API Task Force activities and WIPO Standards

WIPO API Day 2023
June 13, 2023

Co-leaders of the API Task Force:
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Purpose of the API Task Force

• Forum for discussions, knowledge sharing, and initiate tasks/studies related to Intellectual Property API development.

• Eliminate the guess work, and result in common look, feel, behavior and shared practices for IP related APIs.

• Taskforce members are IP Web Service developers and related IP data technical experts elected by their Taskforce member offices in response to CWS Circular CWS 127-03 “Establishment of the API Task Force”.

• Discussions are held via periodically scheduled online discussions as well as potentially in-person discussions.

• Material and discussions are recorded and made available via the TF wiki hosted by WIPO-IB.
API Task Force Brief Background

- Oct 2016 – Began as a discussions and proposals, and then a Task within XML4IP task force (TF) to “prepare recommendations for web services on IP information and documentation”.

- Nov 2019 – CWS/7 - API TF and WIKI were established. Input to the API standard was solicited and refined via several online discussions which followed with API experts from various participating WIPO member states/organizations.

- Taskforce meetings began to be held as needed, and continue to be held – now on a Quarterly basis, plus API Days are held annually when agreed upon by the TF.

- Feb 2021 – CWS/8 – API Standard ST.90 was adopted.

- Nov 2022 – CWS/10 – JSON Standard ST.97 was adopted.
API related WIPO Standards in use

• **ST.90 - API Standard**
  
  Defined and maintained by the API TF.

• **ST.96 - XML Standard**
  
  Defined and maintained by XML4IP TF. References by ST.90 and ST.97.

• **ST.97 - JSON Standard**
  
  Defined and maintained by API TF. Referenced by ST.90. Uses ST.96 as base vocabulary and structure.
API Task Force mandate by CWS

Task No. 56

- Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.90;
- support the International Bureau in developing a unified catalog of APIs that are made available by Offices;
- and support the International Bureau in promoting and implementing WIPO Standard ST.90.

Task No. 64

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.97.
API Task Force achievements

- Definition **Web API** standard (ST.90)
- Definition **JSON** standard (ST.97)
- Coordination of two **WIPO API Days** virtual events

- **WIPO API Day 2020** | Program | Summary of discussions
- **WIPO API Day 2023** | Program

**Timeline**

- **TF creation at CWS/7**
- **Publication ST.90 v1.0**
- **Approval at CWS/10 ST.97 v1.0 + ST.90 v1.1**

**Key Dates**

- 2019:
  - WIPO API Day 2020 (June 17th)
- 2020:
  - TF creation at CWS/7
  - Publication ST.90 v1.0
- 2021:
- 2022:
- 2023:
  - WIPO API Days 2023 (June 12th and 13th)
API Task Force important events in 2023

- Follow-up meetings are scheduled in a quarterly basis with TF members
- Publication of ST.90 v1.1 (editorial changes)
- Publication of ST.97 v1.0
- Coordination for the WIPO API Day 2023 event
- Draft requirements for the Unified API catalogue (IB)
Challenges ahead

- Raise awareness of APIs and WIPO API standards
- WIPO ST.90 and ST.97 Improvement Register
- Development of Unified API Catalogue
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