

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Fourteenth Session
Geneva, November 23 to 27, 2026

REPORT ON TASK NO. 61 BY THE 3D TASK FORCE

Document prepared by the 3D Task Force

SUMMARY

1. The 3D Task Force, which is responsible for Task No. 61, reports on the activities it has undertaken since the last session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS). The 3D Task Force has prepared a final draft of Annex II, to WIPO Standard ST.91, entitled "3D Model Search", and proposes a corresponding revision to the Standard for consideration by the CWS through document CWS/14/22.

BACKGROUND

2. At its sixth session, the CWS noted a proposal from the Russian Federation to promote broader acceptance of 3D formats by Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs). As a result, Task No. 61 was established with the following description:

"Prepare a proposal for recommendations on three-dimensional (3D) models and images."

3. At the same session, the CWS approved the creation of the 3D Task Force to perform this Task, with the Russian Federation designated as the Task Force Leader (see paragraphs 141 to 142 of document CWS/6/34).

4. At its ninth session, the CWS adopted new WIPO Standard ST.91, entitled "Recommendations on Digital Three-Dimensional (3D) Models and 3D Images" (see paragraph 31 of document CWS/9/25). The Standard, as adopted, provided recommendations concerning file formats and handling procedures for the receipt, processing, and publication of intellectual property (IP) applications incorporating 3D models or 3D images within patent, trademark, and industrial design documentation.

5. At the same session, the CWS approved the modified description of Task No. 61, which reads:

"Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.91, including methods of search for 3D models and 3D images."

6. At its eleventh session, the CWS approved the revision to WIPO Standard ST.91, including the addition of a new Annex on "Criteria for selecting 3D formats".

7. At its thirteenth session, the CWS considered a working draft Annex to WIPO Standard ST.91, prepared by the 3D Task Force, which sets out recommendations for 3D-to-3D search systems. The CWS noted that the Task Force would continue refining the draft based on the comments received. (See paragraphs 68 and 71 of document CWS/13/33.)

PROGRESS ON TASK NO. 61

Objective

8. In addition to working on the necessary revisions to WIPO Standard ST.91, the 3D Task Force aims to facilitate sharing of experience and knowledge among IP offices regarding the processing, search and publication of 3D models and images, as well as the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91.

Progress evaluation

9. Since the last session of the CWS, the 3D Task Force, in collaboration with the International Bureau, continued its work on draft Annex II to the WIPO Standard ST.91, which sets out recommendations for 3D-to-3D search systems. The 3D Task Force is presenting a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.91, including the addition of Annex II, for consideration and possible approval by the CWS. The proposed revision of WIPO Standard ST.91 is set out in document CWS/14/22.

10. The 3D Task Force held its virtual meeting on June 2, 2026, where the following topics were discussed:

- Improvement of the working draft Annex II for 3D-to-3D search;
- Further exchange of IPO practices on 3D model and images acceptance and processing; and
- Continued discussion on legal framework and publication of 3D models and 3D images in relation to IP rights.

11. In addition to discussions at the said meeting, the 3D Task Force members and the International Bureau continued discussions on these matters mentioned above via Wiki, including further refinement of the draft Annex II, entitled "3D Model Search", to the Standard. This work resulted in the finalization of the draft, and agreement to present it to the fourteenth session of the CWS for consideration and, if appropriate, approval.

12. The 3D Task Force Leader further prepared a background paper summarizing the results of the 2025 Survey on the Legal Framework and Publication of 3D Models and 3D Images in relation to IP rights, conducted among Task Force members in 2025, and posted this paper on the relevant Wiki space.

13. Subject to the approval of the proposed revision of WIPO Standard ST.91, the 3D Task Force will continue its work to ensuring the further improvement of the Standard, while also supporting its implementation by the IP offices. In line with this objective, the Task Force proposed a revision to the description of Task No. 61, as set out in document CWS/14/22.

Challenges

14. The Task Force leader notes the following challenges experienced in undertaking this work:

- Lack of practice on search and comparison methods for 3D objects;
- Lack of implementation practice within IPOs; and
- Legal challenges for the implementation of 3D models and 3D images within IPOs.

WORK PLAN

15. The Task Force informs the CWS of its work plan for 2026-2027 as follows:

Item	Description	Time frame
CWS/14	Presenting 3D Task Force report at CWS/14	November 2026
Ensure necessary revisions of WIPO Standard ST.91	Continue discussion on further necessary revisions of WIPO Standard ST.91	2026-2027
Share experience on 3D model and image implementation and support the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91	Continue sharing of experience and knowledge among IP offices regarding processing, search and publication of 3D models and images, as well as the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91	2026-2027
Discuss the legal framework and publication of 3D models and 3D images	Continue the discussion regarding the legal framework and publication of 3D models and 3D images	2026-2027
Organize Task Force meetings	Organize Task Force virtual meetings to discuss the mentioned matters	2027
Prepare CWS/15	Draft working documents for the next CWS session	2027
CWS/15	Present working documents for the next CWS session	2027

16. The CWS is invited to:

(a) note the content of this document; and

(b) note the challenges and work plan of the 3D Task Force as referred to in paragraph 15 above.

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