

WIPO



A/38/INF/1
ORIGINAL:English
DATE:March25,2003

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

Thirty-Eighth Series of Meetings Geneva, May 26 and 27, 2003

GENERAL INFORMATION

Memorandum of the Secretariat

1. This document deals with the sessions of the following three Assemblies of WIPO and of the Unions administered by WIPO that will meet in extraordinary sessions on May 26 and 27, 2003:

- (1) WIPO General Assembly, twenty-ninth (14th extraordinary) session
- (2) Paris Union Assembly, thirty-third (18th extraordinary) session
- (3) Berne Union Assembly, twenty-ninth (14th extraordinary) session

Members

2. The members of each of the three Assemblies of the Member States are the following:
- (1) WIPO General Assembly: Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe (168).
- (2) Paris Union Assembly: Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania,

Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe (162).

- (3) Berne Union Assembly : Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (as from April 28, 2003), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe (147).

Observers

3. The following *States* may be represented by observers:

- (1) in the WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, any State which, without being a member of that Assembly, is a member of the WIPO Conference,* that is: Andorra, Angola, Brunei Darussalam, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kuwait, Myanmar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Yemen (11);

* The members of the WIPO Conference constitute "the Members of WIPO."

- (2) in the PARIS UNION ASSEMBLY, any State which is
- (i) party to an Act of the Paris Convention which is earlier than the Stockholm (1967) Act, that is: Dominican Republic, Nigeria (2),
 - (ii) a member of WIPO without falling into the preceding category and not being a member of the Paris Union Assembly;
- (3) in the BERNE UNION ASSEMBLY, any State which is
- (i) party to an Act of the Berne Convention which is earlier than the Stockholm (1967) Act, that is: Lebanon, Madagascar, New Zealand (3),
 - (ii) a member of WIPO without falling into the preceding category and not being a member of the Berne Union Assembly.

4. The following *organizations* have been invited to be represented by observers:

in all THE THREE ASSEMBLIES REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 1, ABOVE:

- (i) United Nations (UN), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Universal Postal Union (UPU), World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), World Trade Organization (WTO) (18);
- (ii) African Intellectual Property Organization (AIPO), African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU), Benelux Designs Office (BBDM), Benelux Trademark Office (BBM), Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), European Patent Organisation (EPO), Interstate Council on the Protection of Industrial Property (ICPIP), Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC Patent Office) (9).¹

¹ Since the three Assemblies referred to will be sitting in joint meetings, the invitation to the said intergovernmental organizations to be represented in the sessions of all the said Assemblies is without prejudice to which organization would, under other circumstances, be invited to a given session of any one of the said Assemblies.

- (iii) African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Union (AU), Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO), Asian - African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Central American Economic Integration Secretariat (SIECA), Commission of the European Communities (CEC), Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Commonwealth of Learning (COL), *Communauté économique et monétaire en Afrique centrale* (CEMAC), Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), Conference of Latin American Authorities on Informatics (CALAI), Council of Europe (CE), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), European Audiovisual Observatory, European Free Trade Association (EFTA), Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils (FASRC), General Secretariat of the Andean Community, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), International Olive Oil Council (IOOC), International Vine and Wine Office (IWO), Islamic Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ISESCO), Latin American Economic System (SELA), Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), League of Arab States (LAS), *Secretaría de Cooperación Iberoamericana* (SECIB), *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF), Organization of American States (OAS), Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), South Centre, Southern African Development Community (SADC) (35).

Documents

5. The preparatory documents for the sessions of the three bodies are divided into four sets: three of those correspond to the three bodies, the fourth contains the documents of interest to more than one of the three bodies. This last set bears the symbol "A/38." The symbols used for the other three sets indicate the name of the body, and Arabic numerals indicate the number of the session. They are the following:

"WO/GA/29"	for <u>WIPO</u> <u>General</u> <u>Assembly</u>
"P/A/33"	for <u>Paris</u> <u>Union</u> <u>Assembly</u>
"B/A/29"	for <u>Berne</u> <u>Union</u> <u>Assembly</u>

Rules of Procedure

6. The rules governing the procedure of the Assemblies and other bodies of the Member States of WIPO and the Unions administered by WIPO consist of provisions in the treaties establishing WIPO and the Unions, the "WIPO General Rules of Procedure" (publication 399 Rev.3) and, for most of the bodies, a distinct set of rules, called "Special Rules of Procedure" (document AB/XXIV/INF/2). The said treaties, publication and document are available upon request.

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