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WIPO



AB/XXIV/4

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

GOVERNING BODIES OF WIPO AND THE UNIONS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO

Twenty-Fourth Series of Meetings
Geneva, September 20 to 29, 1993

OBSERVATIONS OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
ON THE REPORT OF
THE WIPO BUDGET COMMITTEE
RE: DOCUMENT AB/XXIV/2

Memorandum of the Director General

1. As concerns the proposed draft program and budget for the 1994-95 biennium (contained in document AB/XXIV/2), the report of the WIPO Budget Committee (document AB/XXIV/3) reflects the four recommendations of the Budget Committee which are reproduced in paragraphs 2, 4 and 6, below, as well as pronouncements made by one or more members of the Budget Committee. The present document contains observations as to the said recommendations whereas in respect of the said pronouncements, the information and explanations requested were furnished in the meeting of the Budget Committee and/or are incorporated in the documents prepared by the International Bureau after the meeting of the Budget Committee.

2. With regard to the said draft program and budget, the Budget Committee "decided to recommend to the Governing Bodies that the draft program and budget for the 1994-95 biennium be approved, including the reduction by 8.6% of the overall amount of the contributions payable in the 1994-95 biennium in respect of the Contribution-financed Unions, on the understanding that the proposed fee increases, the increased participation of the Fee-financed Unions in the financing of program activities of the Organization beyond the level of their participation in the 1992-93 biennium and the use of any surpluses generated during the 1994-95 biennium by those Unions would have to be decided upon by the Assemblies of the PCT, Madrid and Hague Unions, respectively" (document AB/XXIV/3, paragraph 50).

3. The Director General hopes that the Governing Bodies will indeed approve the draft program and budget for the 1994-95 biennium as proposed, and that the Assemblies of the PCT, Madrid and Hague Unions will agree to the proposals contained in that draft budget concerning the fee increases, the levels of participation of those Unions in financing the program activities of the Organization, and the attribution of the surpluses of those Unions to the special reserve for additional premises and computerization.

4. The desire to have more information presented to the PCT, Madrid and Hague Unions in order to facilitate their decisions led the Budget Committee to decide "to recommend that the International Bureau furnish additional information to the Assemblies of the PCT, Madrid and Hague Unions concerning the finances of those Unions involving, in particular, justification of the proposed fee increases, explanation of the proposed levels of participation of those Unions in the financing of program activities of the Organization, provision of information concerning their reserve funds, and explanation of the proposed use of the 1994-95 surpluses of those Unions" (document AB/XXIV/3, paragraph 51). The Budget Committee also "decided to recommend that the International Bureau furnish additional information to the Assembly of the Madrid Union to justify the proposed increase in posts for the International Registration Units, in the light of the reduction in the level of activity and the levelling of the expected number of applications for international registration and renewals" (document AB/XXIV/3, paragraph 52).

5. The requested documentation is provided in three separate documents entitled "Matters Concerning the PCT Union," "Matters Concerning the Madrid Union" and "Matters Concerning the Hague Union," respectively (documents PCT/A/XXI/1, MM/A/XXV/1 and H/A/XIII/1).

6. Finally, the Budget Committee "decided to recommend that the International Bureau provide the Governing Bodies with a longer term perspective, beyond the 1994-95 biennium, of projected developments in the activities and the financing of the Organization" (document AB/XXIV/3, paragraph 53).

7. The said longer term perspective is provided by the medium term plan for 1996 to 1999, which constitutes Part III of document AB/XXIV/2.

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