureau will coordinate with the IP offices whose legal status mappings are published in the mapping tables to confirm the dates of their latest updates and to ensure their timely publication.

#### Proposal for Revision to Task No. 47

15. Taking into account that legal status schemas for industrial designs and trademarks have been developed and incorporated into WIPO Standard ST.96, version 8.0, which was published on November 1, 2024, the Legal Status Task Force proposes to revise the description of Task No. 47 as follows:

*“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.”*

#### WORK PLAN

16. The Legal Status Task Force will continue to work together with the XML4IP Task Force, if necessary, to develop or improve XML components for legal status events based on WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87. Legal status components have already been incorporated into Standard ST.96, and work may begin on the associated JSON-based standard, ST.97, in cooperation with the API Task Force.

17. The Legal Status Task Force encourages IP offices to provide their mapping tables or update existing mapping tables published in [Part 7.13 of the WIPO Handbook](#). The Task Force will continue to work on other outstanding actions mentioned in paragraph 10.

18. In parallel with its ongoing efforts to collect implementation experiences and best practices, the Task Force notes that the International Bureau has adopted a more flexible approach to the provision of support. This includes the possibility of arranging bilateral meetings or group sessions to facilitate the implementation of, or to conduct mapping exercises related to, WIPO standards ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87. IP offices requiring such assistance are invited to contact the International Bureau.

19. *The CWS is invited to:*

*(a) note the content of this document, in particular the work plan as referred to in paragraphs 16 to 18 above; and*

*(b) approve the proposed revision to the description of Task No. 47 as referred to in paragraph 15 above.*

[End of document]