

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings
Geneva, July 9 to 17, 2024

LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

prepared by the Secretariat

1. The present document contains the “List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee” at its thirty-seventh session (June 10 to 14, 2024).

2. *The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, are invited to:*

(i) take note of the “List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee” (document WO/PBC/37/13); and

(ii) approve the recommendations made by the Program and Budget Committee as contained in the same document.

[Document WO/PBC/37/13 follows]

Program and Budget Committee

Thirty-Seventh Session
Geneva, June 10 to 14, 2024

LIST OF DECISIONS

prepared by the Secretariat

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

AGENDA ITEM 2. ELECTION OF AN ACTING VICE-CHAIR OF THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC)

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) elected, for its sessions to be held in 2024 and 2025, Ambassador Bilal Ahmad (Pakistan) as the Acting Vice-Chair of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

document WO/PBC/37/1.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) adopted the agenda (document WO/PBC/37/1).

AGENDA ITEM 4. REPORT BY THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (IAOC)

document WO/PBC/37/2.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to take note of the "Report by the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC)" (document WO/PBC/37/2).

AGENDA ITEM 5. REPORT BY THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

document WO/PBC/37/3.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to take note of the “Report by the External Auditor” (document WO/PBC/37/3).

AGENDA ITEM 6. ANNUAL REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNAL OVERSIGHT DIVISION (IOD)

document WO/PBC/37/4.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to take note of the “Annual Report by the Director of the Internal Oversight Division (IOD)” (document WO/PBC/37/4).

AGENDA ITEM 7. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE WIPO INTERNAL OVERSIGHT CHARTER

document WO/PBC/37/5.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to approve the proposed amendments to the Internal Oversight Charter contained in Annexes I and II of Document WO/PBC/37/5).

AGENDA ITEM 8. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT’S (JIU) RECOMMENDATIONS

document WO/PBC/37/6 Rev.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC):

(i) took note of the present report (document WO/PBC/37/6 Rev.);

(ii) welcomed and endorsed the Secretariat’s assessment of the status of the implementation of recommendations under:

- JIU/REP/2023/8 (Recommendations 3, 4, 5 and 6);*
- JIU/REP/2023/6 (Recommendations 1, 3, 5 and 6);*
- JIU/REP/2023/4 (Recommendations 1, 4, 5, 8 and 11);*
- JIU/REP/2023/2 (Recommendations 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7);*
- JIU/REP/2019/8 (Recommendation 4);*
- JIU/REP/2018/4 (Recommendations 10) as set out in the present report;*

(iii) recommended to retain under consideration the status of the implementation of recommendations under JIU/REP/2023/4 (Recommendations 2 and 10);

(iv) recommended to close JIU/REP/2021/3 (Recommendations 1 and 2); and

(v) called on the Secretariat to propose assessments for the open recommendations made by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for Member States’ consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 9. WIPO PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022/23

document WO/PBC/37/7.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC), having reviewed the WIPO Performance Report (WPR) for 2022/23 (document WO/PBC/37/7), and recognizing its nature as a self assessment of the Secretariat, recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to take note of the positive financial performance and Sectors' achievement of the Expected Results in the biennium 2022/23.

AGENDA ITEM 10. INTERNAL OVERSIGHT DIVISION (IOD) VALIDATION OF THE WIPO PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022/23

document WO/PBC/37/8.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took note of the "Internal Oversight Division (IOD) Validation Report of the WIPO Performance Report 2022/23" (document WO/PBC/37/8).

AGENDA ITEM 11. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023; STATUS OF THE PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT APRIL 30, 2024

(a) ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023

document WO/PBC/37/9.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to approve the "Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements 2023" (document WO/PBC/37/9).

(b) UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

(c) STATUS OF THE PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT APRIL 30, 2024

document WO/PBC/37/10.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took note of the "Status of the Payment of Contributions as at April 30, 2024" (document WO/PBC/37/10).

AGENDA ITEM 12. ANNUAL REPORT ON HUMAN RESOURCES

document WO/PBC/37/INF/1.

AGENDA ITEM 13. CAPITAL MASTER PLAN PROJECTS

document WO/PBC/37/11.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to approve the CMP proposal (document WO/PBC/37/11) and the funding from the WIPO Reserves for the three projects detailed in the annex of the document, amounting to a total of 43.3 million Swiss francs, with the following modifications to the Madrid IT Platform Phase II project proposal as reflected in the Appendix:

- (i) amendment of the 2nd risk; and
- (ii) addition of a 2nd mitigation strategy for that risk.

AGENDA ITEM 14. SUSTAINABILITY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF PROCUREMENT

document WO/PBC/35/6.

The Program and Budget Committee:

- (i) discussed sustainability in the context of procurement at its 37th Session and took note that no consensus was reached, at that point, on amending the Financial Regulations and Rules;*
- (ii) acknowledged that along with other criteria, due consideration for procurement activities shall be given to sustainability according to Regulation 3.8 (b) (v) of the Financial Regulations and Rules and emphasized that the application of this provision shall not be undertaken to the disadvantage of developing countries, least developed countries and economies in transition; and*
- (iii) requested the Secretariat to include in its reporting on procurement in the WIPO Performance Report, the application of sustainability in the context of procurement.*

AGENDA ITEM 15. STUDY ON THE CREATION OF A SEPARATE ENTITY FOR AFTER-SERVICE HEALTH INSURANCE (ASHI)

document WO/PBC/37/12.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to approve the proposal for the establishment of a multi-employer plan meeting the requirements of IPSAS 39 with responsibility for the funds set aside by the WIPO Assemblies and the UPOV Council for the financing of employee benefit liabilities outlined in document WO/PBC/37/12.

AGENDA ITEM 16. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE 2021 EVALUATION OF WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES

documents A/55/INF/11, WO/PBC/31/3 and WO/PBC/35/7 Annex.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC), having discussed the Draft Terms of Reference of the 2021 Evaluation of WIPO External Offices, requested the Secretariat to update the document WO/PBC/35/7 Annex I based on the views of the Member States expressed in document WO/PBC/35/7 Annex I and in the 37th session of the PBC, and the guiding principles contained in document A/55/INF/11 and submit it to the 38th session of the PBC for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 17. METHODOLOGY FOR ALLOCATION OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY UNION

documents A/59/10, A/59/11 and A/59/INF/6.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) decided to continue the discussion on the methodology for the allocation of income and expenditure by Union at the 38th session of the PBC, inter alia, the relevant proposals submitted by Member States during previous sessions.

AGENDA ITEM 18. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

[Appendix follows]

Risks

Risks	Mitigation strategies
<p>Difficulty in acquiring quality technical resources to work on the project could lead to project implementation delays</p>	<p>Proactive planning and outreach to secure the required technical resources. Exploration of internal mobility possibilities.</p>
<p>Madrid legal framework changes and other necessary work requiring prioritized changes to existing MIRIS system to support modified requirements (e.g., new languages of transactions) will lead to unavailability/limited availability of Madrid staff to work on the new Madrid platform deliverables</p>	<p>Implement changes in the current Madrid IT system using, to the extent possible, a plug-and-play approach, so make them reusable in the new Madrid IT platform.</p> <p>Take any further measures, as may be deemed necessary, to ensure that the implementation of the new Madrid IT Platform Phase II project, will not have any negative impact on the effective implementation of any future changes of the Madrid System.</p>
<p>Shortage of available and adequately skilled long-term resources required to effectively execute the transition to operations plan, and continuously support and maintain the delivered systems after the completion of the project.</p>	<p>Reskilling of existing Madrid workforce, exploring opportunities of the ICT centralization to use existing resources across IT teams and proactive planning for new resources.</p>

[End of Appendix and of document]