ATR Improvement Proposals

CWS/9 Item 14(b)
Background

- Several IPOs remarked that ATRs duplicate information already available in their annual report.
- CWS requested that the Secretariat study ATRs and prepare recommendations for improvement.
- ATR content and process have been revised several times before to address declining participation.
Methodology

- ATRs were analyzed from two perspectives: ATR producers and ATR users
  - Producers are IPOs submitting data
  - Users are anyone who accesses ATR data collected by WIPO

- The Secretariat consulted two data sets:
  - ATR submissions, going back to 1998
  - Web statistics for WIPO website, 2017 to 2021
ATR submissions by IPOs

Number of IPOs

ATR Year
ATR page views in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ATR Year</th>
<th>Page Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Page visit totals in 2020

- ST 3: 30,899
- Standards landing page: 10,425
- ST 96: 10,806
- ST 26: 5,860
- FR ST 9 app 3 archived 2008: 707
- ES circular 2001: 837
- All Yearly ATRs: 180
ATR views in first 2 years of publication

- **2018 ATRs**: 105 (first year), 265 (second year)
- **2017 ATRs**: 185 (first year), 176 (second year)
- **2016 ATRs**: 249 (first year), 195 (second year)
ATR single page visits in 2020

Individual ATR pages (label on every 4th item)
Observations

- The data shows that ATR submissions have declined continually since 1998, despite repeated attempts to improve the process. Improvements have not worked.

- ATRs receive very low number of visitors. All ATRs combined receive fewer visits in 2020 than outdated documents published 10-20 years ago.

- Most individual ATR pages receive fewer than 10 visits per year, even when first published. 22 of 31 (70%) of the most recent ATRs received less than 5 visits in all of 2020.
Recommendations

1. Discontinue ATRs
   • Based on very low numbers of users and continually declining participation, the Secretariat recommends discontinuing ATR collection and publication
   • ATR collection can be phased out. Over the next two years (2022 - 2023) no new ATRs will be collected. Existing ATRs will remain online and usage will be monitored. After 2023, ATRs will be archived like other historical information.

2. Simplify ATR collection (alternate)
   • Ask IPOs to provide links to information on their website where information can be found.
   • The Secretariat will not review or edit the collected information, simply publish what is submitted
   • Offices that wish can still submit full text instead of links
Questions?

Thank you for your attention!