

# WIPO



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## ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

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PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW  
JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2002

*Report by the Secretariat*

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. This Program Implementation Overview (hereinafter referred to as the "Overview") gives a summary account of activities implemented by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) during the first six months of 2002, within the framework of the 2002-2003 biennium.
2. The Overview provides to Member States a general synopsis of the Organization and its overall direction, and offers insights on the implementation of major activities during the period under review. It contains a description of the main activities carried out for each main program of the Program and Budget 2002-2003 (document WO/PBC/4/2). However, the Overview should not be seen as an updating of the "Program Performance Report for 2000-2001" (document A/37/3 of July 24, 2002), since it is not intended to provide a detailed report on program performance.
3. The Overview concentrates on the implementation of the programs, focusing on their progress or status, while the performance reports, prepared in the context of WIPO's results-based programming and budgeting, assess the achievement of program objectives on the basis of expected results and performance indicators and focus on results achieved.

4. This Overview also provides Member States with particulars on the status of the information technology projects such as WIPONET and PCT IMPACT, as well as the renovation of the former World Meteorological Organization (WMO) building and the new construction project. It is recalled that those projects, which were originally funded through the Special Reserve Fund, had been integrated into the regular 2002 -2003 biennium Program and Budget, in line with the recommendation of the Member States.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 01**

### **Constituent Organs of the Member States**

5. WIPO's membership increased to 179 Member States during the period under review, with the accession of Djibouti and the Islamic Republic of Iran to the WIPO Convention.

6. Meetings of the Organs of the Member States during the first half of 2002 included two meetings of the WIPO General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform. The final report of the Working Group recommended for consideration to the WIPO Assemblies in September 2002, an amendment of the WIPO-administered Treaties in order to: (i) abolish the WIPO Conference; (ii) formalize the unitary contributions system and changes in contribution classes; and, (iii) change the periodicity of ordinary sessions of the Assemblies of Member States from once every two years to once annually (please also see under Main Program 03).

## **MAIN PROGRAM 02**

### **Direction and Executive Management**

7. Under Main Program 02, the Director General exercises executive decision-making with respect to overall direction, management and policy execution of all WIPO's programs and activities.

8. All executive management functions and resources were centralized in a strategically oriented manner aiming at providing integrated solutions. This process was further enriched by the advice of the Policy Advisory Commission (PAC) and the Industry Advisory Commission (IAC), facilitated by cooperation among all program managers, and supported by the internal oversight activities.

### **Sub-program 02.1 – Office of the Director General**

9. During the reporting period the Director General met regularly with his senior management team with a view to providing a transparent and integrated executive decision-making environment, under which information flow and programs scheduling are managed with timely follow-up on decision taken.

10. The Director General ensured that high-level relations between representatives of Member States and the Secretariat were maintained on a regular basis, both in Geneva and elsewhere. During the first six months of 2001, the Director General undertook eight foreign missions abroad and received 115 visits from representatives of Member States, including

Heads of State or Government, Ministers, Ambassadors, and heads of international and national organizations. The meetings led to an improved understanding and knowledge of the policy expectations of the Member States, and contributed substantially to the effective achievement of consensual progress on international intellectual property issues.

11. Cooperation with governments facilitated the implementation of WIPO-administered treaties and enhanced both transparency and accountability. The Director General also oversaw the development of closer collaboration with the United Nations system, the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as other international and regional organizations.

12. Support to the Director General was provided in the form of preparation of correspondence with Member States, international and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals, as well as speeches, briefing material and statements. Substantive support and follow-up was also provided to senior management meetings. The smooth functioning of protocol aspects, liaison, travel and representation were ensured at all times.

## **Sub-program 2.2 – Special Counsel and Advisory Commissions**

13. The Special Counsel continued providing support to the Director General, in maintaining existing relationships, cultivating new contacts and managing the day-to-day administration of inter-agency affairs, including the United Nations Departments and Specialized Agencies, the World Trade Organization and UPOV.

14. Some 2,200 official documents were received, analyzed, sorted and redistributed as appropriate to departments within WIPO. Approximately 230 items of signed correspondence received from the United Nations, its agencies and other organizations were either replied to directly or forwarded to the appropriate department for reply. Over 60 replies, contributions to reports and responses to external requests for information were prepared, and over a hundred internal requests for advice and information on inter-agency activities were dealt with, helping to ensure a broader understanding among WIPO program managers of the place of WIPO within the United Nations system.

15. WIPO continued to improve its direct communications and relations with the United Nations and other international fora, by participating in, *inter alia*, the United Nations Interagency Committee on Women and Gender Equality (IACWGE), the United Nations Information and Communications Technologies Task Force (UNICT-TF), preparatory meetings for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the World Economic Forum (WEF), the Monterrey International Conference on Financing for Development, preparatory meetings for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), the Commission on Human Rights, the 90<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Conference and the General Assembly of the World Health Organization. Close contact was maintained with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), several meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) were attended and a task force was convened to investigate the possibility of closer cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). WIPO was present and actively participated in the spring meeting of the Chief Executives' Board (CEB) of the United Nations (formerly Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC)). WIPO also took part in meetings of the High Level Committee on Programmes and High Level

Committee on Management of the CEB, and appointed a representative to the UN Experts Group in the context of achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

16. WIPO gave its full cooperation to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) throughout the reporting period.

17. Cooperation between WIPO and WTO continued on all levels of the two Secretariats during the first half of 2002. Particularly, in April, a joint WIPO-WTO regional workshop on Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement was organized for the African least-developed countries (LDCs) and Haiti in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. This workshop was held pursuant to the WIPO-WTO Joint Initiative for the LDCs, which was launched by the Directors General of the two Organizations on June 14, 2001. Subsequent to the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, WIPO followed closely the new negotiation process as well as the regular proceedings in various WTO bodies, including two sessions of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), two meetings of the General Council, two general and three special sessions of the TRIPS Council, three regular and special sessions of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), and two meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE). As in the previous biennium, WIPO continued to provide resource persons for WTO training courses and seminars.

18. Cooperation with UPOV continued actively, as increased demands by Member States on issues of plant variety protection, biotechnology and traditional knowledge, etc., necessitated further coordination and cooperation with respect to implementation of the relevant programs of the two Organizations.

19. A meeting of the Task Force of the Policy Advisory Commission (PAC) took place in Beijing on May 22, 2002, attended by seven members of the PAC and the Director General, to prepare for the next plenary meeting of the PAC. The meeting followed upon prior discussions on the development of understanding of traditional knowledge and related matters in the intellectual property context, by taking up the question of management of cultural assets. Also discussed in this meeting were matters pertaining to intellectual property and public health. As in previous discussions, the need for more effective enforcement of intellectual property laws worldwide was also raised and analyzed.

20. The Industry Advisory Commission (IAC) was not convened during the period under review. However, individual meetings and consultations were held with members of IAC, in preparation for the plenary meeting of the IAC to be held in the second half of 2002.

### **Sub-program 2.3 – Internal Oversight**

21. In the framework of this sub-program, the Program Performance Report for the 2000-2001 biennium (A/37/3) was compiled based on the contributions of WIPO program managers.

22. Compared with previous performance reports, a greater emphasis was placed on the assessment of the achievement of objectives, as spelled out in the 2000-2001 Program and Budget, at the level of each sub-program. Furthermore, the report provided for the first time an overview of major achievements in key strategic areas of the Organization, such as: demystification of IP, modernization of the intellectual property infrastructure, the digital agenda, new challenges and the improved functioning of the Secretariat. Within the

framework of the WIPO Evaluation Strategy, a programme evaluation was conducted and was being finalized at the time of preparing this report. In the area of internal auditing, in addition to the preparation and undertaking of internal audits, a report was prepared and submitted to the Director General covering audits undertaken during 2001. Assistance to the audit process of the new premises construction was also provided, upon request. In this connection, two reports were developed early in 2002, as submission to the external auditors, with documentary and statistical information on the current needs for additional owned office space and parking, as well as for an increased capacity for conferences, and projecting those needs forward through the year 2007.

23. With regard to inter-agency coordination in the area of internal oversight, WIPO was represented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference of International Investigators, held in Washington in March 2002; the 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Representatives of Internal Audit Services (RIAS), held in New York in June 2002, and the Annual Meeting of the UN Inter-agency Working Group on Evaluation, held in Vienna in June 2002.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 03**

### **Legal Counsel**

24. The Office of the Legal Counsel includes activities pertaining to both legal and constitutional affairs as well as contracts and other matters of a general legal nature.

25. The WIPO General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform, established in September 1999, held its Fifth Session in February 2002. That meeting resulted in a consensus on recommending the abolition of the Executive Committees of the Paris and Berne Unions, subject to finding a satisfactory means of determining the composition of the Coordination Committee. The Working Group agreed to meet in one final session in June 2002 (Sixth Session) with a view towards completing its tasks and finalizing its recommendations for submission to the WIPO Assemblies in September 2002. The final report of the Working Group recommended that the WIPO administered treaties be amended in order to: (i) abolish the WIPO Conference; (ii) formalize the unitary contributions system and changes in contribution classes; and, (iii) change the periodicity of ordinary sessions of the Assemblies of Member States from once every two years to once annually (see document A/37/5).

26. From January to June, 28 instruments of ratification or accession were received and processed, and 30 notifications of treaty actions were issued in respect of WIPO-administered treaties. These treaty actions were systematically published on the Internet, in press releases and in the monthly review.

27. Upon the entry into force of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT), on March 6 and May 20, 2002, respectively, the necessary formalities were carried out for the registration of these treaties with the UN Secretariat in New York.

28. At the meeting of the Legal Advisers of the United Nations System, which was held in Geneva in March 2002, particular attention was given to the sensitive issue of the

unauthorized registration of Internet domain names incorporating the names or acronyms of international organizations, including WIPO.

29. Interest in the newly created treaties mailing list ( *treaties.mail*) continued to grow, with a sharp increase in the number of subscribers from 1000 to 2787.

30. Continuing legal advice was provided to several units within WIPO in respect of:  
(i) external requests for permission to reproduce WIPO documents in various publications;  
(ii) requests for certified copies of WIPO-administered treaties; (iii) requests for model instruments of accession and ratification of several WIPO treaties; (iv) preparation of notes on the advantages of accession to certain WIPO treaties; (v) continuous information on the status of ratifications or accession to the treaties; and (vi) resolution of disputes relating to the interpretation and application of the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules.

31. Furthermore, legal advice and support was provided with respect to contracts and other matters of general legal nature. These matters related to major information technology projects, including IMPACT, WIPO NET and AIMS, as well as major construction projects of the Organization. Over 80 contracts were reviewed and about 160 legal opinions were provided, on a variety of matters of total value in excess of 47 million Swiss francs. Also, the work of the Contracts Review Committee was supported.

32. Furthermore, other activities included the finalization of a report to the Member States, submitted through the Group Coordinators, concerning legal liabilities with respect to the new construction project; the preparation of a draft internal policy on the treatment of intellectual property in arrangements with external parties; advice concerning specific matters relating to the interpretation of construction contracts; advice concerning contracts for automation projects in the Latin American and Caribbean, and Asia and Pacific regions, supported by the Organization; commercial leases in Geneva; contracts with airlines; and license agreements with software suppliers. Advice was also given with respect to framework agreements of co-operation with intellectual property offices and with respect to co-operation arrangements between the WIPO Worldwide Academy and academic institutions in Member States.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 04**

### **Planning, Budget and Control**

33. In the first half of 2002, strategic planning and policy development continued to be implemented as a priority, while in the area of program budget and financial control, the main focus was on: (a) financial control and certification of commitments to incur obligations; (b) introduction of a Contract Review Committee; (c) development of an allotment advice system; (d) maintenance of the work plans system 2002; (e) preparation of the revised budget for the new building construction; (f) contribution to the preparation of the Financial Management Report 2000-2001, and (g) support for the development of the Administrative Information Management System (AIMS).

#### **Sub-Program 04.1 – Strategic Planning and Policy Development**

34. In the framework of this sub-program, focussed program implementation review and monitoring systems were initiated, and follow-up adjustment of internal operational policies

were undertaken in line with WIPO's Vision and Strategic Direction (document A/34/3). Current international developments and trends in the intellectual property field were closely monitored, in particular, in view of the widespread expansion of the use of intellectual property systems for wealth creation.

35. Effective administrative assistance and support continued to be provided to the Director General with regard to his overall responsibility for the Secretariat. This was achieved through preparing and refining strategic plans, developing policy papers, management of routine operations, drafting of technical briefs as well as preparing special research papers and analysis, in particular, on those events or emerging issues that may affect future development of intellectual property worldwide.

36. During the period under review a series of analytical and factual policy papers were prepared on the subject of intellectual property and economic development and empowerment. They covered a wide spectrum of intellectual property principles, issues and concerns regarding the role of intellectual property in economic development policy.

37. Program coordination remained an important and vital means of maintaining the integrity of overall implementation of WIPO activities, facilitating smooth running of all 18 Main Programs and 49 sub-programs of the current Program and Budget for 2002-2003. The Senior Management Team (SMT), composed of WIPO senior executives, met regularly to review and take decisions on important policy, financial or administrative issues, as well as those concerning matters related to Program and Budget implementation. The weekly professional information meetings (PRIM) continued, chaired by the Director General or one of his senior executives; these meetings effectively facilitated the sharing of important information, including yearly reports, the coordination of program activities, and discussion and decision on policies within the Secretariat.

#### **Sub-program 04.2 – Program Budget and Financial Control**

38. Financial control and monitoring were exercised through the detailed scrutiny and certification of individual financial commitments, which involved the review of over 4,500 requests for certification and other approvals over the first six months. In addition to controlling compliance with the existing Regulations and Rules, additional emphasis was given to examine issues of the relationship between a proposed activity and the approved program and budget. Financial control was strengthened with the establishment of the Contract Review Committee.

39. As an integral part of the budget implementation process, a new allotment advice system was developed, which provides and updates budget authority to Program Managers in a transparent manner. The new system complements the work plan arrangement that was implemented with the initiation, support and review of the work plan exercise 2002.

40. Support was offered to the external audit review of the new construction project, which included the holding of informal consultations with Member States, and preparation work was carried out on the development of the revised budget for the new construction project. A revised Program and Budget, including that revised construction budget, will be submitted to the Program and Budget Committee and the Assembly during the second half of 2002.

41. An important task in cooperation with the Finance department involved the participation in the preparation of the Financial Management Report 2000 -2001 for WIPO and UPOV. The WIPO report included for the first time an explanation on budget variations by Main Program, introduced in response to recommendations put forward by Member States during the Program and Budget Committee meeting in April 2001.

42. Work was undertaken in formulating income and expenditures projections, including the reevaluation of Registration System activities. Support was provided to theselection process for the Automated Information Management System (AIMS) and close cooperation and coordination were maintained with the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development, and the Procurement and Contract Services.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 05**

### **Development of Industrial Property Law**

43. During the first six months of 2002, further work on developing and improving the organization's normative activities in the areas of patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications was undertaken. The outstanding features of that work included the continuation of the discussions on substantive patent law harmonization within the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), and the beginning of discussions, with in the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, on provisions related to the revision of the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), on further harmonization of trademark laws, and on geographical indications.

#### **Sub-program 05.1 – Law of Patents**

44. The main activity consisted in the preparation and holding of the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) in May 2002. The SCP continued discussions on the draft Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT) and draft Regulations and Practice Guidelines Under the SPLT, which contain provisions on certain issues related to the harmonization of substantive patent law, such as the definition of prior art, the definitions of novelty, inventive step /non-obviousness and industrial applicability/utility, the issue of sufficient disclosure of the invention and the drafting and interpretation of claims. The Secretariat received the mandate to draft the provisions for the next session of the SCP in November 2002, taking into account the comments made by the members of the SCP. During the same week, the Working Group on Multiple Invention Disclosures and Complex Applications, established by the SCP at its Sixth Session with the objective of discussing issues such as unity of invention, the linking of claims, the number of claims, the requirement of "clear and concise" claims and special procedures to treat complex applications, such as mega-applications, or large sequence listings, held its First Session and started discussion on the issues mentioned above. Twenty -five developing countries and countries in transition were invited to attend the seventh session of the SCP.

45. The follow -up of the Diplomatic Conference on the adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT) involved, in particular, the finalization of the Records of the Conference. The text of the Treaty and its Regulations was published in April 2002 and is available in English, French and Spanish.



46. Further activities included, in particular, the promotion of industrial property treaties (through seven staff missions in five countries, advice on national laws and meeting with national delegates), close cooperation with related sectors/activities within WIPO (for instance concerning the WIPO Patent Agenda, developments of the PCT system or issues related to biotechnology), as well as outside the Organization (follow-up of general developments of the patents system on the international level and of the work of other intergovernmental organizations, inventions made or used in outer space), and the administration of the Budapest Treaty, including its updating.

## **Sub-program 05.2 – Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications**

47. Further work on consolidating and improving the Organization's normative activities in the areas of trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications was accomplished. At its eighth session in May, the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) began discussions on provisions related to the revision of the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), on further harmonization of trademark laws, and on geographical indications. Delegates from 76 Member States, including 23 developing countries and countries in transition, four intergovernmental organizations and 12 non-governmental organizations, attended the Eighth Session of the SCT.

48. At this Session, SCT members committed themselves to work towards further simplifying and streamlining the procedures concerning formal requirements for the registration of trademarks and other related procedures. The SCT discussed revised draft provisions of the TLT prepared by the WIPO Secretariat, on the basis of similar provisions contained in the Patent Law Treaty (PLT), which was adopted in 2000. The SCT agreed to build on the TLT to further simplify and expand the harmonization of formalities by introducing provisions on electronic filing of communications with industrial property offices, relief in respect of time limits fixed by an Office and on reinstatement of rights after a finding of due care or unintentionality by the Office.

49. The SCT also initiated discussions on further harmonization of substantive trademark law addressing questions such as the definition of a mark, non-traditional marks (sound marks, holograms, three-dimensional marks and smell marks), grounds for refusal of trademark rights, rights conferred by registration, or the use of the™ and @ symbols. The exchange of views on the substantive harmonization of trademark laws was based on a document prepared by the WIPO Secretariat. The SCT also reviewed, for the first time in depth, the protection of geographical indications (GIs) on the basis of a working document prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Addendum to Document SCT/6/3 Rev. (Geographical Indications: Historical Background, Nature of Rights, Existing Systems for Protection and Obtaining Effective Protection in other Countries)." Discussions focussed on the definition of geographical indications, the protection of a geographical indication in its country of origin, and the protection of a geographical indication abroad. The SCT agreed to use the definition contained in Article 22.1 of the TRIPS Agreement as the starting point for discussions at its next session.

50. In addition to the work directly related to the SCT meeting, other activities have consisted of: promotion of industrial property treaties (in particular the Trademark Law Treaty) and Joint Recommendations (on the protection of well-known marks, on trademark licenses, and on the protection of marks on the Internet); advice on draft national laws;

participation and/or lectures in conferences and seminars; meetings with government delegates or representatives of NGO's or of the private sector; making notifications under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention (six notifications). Support was also provided to the programs of Cooperation for Development, Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia, and the WIPO Worldwide Academy with regard to seminars and programs relating to trademark law or unfair competition. During the period under review, officials from the International Bureau participated in seven missions.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 06**

### **Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System**

51. The first half of the year 2002 again confirmed a growth in the use of the PCT. The total number of applications received amounted to a record high of 57,818. During the month of April alone, the International Bureau received a record number of 13,603 international applications.

52. During the period under review, one State (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) joined the PCT, bringing the total number of PCT Contracting States to 116, of which 62 are developing countries.

53. In the context of the WIPO Patent Agenda, a Conference on the International Patent System was held in March, attended by some 400 delegates from both the public and private sectors. The conference helped to identify and analyze detailed measures in the process of reshaping the international patents system.

54. Following the decisions by the PCT Union Assembly in October 2001, an amendment to the Schedule of Fees took effect on January 1, 2002, along with the entry into force on April 1, 2002, of both a modification of a significant time limit in the Treaty and an amendment to the Regulations under the PCT.

55. The consideration of proposals for reform of the PCT progressed with the meeting of the Second Session of the Working Group on Reform of the PCT held in April.

#### **Sub-program 06.1 – Operation of the PCT System**

56. During the period under review, 57,818 international applications filed worldwide were received, which is 2,682 or 4.86 percent more than in the same period in 2001. These international applications had the effect of 3,924,036 national applications and of 187,750 regional applications; the latter would be equivalent to 2,721,118 applications for patent protection in the Member States of the regional patents systems. That creates a notional effect, in total, of 6,645,154 national applications. The number of applications coming from developing countries increased to 4,319 from 2,966 (45.62 percent) for the same period in 2001.

57. Of the 57,818 international applications filed, 21,767 or 37.7 percent contained a request form prepared using the PCT-EASY software.

58. By the end of June 2002, the International Bureau had received, in its capacity as a Receiving Office, 2,785 international applications.
59. The processing of international applications resulted, *inter alia*, in the publication during the period of 49,463 international applications as well as 21,023 republications and 26 regular, and one special, issues of the PCT Gazette. Some 33,887 international preliminary examination reports (IPERs) and 26,664 demands under Chapter II were received.
60. A major change in the processing of international applications led to, progressively, a new structure which should result in increased efficiency. In June 2002, half of the applications were processed using this new working procedure which will allow the International Bureau to enhance the quality of service to users of the PCT system and Member States.

### **Sub-program 06.2 – Legal Framework, Information and Training Activities; PCT Reform**

61. Work continued to be carried out in relation to the promotion of and accession to the PCT, the provision of information and advice to PCT users, the development of the legal and procedural framework of the PCT, and the publication of PCT-related information on paper and on the Internet.
62. The PCT Union Assembly, at its Thirtieth (13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary) Session held in Geneva from September 24 to October 3, 2001, decided, with effect from April 1, 2002, to modify the time limit under PCT Article 22(1) for performing the acts necessary to enter the national phase from 20 to 30 months from the priority date and to consequently amend PCT Rule 90 *bis*. The Assembly also decided to amend the Schedule of Fees with effect from January 1, 2002, to further decrease the maximum number of designation fees payable, from six to five, making it the fifth consecutive year in which the fee payable for designating States has been reduced. The complex implementation of these modifications to the Treaty, Regulations and Schedule of Fees was implemented in a timely manner.
63. At its Second Session, held in April, the Working Group on Reform of the PCT considered revised proposals for change of the PCT system with a view to their submission later in 2002 to the Committee on Reform of the PCT and the PCT Union Assembly. The proposals were directed towards a more coordinated system of international search and preliminary examination, the introduction of an automatic and all-inclusive designation system whereby the choice of certain kinds of protection would be deferred until the national phase of processing, and consistency of the PCT with the principles of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT), particularly in relation to acceptable languages for filing international applications and to restoration of rights in cases of failure to meet certain time limits.
64. Pursuant to the decision of the WIPO General Assembly, the Paris Union Assembly and the PCT Union Assembly, made during the WIPO Assemblies in September 2001, the Director General invited comments from interested parties, including Member States, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as the general public, on the Agenda for the Development of the International Patent System. More than 50 submissions were received and will be taken into account by the Secretariat in preparing a discussion paper for consideration during the WIPO Assemblies in September 2002.

65. The Office of the PCT (OPCT) participated in 35 seminars and presentations on the use and advantages of the PCT and the promotion of accession to it. The participants included IP office officials, inventors, representatives from industries, patent attorneys and government officials. Seminars were held in 12 different countries (Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States) and were attended by 2,264 users and potential users of the PCT system.

66. Specialized training on PCT procedures was also given at WIPO headquarters to officials from Ecuador, Oman, the Lausanne-based group of *Centred'Etudes Internationales de la Propriété Intellectuelle* /European Patent Institute (CEIPI/EPI), Scandinavian industry and private patent attorneys. The OPCT also gave 17 specialized training sessions and presentations on the PCT to staff of other Divisions of the International Bureau.

67. The following publications and texts were issued and/or made available on the Internet: updating sheets (in English and in French) for the January 2002 update of the "PCT Applicant's Guide" (the monthly updating of the Internet version of the Guide also began during the period); a special issue of the "PCT Gazette"; Section IV of the weekly "PCT Gazette"; the monthly "PCT Newsletter"; an Information Note (in five languages) concerning the main PCT-related events and results of operations under the PCT in 2001; revised versions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Regulations in English, French, German and Spanish; a set of Frequently Asked Questions about the effect of the modification of PCT Article 22(1) time limit; revised versions of PCT forms; revised versions of the PCT seminar materials in English, French and German; revised versions (April 2002) of the brochure "Basic Facts about the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)" in Arabic, English, French, German and Spanish; a modified version of the Receiving Office Guidelines; and general information documents in various languages.

### **Sub-program 06.3 – International Patent Classification (IPC)**

68. Two new States, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Kazakhstan, became parties to the Strasbourg Agreement, bringing the total number of Contracting States to 53.

69. The following three IPC-related meetings were held at WIPO during the period under review: The Thirty-First Session of the Committee of Experts of the IPC Union (February 2002); the Seventh Session of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group (May 2002); and the Seventh Session of the IPC Revision Working Group (June 2002).

70. The Committee of Experts considered the reports of its working groups and provided guidance for carrying out reform and revision of the IPC in 2002. The Committee approved the IPC reform implementation plan aimed at the completion of the IPC reform basic period by the year 2005. With regard to classification tools for traditional knowledge, the Committee considered the report of the Task Force on Classification of Traditional Knowledge and instructed the Task Force to elaborate an IPC revision proposal for classifying traditional knowledge documentation.

71. The ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group continued its discussion of various tasks related to IPC reform. It approved three documents which will provide a basis for the application and revision of the reformed IPC: The IPC Revision Policy and Procedure; The Revision Cycles of the IPC; and The Guidelines for determining the subject matter to be classified. Out of 19 tasks on the IPC reform program, eight tasks have been completed by

the Working Group. The Working Group set up a special Task Force on revision of the Guide to the IPC for the complete review of this publication providing a detailed explanation of the structure, principles and rules of the IPC.

72. The IPC Revision Working Group continued its preparatory work for the eighth edition of the IPC. It considered 20 IPC revision projects in both English and French versions. The Working Group also continued implementation in the IPC of IPC reform results. It discussed elaboration of classification definitions, conversion of indexing schemes into classification schemes, introduction of illustrating chemical formulae in the electronic layer of the IPC and other modifications required by IPC reform.

73. IPC training courses and presentations were given in the Islamic Republic of Iran and in South Africa. The participants included IPO office officials, representatives from industries and research institutions as well as patent attorneys.

74. During the technical assessment of the new IPC electronic management system (IBIS), the performance of the system was increased and many functional improvements were implemented.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 07**

### **Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems**

75. In the period under review, tasks in connection with the registration activities under the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems continued to be performed. Promotion activities for a wider use of the Nice, Vienna and Locarno Classifications, as well as for a wider acceptance of the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon registration systems were undertaken through, in particular, the organization of seminars and workshops. Training activities, information and advice were also provided to national and regional Industrial Property Offices.

#### **Sub-Program 07.1 – Operation of the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems**

76. Filings of international applications under the Madrid System decreased by about 7 per cent in the first six months of 2002, compared to the same period of the previous year. A landmark was reached with the publication of the 780,000<sup>th</sup> international registration in April. International deposits and renewals under the Hague System remained stable in the first six months of 2002.

#### **Sub-Program 07.2 – Legal Framework, Information and Training Activities**

77. In January, Belarus became party to the Madrid Protocol. In May, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia deposited its instrument of accession to the Protocol, bringing the total membership to 56. At the end of June, the Madrid Union consisted of 70 Member States.

78. A number of amendments to the Common Regulations Under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, adopted by the Assembly of the Madrid Union in 2001, entered into force on April 1, 2002. These amendments aimed at making the procedures under the Madrid System simpler and more user-friendly both for governments and for users, and at accommodating the

needs of a growing number of jurisdictions participating in the System. In this connection, in order to introduce the changes derived from the entry into force of the new Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, officials from the International Bureau paid visits to eight national Industrial Property Offices of countries party to the Madrid Union, namely: China, Germany, Finland, France, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

79. As requested by the Madrid Union Assembly, the International Bureau initiated a study to determine the implications of including Spanish as a working language in the framework of the Madrid System.

80. Regarding promotional activities of the Madrid System, two seminars, one in English and one in French, on the International Registration of Marks were organized by WIPO at its headquarters. These seminars aimed at explaining the Madrid System to both the private sector and national Industrial Property Offices. Other relevant activities included: a national touring seminar on the Madrid System in Seoul, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Korean Intellectual Property Office; the preparation of a document on the impact of Turkey's accession to the Madrid Protocol prepared by the International Bureau in cooperation with the Turkish Patent Institute; a meeting co-organized by WIPO and OAPI in Yaoundé aiming at sensitizing officials from OAPI and OAPI member States regarding the Madrid Protocol. WIPO also participated in the Euroforum on Trademarks organized, in Prague, by the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), the European Commission and the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic, in a Training Course on International and Regional Trademark Systems organized, in Manila, by OHIM, as well as in 10 other meetings, seminars or workshops at the invitation of different organizations, whether governmental, inter-governmental or non-governmental.

81. In June, Ukraine became party to the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement, bringing the total membership of this Agreement to 30.

82. During the reporting period, the number of deposits of instruments of ratification or accession to the 1999 Act of the Hague Agreement (not yet in force) increased to six, following such deposits by Estonia in March and by Slovenia and Ukraine in May. In the light of the current status of accession to the 1999 Act of the Hague Agreement, the Secretariat took the first steps necessary for the preparation of the implementation of this Act.

83. With regard to promotional activities of the Hague System, WIPO organized a National Workshop on Industrial Designs, in Riyadh, in cooperation with the King Abdul-Aziz City for Science and Technology.

84. A set of amendments to the Regulations Under the Lisbon Agreement were adopted during the Assembly of the Lisbon Union in September 2001. These modifications aimed at facilitating the move from the current paper-based international register of appellations of origin to an electronic register. They entered into force on April 1, 2002.

### **Sub-Program 07.3 – International Classifications in the Fields of Trademarks and Industrial Designs**

85. Mozambique and Uzbekistan became party to the Nice Agreement in January, and Kazakhstan in April, bringing the total membership of the Nice Union to 69.

86. Expert and training missions were undertaken, respectively, at the Israel Patent Office, the Registration Office for Companies and Industrial Property of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs) (OHIM) and the Commerce Division of Malta. A seminar on the Nice Classification, which dealt with the entry into force of the new (eighth) edition of the Nice Classification and the most important changes introduced to that Classification, took place at WIPO headquarters in January.

87. In the framework of the WIPO Classification Service for Marks, some 40 reports giving advice on the correct classification of indications of goods and/or services were provided to Industrial Property Offices. A new Recommendation of the International Bureau based on classification reports was forwarded in January to the Members of the Nice Union and observers in the Committee of Experts and Preparatory Working Group. It was also made available to the public on the Internet.

88. At its Twenty -Second Session, in April, the Preparatory Working Group of the Nice Union continued the revision work of the Nice Classification.

89. In the period under review, the revision work of the Vienna and Locarno Classifications also continued.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 08**

### **Development of Copyright and Related Rights**

90. In the first half of 2002, an intense work program was initiated in order to increase WIPO's profile in the international copyright community and to raise its input in support of the needs and expectations of Member States, the creators and the cultural and information industries.

91. The WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) entered into force on March 6, 2002, and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) on May 20, 2002. Activities for the promotion of those treaties continued in cooperation with the Program on Cooperation for Development and Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia. During the period under review, five countries adhered to the WCT and four adhered to the WPPT, bringing the total number of countries party to those treaties to 35 and 34, respectively. A significant number of countries were in an advanced stage of preparation for accession to the treaties. A total of six staff missions were undertaken to different Member States to promote the new treaties and provide legal advice on them. Preparatory work was completed for convening the inaugural assemblies of the WCT and the WPPT in September 2002. Also, a survey of national laws implementing the treaties in the Member States was initiated by the Secretariat.

92. The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) took place in Geneva in May. Progress was achieved in discussing the protection of broadcasting organizations and clarifying issues related to the scope of protection and the rights to be granted. The discussion benefited from a technical background paper on the issue prepared by the Secretariat, and a comparative table of proposals in treaty language, received before the Session. Five studies on the economic and social impact of the protection of non-original databases in developing countries and countries in transition were presented to

that Session of the Standing Committee, following the meeting of a Working Group on those studies held in January in Geneva. The Committee also agreed to consider a broader program of future work which would address new issues at its November session. A first information seminar was organized in connection with the May session, focussing on the opportunities and challenges offered by the WCT and WPPT.

93. Legal advice, comments and technical assistance continued to be provided to Member States, including responses to over 300 written requests. Twenty-three staff missions were undertaken covering participation in seven international, ten regional and six national conferences, seminars and meetings in order to follow developments in national and regional copyright law, to monitor the latest trends impacting on copyright and related rights and the cultural industries based on those rights, and to obtain up-to-date information on the implications of digital technology. Over 2,200 people received information on copyright issues at such meetings.

94. Preparatory work was initiated in a number of new areas, notably the commissioning of a Guide to WIPO's copyright and related rights treaties and an accompanying Glossary, the organizing of a meeting of experts to prepare a Handbook on Survey Guidelines for Assessing the Economic Impact of Copyright and Related Rights, as well as a WIPO Guide on the Licensing of Copyright and Related Rights.

95. The Secretariat maintained active direct contacts with national Copyright Offices and other governmental officials, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations with the purpose of building close working relationships and responding adequately to the expectations of the Member States and WIPO's other major partners, particularly the creative community, rightholders and users. These contacts were opportunities that were equally used to raise public awareness of the contribution of copyright protection for wealth creation and for the preservation and evolution of cultural heritage. The Secretariat also maintained an informal regular dialogue with all interested parties in respect of the unresolved issue of appropriate international protection for audiovisual performances.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 09**

### **Global Communications**

96. The goal of demystifying intellectual property continued to be pursued and, to this end, resources in the first half of 2002 were concentrated on refining and expanding the reach of the WIPO website, creating new interactive audiovisual and printed information products to explain the nature and contribution of intellectual property to general and targeted audiences, refining and strengthening WIPO's image as a forward-looking organization, and expanding links with industry and other groups. A contribution was made to the Organization's revenue within income from the sale of WIPO information products and advertising.

97. As in 2001, WIPO actively organized and promoted World Intellectual Property Day on April 26, 2002. Some 1,000 notifications were sent to Intellectual Property Offices around the world, missions accredited to the UN in Geneva, UN information centers, non-governmental organizations, and the media, informing them of preparations and events for World IP Day. These contacts received kits containing posters, a new CD-ROM and two new comic books on intellectual property, bookmarks, a list of suggested activities and a



message from the Director General. A 30-second video spot, based on the theme "Encouraging Creativity" was aired on CNN throughout the month and was made available for broadcast to WIPO Member States. An exhibition on "Comics, Cartoons, and Creativity" was opened to visiting school children to help explain the concepts of creativity in relation to copyright. Some 67 Member States and nine international or regional organizations informed WIPO of the activities planned to commemorate the event. A list of these activities were posted on a dedicated page on the WIPO website.

### **Sub-program 09.1 – Corporate Image and New Product Development**

98. During the period under review, the corporate image of WIPO was further developed, refined, and applied to a wider range of information products generated within the Organization. The number and types of information products created – both of a specialized and more general nature – continued to increase. Some 47 new products were issued, including the Second Domain Name Report, a comic book on copyright aimed at young people, and a brochure clarifying issues relating to the patents system and access to health care. The 2001 Annual Report was prepared in six languages. An updated version of the "WIPO Guide to Intellectual Property Worldwide" was prepared for printing. Some 128 specialized products (conference materials, banners, reports, covers, etc.) were produced for various sections of the Organization. These products included the preparation of publicity materials for the Muscat Ministerial Conference and the WIPO Conference on the International Patent System.

99. The sale of public information products generated some 2.64 million Swiss francs during the first half of the year. A total of 22,291 products were sold and some 169,088 were distributed free of charge, only 20 percent of which were for sale publications. Increasingly, products are given away free or sold with major discounts, particularly for buyers from developing countries and countries in transition. Use of the electronic bookshop continued to grow: income from the electronic bookshop rose to 164,228 Swiss francs, an 86 percent increase over the same period last year. Some 820 orders were received via the e-bookshop, up from 562 the previous year, and 1,382 publications were sold, compared to 806 for the previous year. A new advertising section was created for the WIPO Magazine, as was a new, bilingual catalogue of products, thereby reducing the costs of publishing two different catalogs in French and English. Advertising in WIPO periodicals generated some 332,000 Swiss francs in revenues for the Organization.

### **Sub-program 09.2 – Media and Public Affairs**

100. The Organization further expanded and consolidated its links with the international and Swiss-based press. In the first half of 2002, some 35 press communiqués were released and some 810 press articles (tracked by on-line system only) covered issues relating to WIPO and intellectual property. WIPO's work in alternative dispute resolution related to domain names continued to attract media coverage, as did emerging issues such as traditional knowledge, folklore and access to genetic resources. Copyright issues, including the entry into force of the "Internet Treaties," and the WIPO's Patent Agenda also received media attention. Press conferences, briefings and interviews (written press, television and radio) with WIPO officials on a variety of subjects were arranged.

101. Twenty-six editions of "Intellectual Property in the News," a weekly compilation of IP-related newsclippings, were produced and sent to Geneva-based permanent missions.

In the area of public affairs, 39 groups, including government officials, business people and students, totaling 1,020 people, were briefed on the history, structure, and activities of the Organization. Eight art exhibitions, serving to demonstrate the link between creativity and copyright, were organized. The exhibitions, supported by the permanent missions of the exhibitors' nationality, drew some 4,000 visitors. Some 32 new or updated entries on WIPO were provided for various international yearbooks and other such publications, along with responses to some 2,900 general inquiries on WIPO and intellectual property.

102. An exhibition "Comics, Cartoons and Creativity," was organized in the WIPO Information Center as part of the World IP Day activities. The exhibition used comics and cartoons as a medium to show the importance of copyright in supporting and encouraging creativity. Some 100 students from five local schools visited during the week of Intellectual Property Day and watched demonstrations of artists and sculptors creating cartoon figures. An additional 1,000 visitors visited the exhibition during the last three months of the reporting period.

103. Under this sub-program, supervision of the WIPO Coordination Office in New York (the Office) was dealt with, through close contacts and exchanges of information, and smooth execution of administrative functions. The Office pursued its dual mandate of representing WIPO in the United Nations Headquarters in New York and of reaching out to the private sector and civil society in the United States. In its representational function, the Office attended over twenty major meetings, including the preparatory sessions of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the subsequent Summit held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March. It also participated in: the first and second preparatory committee meetings of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which covered issues of genetic resources and benefit sharing; the Ad Hoc Committee for International Convention against Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings; the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Children held in May 2002; the United Nations inter-agency meetings held to discuss outcomes of global conferences, and the strategic session on how the United Nations system could give substantive support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). In pursuing its program to demystify intellectual property and to provide greater understanding of WIPO's mission and activities, the Office held seminars on topical intellectual property issues for senior diplomats, UN Secretariat staff and civil society actors. It gave briefings on WIPO and its work on traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at its inaugural session in New York in May 2002. A WIPO special event was subsequently held for participants at the Forum's meeting and about 200 diplomats and civil society actors attended it. Within the outreach program to the private sector and civil society, the WIPO Coordination Office Lecture Series extended to more universities on the East Coast of the United States. Six universities were provided with speakers at their request. Speakers were also provided at the request of the United States Department of State to guest visitors of the Department on intellectual property issues. The internship program of the Office, which started one year ago, was expanded to accommodate law and public policy students from American universities and over sixteen interns from different countries took part. Contacts were also maintained with industry representatives through periodic discussions and invitations to participate in the various events.

104. The Washington Office continued to strengthen the profile of WIPO in the United States by extending contacts with the U.S. government as well as American industry groups, associations, and consumer groups with a stake in the future of global intellectual property policy. The Office monitored relevant U.S. Congressional hearings, accompanied

WIPO officials from Geneva on Washington visits, and made numerous presentations to visiting groups interested in WIPO.

105. The WIPO Coordination Office in Brussels was established in the first half of 2002 to facilitate the Organization's activities and operations there and develop a more visible and comprehensive profile within the European Union.

### **Sub-program 09.3 – Multimedia Productions**

106. Visits to WIPO's websites continued to increase, with nearly 139 million visits for the first half of 2002, compared to 85 million for the same period the previous year. More content was added to the Arabic and Russian language versions of the WIPO site, while work progressed on the Chinese language version, for a launch in September 2002. By that date, the WIPO site will be available in six languages. New features and pages were continually added to the portal and the site, highlighting news of interest and new WIPO initiatives such as the Patent Agenda. The number of links from the WIPO site to sites of national intellectual property offices, academic institutions, and accredited non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations continued to grow, with the WIPO website now linked to more than 270 IP-related sites around the world.

107. Production of television and multimedia materials significantly expanded during the period under review; the major achievement was the Organization's first Public Service Announcement, a 30-second spot called "Encouraging Creativity," which was placed on CNN for frequent worldwide broadcasts from April to December 2002. A six-minute news report on World Intellectual Property Day was produced for broadcast via the European Broadcasting Union, as were two pieces on the WIPO exhibition "Comics, Cartoons & Creativity." Various other news pieces were produced, as was video content for the Comics exhibition and a 2.5-minute film on the Internet Treaties. Multimedia productions included a CD-ROM and website production for World Intellectual Property Day called "The WIPO Tour of Intellectual Property," an adaptation of the interactive CD-ROM "At Home with Invention" into a digital presentation in three languages, a CD-ROM on the "Conference on the International Patent System, 2002," and a "Flash" presentation on public awareness of copyright issues.

### **Sub-program 09.4 – Non-Governmental Affairs**

108. In the reporting period, further contacts were made to expand and enhance the Organization's relations with industry and industry groups. Regular meetings were also held in Geneva and elsewhere to explore new areas of interest and cooperation between WIPO and the industry.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 10**

### **Global Intellectual Property Issues**

109. All global intellectual property issues have been consolidated in the 2002-2003 biennium under this main program, dedicated to the exploration and promotion of new intellectual property concepts, strategies and issues. Main Program 10 thus covers genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore; small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

and intellectual property; electronic commerce and intellectual property; and, intellectual property enforcement issues and strategies.

### **Sub-Program 10.1 – Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore**

110. Reflecting the creation of a new WIPO forum for advancing the core issues pertaining to genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, the main focus during the first half of 2002 was on supporting the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC). The IGC meeting in June 2002, attended by 97 States, the European Community, 28 Intergovernmental Organizations and 38 NGOs, addressed a wider range of substantial proposals for advancing work in this area.

111. Major work by the Secretariat during the period also included the creation of a portal of traditional knowledge databases as a pilot program on prior art documentation, drawing on national programs established by China, India and Venezuela, together with the establishment of inventories of traditional knowledge-related periodicals and on-line traditional knowledge databases; design of a database of contractual provisions relating to IP, access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, to provide a practical guide for use in negotiations relating to IP and genetic resources; a review and study of existing IP mechanisms for the protection of traditional knowledge, with an annexed resource materials; a study of elements of a *suigeneris* system for the protection of traditional knowledge; an analysis of operational terms and definitions of traditional knowledge, together with an annexed collection of resource materials; a detailed final report on the protection of folklore, based on questionnaire responses from 64 States, comprising an analysis, summary, statistics, conclusions and suggested tasks; and, the initiation of a study on the issue of disclosure of source of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, and confirmation of prior informed consent, in patent applications, following an invitation by the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

112. The work of the Secretariat under the aegis of the IGC drew upon an extensive empirical basis to bring about a significant increase in the understanding, among a wider range of stakeholders, of the range of practical and policy options currently available within the IP system to safeguard the interests of traditional knowledge holders, of those responsible for genetic resources, and of traditional cultures, as well as laying a unique conceptual framework for further exploration of *suigeneris* legal responses. On this basis, the IGC commissioned the Secretariat to undertake a wider range of follow-up studies, surveys and capacity-building exercises to advance the IGC's mandate.

113. A wider range of advisory and technical support activities were undertaken in support of the IGC process, including regional workshops organized in Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire and Zambia, and a regional expert meeting in Ethiopia, to facilitate discussions and development of specific proposals by African States relating to the IGC. A major African Group policy submission at the June IGC meeting was facilitated by this process. The Secretariat made preparations for similar exercises in other regions in the future. A number of expert advisory missions and legal advice tasks were undertaken relating to biotechnology and IP issues, protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, and related issues. Furthermore, WIPO briefed the first session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on the work of the IGC, and discussed further cooperation with the Forum.

114. The Secretariat published the “WIPO Fact Finding Report on Needs and Expectations of Traditional Knowledge Holders” in Spanish, a case study by a leading indigenous lawyer on the use of existing IPR systems in the cultural expressions area, and a study on legal protection of folklore. Ongoing work included further case studies and a major study on traditional knowledge in relation to biodiversity conservation, in collaboration with UNEP.

### **Sub-Program 10.2 – Small and Medium -sized Enterprises (SMEs)**

115. During the first six months of 2002, WIPO co-organized with the national governments of the host countries the following events, attended by more than 500 representatives of governments, SME support institutions and SMEs: the WIPO Interregional Forum on Small and Medium -sized Enterprises and Intellectual Property (Moscow, Russian Federation), the Asian Regional Workshop on the Use of Information Technology and Management of Industrial Property Rights by Small and Medium -sized Enterprises ( Bangkok, Thailand), the Workshop on Small and Medium -sized Enterprises and Industrial Property for the countries of the MERCOSUR (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), and two national awareness -raising seminars in Polana Bra şov (Romania) and La Valletta (Malta). The main objectives of these events were to broaden the scope of understanding and level of use of IP by SMEs and to strengthen the capacity of governments and SME support institutions to provide intellectual property -related services to SMEs.

116. In addition, WIPO participated in six events organized by, or co-organized with, other institutions. These included the XIII International Conference of the World Association for Small and Medium -sized Enterprises (Gibraltar), the ITC -WIPO workshop on “Contemporary African Art and the International Market” at the Dakar Biennial (Dakar, Senegal), the Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Competitiveness Through the Promotion of Innovative Approaches in SMEs organized by the United Nations Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) (Manama, Bahrain), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Seminar on the Role of Intellectual Property Rights in Business Development (Warsaw, Poland), the Seminar for SMEs in the framework of the PATLIB Conference of the European Patent Office (Giardini -Naxos, Italy) and the Second International Conference on Small Business, organized by the Croatian Ministry for Small and Medium -sized Enterprises ( Šibernik, Croatia). Such events were an opportunity to target the business community, increase appreciation of the relevance of IP among SMEs, and identify synergies and joint undertakings with other intergovernmental organizations and national SME support institutions.

117. Assistance to SMEs by national Intellectual Property Offices was also discussed in two regional meetings of Heads of IPO Offices, which took place in Manila and Paramaribo. Documents were prepared for distribution to all participants on “WIPO and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises,” which included an overview of “best practices” in promoting enhanced understanding and wider and more efficient use of IP by SMEs.

118. Other activities included the regular publication of articles on “Intellectual Property for Business,” the monthly e-mail update for which there are currently over 1,400 subscribers, the regular updating of the SME website, the publication of the entire SME website in French as well as extensive parts of it in Arabic and Russian and the publication of a CD -ROM including the entire content of the SME website.

### **Sub-Program 10.3 – Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property**

119. The main activity during the period under review concerned the preparation for, and the holding of the Second Special Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications on the Report of the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process, held in May in Geneva.

120. As a result of the implementation of the WIPO ccTLD (country-code Top Level Domain) Program, the administrators of .AE (United Arab Emirates) and .NL (the Netherlands) retained the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center as dispute resolution service provider (on an exclusive basis). The administrator of .IE (Ireland) retained WIPO as advisor on intellectual property and dispute resolution with a view to the probable realignment of the .IE registry for it to become a less restrictive domain in the future.

121. Regarding the prevention of domain name disputes, WIPO facilitated access to the online trademark databases of certain national and regional intellectual property offices by creating a portal on its website (<http://ecommerce.wipo.int/databases/trademark/index.html>) with links to those databases. The aim is to allow anyone wishing to register a domain name in the gTLDs or ccTLDs to perform a trademark search, using this site, in the online trademark databases concerned. Furthermore, a ccTLD database was created (<http://ecommerce.wipo.int/databases/ccTLD/index.html>), containing links to the websites of 243 ccTLDs allowing to determine the availability of a registration agreement, the existence of a WHOIS service and the adoption of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures.

122. WIPO also initiated a series of regional consultations on electronic commerce, which will take place in 2002–2003. The dual focus of these consultations will be on intellectual property issues raised by electronic commerce, as well as on intellectual property protection in the ccTLDs. The consultations are also aimed at broadening the participation of developing countries in the formation of electronic commerce policies. The first such regional consultation was held for Caribbean countries in Kingston, Jamaica, in April, and made recommendations that were subsequently endorsed by the WIPO Ministerial Level Meeting on Intellectual Property for Caribbean Countries, held in Paramaribo, Suriname, in June.

### **Sub-program 10.4 – Intellectual Property Enforcement Issues and Strategies**

123. In the period under review, and following the Joint Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement of Industrial Property Rights (Second Session) and of the Advisory Committee on Management and Enforcement of Copyright and Related Rights in Global Information Networks (Third Session) (ACE/IP – ACMEC), held in Geneva in December 2001, activities focussed on giving effect to the adopted Summary by the Chair. In that Summary, it was agreed that due to the importance of the issue of enforcement of intellectual property rights to all countries, WIPO was particularly well-placed to gather information concerning enforcement of intellectual property rights and to coordinate activities undertaken by the Committees jointly with various inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations aiming at establishing adequate and effective enforcement systems. The Secretariat was invited to identify the existing needs for training and for development of enforcement strategies; to continue and intensify WIPO activities in favor of developing countries and countries in transition, with regard to training, technical assistance and awareness building in

the field of enforcement; and to report on these activities to the next WIPO meeting on enforcement issues, scheduled for September 11 to 13, 2002. The Secretariat was, furthermore, invited to establish an Electronic Forum to facilitate the exchange of information relating to enforcement issues. As regards the preparation of model enforcement provisions and practices, and the resolution of problems and difficulties in the field of enforcement, the Secretariat was requested to prepare, primarily on the basis of information received from Member States and Observers, a structured synthesis of issues concerning practices in the enforcement field, including Internet enforcement issues, which would serve as a basis for discussion at the September meeting. The Secretariat was also requested to establish a list of contact points on the basis of the list of participants of the meeting, which was subsequently extended based on additional information from governments.

124. In line with the above -mentioned Summary by the Chair, activities consisted of the perusal of the responses<sup>1</sup> pursuant to the "Request for Information"<sup>2</sup> to Member States and Organizations invited as Observers to the ACE/IP meeting<sup>3</sup> and the preparation of three documents to be considered by the September meeting. The purpose of the Request for Information was to assist the ACE/IP -ACMEC to identify issues for discussion and areas where international cooperation in the framework of WIPO appear to be both necessary and realistically achievable. The following documents were prepared for consideration at the September meeting: "The Establishment of an Electronic Forum" (WIPO/CME/2Prov.); "Existing Needs for Training and for Development of Enforcement Strategies" (WIPO/CME/3Prov.); and "Synthesis of Issues Concerning Difficulties and Practices in the Enforcement field" (WIPO/CME/4Prov.).

125. In addition, a draft Report on the ACE/IP -ACMEC Meeting in December 2001 was prepared; the administrative arrangements concerning the Consultative Meeting on Enforcement in September were undertaken; the addressing of the issue of reinstating the Committee(s) on Enforcement was initiated, including the preparation of a document to be submitted to the WIPO Assemblies in September; and discussions were held with various governmental delegations, intergovernmental organizations and representatives of right holders and the private sector.

126. WIPO attended, as an observer, the meeting of the Commission of General Affairs and Policy of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, held in April at the Hague. At the meeting, a decision was taken to pursue the work through a Working Group in view of elaborating a new and reduced version of the Convention on Jurisdiction, Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgements in Civil and Commercial Matters, leaving aside the area of intellectual property rights, at this stage.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 11**

### **Arbitration and Mediation Center**

127. From the commencement of WIPO's domain named dispute resolution activities in December 1999 through June 2002, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center received

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1 Responses were received from 24 Member States, two inter-governmental and 11 non-governmental organizations.

2 WIPO Circular 6562, dated July 17, 2001.

3 The responses related, horizontally, to the field of industrial property as well as to copyright and related rights.

19,544 domain name cases, 14,491 of which were filed in the first half of 2002. The Center's administration of these cases not only represented an effective contribution to the enforcement of trademark rights, but also enhanced the profile of the Center as a provider of arbitration and mediation services for all types of commercial disputes involving intellectual property. The Center also registered an increase in its conventional caseload during the reporting period. Apart from its case administration, the Center undertook a variety of activities in its capacity as a resource institution in the area of out-of-court settlement of intellectual property disputes.

### **Sub-Program 11.1 – Case Administration**

128. The Center strengthened its position as the pre-eminent provider of services for domain name and other intellectual property disputes. It received 14,491 domain name cases in the reporting period. The Center's cases through June were administered in nine different languages, involved parties from 112 countries, and covered 22,789 separate domain names. While the core domain name policy administered by the Center remained the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy ("UDRP"), the Center expanded its services to include disputes concerning names registered in new domains. In the reporting period, WIPO panels issued their first decisions concerning names in the .info and .biz domains. Under special introductory mechanisms, the Center received 277 cases under the .biz "STOP" Policy, and 13,592 .info "Sunrise Challenges of Last Resort," of which it completed 13,507. Three further country code top-level domain (ccTLD) registries designated the Center as dispute provider, bringing the total of such registries to 25. In the first half of 2002, the Center received 13 ccTLD cases.

129. Because they require international, neutral and efficient dispute solutions, transactions such as cross-border licenses increasingly provide for the submission of disputes to mediation and arbitration under the WIPO Rules. In addition to its domain name caseload, the Center received three 'conventional' mediation cases and administered three arbitrations, under the WIPO Rules, in the first half of 2002. Also, in 11 instances, the Center assisted parties in appointing neutrals from the Center's database of intellectual property specialists.

### **Sub-Program 11.2 – Legal Framework, Information and Promotion Activities**

130. Events organized in connection with WIPO dispute resolution included two WIPO Domain Name Panelist Meetings, held in the United States, as well as the traditional WIPO Workshop for Mediators in Intellectual Property Disputes, held in Geneva. New publications issued by the Center included the annual report on WIPO domain name dispute resolution. In addition to making available facilities such as model complaints and responses as well as on-line case communication, the Center continuously updated its website with new guidance for parties; in six months, the Center site logged close to nine million hits. Several hundred requests for information received by the Center, most of which was handled electronically, also contributed to increased awareness of WIPO dispute procedures as an additional option for intellectual property owners and users. Using the expertise developed in the design of tailor-made procedures, the Center contributed to the implementation of a variety of dispute policies in the area of domain names.



## MAIN PROGRAM 12

### Cooperation with Developing Countries

131. During the first six months of 2002, the Cooperation for Development Sector was involved in several high-profile activities that were redesigned to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to fully utilize the intellectual property system for their economic, social, and cultural development. In addition to high level meetings of influential policy makers, WIPO's ongoing Program on Cooperation for Development continued unabated during the first six months of the year. In total, there were nearly 70 interregional, regional and national meetings involving over 6,900 participants. There were also some 180 study visits, and advisory and expert missions.

#### Sub Program 12.1 – Effective Utilization of the Intellectual Property System for Economic, Social and Cultural Development

132. The WIPO International Ministerial Forum on “Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge: Our Identity, Our Future,” organized in cooperation with the Government of the Sultanate of Oman, was held in January 2002. The Forum constituted the first international meeting on this subject to be organized by WIPO at the Ministerial level. The objective of the International Forum was to provide policymakers and senior government officials with the opportunity to exchange views and share experiences, at the highest level, on the social, cultural and economic dimensions of the protection of traditional knowledge. The distinguished special guests who addressed the Forum raised issues relating to national endeavors in preservation and promotion of traditional knowledge; the relevance of applying the intellectual property system for the protection of traditional knowledge; the exploitation of the intellectual property system as a means for the generation of valuable traditional knowledge assets; and examined how best indigenous and local communities could use the intellectual property system for wealth creation. The Forum concluded its work by adopting the Muscat Declaration on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge that reaffirmed a number of universally agreed principles and facts concerning intellectual property and traditional knowledge and supported WIPO's past, present and future work in the domain of traditional knowledge.

133. Also in January, the WIPO International Conference on Intellectual Property and Electronic Business was held in Teheran, Islamic Republic of Iran. The objectives of the conference were to provide information, and improve awareness of intellectual property issues relating to electronic business; to exchange information and views about recent developments in intellectual property and e-business; and to develop a framework of cooperation for a successful IP-related e-business initiative in the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region. The Conference, inaugurated by the Iranian Minister of Commerce, had 23 participants from Arab and Asia and the Pacific countries as well as some 360 participants from the Islamic Republic of Iran including senior government officials and representatives from local organizations.

134. The Regional Colloquium for the Judiciary on Intellectual Property held in New Delhi, India in February, brought together distinguished members of the judiciary to discuss the strengthening of IP enforcement in countries in Asia and the Pacific. This was followed by the WIPO Asia Pacific Roundtable meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices held in Manila, Philippines. Twenty-five heads, deputy heads and senior officials of intellectual

property offices and supervising ministries of twenty-three countries in Asia and the Pacific exchanged views and experiences on a range of current and emerging intellectual property issues, giving particular attention to the developmental aspects of intellectual property protection.

135. In April, a WIPO-WTO Arab Regional Conference on Intellectual Property and the Doha Ministerial Declaration was organized in Doha, in cooperation with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Qatari Ministry of Economy and Commerce. This activity constituted the first joint initiative by WIPO and the WTO for the Arab countries. The primary objective of the Conference was to discuss the results of the WTO Fourth Ministerial Meeting which was held in Doha in November 2001, as well as to assess and evaluate the future technical assistance needs of Arab countries and to study the most appropriate means for strengthening cooperation and coordination among the Arab countries in the field of intellectual property.

136. The WIPO Sino-African Intellectual Property Forum was held in Beijing in May, and brought together Ministers, Vice-Ministers, Heads and senior officials in charge of intellectual property from 15 African countries and their Chinese counterparts. Distinguished speakers from China, the Arab States and Africa reviewed important intellectual property policy issues facing the international community, in particular, developing countries in Africa and China. Experiences and views were exchanged in the areas of intellectual property and economic development; intellectual property and information technology; challenges of the intellectual property system, especially the international patent agenda and reform of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT); and emerging intellectual property issues such as folklore, traditional knowledge, access to genetic resources and SMEs.

137. In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and Police of the Republic of Suriname, WIPO organized the Fourth Ministerial Level Meeting on Intellectual Property for Caribbean Countries, which was held in June, in Paramaribo, Republic of Suriname. The Meeting was attended by Government Representatives from 14 Caribbean countries as well as regional intergovernmental organizations and academic institutions. As a result of the Meeting, the Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Intellectual Property made Resolutions on the following matters: Resolution on Collaboration Between WIPO and Caribbean Countries on a Public Education Outreach Campaign and Enforcement; Resolution on the Regional System for Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights (CCL); Resolution on the Adoption of the Recommendations of the Regional Committee on Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property for the Caribbean; and Resolution on Future Collaboration Between WIPO and Caribbean Countries for the Further Development of Intellectual Property in the Region.

## **Sub-Program 12.2 – Special Focus Areas**

138. With respect to intellectual property legislation, developing countries continued to receive assistance in preparing new, or updating existing, intellectual property laws in compliance with current international standards, including the TRIPS Agreement. During the first half of 2002, 15 draft laws for 11 countries and 26 sets of comments for 16 countries were prepared and submitted upon request. Legislative advice was provided on 160 texts of legislation for 11 countries. The topics covered the protection of patents, industrial designs, trademarks, geographical indications, layout-designs or topographies of integrated circuits, copyright and related rights, protection against acts of unfair competition as well as

enforcement. In addition, many discussions on legislative advice were held with government officials in Geneva or in the capitals.

139. Information on intellectual property matters continued to be made available by WIPO. The monthly periodical *Intellectual Property Laws and Treaties* was published on paper in English and French (preparations for its electronic publication on the WIPO website as from the 2002 issues continued). Information and documentation was provided in response to enquiries and requests received from external sources. The Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA) database was updated: during the period under review, 81 bibliographic data entries were recreated and 102 full legislative texts were added on the Internet. As of June 30, 2002, a total of 2,691 bibliographic entries, relating to the laws of 62 countries and the European Communities, as well as texts of treaties and conventions administered or not administered by WIPO have been published on the Internet. In addition, preparations continued for the issuance of a further, updated version of the IPLEXCD-ROM containing legislative texts (national laws, regional laws, multilateral treaties and bilateral treaties) in English and French.

140. With respect to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) requirements, the Joint WIPO/WTO Regional Workshop on Implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) took place in Dares Salaam, Tanzania, in April. Around 140 senior government officials, including 25 women, were present at the Workshop, representing Ministries of Industry, Trade and Justice. The purpose of the workshop was to allow senior officials from African LDCs and Haiti to discuss international norms and standards of intellectual property rights, as well as current intellectual property issues, including the results of the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Doha, Qatar. The Workshop contributed to institution building by providing clarification of obligations under the TRIPS Agreement, including the Doha Declaration. It articulated the measures required to be taken at the national level for TRIPS compliance, and broadened the knowledge among participants of the salient features of various international agreements on intellectual property and on the technical assistance available from WIPO and the WTO (see paragraph 17).

141. Concerning copyright collective management, an Inter-Regional Meeting on Copyright and Related Rights was held in Manama, Bahrain, in February, in cooperation with the Ministry of Information of the State of Bahrain. The objective of the meeting was to provide a forum for an inter-regional exchange of experiences on standards of protection in the field of copyright and related rights, particularly in light of the implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement).

142. In May, WIPO organized a Subregional Seminar on Copyright and Related Rights for Portuguese-Speaking Countries, in Maputo, Mozambique. The Seminar, initially programmed to be a national one, was enlarged to include all PALOPS (Portuguese-speaking African Countries) countries after the signing of the Cooperation Agreement between WIPO and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), which had taken place in Geneva, in April 2002. The Seminar provided an opportunity to discuss WIPO's activities with high-level policymakers of the government of Mozambique and other participating countries. It also provided an opportunity for participants to understand and copyright protection as it is governed at international and national levels and the importance of collective management as a tool for wealth creation.

143. With respect to infrastructure services and innovation promotion, during the period under review, a total of 44 WIPO Awards for Outstanding Inventors were bestowed in National and International competitions or fairs, to 44 inventors from 24 different countries. At the beginning of 2002, WIPO launched the "WIPO Creativity Award," to encourage artistic and copyright-related activity, as well as creative activity in the digital environment. Six WIPO Creativity Awards were bestowed in four National competitions, of which two on the occasion of the celebration of the World Intellectual Property Day on April 26, 2002.

144. In addition, WIPO participated in I. Tex 2002 Conference Technopreneurship: Bringing Innovation to the Global Market, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in March; held discussions with officials at the Ajman University, Dubai, to explore collaboration initiatives in the field of innovation promotion, in April; and attended an experts' meeting on the Establishment of an Arab Innovators Forum, at WIPO, Geneva, in June.

145. WIPO also organized and participated in the following seminars: Regional Conference on Innovation and Appropriate Technology: Intellectual Property Aspects and the Transfer of Technology, organized in cooperation with the Registrar General's Office of the Ministry of Law and Constitutional Affairs in Lesotho, in February; International Workshop on Management and Commercialization of Inventions and Technology, organized in cooperation with the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), the Institute of Technology and Superior Studies of Monterrey (ITESM), and with the participation of the University of Akron, Ohio (United States of America), held in Monterrey, Mexico, in April; Second International Forum on Invention and Creativity – A Better World for Humanity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, organized in Beijing in May, in cooperation with the State Intellectual Property (SIPO) of the People's Republic of China; Sub-Regional Workshop on the Role of Intellectual Property in Universities and Research and Development (R&D), organized in Dakar (Senegal), in June, in cooperation with the Government of Senegal, and the Fund for Assistance to the Promotion of Inventions and Innovations (*Fonds d'aide à la promotion de l'invention et de l'innovation – FAPI*).

146. Work started on a proposal for an Internet-based International Directory of Innovation Centers/Services, to include basic information on the activities and contact addresses (including weblinks), as well as on the creation of a web-based tool to facilitate the networking between innovation centers, innovation and technology managers, participants in WIPO workshops. This would include a structure for the regular exchange of experiences between the centers and innovation and technology managers/users or institutions working in commercialization and on other related issues.

147. A second follow-up expert mission to Dakar was undertaken in April to assist the "Agences sénégalaise pour l'innovation technologique (ASIT)" to become fully operational in the promotion of innovations and inventions in Senegal. An expert mission took also place in Burkina Faso in May.

148. During the period under review, in the area of Industrial Property Information Services, the final Industrial Property Statistics for 1999 were reprocessed and extracts published on the Internet in May 2002, together with the provisional statistics for the year 2000. A consultancy study relating to the future provision of WIPO Industrial Property Statistics Services and Publications was carried out and a report produced in April 2002. The study report addressed such issues as the increased availability of statistics in electronic form and the development of a statistic time-series database. WIPO also participated in a first meeting of a Patents Statistics Task Force established to review the possible use of patent statistics in a

broader policy framework. Other members of the Task Force are OECD, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Japan Patent Office, the EPO and the European Commission.

149. As to the ePatent Documentation Products, under a joint agreement with the EPO, the GlobalPat classified collection of patent documentation was extended to include patents published from 1997 until end 2000. Copies of the update, each of which comprised some 73 CD-ROMs, were issued free of charge in February 2002 to some 120 WIPO Member States.

150. Within the framework of the WIPO Patent Information Services, WIPO staff participated in national seminars in Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Qatar, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. These seminars addressed universities, industrial associations, chambers of commerce, associations of inventors and staff of the Industrial Property Offices and presentations were made on WIPO services, technological information and economic development, access to patent information, online databases, transfer of technology, etc.

151. During the first six months of 2002, WIPO received a total of 627 state-of-the-art search requests and 335 online search requests, while about 120 000 copies of patent documents were distributed.

### **Sub-Program 12.3 – PCT, Madrid and The Hague Systems Cooperation**

152. With respect to the objective of increasing the awareness, knowledge, and better use of the PCT among developing countries, one evening seminar and ten national seminars were organized in the first six months of 2002, which reached 715 participants. Four workshop on training in PCT procedures were undertaken, involving 318 participants. In addition, officials from 2 developing countries received training at WIPO headquarters on PCT procedures.

153. To enhance cooperation with developing countries on PCT matters, three missions were undertaken to promote accession to the PCT and/or to provide advice and assistance concerning the PCT; one study visit to WIPO headquarters was arranged; and two presentations on the PCT were given to industry associations where there were 415 interested participants.

154. One developing country deposited its instrument of accession during the period, bringing the total to 116 PCT Contracting States, of which 62 are developing countries.

155. During the first six months of 2002, nine missions were undertaken to conduct information meetings and consultations and to speak at seminars promoting the Madrid and The Hague systems. Training was provided at WIPO headquarters on procedures under the Madrid Protocol to two countries. In addition, the presence of representatives from five developing countries or countries in transit to attend different WIPO committees was used to organize study visits to appropriate WIPO Departments, with the aim of increasing awareness and knowledge about the Madrid and The Hague systems and their advantages.

156. According to WIPO statistics issued earlier this year, developing countries were designated for protection under the Madrid Protocol 44,300 times in 2001, and received close to 5.5 million Swiss francs in designation fees last year.

157. From January to June, 2002, two countries in transition acceded to the Madrid Protocol and three either acceded to, or ratified, the 1999 Act of The Hague Agreement.

### **Sub-Program 12.4 – Intellectual Property Office Automation**

158. In the framework of this sub-program, activities focussed on:

- the development of a policy paper defining the objectives and outlining the framework for carrying out automation activities in countries that require assistance, taking into account the existing situation, challenges faced, collective experience and best practices;

- the review of existing Intellectual Property Office Automation Division (IPOA) activities and the undertaking of initiatives to coordinate, consolidate, strengthen or improve them. The nature of initiatives included deployment of automation projects, evaluation of proposals, technical advice and oversight, assessment and analysis of IPO office needs, incorporation of proven systems, as well as best practices, and addressing sustainability issues. In this connection, several advisory missions were undertaken in all regions;

- the performing of on-site assessments of the ongoing automation projects in three countries in the Arab States region, which resulted in improved coordination, planning and deployment;

- the launching of automation projects in IPO offices of six pilot countries in the Africa region (Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe). Preparatory planning missions were undertaken between April and May 2002 to these Offices. Deployment will be based on appropriate technologies and a basic software model that would be customized for each IPO office to incorporate its legislation, rules and procedures, workflow, official documents and publication requirements. The software functionality will include processing of trademarks, which constitute the main workload in small to medium-sized IPO offices. Patents and Industrial Designs processing will also be included. Besides the software component, the projects will cover the IT infrastructure requirements, the data capture of active archive records, training and technical support. These projects are in early planning stages;

- the evaluation of the possible use of the WIPO NET Kit computers for IPO office automation projects and use of the WIPO NET Data Center for providing automation related services to IPO offices including distribution of software upgrades, online technical support and access to IPOA database and website;

- the development of an IPOA database and website that would serve as a repository for institutional experience and knowledge, with some testing and data capture. One service for online updating of the Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) by IPO offices was completed and demonstrated at the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) Seventh Plenary Session held in June;

- the continued development and execution of the WIPO Regional Information System Development Project for Caribbean countries. In March 2002, the first version of the Trademarks System was installed and configured according to the needs of the Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago, in Port of Spain. In addition, a CD-ROM demo version of the Trademark System, together with a sample database and extensive help, was sent to the Caribbean IPO offices to allow the staff of the Offices to perform all main data

entry and search functions;

– the assessment and deployment planning of automation systems for collective management of copyright and related rights, known as AFRICOS, which is currently deployed in a few collective management societies in Africa, as several more in the region have requested for it. The Russian Authors Society has also requested it for possible use by its neighboring countries. The system is being evaluated for stability, scalability, language adaptability, compatibility with international systems, training, support and resource requirements to sustain further deployments.

## MAIN PROGRAM 13

### Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia

159. During the first half of 2002, implementation progressed as planned. Activities undertaken continued to focus on the provision of legal advice, capacity building for the creation and further development of lasting institutions, human resource development and awareness-raising.

160. Consultations were undertaken with four governments on the modernization of their national intellectual property legislation, with five governments concerning the ratification of, or accession to, WIPO-administered treaties, and with a number of other governments on general IP issues.

161. WIPO also cooperated actively with twelve governments in the development and implementation of three Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), seven bilateral cooperation programs, one memorandum of understanding and one country project, aimed at assisting national authorities in achieving more efficient management and use of the intellectual property system. In addition, two IPO Offices received advice on the computerization of their operations and four countries were provided with computer and other equipment.

162. Furthermore, five country projects aimed at capacity building in the area of collective management of copyright and related rights were implemented.

163. Continued attention was given to the issue of enforcement of IP rights. Approximately 260 officials from industrial property and copyright administrations, the judiciary, the legal profession, police, customs and other law enforcement agencies were retrained in two national seminars. The purpose of these events was to increase the participants' knowledge to effectively deal with piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property assets and ultimately to strengthen the juridical and administrative mechanisms for the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

164. One interregional forum, one sub-regional and one national seminar were organized on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and intellectual property, which were attended by some 440 participants. The objectives of these seminars were to increase the awareness of government officials, managers of SMEs, representatives of SME support organizations and industrial property attorneys of the central role of intellectual property assets in creating and sustaining business success in domestic and international markets for all types of SMEs,

ranging from the traditional to the most technologically advanced, and the need for proper management of IP assets.

165. In addition, two national awareness seminars were held, attended by some 215 participants. Topical issues and subjects included: commercialization, valuation and management of intellectual property assets, as well as new developments in the protection of biotechnological inventions and plant varieties.

166. Furthermore, WIPO cooperated with the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) in the organization of a Regional Seminar on IP for Young Professionals, and WIPO officials participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Interstate Council on the Protection of Industrial Property (ICPIP).

167. A number of countries from the region received assistance to attend WIPO meetings, including the International Forum on IP and Traditional Knowledge, in Oman, and the Second International Forum on Creativity and Innovation, in China.

168. Moreover, assistance was provided for the translation into Russian of the WIPO Internet Domain Name Process Report.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 14**

### **The WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA)**

169. During the first half of 2002, the WIPO Worldwide Academy continued to implement activities for the development of human resources through distance learning, professional training, and policy development.

170. Some 222 participants from over 100 countries attended seminars, meetings, courses, including post-graduate courses, and general and special sessions organized by the professional-level training and policy development programs. Furthermore, some 230 local participants attended the special sessions of the Academy in Khartoum and Singapore.

171. The distance learning program reached 3,189 students through its regular sessions and 34 WIPO staff members received IP training in a special session. The Distance Learning Course was a prerequisite for all of the 80 participants in the Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property, thereby consolidating the links between two key training programs of the Academy.

172. The Library provided reference and research services to some 275 visitors, 140 new books were ordered and 400 items catalogued for the Library's database. Over 300 periodical titles were received and circulated to WIPO staff members. A "Table of Contents (TOCs)" of some 35 IP journals was distributed by e-mail to WIPO staff members on a monthly basis. 140 new books, journals and CD-ROMs were purchased. The WIPO Library catalogue continued to be available on the Internet and Intranet.

173. The Library continued to develop its electronic resources. The Library's Intranet site was updated to include new links to various online catalogues, dictionaries, journals, documents, reports, etc. The Library further subscribed to six online information products via



the “United Nations System Electronic Information Acquisition Consortium (UNSEIAC).” The Library also negotiated a new contract with Lexis Nexis, a major legal database, and provided password access to 10 colleagues at WIPO for this service. The Library further organized a Lexis Nexis training session in April for interested colleagues with a representative from the company.

174. The Academy supervised the International Essay Competition for World Intellectual Property Day, with 140 entries received.

### **Sub-Program 14.1 – Distance Learning and Outreach**

175. During this period two regular sessions of the General Distance Learning course, DL-101, were held with a total of 3,189 registered students. Breakdowns of these sessions, held from March 1 to April 15, and June 1 to July 15 respectively, were as follows:  
English - 1,308 (658) participants from 121 (104) countries, assisted by 17 (10) tutors;  
French - 209 (83) participants from 38 (26) countries, assisted by 3 (1) tutors;  
Spanish - 255 (303) participants from 23 (26) countries, assisted by 4 (4) tutors and  
Chinese - 265 (108) participants from 8 (1) countries, assisted by 4 (2) tutors. All the 80 participants in the Professional Training Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property (June 5 to 7, 2002) completed the DL -101 course before attending the seminar.

176. At the request of, and in coordination with the Staff Development Section, a special session of DL -101 was held in March and April, for a total of 34 WIPO staff members (14 English speaking and 20 French speaking).

177. It should be noted that the basis for collecting statistics of participation in the DL -101 course was modified to include only those who have committed themselves to the course and not those who have simply registered.

178. During the period under review, an updated and newly designed CD-ROM version (English, French and Spanish) of the General Course on Intellectual Property DL -101 was created, containing three new modules. The translations of the DL -101 course in Arabic, Portuguese and Russian were completed and work progressed on their on-line implementation. Furthermore, a Learning Management System (LMS) was acquired for the Academy by the IT Services Division to facilitate the administration of the courses. Implementation is foreseen at the beginning of next year.

### **Sub-Program 14.2 – Professional Training**

179. During the period under review the following professional training courses were organized:

- WIPO/European Patent Office (EPO)/Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) Training Seminar on “Administrative Issues in Patent and Trademark Procedures” (Geneva, Alicante, The Hague, March 2002) in English, for officials from patent and trademark departments of industrial property offices in developing countries and countries in transition. A total of 19 participants from 15 countries attended the seminar.

- WIPO/Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) Training Workshop on “Client Service and Quality Management in the Delivery of Patent Services” (Gatineau, Canada, May

2002) in English, for officials from the Asia and Pacific Region. The 12 participants, from many developing countries, were senior officials from national industrial property offices being in a position to influence the daily management of their offices.

- WIPO "Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property" (Geneva, June 2002) in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish. Follow-up practical training courses were organized in June, in cooperation with the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT, Cairo), the Austrian Patent Office (APO, Vienna), the Benelux Trademark Office (The Hague), the *Centred'Etudes Internationales de la Propriété Industrielle* (CEIPI, Strasbourg), EPO (The Hague and Vienna), the German Patent and Trademark Office (GPTO, Munich), the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic (Prague), the Israel Patent Office (Jerusalem), the Moroccan Intellectual Property Office (OMPI, Casablanca), the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI, Lisbon), the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI, Paris), the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM, Madrid), and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (OFPI, Bern). A total of 80 participants attended from 70 developing countries, countries in transition and one regional organization.

- WIPO/EPO/Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM) Training Seminar on "Coordinated Patent Examination Procedures" (Geneva, Madrid, Munich, May 2002) in Spanish, for nationals of Latin American and Caribbean countries. A total of 16 participants from 16 countries participated in the seminar.

### **Sub-program 14.3 – Policy Development**

180. The following Academy Sessions were organized during the first half of 2002:

- Academy Session on "Intellectual Property and Development" (Khartoum, Sudan, January 2002) in Arabic and English. This session was attended by 17 participants from developing countries and one intergovernmental organization and approximately 200 local participants.

- Special Academy Session for Ambassadors (Geneva, February 2002), in English, for Ambassadors based in Geneva. This session was attended by 13 Ambassadors from 13 countries.

- Academy Session on "Intellectual Property for Francophone Countries" (Geneva, February 2002). The 12 participants were high-level officials from ministries and IP offices from Africa and Haiti.

- Special Academy Session on "Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights" (Washington, May 2002) in English, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the USPTO for senior enforcement officials from developing countries and countries in transition. The session was attended by a total of 14 participants from 14 countries.

- Academy Session on "Intellectual Property and Development" (Singapore, June 2002) in English. This session was attended by 19 participants from 19 developing countries and countries in transition and 30 local participants.

181. In addition, a training course on the “Administration of Patents” was organized (Oslo, June 2002) in English, in cooperation with the Norwegian Patent Office. The course was attended by 20 participants from 20 developing countries.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 15**

### **Information Technology**

182. During the period under review, a number of common policies and practices were implemented, for example the introduction of regular progress reports to the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT). The delivery of major IT projects (e.g. WIPONET and IMPACT) continued to advance within time and budget deadlines. Work progressed on enhancing the capacity of the International Bureau’s own IT networks, to facilitate the handover and operation of these major news systems, while fully maintaining existing service levels.

#### **Sub-Program 15.1 – Information Technology Support**

183. A four-monthly reporting system on IT activities and projects was mandated by the SCIT and established in 2001 (SCIT 6/7 Annex III). The first reports were made available during the first semester of 2002 on the SCIT web site. Support activities, such as the establishment and provision of training activities for IT managers, were provided and a first round of management and leadership courses were organized, in order to ensure the ongoing improvement of professional skills for staff members within the Program.

184. The Seventh Session of the SCIT Plenary was held in June 2002, finalizing the SCIT reform, which was initiated in January 2001. During this June session, the SCIT approved an extensive amount of work to be undertaken in the area of standards and documentation. The Secretariat presented an overview of the WIPO “IT Strategic Planning Process,” which received strong support.

#### **Sub-Program 15.2 – Information Technology Services**

185. An implementation strategy was established for WIPO’s Information Security Policies, which had been developed and approved in 2001. All on-going IT support activities continued to progress during the first six months of 2002. The following statistics give an indication of the scale of internal IT Services operation: some 1200 workstations were supported; the upgrade to Group Wise version 6.0.1 was completed; and the internal help desk received and processed over 9,000 calls. Over 60 internal servers were supported with sustained availability of 99.5 percent; new Internet e-mail gateways, targeting availability of 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, were processing up to 9,000 messages (sent and received) per day.

186. In addition to maintaining the existing WIPO IT infrastructure, work was completed to extend the WIPONET network to a further four locations. As part of the “Failsafe Organization-wide Customer-oriented Uppgradeable Secure” (FOCUS) IT systems project, aimed at significantly upgrading the performance, security and functionality of WIPO’s internal computer networks, High-Speed Inter-building Data Links were installed, resulting in a 50 to 500-fold performance increase; the migration of 80 percent of the WIPO internal

network to a switched Fast Ethernet solution resulted in a five-fold increase in desktop performance. The new firewall system was completed, to improve the security and to provide faster access to WIPO Internet resources from the internal network.

187. Over two million Internet/Intranet pages were requested per month and statistics show around 60 million hits on the WIPO website in the first six months of 2002.

188. The processing of the backlog of PCT OCR work was accelerated, so that data available for PCT Electronic Gazette purposes became up-to-date. Negotiations with the present contractor were underway, to define a way to transfer the data to WIPO in a more timely manner, in particular using on-line services through WIPO NET. The contract with the present contractor having expired at the end of 2001, a tendering process was initiated.

### **Sub-program 15.3 – WIPO NET**

189. The WIPO NET project progressed as follows: Phase I deployment continued in 2002, with 19 new IPO Offices receiving the WIPO NET KIT in the first six months of 2002, bringing the total to 38. Two Helpdesks, one dealing with the WIPO NET CENTER and the other with the WIPO NET KIT became operational. Training related to the use of the network and the KIT started in late April, with regional training workshops being held, twice in Geneva and once in Moscow. IT

### **Sub-program 15.4 – IMPACT**

190. A Service Level Agreement between the IMPACT team, the IT Support Division, the Buildings Division and the Office of the PCT was introduced, for the purposes of ensuring a high level of service to PCT operations. Release 7.5 of the Intermediate Scanning Office (ISO) system was delivered, tested and installed in production. With regard to the International Bureau (IB) module, the requirements specification were finished on target in January 2002, by which time around 90 use cases had been drafted, reviewed and submitted for approval. The establishment of the IB development team was completed, and software development was underway.

### **Sub-program 15.5 – PCT Electronic -filing**

191. Standards for the electronic filing and processing of international applications were developed and translated into modifications to the Administrative Instructions (Part 7) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and under Rule 89.2(b) of the Regulations of the PCT. These modifications came into effect on January 7, 2002, after they were republished in the PCT Gazette in a Special Issue No. S-04/2001 on December 27, 2001. Following an internal competition, among the entire Office of the PCT staff, the name PCT-SAFE (Secure Applications Filed Electronically) was established as the name for the PCT Electronic Filing project and its associated software. A fully operational Alpha software, based on *epoline*® and PCT-EASY, was produced in February 2002. This was followed by an extended PCT-EASY software which was ready for beta testing by applicants by the end of April 2002. At the same time the E-filing database for Receiving Office/International Bureau (RO/IB) servers software was made available for beta testing by formalities examiners.

## **Sub-program 15.6 – CLAIMS**

192. In January and February 2002 an independent technical assessment was carried out on the key components of IBIS (the predecessor to CLAIMS), under which several major amendments and enhancements needed prior to the commencement of the CLAIMS Project were developed and implemented. Also an extensive literature research was done on the automatic categorization technologies and their use in the patent information field. Preliminary information was gathered on use of translation memories.

193. In the on-line environments supporting the IPC reform, the performance of the XML publishing framework was improved (by two to three times); a new display mode was developed (hierarchical view); the hierarchical/path view and the full-text view were linked; links were provided to the various language versions of IPC (Chinese, Czech, Dutch, German, Hungarian, Korean, Spanish); links were provided to the static IPC version (which was aligned to the standard WIPO design); a fully hyper-linked PDF version was developed (with collapsible bookmarks for the IPC entries) and with placeholders for external referencing as URL.

## **Sub-program 15.7 – AIMS**

194. The first part of 2002 was devoted to the Software Package Selection Phase, during which a number of presentations were organized with vendors, to evaluate their software package offers, following the tendering process. In May, further meetings were held in order to assess the packages in detail and to move towards the final selection. Extensive user involvement was assured; a large number of test scenarios were developed to ensure that the final choice would meet WIPO's requirements to the greatest extent possible.

195. The Recruitment Phase, undertaken in parallel, resulted in the identification of 30 per cent of the required human resources needed in the next phase of the project (mainly external contractors), and in the advertising for the recruitment of internal resources (consultants).

## **MAIN PROGRAM 16**

### **Human Resources Management**

196. Activities focussed on the strengthening of the frameworks and processes for human resources management, including, *inter alia*, the upgrading of the human resources information system for the management of absences (FlexiTime). Work was also completed on the report by external consultants on the recruitment and retention of staff by WIPO. In addition, improvements continued to be made with respect to staff healthcare. New arrangements were concluded with an external language training provider, for the provision of language courses to WIPO staff, while the options for management training were further expanded.

### **Sub-program 16.1 – Engagements**

197. During the period under review, some 56 competitions were announced and 78 staff were recruited, transferred, promoted or regularized. In addition, a total of 332 short-term employees, 69 consultants, 44 SSA and 27 SL holders held contracts during the first half of

2002. During this period more than 2,828 applications were received for competitions and evaluated, together with spontaneous applications, for both Professional and General Services posts. Finally, over 71 interviews and 18 typing tests were conducted.

## **Sub-program 16.2 – Staff Benefits and Welfare**

198. Benefits and entitlements were administered for 880 staff members, as well as for consultants, short term employees and holders of SSA and SLC contracts; 58 briefings were carried out for newly appointed regular staff. Some 344 reports related to contracts were processed; 71 promotions were calculated and implemented, and 22 requests for the granting of language allowances were studied on the basis of the relevant job description requirements. Various other administrative procedures involved the calculation and processing of some 137 dependency declarations; payment of 59 advances and indemnities related to education grants; calculation and verification of 235 rental subsidies; maternity leave, home leave, education grant travels, separations and transfers. In addition, 420 attestations, 55 United Nations “laissez -passer” and 383 new requests and renewals for Swiss identity cards were processed; 3,360 requests for annual, credit and compensatory leave; recording of approximately 6,600 attestations for sick leave for all categories of staff and employees, as well as the control, recording and compensation of approximately 25,500 hours of overtime.

199. In the framework of WIPO’s Social Security scheme, 79 new staff members and employees join the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), bringing the total number of participants to 1,175. Some 179 WIPO staff and their families joined the Van Breda medical insurance scheme, bringing the total number of persons insured to 2,596. Four staff members and two spouses joined the optional group life insurance. In addition, 50 accident declarations, 68 requests for medical insurance repayments for short term employees, 23 UNJSPF separation settlements or withdrawal settlements and 70 miscellaneous certificates were processed. Due to the inflation of medical costs in Switzerland and in most reference countries, the increase in the administration costs charged by Van Breda and a substantial rise in the number of serious illnesses, the WIPO Group Medical and Accident Insurance Management Committee recommended an increase of the group medical insurance premiums as of January 1, 2002. The annual deductible was also increased at the same time. The WIPO (Closed) Pension Fund considered the accounts for the year 2001, as well as documents relating to the pensions supplements paid to retired staff. The Chalet Erika, property of the Fund, was sold in May 2002.

200. Concerning Staff Welfare, a wide variety of queries were received and assistance was provided to staff seeking support for problems of a private or professional nature. Approximately 75 percent of newly hired WIPO staff sought active help from the Organization for housing, schooling and day care needs. A new area of focus was in the organization of meetings for children of staff that were new arrivals to Geneva; one was held in conjunction with the *Fondation de Genève* and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). In conjunction with the UN, a seminar on retirement issues was organized for colleagues due to retire in the next two years. A retirement brochure was prepared and distributed to all colleagues who participated in this seminar.

### **Sub-program 16.3 – Staff Management Policy and Development**

201. Activities continued in relation to the formulation of general human resources management policies, by keeping with trends and developments within the Common System of the United Nations and introducing amendments to the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules. There were no sessions of the Classification Committee or the Promotion Advisory Board during the period under review.

202. Staff development activities continued to concentrate on three main training areas, namely management and team building, communication, and technical training (responding to specific needs). Eight team-building sessions took place, six of which were organized for the PCT sector, to facilitate the change of working environments. Altogether, 140 staff members attended a team-building workshop. Specific management training was provided on an ad-hoc basis. Language courses were attended by some 500 participants, who benefited from courses in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish, as well as English and French oral expression courses. The new language-training scheme, organized in collaboration with a Geneva language school, was highly appreciated; the number of staff following language courses has considerably increased. During the period under review, seven induction sessions took place for newly recruited staff and a specific course for newly recruited secretaries was organized. Technical training for IT specialists was organized on request. The WIPO Worldwide Academy's Distance Learning course on Intellectual Property was attended by 34 staff members, participating in English or French sessions. In addition, 30 staff members attended courses related to their professional needs (contracts, protocol, coaching skill set etc.)

### **Sub-program 16.4 – Healthcare Services**

203. For the first six months of the year 2002, some 2,610 medical interventions were performed, which encompassed the following: consultations for staff members, retirees, and visiting delegates, vaccinations, medical emergencies, entrance examinations for short term staff members, Academy interns and consultants, as well as pre- and post-mission briefings with the provision of mission kits. Additional activities included an anti-stress seminar campaign, in cooperation with the Staff Development Section; sanitary inspections, which were carried out twice in WIPO cafeterias by an independent laboratory; and the distribution of 25 ergonomic chairs for staff members with spinal conditions.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 17**

### **Administrative Services**

204. Administrative support services continued to be provided to Member States, and to all other private and public users, as well as to the staff of the Secretariat. During the first semester of 2002, work progressed on the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS), and the Administration Information Management System (AIMS) project, a major information technology-based initiative which will replace the existing Finance and Budget reporting systems, with benefits to all Program managers.

### **Sub-program 17.1 – Financial Operations**

205. Accurate records were kept of all income and expenditures, and the monthly and annual accounts were maintained in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization. The WIPO financial accounts for the 2000–2001 biennium were closed in December 2001. The Financial Management Report was prepared, published and audited by the Federal Audit Office of the Swiss Confederation by June 1, 2002. The accounts and treasury were found to be well kept and no negative comments were made by the auditors. The Financial Management Report together with the full audit report were prepared to be sent to all Member States by the end of July 2002. Distribution of the Madrid Union supplementary and complementary fees and the Hague Union State fees for 2001 (totaling 26.8 million Swiss francs) were processed on time, as were the monthly distributions of the individual fees related to the Madrid Protocol for the first six months of 2002 (totaling approximately 21 million Swiss francs).

206. The Administration Information Management System (AIMS) project, which will implement a new finance and budget information system, was well underway. Since January 2002, a project structure was put in place, a clear description of the required specifications was established, and discussions with other organizations took place to benefit from their experience. A Request for Proposal was sent to the three major Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) package vendors, to launch the software selection process in June 2002, to be followed by the negotiations pertaining to the selection of that system.

207. As concern the investment services and management of funds, all available funds continued to be fully invested. The Investment Advisory Committee met in March 2002 to review WIPO's investments and decided to continue to place the investment funds with the Swiss Central Bank (which yielded 3.25 and 3.625 percent per annum during the first and second quarter of 2002, respectively).

### **Sub-program 17.2 – Language Service**

208. Laws, regulations, model laws or draft laws were translated into one or several languages for 12 countries or groups of countries. Documents for 22 meetings, as well as lectures for seminars or training courses organized in the first half of 2002, were translated, revised or edited. The translation process continued to take advantage of information technology, using in particular a terminology databases accessible by each translator, as well as tools and resources available on the Internet. Evaluation of a variety of computer-assisted translation software led to the final choice of a modern documentary search tool, the purchase of which was recommended.

### **Sub-program 17.3 – Conference, Communications, Records and Publications Production Services**

209. Conference support services were provided for 29 meetings (totaling 2,472 participants) in Geneva and 80 meetings elsewhere; 262 interpreters were recruited, for a total of 1,077 workdays. Substantial savings in mailing and telecommunications call costs were obtained in the competitive communications services sectors. The estimated overall volume of outgoing mail in the first half of 2002 was some 190,000 kg (marginally less than for the same period in 2001, the slight decrease resulting mainly from a larger use of IT communications). Over 150,000 letters and parcels were processed by the Records



Management and Archives Service. The incoming mail was subject to enhanced security checks. Work was initiated to improve the classification and preservation of the Organization's physical archives. Total telecommunications charges increased slightly in the first half of 2002, compared to the same period in 2001, reflecting an increase in the volume of communications, offset largely by a reduction in call charges and savings in linerental costs. The use of portable telephones also increased, with the benefit of more efficient communications. Additional messenger driver and communication links had to be introduced from newly rented premises occupied by WIPO.

210. Progress continued in introducing information technology to WIPO conferences and meetings. A comprehensive Intranet home page was launched, providing staff with a facility to refer quickly and easily to detailed information concerning the services of the Conference, Communications and Records Management and Archives Division. Work continued on streamlining the processes of printing and mailing of WIPO documents for meetings, with many documents becoming available via the WIPO main website. Many internal information circulars are also made available to staff electronically. Planning of the Electronic Document Management System pilot project, designed to modernize the processing of the Organization's correspondence and to establish a fully electronic environment for the production, management and archiving of documents, was largely completed. Arrangements were well advanced for a new badging system for delegates and an electronic notice board system (to replace the present paper-based meeting information dissemination method).

211. In the Publications Production Services some 50 million faceprints were made. The color-printing engine installed in the Printshop allows full color printing; during the first six months of 2002, this facility provided savings to the Organization of some 250,000 Swiss francs as compared to the potential cost of outsourcing. In order to continue to have the most up-to-date printing technology available at the lowest cost, an international competition for replacing the high-volume laser printers in both printing plants was organized.

#### **Sub-Program 17.4 – Procurement, Contracts and Travel Services**

212. The main focus continued to be on maintaining and improving efficient and transparent procurement activities, so as to provide the Organization with the most suitable goods and effective services. As in the past, particular attention was given to large WIPO projects such as the new premises construction and IT-related activities; a very high number of international competitive procurement tenders (approximately 50) were carried out mainly in connection to those projects. While implementing the above-listed activities, all necessary efforts were taken, when invitations to tender were issued, to increase the number and countries of origin of potential suppliers.

213. Procurement contract activities relating to the major WIPO construction and IT projects, as well as administrative areas consisted of: (a) finalization of outstanding issues related to contracts for the modernization of the EX-2000 building; (b) support for the negotiation of various contracts for the provision of construction-related engineering expertise; (c) support to the current large contracts related to the implementation of the IMPACT and WIPO NET projects; (d) launch of the Request for Proposals for the AIMS project, and participation in the evaluation and selection of the best proposal; (e) participation in collective negotiations with the *Services Industriels de Genève* (SIG), together with the United Nations Joint Purchase Service (UNJPS), which will enable WIPO to realize considerable savings over the next seven years.

214. Other activities included the maintenance of the existing Procurement web pages and of the inventory management system, for organizational space and assets. During the first semester of 2002, WIPO issued and registered 1,146 purchase orders for an overall amount of 98.9 million Swiss francs. This represents an increase of approximately 21 per cent, compared to purchase orders issued during the first semester of 2001 (including WIPO technical cooperation procurement figures). As in the past, a large number of procurement contracts for standard office equipment, supplies and furniture were also handled, following international tenders. This resulted in certain economies of scale, by increasing supplier competition. The expeditious processing of various aspects related to diplomatic or service-provider relations continued to be provided.

215. Activities related to Travel Services increased during this period. One important aspect concerned the obtaining of better airline tariffs, through WIPO's chairmanship of negotiations between the intergovernmental organizations based in Geneva, on the one hand, and a group of major airline companies. The obtained lower fare structures allowed an increase in savings to benefit WIPO. The six-month total of travel authorizations in 2002, 1,305 (1,156 in the same six-month period of 2001), were processed with a savings of 966,428.00 Swiss francs (586,100.00 in same period of 2001), principally by use of those negotiated fares. During the period covered by this Overview, some 645 visas were processed, as well as 990 requests for diplomatic privileges. Also, 2,249 VAT exemption forms were checked and then processed.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 18**

### **Premises**

216. In the first half of 2002, progress regarding WIPO premises consisted of a continuation of activities undertaken in 2001, with particular emphasis on: the leasing of new working places; the modernization and maintenance of WIPO's leased or owned properties; the renovation of the existing WIPO property, as well as the further development of the new building project.

#### **Sub-program 18.1 – Premises Management**

217. The search for new leased office spaces resulted in a lease, taking effect in April 2002, in the *Casai* building, offering some 70 working places and associated parking. After some renovation, staff of the Organization transferred to the building in early June. Installation of a security system, compatible with the existing system, was still underway at the time of this reporting. Negotiations were underway for a location to store PCT files, after scanning, in a site named 'Les Sablières' offering over 500m<sup>2</sup> of storage space. Finally, the leasing of 20 additional parking spaces were under negotiation at the 'Giuseppe Motta' property.

#### **Sub-program 18.2 – Office Space, Maintenance and Security**

218. The continuous growth of the Organization implies that owned or leased space increases commensurately, to meet the demand for office space. The best guarantee of a state of high quality and reliability of the technical installations within WIPO's several properties, is to assure they receive dedicated maintenance procedures for constant, regular upkeep, so as to respond fully to the needs of staff and delegates.

219. Specifications were finalized for the Request for Proposals for a new contract for the maintenance of the grounds and gardens of WIPO's properties. Technical descriptions were also prepared for a Request for Proposals relating to a new site for the secured opening of the incoming mail. Following a study undertaken in 2001, new procedures concerning site accessibility became operational. Specifications and security instructions were finalized for a Request for Proposals, aimed at providing enhanced security of the WIPO buildings as of September 2002. A study was produced for the reduction of costs associated with overall security, targeting the reduction of security agents, as well as an increased flexibility of the security measures taken with respect to the delivery of mail.

220. In January 2002, an agreement signed at the end of 2001 entered into effect, between WIPO and enterprises that guarantee the maintenance of ideal conditions for the proper functioning of the Secretariat's information technology installations.

### **Sub-program 18.3 – Renovation of the Former WMO Building**

221. The ex-WMO building renovation work proceeded as planned; the concrete and stonework were nearly completed. The building took on, in this first half of 2002, its final framed appearance, and work to connect it with the George Bodenhausen (GBI and II) wings (via a gallery and above-ground passageways) advanced, while various major elements (e.g.: heating, electrical and plumbing systems) in the ex-WMO underground floors began to be installed. During the period in review, three amendments to the principal contract with the general contractors were concluded. The first regularized and guaranteed payment schedules in tandem with the advancement of the scheduled work. The second authorized additional work to augment the medium voltage electrical facility, which will assure redundancy of electrical energy supplies for the entire WIPO compound. The last concerned the upgrading to current standards of the drainage of terrain surrounding GBI and II.

### **Sub-program 18.4 – New Construction**

222. A general estimate of the new building project was completed. The document (May 2002), showing the costs estimated by both architects and engineers, based on the original winning design, confirmed the first budgetary estimates as indicated in the project-planning phase. Preparations for the summing-up of the detailed plans would be submitted under a Request for Proposals for selecting the general contractor.

223. Actual implementation of the above plans are subject to the review and approval by Member States of the relevant recommendations, submitted by the Federal Audit Office of the Swiss Confederation at the end of June 2002. It is recalled that Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO at their meeting in 2001 requested the Swiss authorities to audit the project as proposed, or to recommend any modifications thereto.

*224. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to note the contents of this document.*

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