

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Sixty-Third Series of Meetings
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NEW ELECTORAL CYCLE OF OFFICERS OF WIPO ASSEMBLIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

Document prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. Building upon the experience with the electoral cycle for officers of the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the present document contains a proposal to align the electoral cycle for the remainder of the officers of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (WIPO Assemblies) and other bodies of the Member States of WIPO with that of the WIPO General Assembly by amending Rule 9(2) of the WIPO General Rules of Procedure. In doing so, the officers' terms of office will begin, as is the case with the officers of the WIPO General Assembly, following the final meeting of the session during which they were elected.
2. It is further proposed to seize this opportunity to modernize the WIPO General Rules of Procedure, as well as the Special Rules of Procedure of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and of the Unions Administered by WIPO (Special Rules of Procedure), in specific, selected points that do not alter the substance of the rules themselves (e.g., gender-neutral language, update of terminology, deletion of obsolete references).
3. Currently, officers begin their terms of office immediately after their election in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the WIPO General Rules of Procedure (General Rules of Procedure).

4. This approach differs from the electoral cycle in place for the officers of the WIPO General Assembly. These officers begin their terms of office, in accordance with Rule 6 of the Special Rules of Procedure of the WIPO General Assembly, following the final meeting of the session during which they were elected. The aforementioned rule was introduced through a consensus decision taken by the WIPO General Assembly in 2016 (see document WO/GA/48/17, paragraphs 17 and 18). With the benefit of nearly six years of experience with this shift in election cycle, it is considered that the shift has proven to be a successful one, the benefits of which are now proposed to be replicated throughout the bodies of WIPO Member States.

RATIONALE FOR A NEW ELECTORAL CYCLE OF OFFICERS

5. The rationale for the proposed change to the electoral cycle is based upon the same justification that was discussed in the context of the decision taken by the WIPO General Assembly in 2016 (see document WO/GA/48/17 paragraphs 17 and 18), and which applies equally to other officer elections.

6. First and foremost, such a change would allow the officers of the relevant bodies the necessary time to efficiently and effectively prepare the respective meetings, and to have more time to familiarize themselves with the often highly technical issues under consideration.

7. The additional preparation time for officers would also facilitate consensus-building, providing additional time for any necessary consultations, and result in more effective and efficient meetings.

8. Finally, the two different legal frameworks for the election of officers at the WIPO Assemblies described above, which currently exist in parallel, would be streamlined into one consistent, electoral cycle for all officers, thus simplifying and making more coherent the governance structure of WIPO.

IMPLICATION REGARDING OFFICERS' TERMS OF OFFICE

9. If the proposed decision to change the electoral cycle of the remainder of the officers is adopted by the 2022 WIPO Assemblies, it will not affect the terms of office of those officers to be elected at the start of the 2022 WIPO Assemblies. They will begin their terms of office, as usual, immediately upon their election. All officers to be elected subsequently thereafter, that is, *after* the closing of the 2022 WIPO Assemblies, would be affected by the proposed change in the electoral cycle.

10. The following table indicates the beginning and the end of the terms of office for officers that were elected at the WIPO Assemblies in 2021, or will be elected, in 2022 and 2023, respectively.

| | Year of election | Beginning of terms of office | End of terms of office |
|----------------------|--|--|---|
| Current Rule | Officers elected at the 2021 WIPO Assemblies | Officers elected in 2021 began their terms of office immediately upon election, i.e., at the start of the session of the WIPO Assemblies, with the notable exception of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the WIPO General Assembly, whose election cycles were changed in 2016, as recalled above. | Officers of the Coordination Committee and of the Paris and Berne Executive Committees, who serve one-year terms, will conclude their terms with the election of new officers at the 2022 WIPO Assemblies ¹ Officers of other Assemblies or bodies, who serve two-year terms, will conclude their terms at the close of the 2023 WIPO Assemblies ² |
| | Officers to be elected at the 2022 WIPO Assemblies | The only officers to be elected in 2022 are the officers of the Coordination Committee and of the Paris and Berne Executive Committees, who will begin their terms, consistent with the current General Rule of Procedure, immediately after their election; i.e., at the start of the session of the 2022 WIPO Assemblies | The officers of the Coordination Committee and of the Paris and Berne Executive Committees, who serve one-year terms, will conclude their terms at the close of the 2023 WIPO Assemblies ³ |
| Proposed Rule | Officers to be elected at 2023 WIPO Assemblies | Following the final meeting of the 2023 WIPO Assemblies session. | Officers of the Coordination Committee and the Paris and Berne Executive Committees: Closing of the 2024 WIPO Assemblies Officers of other Assemblies or bodies: Closing of the 2025 WIPO Assemblies. |

¹ Assuming that the decision proposed in this working document is adopted, such decision regarding the change of the electoral cycle would only enter into force after the closing of the 2022 WIPO Assemblies.

² One-time extension of the terms of office in the transition period because officers elected at the 2023 WIPO Assemblies will start their terms of office after the closing of the session only.

³ One-time extension of the terms of office in the transition period because officers elected at the 2023 WIPO Assemblies will start their terms of office after the closing of the session only.

PROPOSED DECISION

11. In order to change the electoral cycle as proposed above, the same approach, *mutatis mutandis*, that was pursued in 2016 for the change of the electoral cycle of the WIPO General Assembly officers would be followed. That is, a decision would be taken by the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, in accordance with Rule 56 of the General Rules of Procedure, regarding:

- (1) The amendment of Rule 9(2) of the General Rules of Procedure; and
- (2) The one-time extension of the terms of office of the officers elected during the 2022 WIPO Assemblies under the current Rule 9(2), to bridge the otherwise existing gap between the end of their terms of office with that of the start of the terms of office for new officers elected in 2023 under the proposed new rule.

12. In this context, it is also an opportune moment to amend the General Rules of Procedure and the Special Rules of Procedure with gender-neutral language (e.g., employing the use of the term “Chair” instead of “Chairman” in the English language version, and relevant changes in the other language versions, as required).

13. Furthermore, it is proposed to amend Rule 2 of the General Rules of Procedure, updating the definition of “body” by including bodies that came into existence after the last amendment of the General Rules of Procedure of October 2, 1979, and deleting those that have since ceased to exist, and removing the references to the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI) and to the Director thereof.

14. It is also proposed that other obsolete references be removed, namely:

- (a) Those to “associate members” throughout the respective Special Rules of Procedure of the WIPO Coordination Committee, the Paris Union Executive Committee, and the Berne Union Executive Committee. As a consequence of the discontinuation of the Conference of Representatives of the Paris Union and of the Conference of Representatives of the Berne Union,⁴ the category of “associate member” no longer exists. The references to “associate members” in the Special Rules of Procedure have therefore ceased to apply, and the text of the provisions have required revision accordingly, the opportunity for which is now similarly timely.
- (b) Those to the publication of the respective reports in the Special Rules of Procedure of the Assemblies and bodies of WIPO concerned, to reflect the fact that the reports are no longer published in the reviews *La Propriété industrielle*, *Industrial Property*, *Le Droit d’Auteur*, *Copyright*, and *Les Marques internationales*, as all these periodicals were discontinued in the 1990s. The respective reports of the WIPO Assemblies and other bodies are instead now published on the WIPO website.
- (c) Those to “letter, note or telegram” in relation to the accreditation of Delegations and Observers, in Rules 7 and 8 of the General Rules of Procedure, respectively.

⁴ See document A/35/15, paragraphs 135 and 136.

15. The proposed amendments are reproduced in the Annexes to the present document. Proposed additions and deletions are indicated in Annex I. A clean version of the proposed amended provisions appears in Annex II.

16. *The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, are invited to take a decision:*

(i) to modify the electoral cycle of the officers (Chair and two Vice-Chairs) stipulated in Rule 9(2) of the General Rules of Procedure, such that their terms of office begin following the final meeting of the session during which they were elected;

(ii) to facilitate the transition to the new electoral cycle, so that the incumbent officers at this 2022 WIPO Assemblies will preside over their respective meetings during the 2023 WIPO Assemblies;

(iii) to adopt the amendments of the respective General Rules of Procedure and Special Rules of Procedure, as set forth in the Annexes to document A/63/5, implementing the decision listed in (i), and the proposed changes described in paragraphs 12 to 14.

[Annexes follow]

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|
| <p>Rule 2: Definitions</p> <p>For the purposes of these General Rules of Procedure and the rules of procedure of the bodies and committees referred to in Rule 1 (1):</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>"body" shall mean the General Assembly, the Conference and the Coordination Committee of WIPO, as well as the Assemblies, the Conferences of Representatives and the Executive Committees of the Unions, the Council of the Lisbon Union for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration, the Committee of Directors of National Industrial Property Offices of the Madrid Union for the International Registration of Marks, the Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union for the International Classification of Industrial Designs, the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union for the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, the Committee of Experts of the Special Union for the International Patent Classification, the</p> | <p>Rule 2: Definitions</p> <p>For the purposes of these General Rules of Procedure and the rules of procedure of the bodies and committees referred to in Rule 1 (1):</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>"body" shall mean the General Assembly, the Conference and the Coordination Committee of WIPO, as well as the Assemblies, the Conferences of Representatives and the Executive Committees of the Unions, the Council of the Lisbon Union for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration, the Committee of Directors of National Industrial Property Offices of the Madrid Union for the International Registration of Marks, the Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union for the International Classification of Industrial Designs, the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union for the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, the Committee of Experts of the Special Union for the International Patent Classification, the Committee of Experts of the Special</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Industrial Property, the WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Copyright and Neighboring Rights and the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information.</p> | <p>Union for the International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks, the WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Industrial Property, the WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Copyright and Neighboring Rights and the WIPO Permanent Committee on Patent Information, the Program and Budget Committee, Advisory Committee on Enforcement, Committee on Development and Intellectual Property, Committee on WIPO Standards, Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, Standing Committee on the Law of Patents, Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System, Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group, Meeting of International Authorities under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation, and all other subsidiary bodies established by one of the</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>"Director General" shall mean the Director General of WIPO; in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable, "Director General" shall mean the Director of BIRPI;</p> <p>"International Bureau" shall mean the International Bureau of Intellectual Property established by Article 9 (1) of the WIPO Convention; in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable,</p> <p>"International Bureau" shall also mean the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI);</p> <p>[...]</p> | <p>main organs, a Committee or Committee of Experts.</p> <p>"Director General" shall mean the Director General of WIPO, including in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable, "Director General" shall mean the Director of BIRPI;</p> <p>"International Bureau" shall mean the International Bureau of Intellectual Property established by Article 9 (1) of the WIPO Convention, including in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable; including</p> <p>"International Bureau" shall also mean the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI);</p> <p>[...]</p> |
| <p>Rule 7: Delegations</p> <p>(1) Each State member of a body shall be represented by one or more delegates, who may be assisted by alternates, advisors, and experts.</p> <p>(2) Each delegation shall have a head of delegation.</p> | <p>Rule 7: Delegations</p> <p>(1) Each State member of a body shall be represented by one or more delegates, who may be assisted by alternates, advisors, and experts.</p> <p>(2) Each delegation shall have a head of delegation.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>(3) Any alternate, advisor or expert may act as delegate by order of the head of his delegation.</p> <p>(4) Each delegate or alternate shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State which he represents. The Director General shall be notified of the appointment of delegates and alternates in a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> | <p>(3) Any alternate, advisor or expert may act as delegate by order of the head of the his delegation.</p> <p>(4) EachDelegates and oralternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State which he they represents. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment of delegates and alternates in writing a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> |
| <p>Rule 8: Observers</p> <p>(1) The Director General shall invite such States and intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers as are entitled to observer status under a treaty or agreement.</p> <p>(2) In addition, each body shall decide, in a general way or for any particular session or meeting, which other States and organizations shall be invited to be represented by observers.</p> <p>(3) Observers shall be accredited by the competent authority of their State or the competent representative of their organization, in a letter, note or telegram addressed to the Director General; if they represent a State, such communication</p> | <p>Rule 8: Observers</p> <p>(1) The Director General shall invite such States and intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers as are entitled to observer status under a treaty or agreement.</p> <p>(2) In addition, each body shall decide, in a general way or for any particular session or meeting, which other States and organizations shall be invited to be represented by observers.</p> <p>(3) Observers shall be accredited by the competent authority of their State or the competent representative of their organization, in writing a letter, note or telegram addressed to the Director General; if they represent a State, such</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>shall preferably be effected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>Rule 9: Officers</p> <p>(1) In the first meeting of each ordinary session, each body shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) Officers shall remain in office until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(3) The outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office which they have held.</p> | <p>communication shall preferably be effected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>Rule 9: Officers</p> <p>(1) In the first meeting of each ordinary session, each body shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) Officers' terms of office shall begin following the final meeting of the session during which they were elected. Officers shall remain in office until the election of new officers; terms of office of newly elected officers begin.</p> <p>(3) The outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office which they have held.</p> |
| <p>Rule 10: Acting Chairmen</p> <p>(1) If the Chairman dies, if he finds it necessary to be absent, or if the State he represents ceases to be a member of the body concerned, the older of the two Vice-Chairmen shall act in his place.</p> <p>(2) If, for any of the reasons mentioned in the preceding paragraph, none of the Vice-Chairmen is able to act as Chairman, the</p> | <p>Rule 10: Acting Chairmen</p> <p>(1) If the Chairman dies or, if he finds it necessary to be absent, or if the State he or she represents ceases to be a member of the body concerned, the older of the two Vice-Chairmen shall act in his or her place.</p> <p>(2) If, for any of the reasons mentioned in the preceding paragraph, none of the</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>body concerned shall elect an Acting Chairman.</p> <p>Rule 11: Secretariat</p> <p>(1) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by him, shall act as Secretary for all meetings, including those of subsidiary bodies.</p> <p>(2) The International Bureau shall receive, translate and distribute documents, provide for the interpretation of oral interventions, prepare the draft reports of the sessions, be responsible for the safekeeping of documents in its archives, and, generally, perform all the tasks which the meetings of the body concerned may require and for which it has the necessary means at its disposal.</p> | <p>Vice-Chairmen is able to act as Chairmen, the body concerned shall elect an Acting Chairmen.</p> <p>Rule 11: Secretariat</p> <p>(1) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by the Director General him, shall act as Secretary for all meetings, including those of subsidiary bodies.</p> <p>(2) The International Bureau shall receive, translate and distribute documents, provide for the interpretation of oral interventions, prepare the draft reports of the sessions, be responsible for the safekeeping of documents in its archives, and, generally, perform all the tasks which the meetings of the body concerned may require and for which it has the necessary means at its disposal.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 13: General Powers of the Chairman</p> <p>(1) The Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of the meetings, direct the discussions, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions.</p> <p>(2) He shall rule on points of order and shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat.</p> <p>(3) He may propose limiting the time to be allowed to each speaker, limiting the number of times each delegation may speak on any question, closing the list of speakers, and closing the debate.</p> <p>(4) He may propose the suspension or adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion, or the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.</p> | <p>Rule 13: General Powers of the Chairman</p> <p>(1) The Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of the meetings, direct the discussions, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions.</p> <p>(2) He The Chair shall rule on points of order and shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat.</p> <p>(3) HeThe Chair may propose limiting the time to be allowed to each speaker, limiting the number of times each delegation may speak on any question, closing the list of speakers, and closing the debate.</p> <p>(4) He The Chair may propose the suspension or adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion, or the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 14: Points of Order</p> <p>(1) In the course of a debate, any delegation may raise a point of order. It may not speak at the same time on the substance of the matter under discussion.</p> <p>(2) Such points of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairman.</p> <p>(3) Any delegation may appeal against the ruling of the Chairman. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the Chairman's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the delegations.</p> | <p>Rule 14: Points of Order</p> <p>(1) In the course of a debate, any delegation may raise a point of order. It may not speak at the same time on the substance of the matter under discussion.</p> <p>(2) Such points of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairmen.</p> <p>(3) Any delegation may appeal against the ruling of the Chairmen. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the Chairmen's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the delegations.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 15: Right to Speak</p> <p>(1) No person may speak without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairman.</p> <p>(2) The Chairman shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Secretariat shall be responsible for drawing up a list of such speakers.</p> <p>(3) The Chairman of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by that subsidiary body.</p> <p>(4) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by him, may at any time, with the approval of the Chairman, make statements on any subject under discussion.</p> <p>(5) The Chairman may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.</p> | <p>Rule 15: Right to Speak</p> <p>(1) No person may speak without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairman.</p> <p>(2) The Chairman shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Secretariat shall be responsible for drawing up a list of such speakers.</p> <p>(3) The Chairman of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by that subsidiary body.</p> <p>(4) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by himthe Director General, may at any time, with the approval of the Chairman, make statements on any subject under discussion.</p> <p>(5) The Chairman may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 16: Limitation of the Number and Length of Speeches</p> <p>(1) Any assembly may limit the number of times each delegation may speak on any question and the time to be allowed to each delegation.</p> <p>(2) The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to any person speaking on the adjournment or closure of a debate, proposing the suspension or adjournment of the meeting, speaking on the reconsideration of proposals already adopted or rejected, or explaining the vote of his delegation.</p> <p>(3) When a speaker exceeds the time allotted to him, the Chairman shall call him to order without delay.</p> | <p>Rule 16: Limitation of the Number and Length of Speeches</p> <p>(1) Any assembly may limit the number of times each delegation may speak on any question and the time to be allowed to each delegation.</p> <p>(2) The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to any person speaking on the adjournment or closure of a debate, proposing the suspension or adjournment of the meeting, speaking on the reconsideration of proposals already adopted or rejected, or explaining the vote of his or her delegation.</p> <p>(3) When a Speakers who exceeds the time allotted to himthem, shall be called to order by the Chairman him to order without delay.</p> |
| <p>Rule 17: Closing of List of Speakers</p> <p>(1) During the discussion of any matter, the Chairman may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the meeting, declare the list closed.</p> <p>(2) He may, however, accord the right of reply if a speech delivered after he has declared the list closed makes it desirable.</p> | <p>Rule 17: Closing of List of Speakers</p> <p>(1) During the discussion of any matter, the Chairman may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the meeting, declare the list closed.</p> <p>(2) The Chair He may, however, accord the right of reply if a speech delivered after closure of the list he has declared the list closed makes it desirable.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 18: Adjournment or Closure of Debate</p> <p>(1) During the course of a meeting, any delegation may move the adjournment or closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other participant has signified his wish to speak.</p> <p>(2) Such motion shall be immediately debated. In addition to the delegation proposing the motion, one other delegation may speak in favor of the motion, and two against it, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.</p> <p>(3) If the assembly is in favor of the adjournment or closure, the Chairman shall immediately declare the debate adjourned or closed.</p> | <p>Rule 18: Adjournment or Closure of Debate</p> <p>(1) During the course of-a meeting, any delegation may move the adjournment or closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other participant has signified a his wish to speak.</p> <p>(2) Such motion shall be immediately debated. In addition to the delegation proposing the motion, one other delegation may speak in favor of the motion, and two against it, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.</p> <p>(3) If the assembly is in favor of the adjournment or closure, the Chairman shall immediately declare the debate adjourned or closed.</p> |
| <p>Rule 24: Observers</p> <p>(1) Observers may take part in debates at the invitation of the Chairman.</p> <p>(2) They may not submit proposals, amendments or motions.</p> | <p>Rule 24: Observers</p> <p>(1) Observers may take part in debates at the invitation of the Chairman.</p> <p>(2) They may not submit proposals, amendments or motions.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 27: Voting by Roll-Call</p> <p>(1) Voting shall be by roll-call:</p> <p>(a) if, when the result of a vote by show of hands is in doubt, the Chairman so decides;</p> <p>(b) if at least two delegations so request, either before voting takes place or immediately after a vote by show of hands.</p> <p>(2) The roll shall be called in the alphabetical order of the names in French of the States represented, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman.</p> <p>(3) When voting is by roll-call, the vote of each delegation shall be recorded in the report on the session.</p> | <p>Rule 27: Voting by Roll-Call</p> <p>(1) Voting shall be by roll-call:</p> <p>(a) if, when the result of a vote by show of hands is in doubt, the Chairman so decides;</p> <p>(b) if at least two delegations so request, either before voting takes place or immediately after a vote by show of hands.</p> <p>(2) The roll shall be called in the alphabetical order of the names in French of the States represented, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman.</p> <p>(3) When voting is by roll-call, the vote of each delegation shall be recorded in the report on the session.</p> |
| <p>Rule 29: Conduct During Voting</p> <p>After the Chairman has announced the beginning of voting, no one shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of such voting.</p> | <p>Rule 29: Conduct During Voting</p> <p>After the Chairman has announced the beginning of voting, no one shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of such voting.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 37: Explanations of Votes Cast</p> <p>(1) The Chairman may allow delegations to explain their votes, either before or after the voting takes place, unless the vote is taken by secret ballot.</p> <p>(2) Explanations of votes cast shall be recorded in the report on the session.</p> | <p>Rule 37: Explanations of Votes Cast</p> <p>(1) The Chairman may allow delegations to explain their votes, either before or after the voting takes place, unless the vote is taken by secret ballot.</p> <p>(2) Explanations of votes cast shall be recorded in the report on the session.</p> |
| <p>Rule 38: Chairmen Not Entitled to Vote</p> <p>(1) No Chairman or Acting Chairman shall vote.</p> <p>(2) Another member of his delegation may vote for the State he represents.</p> | <p>Rule 38: Chairmen Not Entitled to Vote</p> <p>(1) No Chairman or Acting Chairman shall vote.</p> <p>(2) Another member of their his delegations may vote for the States they he represents.</p> |
| <p>Rule 40: Languages of Documents</p> <p>(1) Documents intended for the various bodies shall be drawn up in English and French. The Director General may, in so far as he considers it advisable and practicable, decide that certain documents shall be drawn up also in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages.</p> <p>(2) The Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which documents intended for subsidiary bodies shall be drawn up.</p> | <p>Rule 40: Languages of Documents</p> <p>(1) Documents intended for the various bodies shall be drawn up in English and French. The Director General may, in so far as he or she considers it advisable and practicable, decide that certain documents shall be drawn up also in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages.</p> <p>(2) The Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which documents intended for subsidiary bodies shall be drawn up.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 41: Languages of Oral Interventions. Interpretation</p> <p>(1) Oral interventions during meetings of the various bodies shall be in English or French, and interpretation shall be provided for in the other language. The Director General may, however, decide that oral interventions may also be made in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages; in such cases, interpretation shall be provided for in all the accepted languages.</p> <p>(2) With regard to the subsidiary bodies, the Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which oral interventions shall be made and for which interpretation shall be provided.</p> <p>(3) In any meeting in which simultaneous interpretation is provided by the Secretariat in at least two languages, any participant may make oral interventions in another language in so far as he provides for simultaneous interpretation in one of the languages for which interpretation is provided by the Secretariat.</p> | <p>Rule 41: Languages of Oral Interventions. Interpretation</p> <p>(1) Oral interventions during meetings of the various bodies shall be in English or French, and interpretation shall be provided for in the other language. The Director General may, however, decide that oral interventions may also be made in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages; in such cases, interpretation shall be provided for in all the accepted languages.</p> <p>(2) With regard to the subsidiary bodies, the Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which oral interventions shall be made and for which interpretation shall be provided.</p> <p>(3) In any meeting in which simultaneous interpretation is provided by the Secretariat in at least two languages, any participants may make oral interventions in another language in so far as he provides for simultaneous interpretation in one of the languages for which interpretation is provided by the Secretariat.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 42: Joint Meetings</p> <p>(1) When two or more bodies of the Organization or of the Unions must examine questions of common interest to them, they shall hold joint meetings.</p> <p>(2) Every joint meeting shall be presided over by the Chairman of the body which has precedence over the others, such precedence being determined as follows:</p> <p>(i) among bodies of WIPO: 1. General Assembly, 2. Conference, 3. Coordination Committee;</p> <p>(ii) among bodies of the same Union: 1. Assembly, 2. Conference of Representatives, 3. Executive Committee;</p> <p>(iii) among bodies of WIPO and one or more Unions: the WIPO body;</p> <p>(iv) among bodies of several Unions: the body of the oldest Union.</p> | <p>Rule 42: Joint Meetings</p> <p>(1) When two or more bodies of the Organization or of the Unions must examine questions of common interest to them, they shall hold joint meetings.</p> <p>(2) Every joint meeting shall be presided over by the Chairman of the body which has precedence over the others, such precedence being determined as follows:</p> <p>(i) among bodies of WIPO: 1. General Assembly, 2. Conference, 3. Coordination Committee;</p> <p>(ii) among bodies of the same Union: 1. Assembly, 2. Conference of Representatives, 2.3 Executive Committee;</p> <p>(iii) among bodies of WIPO and one or more Unions: the WIPO body;</p> <p>(iv) among bodies of several Unions: the body of the oldest Union.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 50: Agenda and Rules of Procedure</p> <p>(1) The Director General shall draw up the agenda of each ad hoc committee of experts. He may modify it on his own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.</p> <p>(2) The provisions of Part II of the General Rules of Procedure shall, as far as possible, serve as rules of procedure for ad hoc committees of experts. To the extent that they apply to such committees, the Director General may modify them in each individual case, either on his own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts concerned.</p> | <p>Rule 50: Agenda and Rules of Procedure</p> <p>(1) The Director General shall draw up the agenda of each ad hoc committee of experts. He or she may modify it on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.</p> <p>(2) The provisions of Part II of the General Rules of Procedure shall, as far as possible, serve as rules of procedure for ad hoc committees of experts. To the extent that they apply to such committees, the Director General may modify them in each individual case, either on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts concerned.</p> |
| <p>Rule 52: Officers of ad hoc Committees of Experts</p> <p>(1) During its first meeting, the ad hoc committee of experts shall elect from among its members a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) With the consent of the Director General, the ad hoc committee of experts may elect the Director General himself or another official of the International Bureau as Chairman.</p> | <p>Rule 52: Officers of ad hoc Committees of Experts</p> <p>(1) During its first meeting, the ad hoc committee of experts shall elect from among its members a Chairmanmen and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) With the consent of the Director General, the ad hoc committee of experts may elect the Director General himself or another official of the International Bureau as Chairmen.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 54: Publicity of Meetings</p> <p>(1) Meetings of ad hoc committees of experts shall be closed.</p> <p>(2) The Director General may waive this rule on his own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.</p> | <p>Rule 54: Publicity of Meetings</p> <p>(1) Meetings of ad hoc committees of experts shall be closed.</p> <p>(2) The Director General may waive this rule on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.</p> |
| <p>Rule 55: Report</p> <p>Ad hoc committees of experts shall submit their reports to the Director General, who shall distribute and publicize these documents as he sees fit.</p> | <p>Rule 55: Report</p> <p>Ad hoc committees of experts shall submit their reports to the Director General, who shall distribute and publicize the me documents as he or she sees fit.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Annex to the General Rules of Procedure of WIPO</p> <p>Rules for Voting by Secret Ballot</p> <p>Rule 1. - In order to vote, delegations must be properly accredited.</p> <p>Rule 2. - Before the ballot begins, the Chairman shall appoint two tellers from among the delegates present. He shall hand them the list of delegations entitled to vote and, where applicable, the list of candidates.</p> <p>Rule 3. - The Secretariat shall distribute ballot papers and envelopes to the delegations. Ballot papers and envelopes shall be of white paper without distinguishing marks.</p> <p>Rule 4. - The tellers shall satisfy themselves that the ballot box is empty, and, having locked it, shall hand the key to the Chairman.</p> <p>Rule 5. - Delegations shall be called in turn by the Secretary of the meeting, in the alphabetical order of the names of the member States in French, beginning with the member State whose name shall have been drawn by lot.</p> | <p>Annex to the General Rules of Procedure of WIPO</p> <p>Rules for Voting by Secret Ballot</p> <p>Rule 1. - In order to vote, delegations must be properly accredited.</p> <p>Rule 2. - Before the ballot begins, the Chairman shall appoint two tellers from among the delegates present. The ChairHe shall hand them the list of delegations entitled to vote and, where applicable, the list of candidates.</p> <p>Rule 3. - The Secretariat shall distribute ballot papers and envelopes to the delegations. Ballot papers and envelopes shall be of white paper without distinguishing marks.</p> <p>Rule 4. - The tellers shall satisfy themselves that the ballot box is empty, and, having locked it, shall hand the key to the Chairman.</p> <p>Rule 5. - Delegations shall be called in turn by the Secretary of the meeting, in the alphabetical order of the names of the member States in French, beginning with the member State whose name shall have been drawn by lot.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 6. - When their names are called, delegations shall hand their ballot papers, in the envelopes, to a teller, who shall place them in the ballot box.</p> <p>Rule 7. - To indicate the recording of each member State's vote, the Secretary of the meeting and one of the tellers shall sign or initial the list in the margin opposite the name of the member State in question</p> <p>Rule 8. - At the conclusion of the calling, the Chairman shall declare the ballot closed and announce that the votes are to be counted.</p> <p>Rule 9.- When the Chairman has opened the ballot box, the tellers shall check the number of envelopes. If the number is greater or less than that of the voters, the Chairman shall be informed, and shall then declare the vote invalid and announce that it is necessary to re-open the ballot.</p> <p>Rule 10. - One of the tellers shall open the envelopes, one by one, read aloud what is written on the ballot paper, and pass it to the other teller. The votes inscribed on the ballot papers shall be entered on lists prepared for that purpose.</p> <p>Rule 11. - Blank ballot papers shall be considered to be abstentions.</p> | <p>Rule 6. - When their names are called, delegations shall hand their ballot papers, in the envelopes, to a teller, who shall place them in the ballot box.</p> <p>Rule 7. - To indicate the recording of each member State's vote, the Secretary of the meeting and one of the tellers shall sign or initial the list in the margin opposite the name of the member State in question.</p> <p>Rule 8. - At the conclusion of the calling, the Chairman shall declare the ballot closed and announce that the votes are to be counted.</p> <p>Rule 9.- When the Chairman has opened the ballot box, the tellers shall check the number of envelopes. If the number is greater or less than that of the voters, the Chairman shall be informed, and shall then declare the vote invalid and announce that it is necessary to re-open the ballot.</p> <p>Rule 10. - One of the tellers shall open the envelopes, one by one, read aloud what is written on the ballot paper, and pass it to the other teller. The votes inscribed on the ballot papers shall be entered on lists prepared for that purpose.</p> <p>Rule 11. - Blank ballot papers shall be considered to be abstentions.</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 12. - The following shall be considered invalid:</p> <p>(a) ballot papers on which there are more names than there are States or persons to be elected;</p> <p>(b) ballot papers in which the voters have revealed their identity, in particular, by apposing their signature or mentioning the name of the member State they represent;</p> <p>(c) ballot papers which do not give a clear reply to the question asked.</p> <p>Rule 13. - A candidate is entitled to only one vote per ballot paper, even if his name appears more than once thereon.</p> <p>Rule 14. -When the counting of the votes is completed, the Chairman shall announce the results of the ballot in the following order:</p> <p>number of member States entitled to vote at the session;</p> <p>number absent;</p> <p>number of abstentions;</p> <p>number of invalid ballot papers;</p> <p>number of votes recorded;</p> <p>number of votes constituting the required majority;</p> <p>number of votes for or against the proposal or names of the candidates and number of votes secured by each of them, in descending order of the number of votes.</p> | <p>Rule 12. - The following shall be considered invalid:</p> <p>(a) ballot papers on which there are more names than there are States or persons to be elected;</p> <p>(b) ballot papers in which the voters have revealed their identity, in particular, by apposing their signature or mentioning the name of the member State they represent;</p> <p>(c) ballot papers which do not give a clear reply to the question asked.</p> <p>Rule 13. - AeCandidates is are are entitled to only one vote each per ballot paper, even if their his names appear more more than once thereon.</p> <p>Rule 14. -When the counting of the votes is completed, the Chairman shall announce the results of the ballot in the following order:</p> <p>number of member States entitled to vote at the session;</p> <p>number absent;</p> <p>number of abstentions;</p> <p>number of invalid ballot papers;</p> <p>number of votes recorded;</p> <p>number of votes constituting the required majority;</p> <p>number of votes for or against the proposal or names of the candidates and number of</p> |

| Current Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in General Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Rule 15. - The Chairman shall announce the decision resulting from the vote. In particular, he shall declare elected those candidates who have obtained the required majority.</p> <p>Rule 16. - Immediately after the announcement of the results of the ballot, the ballot papers shall be burnt in the presence of the tellers.</p> <p>Rule 17. -The lists on which the tellers have recorded the results of the vote shall, after signature by the Chairman and by the tellers, constitute the official record of the ballot, and shall be deposited in the archives of the Organization.</p> <p>Rule 18. - The Chairman of the meeting shall draw the attention of delegations to these Rules whenever a vote is taken by secret ballot.</p> <p>Rule 19. - (1) These Rules shall in no way affect the provisions according to which a quorum may, in certain conditions, be attained after the session. (2) Votes expressed by correspondence shall not be secret.</p> | <p>votes secured by each of them, in descending order of the number of votes.</p> <p>Rule 15. - The Chairmen shall announce the decision resulting from the vote. In particular, he the Chair shall declare elected those candidates who have obtained the required majority.</p> <p>Rule 16. - Immediately after the announcement of the results of the ballot, the ballot papers shall be burnt in the presence of the tellers.</p> <p>Rule 17. -The lists on which the tellers have recorded the results of the vote shall, after signature by the Chairmen and by the tellers, constitute the official record of the ballot, and shall be deposited in the archives of the Organization.</p> <p>Rule 18. - The Chairmen of the meeting shall draw the attention of delegations to these Rules whenever a vote is taken by secret ballot.</p> <p>Rule 19. – (1) These Rules shall in no way affect the provisions according to which a quorum may, in certain conditions, be attained after the session. (2) Votes expressed by correspondence shall not be secret.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>WIPO General Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the <i>reviews La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright</i>.</p> <p>Rule 6: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Chair of the General Assembly and its two Vice-Chairs will be elected at the first meeting of the Assembly considering approval of the biennium program and budget, for the period of two years, and their term of office will begin following the final meeting of the said Assembly.</p> <p>(2) Incumbent General Assembly officers will remain in office through the final meeting of the subsequent General Assembly session considering approval of the biennium program and budget.</p> <p>(3) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office which they have held.</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright</i>.</p> <p>Rule 6: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Chair of the General Assembly and its two Vice-Chairs will be elected at the first meeting of the Assembly considering approval of the biennium program and budget, for the period of two years, and their term of office will begin following the final meeting of the said Assembly.</p> <p>(2) Incumbent General Assembly officers will remain in office through the final meeting of the subsequent General Assembly session considering approval of the biennium program and budget.</p> <p>(3) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office which they have held.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| WIPO Conference | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright.</i></p> | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright.</i></p> |
| WIPO Coordination Committee | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Coordination Committee shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and ad hoc members.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be States which are ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, or of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, or of both of the said Committees.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be States which are associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, or of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, or of both of the said Committees.</p> <p>(4) Ad hoc members shall be States elected by the Conference in accordance with Article 8(1)(c) of the WIPO Convention.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Coordination Committee shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and ad hoc members.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be States which are ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, or of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, or of both of the said Committees.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be States which are associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, or of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, or of both of the said Committees.</p> <p>(4) Ad hoc members shall be States elected by the Conference in accordance with Article 8(1)(c) of the WIPO Convention.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| | <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>(1) At the first meeting of each ordinary session, the Coordination Committee shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) (a) At each ordinary session of odd number [1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.], the Chairman and the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union and the first Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, provided that as long as the number of associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the said associate members.</p> <p>(b) At each ordinary session of even number [2nd, 4th, 6th, etc.], the Chairman and the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union and the first Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, provided that as long as the number of associate members of the</p> | <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>(1) At the first meeting of each ordinary session, the Coordination Committee shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) (a) At each ordinary session of odd number [1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.], the Chairman and the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union and the first Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, provided that as long as the number of associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the said associate members.</p> <p>(b) At each ordinary session of even number [2nd, 4th, 6th, etc.], the Chairman and the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union and the first Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, provided that as long as the number of associate members of the</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| | <p>Executive Committee of the Berne Union is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the said associate members.</p> <p>Rule 4: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When a vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of ordinary members, associate members, and ad hoc members, the vote shall be taken again separately within each of the groups.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of all the groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group or groups.</p> <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright.</i></p> | <p>Executive Committee of the Berne Union is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of the said associate members.</p> <p>Rule 4: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When a vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of ordinary members, associate members, and ad hoc members, the vote shall be taken again separately within each of the groups.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of all the groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group or groups.</p> <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle, Industrial Property, Le Droit d'Auteur, and Copyright.</i></p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Paris Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Paris Union Executive Committee</p> | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Paris Union.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be the States elected by the Conference of Representatives of the Paris Union.</p> <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members. However, as long as the number of associate members is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of associate members.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Paris Union.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be the States elected by the Conference of Representatives of the Paris Union.</p> <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairsman of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members. However, as long as the number of associate members is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of associate members.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| | <p>Rule 4: Associate Members</p> <p>(1) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence.</p> <p>(2) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be members of the Coordination Committee in the same capacity. They shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence. In particular, they shall advise the Swiss Government, acting as supervisory authority, on administrative and financial questions and other matters of common interest, particularly in the cases provided for in the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations.</p> <p>Rule 5: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When the vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of the ordinary members and the associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, the vote</p> | <p>Rule 4: Associate Members</p> <p>(1) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence.</p> <p>(2) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be members of the Coordination Committee in the same capacity. They shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence. In particular, they shall advise the Swiss Government, acting as supervisory authority, on administrative and financial questions and other matters of common interest, particularly in the cases provided for in the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations.</p> <p>Rule 5: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When the vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of the ordinary members and the associate members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, the vote</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| | <p>shall be taken again separately within these two groups of members.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of both groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group.</p> <p>Rule 6: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>shall be taken again separately within these two groups of members.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of both groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group.</p> <p>Rule 46: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Berne Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>Le Droit d'Auteur and Copyright</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 5: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>Le Droit d'Auteur and Copyright</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| <p>Berne Union Executive Committee</p> | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Berne Union.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be the States elected by the Conference of Representatives of the Berne Union.</p> <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>(1) At the first meeting of each session, the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) The officers thus elected shall remain in office until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(3) The outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office that they have held, except where the election takes place at an extraordinary session.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Composition</p> <p>(1) The Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be composed of ordinary members, associate members, and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.</p> <p>(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Berne Union.</p> <p>(3) Associate members shall be the States elected by the Conference of Representatives of the Berne Union.</p> <p>Rule 3: Officers</p> <p>(1) At the first meeting of each session, the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.</p> <p>(2) The officers thus elected shall remain in office until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(3) (2) The outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office that they have held, except where the election takes place at an extraordinary session.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
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| | <p>(4) The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members. However, as long as the number of associate members is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of associate members.</p> <p>Rule 4: Associate Members</p> <p>(1) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence.</p> <p>(2) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be members of the Coordination Committee in the same capacity. They shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence. In particular, they shall advise the Swiss Government, acting as supervisory authority, on administrative and financial questions and other matters of common interest, particularly in the cases provided for in the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations.</p> | <p>(4) The Chairmanman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members. However, as long as the number of associate members is four or more, the second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the delegates of associate members.</p> <p>Rule 4: Associate Members</p> <p>(1) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence.</p> <p>(2) Associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be members of the Coordination Committee in the same capacity. They shall take part in the debates of that body in an advisory capacity, and shall express opinions on matters within its competence. In particular, they shall advise the Swiss Government, acting as supervisory authority, on administrative and financial questions and other matters of common interest, particularly in the cases provided for in the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|-------------|---|---|
| | <p>Rule 5: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When the vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of the ordinary members and the associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, the vote shall be taken again separately within these two groups of members.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of both groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group.</p> <p>Rule 6: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>Le Droit d'Auteur</i> and <i>Copyright</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 5: Separate Voting</p> <p>(1) When the vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of the ordinary members and the associate members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, the vote shall be taken again separately within these two groups of members.</p> <p>(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of both groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group.</p> <p>Rule 46: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website in the reviews <i>Le Droit d'Auteur</i> and <i>Copyright</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Madrid Union Assembly | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>, and, where appropriate, in the review <i>Les Marques internationales</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>, and, where appropriate, in the review <i>Les Marques internationales</i></p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Hague Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Nice Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Lisbon Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Locarno Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|---|--|
| International Patent Classification (IPC) Union Assembly | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|--|
| Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Union Assembly | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the <i>Gazette</i> of the PCT Union and in the reviews of the World Intellectual Property Organization <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 4: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the <i>Gazette</i> of the PCT Union and on the WIPO website. in the reviews of the World Intellectual Property Organization <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Budapest Union Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 2: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session of the Assembly referred to in Rule 1, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session of the Assembly referred to in Rule 1, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Vienna Union Assembly | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session of the Assembly, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> | <p>Rule 3: Publication of the Report</p> <p>The report on the work of each session of the Assembly, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website. in the reviews <i>La Propriété industrielle</i> and <i>Industrial Property</i>.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|---|
| WIPO Copyright Treaty Assembly | <p>Rule 2: Delegations</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>(5) Each delegate or alternate shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which he represents. The Director General shall be notified of the appointment of delegates and alternates in a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Delegations</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>(5) Each delegate and or alternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which he they represents. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment of delegates and alternates in writing a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|--|
| WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty Assembly | <p>Rule 2: Delegations</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>(5) Each delegate or alternate shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which he represents. The Director General shall be notified of the appointment of delegates and alternates in a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Delegations</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>(5) Each Delegates and or alternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which they represent. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment of delegates and alternates in writing a letter, note or telegram, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Marrakesh Treaty Assembly</p> | <p>Rule 2: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions, until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.</p> | <p>Rule 2: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions, until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.</p> |

| WIPO Bodies | Current Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure | New Rule(s) in Special Rules of Procedure |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances Assembly</p> | <p>Rule adopted by the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances Assembly during its first ordinary session (see BTAB/A/1/1 paragraph 8, and BTAP/A/1/3 paragraph 9)</p> <p>Rule 9: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions, until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.</p> | <p>Rule 9: Officers</p> <p>(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions, until the election of new officers.</p> <p>(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.</p> |

[Annex II follows]

Clean versions of the amended provisions in the General Rules of Procedure

Rule 2: Definitions

For the purposes of these General Rules of Procedure and the rules of procedure of the bodies and committees referred to in Rule 1 (1):

[...]

“body” shall mean the General Assembly, the Conference and the Coordination Committee of WIPO, as well as the Assemblies, and the Executive Committees of the Unions, the Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union for the International Classification of Industrial Designs, the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union for the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, the Committee of Experts of the Special Union for the International Patent Classification, the Committee of Experts of the Special Union for the International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks, the Program and Budget Committee, Advisory Committee on Enforcement, Committee on Development and Intellectual Property, Committee on WIPO Standards, Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, Standing Committee on the Law of Patents, Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System, Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Working Group, Meeting of International Authorities under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation, and all other subsidiary bodies established by one of the main organs, a Committee or Committee of Experts.

“Director General” shall mean the Director General of WIPO, including in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable;

“International Bureau” shall mean the International Bureau of Intellectual Property established by Article 9 (1) of the WIPO Convention, including in all cases where Acts earlier than the Stockholm Acts are still applicable;

[...]

Rule 7: Delegations

(1) Each State member of a body shall be represented by one or more delegates, who may be assisted by alternates, advisors, and experts.

(2) Each delegation shall have a head of delegation.

(3) Any alternate, advisor or expert may act as delegate by order of the head of the delegation.

(4) Delegates and alternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State which they represent. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment in writing, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rule 8: Observers

(1) The Director General shall invite such States and intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers as are entitled to observer status under a treaty or agreement.

(2) In addition, each body shall decide, in a general way or for any particular session or meeting, which other States and organizations shall be invited to be represented by observers.

(3) Observers shall be accredited by the competent authority of their State or the competent representative of their organization, in writing addressed to the Director General; if they represent a State, such communication shall preferably be effected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rule 9: Officers

(1) In the first meeting of each ordinary session, each body shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

(2) Officers' terms of office shall begin following the final meeting of the session during which they were elected. Officers shall remain in office until terms of office of newly elected officers begin.

(3) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office which they have held.

Rule 10: Acting Chairs

(1) If the Chair dies or finds it necessary to be absent, or if the State he or she represents ceases to be a member of the body concerned, the older of the two Vice-Chairs shall act in his or her place.

(2) If, for any of the reasons mentioned in the preceding paragraph, none of the Vice-Chairs is able to act as Chair, the body concerned shall elect an Acting Chair.

Rule 11: Secretariat

(1) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by the Director General, shall act as Secretary for all meetings, including those of subsidiary bodies.

(2) The International Bureau shall receive, translate and distribute documents, provide for the interpretation of oral interventions, prepare the draft reports of the sessions, be responsible for the safekeeping of documents in its archives, and, generally, perform all the tasks which the meetings of the body concerned may require and for which it has the necessary means at its disposal.

Rule 13: General Powers of the Chair

- (1) The Chair shall declare the opening and closing of the meetings, direct the discussions, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions.
- (2) The Chair shall rule on points of order and shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat.
- (3) The Chair may propose limiting the time to be allowed to each speaker, limiting the number of times each delegation may speak on any question, closing the list of speakers, and closing the debate.
- (4) The Chair may propose the suspension or adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion, or the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.

Rule 14: Points of Order

- (1) In the course of a debate, any delegation may raise a point of order. It may not speak at the same time on the substance of the matter under discussion.
- (2) Such points of order shall be immediately decided by the Chair.
- (3) Any delegation may appeal against the ruling of the Chair. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the Chair's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the delegations.

Rule 15: Right to Speak

- (1) No person may speak without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair.
- (2) The Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Secretariat shall be responsible for drawing up a list of such speakers.
- (3) The Chair of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by that subsidiary body.
- (4) The Director General, or a staff member of the International Bureau designated by the Director General, may at any time, with the approval of the Chair, make statements on any subject under discussion.
- (5) The Chair may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 16: Limitation of the Number and Length of Speeches

- (1) Any assembly may limit the number of times each delegation may speak on any question and the time to be allowed to each delegation.

(2) The Chair may limit the time to be allowed to any person speaking on the adjournment or closure of a debate, proposing the suspension or adjournment of the meeting, speaking on the reconsideration of proposals already adopted or rejected, or explaining the vote of his or her delegation.

(3) Speakers who exceed the time allotted to them, shall be called to order by the Chair without delay.

Rule 17: Closing of List of Speakers

(1) During the discussion of any matter, the Chair may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the meeting, declare the list closed.

(2) The Chair may, however, accord the right of reply if a speech delivered after closure of the list makes it desirable.

Rule 18: Adjournment or Closure of Debate

(1) During the course of a meeting, any delegation may move the adjournment or closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other participant has signified a wish to speak.

(2) Such motion shall be immediately debated. In addition to the delegation proposing the motion, one other delegation may speak in favor of the motion, and two against it, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote.

(3) If the assembly is in favor of the adjournment or closure, the Chair shall immediately declare the debate adjourned or closed.

Rule 24: Observers

(1) Observers may take part in debates at the invitation of the Chair.

(2) They may not submit proposals, amendments or motions.

Rule 27: Voting by Roll-Call

(1) Voting shall be by roll-call:

(a) if, when the result of a vote by show of hands is in doubt, the Chair so decides;
(b) if at least two delegations so request, either before voting takes place or immediately after a vote by show of hands.

(2) The roll shall be called in the alphabetical order of the names in French of the States represented, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the Chair.

(3) When voting is by roll-call, the vote of each delegation shall be recorded in the report on the session.

Rule 29: Conduct During Voting

After the Chair has announced the beginning of voting, no one shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of such voting.

Rule 37: Explanations of Votes Cast

(1) The Chair may allow delegations to explain their votes, either before or after the voting takes place, unless the vote is taken by secret ballot.

(2) Explanations of votes cast shall be recorded in the report on the session.

Rule 38: Chairs Not Entitled to Vote

(1) No Chair or Acting Chair shall vote.

(2) Another member of their delegations may vote for the States they represent.

Rule 40: Languages of Documents

(1) Documents intended for the various bodies shall be drawn up in English and French. The Director General may, in so far as he or she considers it advisable and practicable, decide that certain documents shall be drawn up also in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages.

(2) The Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which documents intended for subsidiary bodies shall be drawn up.

Rule 41: Languages of Oral Interventions. Interpretation

(1) Oral interventions during meetings of the various bodies shall be in English or French, and interpretation shall be provided for in the other language. The Director General may, however, decide that oral interventions may also be made in Spanish or Russian, or in both of those languages; in such cases, interpretation shall be provided for in all the accepted languages.

(2) With regard to the subsidiary bodies, the Director General shall decide on the language or languages in which oral interventions shall be made and for which interpretation shall be provided.

(3) In any meeting in which simultaneous interpretation is provided by the Secretariat in at least two languages, participants may make oral interventions in another language in so far as they provide for simultaneous interpretation in one of the languages for which interpretation is provided by the Secretariat.

Rule 42: Joint Meetings

(1) When two or more bodies of the Organization or of the Unions must examine questions of common interest to them, they shall hold joint meetings.

(2) Every joint meeting shall be presided over by the Chair of the body which has precedence over the others, such precedence being determined as follows:

- (i) among bodies of WIPO: 1. General Assembly, 2. Conference, 3. Coordination Committee;
- (ii) among bodies of the same Union: 1. Assembly, 2. Executive Committee;
- (iii) among bodies of WIPO and one or more Unions: the WIPO body;
- (iv) among bodies of several Unions: the body of the oldest Union.

Rule 50: Agenda and Rules of Procedure

(1) The Director General shall draw up the agenda of each ad hoc committee of experts. He or she may modify it on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.

(2) The provisions of Part II of the General Rules of Procedure shall, as far as possible, serve as rules of procedure for ad hoc committees of experts. To the extent that they apply to such committees, the Director General may modify them in each individual case, either on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts concerned.

Rule 52: Officers of ad hoc Committees of Experts

(1) During its first meeting, the ad hoc committee of experts shall elect from among its members a Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

(2) With the consent of the Director General, the ad hoc committee of experts may elect the Director General or another official of the International Bureau as Chair.

Rule 54: Publicity of Meetings

(1) Meetings of ad hoc committees of experts shall be closed.

(2) The Director General may waive this rule on his or her own initiative or at the request of the ad hoc committee of experts.

Rule 55: Report

Ad hoc committees of experts shall submit their reports to the Director General, who shall distribute and publicize them as he or she sees fit.

Annex to the General Rules of Procedure of WIPO

Rules for Voting by Secret Ballot

Rule 1. - In order to vote, delegations must be properly accredited.

Rule 2. - Before the ballot begins, the Chair shall appoint two tellers from among the delegates present. The Chair shall hand them the list of delegations entitled to vote and, where applicable, the list of candidates.

Rule 3. - The Secretariat shall distribute ballot papers and envelopes to the delegations. Ballot papers and envelopes shall be of white paper without distinguishing marks.

Rule 4. - The tellers shall satisfy themselves that the ballot box is empty, and, having locked it, shall hand the key to the Chair.

Rule 5. - Delegations shall be called in turn by the Secretary of the meeting, in the alphabetical order of the names of the member States in French, beginning with the member State whose name shall have been drawn by lot.

Rule 6. - When their names are called, delegations shall hand their ballot papers, in the envelopes, to a teller, who shall place them in the ballot box.

Rule 7. - To indicate the recording of each member State's vote, the Secretary of the meeting and one of the tellers shall sign or initial the list in the margin opposite the name of the member State in question.

Rule 8. - At the conclusion of the calling, the Chair shall declare the ballot closed and announce that the votes are to be counted.

Rule 9. - When the Chair has opened the ballot box, the tellers shall check the number of envelopes. If the number is greater or less than that of the voters, the Chair shall be informed, and shall then declare the vote invalid and announce that it is necessary to re-open the ballot.

Rule 10. - One of the tellers shall open the envelopes, one by one, read aloud what is written on the ballot paper, and pass it to the other teller. The votes inscribed on the ballot papers shall be entered on lists prepared for that purpose.

Rule 11. - Blank ballot papers shall be considered to be abstentions.

Rule 12. - The following shall be considered invalid:

(a) ballot papers on which there are more names than there are States or persons to be elected;

(b) ballot papers in which the voters have revealed their identity, in particular, by apposing their signature or mentioning the name of the member State they represent;

(c) ballot papers which do not give a clear reply to the question asked.

Rule 13. - Candidates are entitled to only one vote each per ballot paper, even if their names appear more than once thereon.

Rule 14. -When the counting of the votes is completed, the Chair shall announce the results of the ballot in the following order:

number of member States entitled to vote at the session;
number absent;
number of abstentions;
number of invalid ballot papers;
number of votes recorded;
number of votes constituting the required majority;
number of votes for or against the proposal or names of the candidates and
number of votes secured by each of them, in descending order of the number of
votes.

Rule 15. - The Chair shall announce the decision resulting from the vote. In particular, the Chair shall declare elected those candidates who have obtained the required majority.

Rule 16. - Immediately after the announcement of the results of the ballot, the ballot papers shall be burnt in the presence of the tellers.

Rule 17. -The lists on which the tellers have recorded the results of the vote shall, after signature by the Chair and by the tellers, constitute the official record of the ballot, and shall be deposited in the archives of the Organization.

Rule 18. - The Chair of the meeting shall draw the attention of delegations to these Rules whenever a vote is taken by secret ballot.

Rule 19. -

(1) These Rules shall in no way affect the provisions according to which a quorum may, in certain conditions, be attained after the session.

(2) Votes expressed by correspondence shall not be secret.

Clean versions of the amended provisions in the Special Rules of Procedure of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and of the Unions Administered by WIPO

WIPO General Assembly

Rule 5: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

WIPO Conference

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

WIPO Coordination Committee

Rule 2: Composition

(1) The Coordination Committee shall be composed of ordinary members and ad hoc members.

(2) Ordinary members shall be States which are ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union, or of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union, or of both of the said Committees.

(3) Ad hoc members shall be States elected by the Conference in accordance with Article 8(1)(c) of the WIPO Convention.

Rule 3: Officers

(1) At the first meeting of each ordinary session, the Coordination Committee shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

(2) (a) At each ordinary session of odd number [1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.], the Chair and the second Vice-Chair shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union and the first Vice-Chair shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union.

(b) At each ordinary session of even number [2nd, 4th, 6th, etc.], the Chair and the second Vice-Chair shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union and the first Vice-Chair shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union.

Rule 4: Separate Voting

(1) When a vote is not unanimous and it is necessary to know the respective decisions or opinions of ordinary members and ad hoc members, the vote shall be taken again separately within each of the groups.

(2) When any question is clearly not within the competence of all the groups of members, the vote shall be taken only within the competent group or groups.

Rule 5: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Paris Union Assembly

Rule 5: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Paris Union Executive Committee

Rule 2: Composition

(1) The Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be composed of ordinary members and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.

(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Paris Union.

Rule 3: Officers

The Chair and the two Vice-Chairs of the Executive Committee of the Paris Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members.

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Berne Union Assembly

Rule 5: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Berne Union Executive Committee

Rule 2: Composition

(1) The Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be composed of ordinary members and Switzerland in the capacity of ex officio ordinary member.

(2) Ordinary members shall be the States elected by the Assembly of the Berne Union.

Rule 3: Officers

(1) At the first meeting of each session, the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for re-election to the office that they have held, except where the election takes place at an extraordinary session.

(3) The Chair and the two Vice-Chairs of the Executive Committee of the Berne Union shall be elected from among the delegates of the ordinary members.

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Madrid Union Assembly

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Hague Union Assembly

Rule 3: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Nice Union Assembly

Rule 3: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Lisbon Union Assembly

Rule 3: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Locarno Union Assembly

Rule 3: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

International Patent Classification (IPC) Union Assembly

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Union Assembly

Rule 4: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published in the *Gazette* of the PCT Union and on the WIPO website.

Budapest Union Assembly

Rule 2: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session of the Assembly referred to in Rule 1, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

Vienna Union Assembly

Rule 3: Publication of the Report

The report on the work of each session of the Assembly, or a summary drawn up by the International Bureau, shall be published on the WIPO website.

WIPO Copyright Treaty Assembly

Rule 2: Delegations

[...]

(5) Delegates and alternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which they represent. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment in writing, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.

WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty Assembly

Rule 2: Delegations

[...]

(5) Delegates and alternates shall be accredited by the competent authority of the State or intergovernmental organization which they represent. The Director General shall be notified of their appointment in writing, issuing preferably from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the competent authority of the intergovernmental organization.

Marrakesh Treaty Assembly

Rule 2: Officers

(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions.

(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.

Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances Assembly

Rule 9: Officers

(1) The Assembly shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who shall remain in office for two ordinary sessions.

(2) The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chairs shall not be immediately eligible for reelection to the office which they have held.

[End of Annex II and of document]