

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

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IMPLEMENTATION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.92 BY OFFICES

Document prepared by the International Bureau

SUMMARY

1. This document outlines the International Bureau's proposed approach and work plan for supporting intellectual property (IP) offices in implementing WIPO Standard ST.92, version 2.0, by the sunset date of June 30, 2028. It describes the transition of WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS) participating Offices to exchange priority document compliant with WIPO Standard ST.92 Priority Document Data Package (PDDP) format, assesses their readiness, and identifies the consultations, technical assistance, testing and monitoring required to complete the transition. This document also includes a proposal for follow-up actions for Offices that exchange priority documents through bilateral or other arrangements outside WIPO DAS.

BACKGROUND

2. At its twelfth session, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) adopted WIPO Standard ST.92, entitled *Recommendations on the Data Package Format for the Electronic Exchange of Priority Documents*. As the first version of the Standard provided recommendations on patent priority documents only, the CWS further agreed, at the same session, that discussions should continue with a view to revising the Standard to incorporate recommendations concerning electronic exchange of trademark and industrial design priority documents (see paragraphs 82 and 83 of document CWS/12/29).

3. At its thirteenth session, the CWS approved the revision of WIPO Standard ST.92, version 2.0, which covers exchanging trademark and industrial design priority documents in ST.92 format as well as patent priority documents. The CWS also agreed on the sunset date, June 30, 2028 for the transition to electronically exchanging priority documents from the current practices (see paragraphs 137 and 138 of document CWS/13/33).

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF WIPO STANDARD ST.92 BY OFFICES

4. The International Bureau notes that IP offices currently exchange priority documents electronically through two main channels:

- *The WIPO DAS*, an electronic system that enables the secure exchange of priority documents and related documents between participating IP offices. The Service allows applicants and IP offices to meet the certification requirements of the Paris Convention in an electronic environment. The Service covers documents related to patents, industrial designs and trademarks, and at the time of preparing this document, has 53 participating IP offices.
- *Direct priority document exchange via bilateral arrangements*, which vary in terms of the custom tools, channels, or methods used between Offices.

5. The International Bureau has been supporting IP offices in transitioning to the exchange of priority documents in compliance with WIPO Standard ST.92, version 2.0, by the sunset date of June 30, 2028. The International Bureau has taken into account each Office's WIPO DAS connection method, technical capacity and level of readiness. The International Bureau has also considered a centrally managed upgrade of the WIPO DAS Office Portal and targeted assistance for Offices migrating to Representational State Transfer Application Programming Interface (REST API) version 2.0, including consultations, technical guidance, testing and progress monitoring. Furthermore, the International Bureau has been promoting the exchange of implementation experience through the CWS Digital Transformation Task Force and, where feasible, coordinating assistance for Offices that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS.

Priority document exchange through WIPO DAS

6. Four connection protocols are currently used by WIPO DAS participating Offices:

- Trilateral Data Access (TDA);
- Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP);
- REST API version 1.0; and
- the WIPO DAS Office Portal.

Out of the 53 participating Offices, 39 use the WIPO DAS Office Portal, while four use REST API version 1.0, five use TDA and five use SFTP.

7. All connection protocols currently used by WIPO DAS support the exchange of priority documents only in PDF format. To enable priority document exchange in compliance with the WIPO Standard ST.92 PDDP, the International Bureau has developed WIPO DAS REST API, version 2.0. By the end of the transition period, WIPO DAS will support priority document exchange only through the WIPO DAS Office Portal or REST API version 2.0. Accordingly, TDA, SFTP and REST API version 1.0 will be phased out, and Offices using those protocols will be required to migrate to one of the two supported connection methods.

8. The current distribution of connection methods is a key factor in the WIPO DAS transition strategy. As the International Bureau operates the WIPO DAS Office Portal centrally, upgrading it to support ST.92-compliant exchanges through REST API version 2.0 will enable all 39 participating Offices to transition simultaneously from the legacy PDF format to the PDDP format. The WIPO DAS Office Portal upgrade, therefore, represents the most significant milestone in the transition plan. Offices using the WIPO DAS Office Portal must nevertheless ensure that priority documents exchanged outside WIPO DAS comply with WIPO Standard ST.92 and that their systems can receive and process documents in the ST.92 PDDP format.

9. The remaining 14 Offices, which currently use TDA, SFTP or REST API version 1.0, must migrate individually to REST API version 2.0 in coordination with the International Bureau. Although these Offices represent a comparatively small proportion of the WIPO DAS community, their migration requires greater technical and coordination support from the International Bureau because each Office needs individual tailored implementation planning, testing and assistance. In addition, three Offices currently using the WIPO DAS Office Portal have initiated projects to automate their exchanges with WIPO DAS, which is independent from the Portal. Their migration to REST API version 2.0 is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2027.

10. The status of each Office's migration to REST API version 2.0 is recorded on the following Wiki page: [Transition to ST.92 for offices directly connected to WIPO DAS](#).

11. The International Bureau has tested and fully validated the infrastructure required for WIPO Standard ST.92-compliant exchanges through REST API version 2.0, together with the measures designed to maintain compatibility during the transition period. The next phase focuses on validating the exchange of WIPO Standard ST.92 packages with Offices that are not using WIPO DAS Office Portal, beginning with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the European Patent Office (EPO) in the fourth quarter of 2026.

Proposed approach for implementing WIPO Standard ST.92 through WIPO DAS

12. The International Bureau proposes a two-wave approach to support the transition of WIPO DAS participating Offices from the legacy PDF format to the WIPO Standard ST.92 PDDP format by June 30, 2028. The approach reflects the different connection methods, technical circumstances and levels of readiness of participating Offices, while concentrating centrally managed changes in an early implementation milestone.

- Wave 1 is scheduled for the first quarter of 2027 and combines the migration of the small number of individually connected Offices that have confirmed their readiness to use REST API version 2.0 with the simultaneous upgrade of the WIPO DAS Office Portal. As the WIPO DAS Office Portal upgrade applies centrally to 39 Offices, a total of 41 Offices is expected to achieve compliance during Wave 1.
- Wave 2 runs from the second quarter of 2027 through June 2028 and accommodates the remaining individually connected Offices as they complete development and testing activities.

13. This approach places the largest share of the transition in a single early milestone while allowing a fifteen-month period for the smaller number of technically more complex migrations. It enables the International Bureau to direct individualized technical and coordination support to Offices, while achieving compliance for most participating Offices through one centrally managed upgrade.

14. The International Bureau is consulting WIPO DAS participating Offices through bilateral exchanges and the CWS Digital Transformation Task Force to communicate the transition plan, assess readiness and confirm each Office's preferred wave. It follows up directly with Offices that require an individual upgrade to the REST API version 2.0 and have not yet indicated a wave preference.

Analysis of WIPO DAS participating Office readiness

15. Responses from WIPO DAS participating Offices indicate varying levels of readiness, with direct implications for the overall transition timeline. A small number of technically well-resourced Offices reported that they are actively planning to test REST API version 2.0 and are confirmed or likely to participate in Wave 1, subject to possible delays of one or two quarters.

16. Some Offices have defined their internal requirements but remain dependent on external service providers for estimates and implementation planning. Although participation in Wave 1 remains possible, it has not yet been confirmed. This dependency creates scheduling risks beyond the Offices' direct control, as delays by service providers could move otherwise ready Offices to Wave 2. Other Offices using TDA or SFTP have indicated their preference for Wave 2 and expect to complete migration during 2027 or, in at least one case, after January 2028.

17. Several Offices reported that, because of competing institutional priorities or limited resources, the transition has been included in their internal plans, but implementation has not yet begun. These Offices are, therefore, expected to participate in Wave 2 unless their readiness improves sufficiently to allow earlier migration.

18. Offices that manually exchange priority documents through the WIPO DAS Office Portal reported no separate implementation activities for WIPO Standard ST.92 and intend to continue using the Portal. Their compliance risk is comparatively low because the centrally managed Wave 1 upgrade is expected to ensure that priority documents exchanged through WIPO DAS comply with the Standard.

Plan for Offices not yet committed to a Wave

19. The International Bureau invites WIPO DAS participating Offices that have not yet confirmed their implementation plans to contact the International Bureau at: das.support@wipo.int at the earliest opportunity. Following the completion of Wave 1, the International Bureau will contact any remaining Offices and invite them to confirm, within a specified period, their preferred approach and timetable for transitioning to WIPO Standard ST.92.

20. For Offices intending to rely on the WIPO DAS Office Portal without undertaking independent system development, no individual technical implementation will be required beyond confirmation of their intention. Communication with those Offices will, therefore, focus on readiness for any changes resulting from the centrally managed Wave 1 upgrade.

Work plan for implementation of WIPO Standard ST.92 by the WIPO DAS participating Offices

21. The International Bureau's proposes the work plan for the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.92 by Offices connected to WIPO DAS as follows:

Item	Description	Time frame
Wave preference confirmation	Direct follow-up with Offices to confirm wave preference	Q4 2026
Office consultations	Offer structured consultations to Offices that have not yet confirmed on the plan to transition to WIPO DAS V2.0	Q4 2026
Wave 1 preparation	Confirm readiness of individual candidate participating Offices; prepare Office Portal upgrade affecting 39 Offices	Q4 2026 - Q1 2027
Wave 1 transition	Complete transition of confirmed individual Offices and all Office Portal Offices to WIPO Standard ST.92	Q1 2027
Individual follow-up	Direct engagement with the 14 Offices requiring individual API upgrades and not yet confirmed for Wave 1	Ongoing from Q4 2026

Wave 2 transition	Upgrade remaining individually participating Offices as they become ready	Q2 2027 - June 2028
Narrow-margin Office monitoring	Dedicated monitoring of Offices whose migration completion leaves limited pre-sunset testing time	Ongoing through June 2028
Status recordkeeping	Maintain records of, and report on, office-by-office transition status	Ongoing
CWS/15	International Bureau progress report at CWS/15	2027

Priority document exchange outside WIPO DAS

22. The analysis and work plan set out above relate to Offices that exchange priority documents through WIPO DAS. The International Bureau notes, however, that certain Offices also exchange priority documents under bilateral arrangements or through other mechanisms outside WIPO DAS. The sunset date of June 30, 2028, applies to all electronic exchanges of patent, trademark and industrial design priority documents and is not limited to exchanges conducted through WIPO DAS. Accordingly, such arrangements must also transition to PDDP format compliant with WIPO Standard ST.92 by that date. For non-DAS Offices, the International Bureau offers a technical consultation to clarify the technical and resource implications of the available connection methods. The purpose of the consultation will be to support a timely decision and, where development work is required, facilitate implementation within the period available for Wave 2.

23. The International Bureau is assessing the number, scope and technical characteristics of priority document exchanges conducted outside WIPO DAS. To reduce the risk of fragmented or inconsistent implementation of WIPO Standard ST.92 by the sunset date, the International Bureau proposes that Offices engaged in bilateral or other non-WIPO DAS exchange arrangements take the following actions:

- (a) inform the International Bureau at: cws.mail@wipo.int, by the end of March 2027, of the existence and technical characteristics of any such arrangements;
- (b) assess, by the end of June 2027, the compatibility of those arrangements with WIPO Standard ST.92, version 2.0, and identify any development required to achieve compliance. The International Bureau remains available to support Offices in carrying out this assessment;
- (c) consider and, where feasible, migrate bilateral exchanges to WIPO DAS to benefit from centrally coordinated support and reduce the technical burden of independent implementation; and
- (d) contact the International Bureau before June 2027 if technical assistance is required to implement WIPO Standard ST.92, so that the feasibility, scope and modalities of such assistance can be assessed, including possible support through tools such as the WIPO Industrial Property Administration System (IPAS).

24. *The CWS is invited to:*

- (a) *note the contents of the present document;*

(b) *note the proposed WIPO DAS transition approach, readiness analysis and implementation work plan, as described in paragraph 6 to 21 above;*

(c) *request its Members that participate in WIPO DAS to confirm to the International Bureau the migration wave in which they intend to transition to WIPO Standard ST.92;*

(d) *note the International Bureau's proposed approach to supporting Offices that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS, as described in paragraphs 22 and 23 above;*

(e) *request its Members that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS to inform the International Bureau, by March 2027, of the existence and technical characteristics of such arrangements, as indicated in paragraph 23(a) above;*

(f) *request its Members that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS to assess, by June 2027, the compatibility of those arrangements with WIPO Standard ST.92, version 2.0, and identify any development required to achieve compliance. The International Bureau remains available to support Offices in carrying out this assessment, as indicated in paragraph 23(b) above;*

(g) *request its Members that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS to consider, where feasible, migrating bilateral exchanges to WIPO DAS in order to benefit from centrally coordinated support and reduce the technical burden of independent implementation, as indicated in paragraph 23(c) above; and*

(h) request its Members that exchange priority documents outside WIPO DAS to contact the International Bureau by June 2027 if assistance is required to implement WIPO Standard ST.92, so that the feasibility, scope and modalities of such assistance can be assessed, including possible support through tools such as IPAS, as indicated in paragraph 23(d) above.

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