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GENEVA

GOVERNING BODIES OF WIPO
AND THE UNIONS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO

Twenty-Fifth Series of Meetings
Geneva, September 26 to October 4, 1994

GENERAL REPORT

adopted by the Governing Bodies

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INTRODUCTION

1. This General Report records the deliberations and decisions of the following seven Governing Bodies:

- (1) WIPO General Assembly, fifteenth session (4th extraordinary)
- (2) WIPO Coordination Committee, thirty-third session (25th ordinary)
- (3) Paris Union Assembly, twenty-second session (11th extraordinary)
- (4) Paris Union Executive Committee, thirtieth session (30th ordinary)
- (5) Berne Union Assembly, sixteenth session (5th extraordinary)
- (6) Berne Union Executive Committee, thirty-sixth session (25th ordinary)
- (7) PCT [Patent Cooperation Treaty] Union Assembly, twenty-second session (13th extraordinary)

meeting in Geneva from September 26 to October 4, 1994, where the deliberations took place and the decisions were made in joint meetings of two or more of the said Governing Bodies (hereinafter referred to as "the joint meeting(s)" and "the Governing Bodies," respectively).

2. In addition to this General Report, separate reports have been drawn up on the sessions of each of the Governing Bodies (see documents WO/GA/XV/3, WO/CC/XXXIII/6, PCT/A/XXII/2 and B/A/XVI/2, P/A/XXII/2, P/EC/XXX/1 and B/EC/XXXIV/1).

3. The list of the States members of the Governing Bodies and the observers admitted to their sessions as of September 23, 1994, is set forth in document AB/XXV/INF/1 Rev.

4. The meetings dealing with the following items of the Agenda (document AB/XXV/1 Rev.) were presided over by the following Chairmen:

Items 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, part of 14 and 15:	Mr. Valery L. Petrov (Ukraine), Acting Chairman of the WIPO General Assembly
Items 4, 5, 12, 13 and part of 14:	Mr. Roland Grossenbacher (Switzerland), Chairman of the WIPO Coordination Committee
Items 6 and part of 14:	Mr. Liviu Bulgar (Romania), Acting Chairman of the Paris Union Assembly
Item 7:	Mr. Marino Porzio (Chile), Chairman of the Berne Union Assembly
Item 8 and part of 14:	Mr. Alec Sugden (United Kingdom), Chairman of the PCT Union Assembly
Part of item 14:	Mr. Koakou Ata Kato (Togo), Chairman of the Paris Union Executive Committee
Part of item 14:	Mr. Omondi Mbago (Kenya), Vice-Chairman of the Berne Union Executive Committee

5. An index of interventions by delegations of States and representatives of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations mentioned in this report is attached herewith as an Annex. The list of participants appears in document AB/XXV/INF/4.

ITEM 1 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

OPENING OF THE SESSIONS

6. The twenty-fifth series of meetings of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and of the Unions administered by WIPO was convened by the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Arpad Bogsch (hereinafter referred to as "the Director General").

7. The sessions of the Governing Bodies were opened in a joint meeting of all the seven Governing Bodies by the Acting Chairman of the WIPO General Assembly, Mr. Valery L. Petrov (Ukraine).

8. Mr. Combaldieu said that, in the last session (1993) of the WIPO General Assembly, he was elected Chairman of that Assembly for two years. In the meantime, he had been appointed the President of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trade marks and designs) (OHMI) and thus was no longer member of the French Delegation. Consequently, he had to relinquish the chairmanship of the WIPO General Assembly. He nevertheless came to the present session of the General Assembly in order to say once more how honored and pleased he was to have presided over the 1993 session of the General Assembly and that, in his capacity of President of OHMI, he would maintain close relations with WIPO and the International Bureau.

ITEM 2 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDAS

9. Each of the Governing Bodies adopted its agenda as proposed in document AB/XXV/1 Rev. (hereinafter referred to in this document and in the documents listed in paragraph 2, above, as the "Consolidated Agenda").

ITEM 3 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS

10. Following consultations among the delegations, undertaken by the Acting Chairman of the WIPO General Assembly, a proposal for the election of the officers of the WIPO Coordination Committee, the Paris Union Executive Committee and the Berne Union Executive Committee, was presented by that Acting Chairman.

11. On the basis of such proposal of the Acting Chairman of the WIPO General Assembly, the said Committees elected, on September 26, 1994, their officers. The list of the said officers, together with the officers of the other four Governing Bodies in session during the twenty-fifth series of meetings, who were elected at the previous (1993) meetings, appears in document AB/XXV/INF/5.

ITEM 4 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

ACTIVITIES FROM JULY 1, 1993, TO JUNE 30, 1994

12. Discussions were based on documents AB/XXV/2 and 3.

13. The delegations of the following 75 States, six intergovernmental organizations and two international non-governmental organizations made statements (they are named in the order in which they took the floor): Sweden, Chile, Egypt, Austria, Paraguay, Israel, United States of America, Japan, Republic of Korea, Turkey, Spain, Slovenia, Argentina, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Finland, Czech Republic, Germany, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Algeria, Australia, Russian Federation, France, Canada, Nigeria, Norway, Brazil, Hungary, Burkina Faso, Uruguay, Venezuela, Denmark, Poland, Senegal, Ecuador, Portugal, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Sudan, Cameroon, India, Colombia, Peru, Indonesia, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Belgium, Saudi Arabia, Mongolia, Belarus, Libya, Malawi, Kenya, Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Zimbabwe, Trinidad and Tobago, Jordan, Lesotho, Benin, United Republic of Tanzania, Liberia, Ghana, Central African Republic, Netherlands, Mexico, Pakistan, Swaziland, Monaco, Madagascar, Congo, EPO, OAU, CEC, ARIPO, OAPI, BBM/BBDM, EBU, IFRRO.

14. The delegations offered their congratulations to the Chairman and to the other officers of the Governing Bodies concerned for their election to their respective offices, and they congratulated Mr. Kamil Idris on his recent appointment as Deputy Director General.

15. The delegations of practically all the member States expressed their satisfaction, as far as the activities of the International Bureau during the last year and a half were concerned, with the great quantity and the excellent quality of such activities and the imagination and efficiency with which they were carried out and, as far as the report was concerned, with its all embracing coverage, transparency and clarity. They were of the view that as far as the International Bureau was responsible, the activities had attained the objectives expressed in the program and that the staff of the International Bureau had once again demonstrated its capacity, under the dynamic leadership of the Director General, to respond with verve, flair and efficiency to the challenges brought about by the changing world situation and expectations of member States.

16. Particular satisfaction was expressed in respect of the development cooperation activities. The delegations of the developing countries mentioned, in particular, the great importance of technical assistance in consolidating the contribution of intellectual property to their technological, economic, cultural and social development. They expressed the hope that WIPO's development cooperation program would continue, enhance and further broaden, particularly in the light of new developments in the international intellectual property scene and the desire to achieve sustainable development. A number of delegations of industrialized and other donor countries reaffirmed their willingness to continue giving support to WIPO and its development cooperation program, both in funds and in kind.

17. The development cooperation activities considered most useful by many delegations were, in particular, general and specialized training, including long-term fellowships, assistance in the drafting of legislation, rationalization of the administrative operations of industrial property offices as well as of collective administration societies of rights of authors and composers, in particular through computerization, patent information services to the public by increasing use of CD-ROM technology, the teaching of intellectual property in universities, promotion of public awareness, information for judges and for enterprises. In this connection, the WIPO Academy was mentioned as a major innovation which responded to a felt need for middle to senior-level government officials to become familiar with the full policy ramifications of intellectual property issues.

18. Referring to the decline in extrabudgetary resources available to WIPO for its development cooperation activities, many delegations of developing countries requested an augmentation of funds, from the Organization's regular budget, for development cooperation activities in the 1996-97 biennium, in view of the growing demand for technical assistance from developing countries. The Group of Latin American countries requested that the Governing Bodies instruct the Budget Committee, in examining the draft budget for the 1996-97 biennium, to ensure higher allocations for such activities.

19. A number of delegations emphasized the importance they attached to WIPO's activities in connection with the international registration systems, and they supported the pursuance of work on norm-setting and harmonization. They looked forward to the successful conclusion of the Diplomatic Conference for the Conclusion of the Trademark Law Treaty and the resumption of work, through compromise and accommodation, as appropriate, relating to the proposed Patent Law Treaty, the proposed Treaty for the Settlement of Disputes Between States in the Field of Intellectual Property as well as work relating to a possible Protocol to the Berne Convention, and a possible Instrument on the Protection of the Rights of Performers and Producers of Phonograms. A number of delegations also welcomed the establishment of the WIPO Arbitration Center for the settlement of intellectual property disputes between private parties and viewed the new institution as a potentially important support for the private sector.

20. The Delegation of Sweden expressed the view that the work done by WIPO in the field of development cooperation contributed very much to the development of intellectual property systems in the world. The Delegation said that its Government would continue to cooperate with WIPO in providing training from developing countries, mainly from Africa. The simplified procedures under the proposed Trademark Law Treaty for the registration of trademarks would certainly facilitate the registration of trademarks for applicants. Concerning the registration of industrial designs under the Hague Agreement, Sweden took great interest in the ongoing work to develop that Agreement. Within Sweden, the number of patent and trademark applications had been increasing recently. Concerning national industrial property legislation, a new Bill on post-grant opposition was enacted on January 1, 1994. At the same time, an amendment introducing supplementary protection certificate for pharmaceuticals entered into force. Sanctions against infringement of intellectual property rights had also become more severe. Sweden intended to accede to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Protocol) in early 1995. Concerning copyright and neighboring rights, the Delegation, in expressing

satisfaction with the work of the International Bureau in norm-setting in this field, highlighted the WIPO Worldwide Symposium on the future of Copyright and Neighboring Rights, organized in cooperation with the Government of France in Paris, in June 1994, which permitted an invaluable exchange of views within the international copyright community. Finally, the Delegation commended the WIPO Study on character merchandising and welcomed the forthcoming merger, in 1995, of the WIPO reviews "Industrial Property" and "Copyright."

21. The Delegation of Chile drew attention to the fact that the recent conclusion of the Uruguay Round Agreements, especially that relating to intellectual property, had given a new impulsion to international intellectual property relations. The TRIPS Agreement had constituted a new global intellectual property system representing an important change to the traditional manner in which the system had evolved since the last century. The establishment of the best possible working links between WIPO and the future WTO was thus of paramount importance. WIPO, with its long history of experience, had much to contribute to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement. Accordingly, there should be a common reflection on how best to establish the mechanisms for that purpose. Concerning the designation of a candidate to the post of Director General, for approval later on by the General Assembly, Chile supported the proposal of the United States of America to extend for another two years the mandate of the present Director General. The Delegation of Chile recalled a suggestion that was made last year by the Working Group of the Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Industrial Property in 1993 that a deeper evaluation of the development cooperation activities be carried out. It also stressed the need for WIPO to seek additional resources from its own budget for development cooperation activities. Further, the Delegation commended a recent WIPO study on character merchandising and proposed that other studies be carried out on a range of intellectual property subjects. The Delegation also recalled with satisfaction various WIPO seminars on both industrial property and copyright organized in Chile earlier in 1994.

22. The Delegation of Egypt expressed thanks for WIPO's assistance to its country as well as to Arab countries in general. It was pleased with the outcome of various seminars on industrial property and copyright which were organized in its country last year and earlier in 1994, and called for more activities to be carried out for the benefit of Arab countries. With the future establishment of the WTO it was important to avoid any duplication of work. However, the role of WIPO had to be recognized and preserved. The Delegation welcomed the suggestion of the Director General for consultations with the future WTO and the TRIPS Council to ensure an effective and close cooperation. Pending that, WIPO should organize a meeting to examine the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on developing countries, to which both developing and industrialized countries should be invited. The Director General's proposal that WIPO advise developing countries on bringing their laws in line with the requirements of the TRIPS Agreement and provide those countries with the necessary studies on the impact of TRIPS was supported. The Delegation of Egypt also invited WIPO to increase its activities relating to the possibility for developing countries to obtain foreign technology in the field of environment and to help those countries to profit from scientific and technological information contained in patent documents.

23. The Delegation of Austria referred to its Government's participation in WIPO's development cooperation for officials of developing countries program through joint training courses on patent documentation and information, as well the provision of state-of-the-art searches and examination reports. In addition, there were bilateral activities for the benefit of Central and Eastern European countries on building up legal and administrative systems for those countries. Besides, under the PCT, Austria acted as an International Search and International Preliminary Examination Authority for a number of developing countries. The Delegation informed the meeting of the recent developments in its national legislation, notably a new Utility Model Law which entered into force on April 1, 1994. Another new law implemented the relevant European Union regulation and established supplementary protection certificates for pharmaceutical products, under which patent protection for those products could be extended for further five years. A general revision of the Trademark Law was planned after Austria's accession to the European Union in 1995. A new Law on the protection of geographical indications was under preparation. Accession to the Vienna Agreement Establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks was expected in 1995. The parliamentary procedure for approval of the Madrid Protocol was expected to start in 1995, while possible accession to the Hague Agreement was being studied. The Delegation expressed its thanks to the International Bureau for the publication of the International Classification of the Figurative Elements in Marks in the German language.

24. The Delegation of Paraguay expressed its satisfaction with its country's accession to the Paris Convention in May 1994, and said that the Director General's official visit the year before had a decisive influence on that outcome. Thanks were expressed specially for the useful advice and assistance on intellectual property harmonization provided to the four member countries of the Common Market of the Southern Cone (MERCOSUR). The harmonization of intellectual property systems was an essential condition for the success of economic integration. In referring to the development cooperation activities of WIPO, special reference was made to the WIPO Academy which could become an important forum for worldwide discussions through an improved system of selection of participants in that body. The country also supported the development of training seminars for judges, which it would like to benefit from. Satisfaction was voiced regarding the positive approach of WIPO in contacts with the preparatory organs of the WTO Preparatory Committee. Paraguay, as a member of the Informal Contact Group on TRIPS, was in favor of inviting WIPO to participate as an observer in the work of that Group as well as of the establishment of an informal consultative Working Group comprised of members of the two Organizations. Mutually supportive cooperation in areas to be decided would be consonant with the preamble of the TRIPS Agreement and would be advantageous to developing countries. The Delegation welcomed WIPO's technical assistance in adjusting national laws and institutions in accordance with the TRIPS Agreement.

25. The Delegation of Israel described in some detail the recent improvements in the organization and work of the Israel Patent Office. Regarding national legislative reform, various Committees were at work to examine the revision of existing, and the introduction of new, laws dealing with patents, industrial designs, integrated circuits, trademarks and copyright. That work was in various stages of completion. The hope was expressed that Israel might be able to accede to the Budapest Treaty and to the PCT in the course of 1995. WIPO had given constructive advice in connection with such work and the

preparations for eventual accession to the said Treaties. Further, the Delegation supported the proposal that WIPO gave advice on the implications of the TRIPS Agreement on national laws. Finally, the Delegation of Israel supported the candidature of the current Director General for an additional two-year term.

26. The Delegation of the United States of America stated its view that WIPO has become an increasingly important institution for the United States of America and in many ways a very important institution for the entire world. The United States placed great importance on intellectual property, representing the progress of mankind from intensive manual labor to products of the mind. A national information infrastructure task force had been set up to guide the creation of the information economy in the country in the twenty-first century, with, among others, an intellectual property working group for that task force. It was imperative that all countries work together in WIPO to ensure common norms which would promote the development of this information economy for all countries in the twenty-first century. In this light, the United States of America believed that WIPO would play a central role and the Delegation emphasized its commitment to WIPO and its future. The United States of America was examining its Patent Law to attempt to harmonize it with that of its trading partners. Thus, there was legislation pending in the United States Congress to change the United States 17-year term of patent protection to one of 20 years from filing. Also, legislation would be introduced to publish patent applications after 18 months, similar to the practice in many other countries in the world. Those two steps would be the first initiatives towards the ultimate harmonization of the United States patent system with that of the rest of the world. As part of that long term goal of harmonization, the United States of America had concluded an agreement with Japan which would harmonize the patent systems of the two largest economies in the world. The Delegation concluded by saying that it was proposing the Director General for reelection because of the great importance that its country placed on WIPO, the Director General's background in all areas of intellectual property and on the organization, skills and leadership of the International Bureau by the Director General.

27. The Delegation of Japan said as intellectual property grew in importance in the context of economic globalization and technological evolution, the international harmonization of intellectual property systems and their practices had become of utmost importance. It was in this context that the recent agreements between Japan and the United States of America on the harmonization of their patents systems were concluded. Under two agreements in January and August, 1994, decisions on the important issues were taken which would accelerate negotiations under the Patent Law Treaty. These agreements were decided upon by the two countries to be implemented for the worldwide harmonization as envisaged by the TRIPS Agreement and for the purpose of WIPO's Patent Law Treaty negotiations. These agreements had been approved by the Industrial Property Council in Japan and efforts were underway to give legislative effect to them and to the TRIPS Agreement. The resulting changes in the patent systems and practices of the two countries would be available to the whole world rather than being restricted to the two countries. It was Japan's hope that the Japan-United States initiative could serve as a breakthrough towards full and swift conclusion of the Patent Law Treaty. As regards trademarks, Japan intended to actively support the conclusion of the Trademark Law Treaty. The Japanese Unfair Competition Prevention Law entered into force in May 1994, reflecting moves toward

international harmonization at WIPO. In the field of copyright, Japan was making continuous efforts to improve its legislation to cope with such recent technological progress as the development of multi-media systems. Regarding cooperation with developing countries, Japan was making efforts via Funds-in-Trust arrangements with WIPO. Because of their importance, such cooperation with WIPO would be continued. In conclusion, the Delegation of Japan expressed the wish that the Director General would continue his strong leadership of WIPO for the benefit of substantial harmonization of intellectual property systems and practices throughout the world.

28. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea gave a brief overview of its country's recent accomplishments and future policy directions. The Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) launched a seven-year computerization plan that would lead to a paperless system for the entire administration of industrial property, including patent examination and searching, while an electronic application system would be operational. In this regard, the Delegation expressed its appreciation to WIPO and the Japanese Patent Office for providing advice on that plan and for future assistance. The Delegation expressed great interest in the tripartite cooperation between the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Japanese Patent Office and European Patent Office to jointly develop and standardize a first-page data base. The Delegation urged those Offices to decide on a policy of distribution and dissemination of their achievements in this respect as soon as possible. The Delegation referred to its country's cooperation with WIPO in its development cooperation activities in Asia and the Pacific and took satisfaction in its contribution of funds for defraying the expenses of a WIPO Asian seminar to be held in that country in November this year. This contribution was in accordance with the country's growing status in the international arena. Concerning the desirability of cooperation between WIPO and the future WTO it was suggested that WIPO provide WTO with its expertise and experience, with a view to establishing effective and mutually supportive relations between the two Organizations. The Delegation expected that the two Organizations would thus be in a position to effectively resolve possible difficulties arising mainly from differences in the interpretation of the TRIPS Agreement as well as of the treaties administered by WIPO and overcome any overlapping jurisdiction in intellectual property matters through close cooperation. The Delegation further hoped that WIPO would continue to provide advice to developing countries on intellectual property issues and to ensure compatibility between their national intellectual property legislation and the TRIPS Agreement. Finally, the Delegation said that the nominee to the post of Director General of WIPO should be a person such as the current Director General.

29. The Delegation of Turkey informed the meeting of the establishment of the Turkish Patent Institute, with an autonomous structure, in June 1994 which would increase the speed of developments in industrial property matters in Turkey. A further step taken by Turkey was the Government's decision to accede to the Stockholm Act of the Paris Convention. The instrument of accession would reach WIPO in the very near future. Turkey's accession to the PCT and the law implementing the PCT in Turkey were being discussed by the Turkish Parliament this week and the laws relating to Turkey's accession to the Paris Act of the Berne Convention and the Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations were on the Parliament's agenda. Accession to the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services

for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification, the Vienna Agreement and other treaties was also envisaged. The Delegation expressed its appreciation for WIPO's implementation of the UNDP-financed country project for the modernization of the Turkish industrial property system. The Delegation also thanked the offices of other countries for their assistance.

30. The Delegation of Spain highlighted its assistance, provided bilaterally or in cooperation with WIPO and the EPO to many Latin American countries. That assistance took different forms: training courses at the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, study visits to the said Office, advisory missions to the countries concerned, the transfer of bibliographic data and abstracts of Latin American patents to the Spanish on-line data base CIBEPAT and CD-CIBEPAT which contained complete patent documentation for practically all Latin American countries since 1990. Efforts were underway to endeavor to complete the said documentation with the backfiles for the period 1982-1990. Another information product on which work was continuing was the CD-ROM "Dopales-Primeras", established in close cooperation between the Latin American Offices, EPO and WIPO. This program contained the first pages of patents of Spanish-speaking Latin American countries and Brazil. Bilateral cooperation had been instituted with a number of Latin American countries through special cooperation agreements. The Delegation also confirmed the intention of the Spanish Office to act as an International Search Authority under the PCT in the Spanish language as from January 1, 1995. It also informed the meeting that Spain was taking steps that would eventually allow it to lift its reservation concerning Chapter II of the PCT. As far as copyright and neighboring rights were concerned, the Delegation made special mention of the WIPO/Spain Meeting of Heads of Copyright Offices of Iberoamerican Countries, to be held in Santiago de Compostela in November 1994. The Delegation stated that in December 1993, the European Union Directive on the protection of computer programs was enacted as national law and that the European Union Directive on rental rights was expected to be enacted before the end of 1994. Finally, the Delegation referred to the increasing importance that was being given to training programs for copyright and related subjects in the national context.

31. The Delegation of Slovenia gave information on recent developments in the country. The reregistration of all rights granted or applied for in the former Yugoslavia had been completed. The country had become a Contracting State of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) on March 1, 1994, and, in the short period of time since then, remarkable results had been obtained. The International Bureau's valuable support allowed for a smooth start of PCT operations in the Office. The Delegation also declared that it supported the nomination of the Director General for further term of two-years. Regarding developments in the field of national intellectual property legislation, a new law on the protection of integrated circuits, drafted partly with the advice of the International Bureau, and a new law on copyright and neighboring rights passed their first reading in Parliament and were expected to be enacted by the end of 1994. With those two laws, Slovenia would have completed the whole range of intellectual property laws at the same level of protection as most developed countries. It was also expected that the country would accede to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs before the end of 1994. Furthermore, it was foreseen that the Industrial Property Protection Office would assume responsibility for copyright, to become the National Intellectual Property Office. New legislation was also

under way to provide effective enforcement of intellectual property rights. That Law would provide for a single court to be competent for all intellectual property disputes. Slovenia planned to have its own CD-ROM containing all Slovenian patents as well as the titles and abstracts in English. An agreement had been concluded with the EPO, at the time of the entry into force of the PCT in respect of Slovenia, providing for the extension of the effects of European patent applications to the territory of Slovenia with, so far, already 600 requests of extensions. The official visit of the Director General to Slovenia in July 1994, was underlined as being the occasion for a thorough exchange of views, an evaluation of the country's plans and agreement on future cooperation with WIPO.

32. The Delegation of Argentina underlined the special importance it attached to development cooperation activities undertaken by WIPO and said that there should be more resources for development cooperation activities in the 1996-97 biennium, especially in view of the new challenges posed by the conclusion of the Uruguay Round Agreements. In underlining the importance of cooperational activities relating to adherence to WIPO's treaties, the Delegation mentioned the seminar on the PCT which was held recently in Buenos Aires. It added that accession to the PCT was at present under consideration by the Argentine Parliament. The importance of WIPO's assistance to developing countries to implement the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement was stressed. The Delegation, in this context, welcomed close coordination between WIPO and WTO and supported the Director General's proposals regarding the establishment of a mutually supportive relationship between WIPO and the future WTO as well as the preparation of studies on the compatibility of national laws and of WIPO treaties with the TRIPS Agreement. The Delegation further recalled the useful advice and assistance given by WIPO to MERCOSUR in the course of several expert meetings held in 1993 and 1994. With reference to the nomination to the post of Director General, the Delegation expressed the belief that the Director General's effective leadership and long experience would lead to a revitalization of the role of WIPO in meeting the challenges in the post Uruguay Round period.

33. The Delegation of Brunei Darussalam spoke on behalf of the six member States of the Association of South East Asian Countries (ASEAN), namely, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. It said that each ASEAN member country had individually, and collectively as ASEAN, benefited from WIPO's various development cooperation activities. Regarding the nomination to the post of Director General, the ASEAN countries were aware of the merits of the two candidates. The French candidate was well qualified. On the other hand, the record of the Director General spoke eloquently for itself. The six ASEAN countries therefore supported Dr. Bogsch's nomination by the WIPO Coordination Committee for an additional two-year term and that that nomination be confirmed by the General Assembly at its September 1995 meeting. In respect of the continuation of the Diplomatic Conference for the Conclusion of a Treaty Supplementing the Paris Convention as far as Patents are Concerned (Patent Law Treaty), the ASEAN countries felt that the principle and practice of multilateral negotiation should be upheld and reinforced whenever the occasion arose. In this light, they were in favor of reconvening the Diplomatic Conference as soon as possible, that is, in May 1995, as suggested by the Director General of WIPO. The ASEAN countries appealed to the Delegations of the States present that, when they considered what provisions, if any, to be excluded, to do so in a spirit of cooperation and compromise and to bear in mind at all times the

overriding importance of achieving international patent harmonization through multilateral, not bilateral, negotiations. The ASEAN countries urged close cooperation between WIPO and the future WTO. WIPO's vast store of expertise would be of great benefit to the future WTO in implementing its TRIPS Agreement, ASEAN was conscious of the need, equally, to avoid duplication and the consequent drain on limited financial and human resources. The six countries therefore supported the Director General's efforts to establish a mutually supportive relationship with the future WTO and agreed with his proposal to further explore the various acceptable cooperative arrangements with the WTO. The Director General's proposal regarding the preparation of studies on the implications of the TRIPS Agreement was also supported.

34. The Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea praised the achievements of the International Bureau in the field of development cooperation and urged the early conclusion of the various outstanding norm-setting activities, in particular the early reconvening of the Diplomatic Conference on the Patent Law Treaty. The Delegation next described recent developments in its country. A UNDP-financed country project, implemented by WIPO, had started this year with the purpose of computerizing and upgrading the Inventions Office. A national exhibition of inventions and new technology held early this year in the country was a success and was part of the Government's efforts to promote inventive activities. As industrial property was an important tool for the national scientific and economic development, the Government would make further efforts to develop the national industrial property system in line with its new economic strategy. In this context, WIPO's assistance would be welcome. The Delegation declared that it supported the Director General's reelection for a further two-year period.

35. The Delegation of China informed the meeting that since the beginning of 1994, China had reinforced on a large scale the protection of intellectual property. The State Council had published a white paper on that subject and issued a number of documents aimed at strengthening intellectual property protection. The Delegation cited many statistics which attested to the impressive growth in the use of the national patent, trademark, utility model and industrial design systems. The time required for examination of applications had, on the other hand, diminished. Use of the newly-established PCT system was off to a good start. At the moment, the Chinese Patent Office had 500 examiners and there were more than 5,000 patent agents throughout the country. The Chinese Patent Office had started preparations for acceding to the Budapest Treaty, in consultation with WIPO officials. Preparations for adherence to the Strasbourg Agreement and to the Locarno Agreement had also been started and it was expected that during 1995, China would be in a position to adhere to those two treaties. In September 1994, the Chinese Trademarks Association was founded. WIPO was represented at the uninaugural ceremony. As far as copyright was concerned, WIPO cooperated with the Chinese Government in the organization of three seminars since September 1993, one of which was regional in nature. In the past 12 months or so, China had made considerable progress in the protection of authors rights, both in legislation and in administration, relating to remuneration for reproduction and abstracts of articles in the written press, the judicial application of the copyright law, the reinforcement of the control of the reproduction of compact disks and compact video disks, and punishment of copyright violations. Since the entry into force of the copyright law, serious enforcement measures against piracy had been carried out. Close to 4,000 intellectual property cases had been heard in the People's Courts since 1986. A number of special tribunals for

intellectual property had been created also. The Delegation explained that the development of the cause of intellectual property was the result of the policy of reform and opening of the socialist market economy in China. It was intimately linked with the support granted by WIPO. The Delegation of China expressed its support for the nomination of the Director General for a new term.

36. The Delegation of Finland welcomed the establishment of the WIPO Arbitration Center. It described a project called "Innovative Finland," to promote national creativity, enterprise, skills and competitiveness, with the expected outcome of more new enterprises, improved employment and new products on the market. Negotiations were underway in Finland on joining the European Patent Organisation. A new system for supplementary certificates for the protection of pharmaceutical products went into force in July this year. Regarding WIPO's norm-setting activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, the Delegation emphasized the importance of a balanced development of the protection of different categories of beneficiaries. The rights of broadcasting organizations should also be explored at some time in the future. The establishment of a mutually supportive working relationship between WIPO and the future WTO was most important. WIPO, with a competent and expert secretariat, was an appropriate forum for international norm-setting and exploration of new themes, such as the impact of digital and other high definition and high performance technologies on copyright.

37. The Delegation of the Czech Republic referred to the effective role of WIPO in maintaining and extending the protection of intellectual property rights and supported the proposal of the Director General on the establishment of a mutually supportive relationship between WIPO and the future WTO. Concerning the industrial property situation in the Czech Republic, a four-year revision program of its industrial property legislation would be completed in early 1995 with the adoption of a new trademark law. The Czech Industrial Property Office, which recently celebrated its 75th anniversary, would move to new computerized premises at the end of 1994. In addition to close cooperation with WIPO, the Czech Republic also cooperated with a number of European countries and the EPO in the field of industrial property. WIPO's assistance was requested for the preparation of a new copyright law. Appreciation was expressed for the Director General's official visit to the country in September 1993.

38. The Delegation of Germany, in describing its country's contribution to WIPO's development cooperation activities, announced that Germany had established a new legal basis providing for the possibility of continuing the provision of state-of-the-art searches free of charge to developing countries under the Organization's relevant program. An agreement between Germany and WIPO covering that contribution was expected to be concluded soon. In respect of Central and Eastern European countries, the Delegation welcomed the conclusion of the Eurasian Patent Convention which had been prepared with the assistance of WIPO. The Delegation noted with satisfaction the expansion of the international registration systems, in particular as German industry and business continued to be leading users of such systems. As for the resumption of work on the Patent Law Treaty, the Delegation welcomed the statements of the Delegations of Japan and the United States of America and expressed its ardent wish that the negotiations on the PLT be resumed and the present blockade be lifted. Concerning national developments, the Delegation informed that the operations of the German Patent Office were being modernized and

computerized so that by the end of the decade, a computerized system for patent documentation and searches would be in use. A new trademark law was passed by Parliament and could enter into force on January 1, 1995. It was the view of the Delegation that notwithstanding the existence of the TRIPS Agreement, there was no question about the leading role that WIPO would continue to have in the field of intellectual property protection.

39. The Delegation of the United Kingdom said that, in addition to its country's participation in WIPO's developing cooperation program, it also provided assistance bilaterally and through other intergovernmental organizations to a number of countries. Earlier this year, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the United Kingdom Patent Office and the Slovenian Industrial Property Protection Office under which the results of search and examination and patents granted by the former would be taken as a basis for decisions of the Slovenian Office concerning the patentability of corresponding inventions. At the national level, the government had passed a new Trade Marks Act, bringing the United Kingdom law up-to-date with the relevant European Union directives and with the establishment of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market, in Alicante. That law made provisions for the United Kingdom to ratify the Madrid Protocol, which was expected to be done by January 1, 1995. In addition, legislation reinforcing enforcement powers against copyright piracy had been adopted.

40. The Delegation of Switzerland welcomed in particular the development of activities for the benefit of the private sector by the creation of the WIPO Arbitration Center. When pointing to the importance of advancing work on the various harmonization projects of WIPO, the Delegation said that the area of industrial designs was of special concern to it. Every effort should be made to continue the revision of the Hague Agreement. In the eyes of the Delegation, the TRIPS Agreement recognized the expertise and special competence of WIPO and foresaw modalities of cooperation between the two organizations. Switzerland, which stood for the principle of coexistence and complementarity, wished that such cooperation be instituted effectively and rapidly.

41. The Delegation of Algeria, in expressing its satisfaction with the cooperation received from WIPO, said that a new Patent Law had entered into force in Algeria in December 1993, which had been prepared with the assistance of WIPO. Algeria was currently considering joining the PCT. It was the Delegation's opinion that developing countries needed WIPO's experience and knowledge in implementing the TRIPS Agreement and supported the proposal made by the Delegation of Egypt that WIPO organize a meeting to examine the consequences of that Agreement for developing countries. In addition, the Delegation approved the Director General's proposals to prepare studies to examine the implications of this Agreement on WIPO's treaties. Support was voiced for the Director General in the accomplishment of his work at this crucial time. The Delegation also expressed the wish that the activities of the Development Cooperation and External Relations Bureau for Arab Countries be expanded.

42. The Delegation of Australia strongly endorsed the comments made by the Delegation of the United States of America on the importance of intellectual property in the modern world and the role of WIPO in this respect. Australia felt confident that WIPO would meet the future challenge that had arisen with the TRIPS Agreement and develop a constructive working arrangement with the

future WTO. Australia maintained an active dialogue and level of cooperation with countries in the Asian region, through the medium of WIPO'S program of assistance or through bilateral arrangements. Concerning legislative developments in Australia, a new Trademark Act, taking into account the requirements of the TRIPS Agreement, was established after consultation with the users of the system, and should be enforced early next year. A similar exercise was conducted on designs legislation and a Government decision in this respect was expected during 1995. Finally, the Delegation of Australia said that it supported the current Director General's nomination for an additional two-year term.

43. The Delegation of the Russian Federation underlined the useful role of WIPO in the setting of norms. It commended WIPO in particular on its efforts in the field of patent information and the improvement of the international classification systems. The Delegation underlined the importance of concluding the Patent Law Treaty and expressed the hope that all difficulties could be overcome. It was essential that WIPO should cooperate closely with the future WTO. WIPO should play the determining role in the protection of intellectual property rights, as the fragmentation of intellectual property matters could have negative consequences. There should be joint consultations between WIPO and the future WTO, with the latter drawing on the long experience of WIPO. In view of his contributions, the Delegation supported the present Director General's candidature for another two-year term.

44. The Delegation of France approved the two activity reports submitted by the International Bureau. They were highly detailed and most precise texts. However, the Delegation of France would like to see in future a more analytical document, even if that meant drawing up a subsidiary document for certain elements. The way in which the texts were presently set out did not enable the main lines of action of the International Bureau and its essential aims to be identified. Today, in a new context born of the Marrakesh agreements, which forced WIPO to take into account in its operation the intellectual property agreements that had been signed, intellectual property was for the first time at the center of major international issues and its value could increase in importance even more rapidly than trade itself. The Delegation looked forward to close cooperation, in a spirit of mutual respect and based on the principle of complementarity, between WIPO and the future WTO, presuming that each organization would have clearly defined competence and that the boundaries would be respected. It was not sure that those boundaries had been adequately protected in the Uruguay Round negotiations. The Delegation of France was therefore concerned that WIPO could possibly be in a position of weakness compared with a World Trade Organization that was impatient to impose itself from the very onset, including in those sectors that were more related to creation than to trade. That was why, in particular, it had given its support to the proposal made by the Delegation of Egypt that the issue be studied. As far as development cooperation was concerned, WIPO should pursue the action it had undertaken on a large scale. For its part, the French Government had contributed and would continue to contribute to the training, through CEIPI in Strasbourg, of some dozens of industrial property officials from the developing countries. The Delegation further wished to dwell on the need for WIPO to be at the center of the intellectual property debate between the creators and those who looked at the matter from a commercial point of view. It would be for WIPO to deploy activities in favor of the creators. That was why the Delegation of France had asked that the work undertaken be pursued to update the existing

international conventions in the field of copyright and neighboring rights since WIPO was the appropriate forum for examining matters concerning the protection of those rights. France, together with four other partners, was the main contributor to WIPO. That was why it had decided to offer the Member States a choice for the post of Director General of WIPO between the candidature of the present Director General and a new impetus for the Organization. It felt that the relatively easy time for WIPO, in the worldwide context, had come to an end. Having noted the new situation following the Marrakesh agreements, at the threshold of an explosion of new technologies with implications for copyright, neighboring rights and the rights of inventors and creators, it had invited the member States to take account of those new developments and to enable the Organization to adapt itself to them. That was why it was presenting a candidate of alternation and of renewal in the person of Mr. Tournier.

45. The Delegation of Canada gave a brief report on recent Canadian developments in respect of intellectual property laws and administration. Intellectual property was very much set in the context of a renewed Canadian emphasis on fostering business development, efficient markets, competitiveness and effective investment in science and technology. Copyright issues arising from technological advances were studied and alternative policy proposals were being developed. Approval was obtained by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office from the Government to operate under a revolving fund, as of April 1994, allowing all intellectual property fees to directly fund its operations. Investment in the computerization of all operations was continuing and, in respect of patents, the automation of operations of the Patent Office was about to go into a period of phased deployment. The trademark computerization project would convert the existing system into a client server structure, to be completed by the end of 1995, and would provide to all employees of the Office online information on both word and figurative trademarks. Canada was developing plans with regard to joining the Budapest Treaty and acceding to the Strasbourg Agreement (IPC). Canadian membership in the Madrid Protocol was being examined.

46. The Delegation of Nigeria thanked WIPO for the different kinds of assistance given to its country, as part of the Organization's program of assistance to industrial property offices in developing countries. However, more assistance was needed and it was confident that WIPO would be in a position to expand its development cooperation activities. In this respect, it considered that WIPO's training and activities benefitting the private sector should be increased. Concerning the relationship to be established with the future WTO, it supported the proposals made by the Director General and submitted to the present sessions of the Governing Bodies. Nigeria supported also a joint WIPO-WTO ad hoc Committee made up of member States and serviced by the Secretariat to advise and promote cooperation between the two Organizations. In addition, Nigeria supported the convening of a conference by WIPO to explain the implication of TRIPS for developing countries.

47. The Delegation of Norway said that Norway had a long tradition of strong protection of intellectual property rights and was putting great emphasis on their further development, which was the case at the national level after the country became a part of the European Economic Area. Norway strongly supported the various activities of WIPO and found the Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information of particular interest, especially in respect of standardisation and new means for the development and dissemination of

industrial property documents. Norway planned to ratify the Madrid Protocol as of January 1, 1996. Concerning assistance to third countries, Norway placed on record that, together with the Nordic countries, it carried out a special program for the Baltic States for the purpose of supporting them to re-establish sound intellectual property systems. The Delegation expressed the wish that WIPO and the future WTO elaborate forms of mutually fruitful and effective cooperation and that there would be avoidance of wasted resources through duplication and friction. WIPO had proven its capacity to adapt its services to its customers, namely its member countries and, by doing so, to the needs of the broad public of those countries.

48. The Delegation of Brazil welcomed the proposals regarding the advancement of harmonization work in various intellectual property areas and was pleased with the progress made towards the conclusion of the Trademark Law Treaty. It also supported the proposal submitted by the International Bureau for convening a seventh session of the Committee of Experts on the Settlement of Intellectual Property Disputes between States, in order to continue the preparation of a new treaty. On the other hand, it was disappointed by the delay in concluding negotiations on the proposed Patent Law Treaty, stemming from obstacles raised by the initiators of the exercise. With regard to the important development cooperation program of WIPO, the Delegation called upon the Governing Bodies, at their current sessions, to give indications to the effect that the budget for the next biennium 1996-97 should attribute more resources and a higher priority to that program. WIPO should strengthen its role in the field of dissemination of technological information and transfer of technology, thanks to its strong experience in patent information. A focal point for patent information should be established in the International Bureau which would link up the interested parties at an international level. This was a preliminary proposal and the International Bureau might be asked later to elaborate on it, taking into account the existing facilities and the financial implications. In the Delegation's considered opinion, the existence of the TRIPS Agreement should not affect WIPO's central and unique role as the focal point for developing, elaborating and consolidating norms for the protection of intellectual property rights at the multilateral level. It did not consider that the future WTO or the TRIPS Council would be able to assume these responsibilities; they were to be only the administrators and overseers of the TRIPS Agreement. The relationship between WIPO and the future WTO should be marked by WIPO's assimilation of the substantive and operational aspects of the TRIPS Agreement, in order that it continued to meaningfully play its role, and by the establishment of a mutually supportive mechanism of consultations between the two secretariats, avoiding all duplication of work.

49. The Delegation of Hungary informed the meeting that the industrial property laws of the country were under revision, with the aim of harmonization with the norms of the European Union and various applicable international agreements. A fundamental change in the Hungarian Patent Law took effect on July 1, 1994, with the introduction of the direct product protection of chemical products. That law also incorporated other changes relating to the pipeline protection of certain pharmaceutical products. However, a completely revised draft of the Patent Law would be submitted to the Government by the end of the year. Furthermore, the modernization of the infrastructure of industrial property documentation and information was taking place. In the field of copyright and neighboring rights as well, some major improvements entered into force on the above mentioned date: prolongation of the term of protection of copyright from 50 to 70 years after the death of the

author, detailed rules on satellite broadcasting, new rights for the owners of neighboring rights and so on. The Hungarian Parliament declared the adherence of Hungary to the Rome (1961) Convention. The country's legislation was being reviewed with the intention of further incorporating the advanced legal solutions of Western European countries. The cooperation with WIPO in the field of training on copyright and neighboring rights would continue.

50. The Delegation of Burkina Faso considered, with regard to the development of cooperation activities, that enormous efforts had been made and that particular innovations had been introduced, such as the creation of the WIPO Academy, which it felt should also receive a greater number of senior officials and managers from private enterprises. It mentioned the fact that cooperation between Burkina Faso and WIPO was continuing in perfect order on the bases set out in September 1993 by the Minister for Culture of Burkina Faso and the Director General and, in that context, the Burkinabé Copyright Office was in the process of becoming a training center for the whole of the African continent, providing its assistance in the holding of training courses, as had been done at the request of WIPO for the officials of several African countries, and in the use of computerized means for the collective administration of rights, made available to those copyright societies that so wished. The Delegation supported the initiative for the creation of a voluntary system of international numbering for certain categories of work. The Delegation wished that a seminar be held on the protection of expressions of folklore, particularly the rights of performers, which would enable the protection of expressions of national cultural heritages to be reinforced. As far as future relations between WIPO and the World Trade Organization (WTO) were concerned, the Delegation of Burkina Faso supported the proposals made by the Director General at the current session and hoped that, beyond the recommendations and advice that could be given by WIPO to the States that so wished, meetings be held by WIPO on that topic. As for the appointment to the post of Director General of WIPO, the Delegation of Burkina Faso had decided to support the candidature of the Director General for a further two-year term. It further signalled its willingness to support the candidature presented by France for the following term, if such was the case.

51. The Delegation of Uruguay expressed its strong support for the development cooperation activities of WIPO, as its country had profited from them in various ways, including the possible production of a CD-ROM product containing national trademarks, as well as the implementation of two country projects to upgrade the industrial property and copyright systems. In the context of MERCOSUR, WIPO's assistance in the form of studies and legal advice on the harmonization of intellectual property laws in the four countries was of great value. A possible technical cooperation project for MERCOSUR to be implemented by WIPO was being drawn up. In relation to WIPO's cooperation activities, the Delegation called in general for more resources to be made available for development cooperation activities in the draft budget for the biennium 1996-97. The Delegation supported the proposals of the Director General regarding the mutually supportive relations which should be established between WIPO and the future WTO and the avoidance of wasteful duplication of work. It stressed the importance of help to be provided to all member countries in adjusting their legislation to the requirements under the TRIPS Agreement. Finally, the Delegation expressed its support of the extension of the Director General's mandate for another two years.

52. The Delegation of Venezuela gave a brief account of the recent cooperation between its country and WIPO which took the form of seminars, advisory missions, the implementation of a national project to upgrade the industrial property administration and the feasibility of a CD-ROM disk containing information on Venezuelan marks. The latter project, if realized, could later be extended to cover the other countries in the region, thus diminishing the costs. The Delegation asked for WIPO's assistance in coordinating the process of harmonization of Venezuela's laws with the international treaties and in cooperating with the industrial property offices of the Andean Group in their modernization. The Delegation said that in November 1994, the Director General would visit the Headquarters of the ANDEAN JUNAC in Lima, and on that occasion a cooperation agreement would be signed among the industrial property offices of the Andean countries. WIPO's development cooperation activities should also cover new ground, such as specific training for the computerization of industrial property offices or for the establishment of a jurisprudence system. It was the wish of the Delegation and of the Group of Latin American countries that more resources be devoted to development cooperation activities in the future budget of WIPO, a measure which should be approved by the Governing Bodies of WIPO. Further, the Delegation announced that in January 1995 a specialized university course on intellectual property would begin in the city of Merida. WIPO should provide assistance on the exercise to harmonize national laws with international treaties and the TRIPS Agreement.

53. The Delegation of Denmark said that its country was celebrating this year the hundredth anniversary of the first Danish Patent Act, which gave the occasion for increasing the awareness and the use of industrial property protection by Danish industry. It also said that the Danish legislation on the protection of utility models gave the opportunity to smaller enterprises to obtain protection of rights in a procedure much less complicated than the procedure for patent applications. The Danish Patent Office was also improving its customer services and patent information services for which a new marketing approach was chosen. This year, the country hosted the third Patinova Conference as well as the AIPPI Executive Committee Meeting, and thanked the Director General for his participation at that Meeting. It mentioned that both patent and trademark applications at the Danish Patent Office were increasing.

54. The Delegation of Poland said that both internal and external factors called for changes to the intellectual property situation in the country, so that the relevant industrial property and copyright laws would conform to new international trends and treaties. Necessary amendments which had been recently introduced to the existing laws, had eliminated divergencies between standards of intellectual property protection in Poland and new European and international norms. The changes should contribute to the social and economic development of the country and its eventual integration with the European Union.

55. The Delegation of Senegal referred to the development cooperation activities with which its country was associated, including the use of a CD-ROM workstation that Senegal had received. WIPO's decision to award a gold medal for the best invention on the occasion of the forthcoming award of the Prize of the President of the Republic for the promotion of invention and innovation was also highly appreciated. Thus, despite the fall in the extra-budgetary resources of WIPO, the Delegation wished for a strengthening

of the assistance activities of the organization, particularly in three fields: the development of national capabilities for the acquisition of foreign technology under licensing contracts, the training of high-level staff in the field of industrial property as also similar activities for the benefit of judges. Following the conclusion of the agreement setting up the World Trade Organization (WTO), the member States of WIPO should give the Director General a clear and precise mandate to undertake serious negotiations with WTO to achieve a dynamic partnership that would in no way restrict the competence and prerogatives of WIPO in the intellectual property field. Finally, with regard to the choice of Director General, Senegal explained why the Senegalese Government had decided to support the candidature proposed by France.

56. The Delegation of Ecuador briefly described the recent WIPO development cooperation activities which took place in its country and expressed its full satisfaction with the results. The hope was voiced that more of such activities would be carried out in the future. Concerning the TRIPS Agreement, the Delegation of Ecuador supported the preparation by WIPO of studies on compatibility between WIPO's treaties and that Agreement.

57. The Delegation of Portugal stressed the importance for Portugal of WIPO's development cooperation activities mainly in favor of African Portuguese-speaking countries. Five sub-regional seminars on industrial property had so far been organized by WIPO, with the assistance of Portugal, for Portuguese-speaking countries of Africa, thus completing a program cycle which began in 1989 on the occasion of the Director General's visit to Lisbon. The result of such a program could easily be seen. Angola was now a member of WIPO and had adopted an industrial property legislation; Guinea-Bissau also joined WIPO and the Paris Union and was preparing a national industrial property law; Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe were taking steps in the same direction. Portugal would therefore like to see the efforts continued and that a new pluriannual program be established by WIPO and Portugal for those African countries, possibly also in cooperation with interested countries or organizations such as Sweden, Brazil and the EPO. That program could be discussed at a meeting in Lisbon with the parties mentioned. In order to meet the challenges of the next century, WIPO should continue to modernize and adapt itself to changes in the world situation such as the existence of the TRIPS Agreement and the opening of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trade marks and designs). Bearing in mind those issues, that Delegation proposed that WIPO be entrusted with the preparation of studies to be discussed in a committee of experts, in order to define the future strategy of the Organization.

58. The Delegation of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia made the following statement:

"Firstly, I would like, on behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Macedonia, to congratulate the Chairman on his election. I wish all newly appointed officers every success in conducting their responsible duties. Allow me also to take this opportunity to extend my felicitations to the recently elected Deputy Director General, Mr. Kamil Idris.

"In the middle of last year the Republic of Macedonia became a member of this big family that takes care about protecting the results of the human creative mind for the benefit of progress and welfare of mankind.

"Although our country is facing serious problems due to the process of transition and the negative impact resulting from external factors, mainly of political nature, it is successfully completing its political, legal and economic system.

"Within a relatively short period of time a lot was done in one of the segments of the intellectual property--the system for protection of industrial property.

"Activities are going on to establish a new legislation in the field of copyright law.

"Proceeding from the promise given through the Mission of the Industrial Property Protection Office ... 'To be a powerful instrument in stimulating the activities of the creative mind in order to develop the economy, to protect the industrial property, and by this to protect the customers, and at the same time the authors,' the following activities were undertaken:

"Regulations for the procedure for recognition of the right of patent, model/design, and mark were published and already translated in English.

"All types of required forms for organized communication by the person concerned with the industrial property protection, were printed. A booklet in Macedonian and English was published with the sole aim--promotion of the industrial property protection system. The official gazette of the Office 'Glasnik' is published quarterly. The instructive publications on the procedure for filing applications on patent, model and design and trademark, came out of press.

"A seminar 'Protection of Industrial Property in the Republic of Macedonia' was organized in cooperation with the Macedonian Association of Jurists.

"Instructive seminars were already completed, and the first examinations for patent representatives taken.

"The event First Macedonian Patent was held on June 8, 1994 in the presence of representatives from the public and political life in Macedonia, patent officers from several countries as well as members of the diplomatic corps. The Prime Minister, Mr. Branko Crvenkovski, presented the first patent to the inventor.

"Recently the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a decision for accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. We expect that this treaty will be soon ratified by the Parliament.

"Until now, about 500 patent applications, 70 model applications and approximately 30,000 trademark applications have been filed for processing.

"We have also conducted numerous activities in international field.

"Representatives from the Industrial Property Protection Office participated at the Sixth Session of the Committee of Experts on the Settlement of Intellectual Property Disputes between States, at the Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference for the Conclusion of a Treaty on the Settlement of Disputes between States in the Field of Intellectual Property, as well as at the Sixth Session of the Working Group on the Madrid Protocol 1989.

"In order to implement the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, representatives from the Industrial Property Protection Office attended a training course in WIPO.

"The Republic of Macedonia became a member of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information. Representatives of the Industrial Property Protection Office attended several international seminars and symposia regarding the legal protection of industrial property.

"Successful cooperation was established between the Macedonian Patent Office and relevant institutions from several countries.

"The future activities will be permanently directed towards processing the numerous applications for patent, model and design and mark. Recently supplied computer equipment will significantly increase the efficiency in the realization of this activity.

"Certain activities have been undertaken to establish a specialized library. It is planned that a joint body of the Macedonian Patent Office and the Chamber of Commerce be established that will govern issues regarding indications of origin.

"We are planning to organize a Symposium for Developing Protection of Industrial Property Rights in the Central and South East European states.

"In order to achieve these activities, it is necessary that the Macedonian Patent Office continues with employment of experts and conducting permanent education and training of its staff.

"At the end I would like to express our gratitude for the support and assistance offered to the Republic of Macedonia by the World Intellectual Property Organization. It is of great help to us specially in overcoming the initial problems regarding the organization and operation of the system for protection of industrial property. I am deeply convinced that we will continue our successful cooperation in future.

"Taking into consideration the effective and strong leadership of the current Director General, Dr. Arpad Bogsch, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia has the greatest pleasure to support his candidacy for an additional two-year term."

59. The Delegation of Greece said that reference to The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should be made in this forum exactly as provided in Resolution 817/93 of the Security Council of the United Nations.

60. The Delegation of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia replied that it would give a constructive response to the intervention of the Delegation of Greece. Under the said Resolution of the Security Council and the relevant statement of the President of that Council, the Delegation was fully entitled to use the constitutional name of its country, which was the Republic of Macedonia. It added that the competent organ to interpret the language of the said Resolution was the Security Council itself or the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations. It therefore suggested that the Delegation of Greece, before making similar statements and an incorrect interpretation of the said Resolution of the Security Council, consult the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations. It further voiced its country's wish to develop the best possible relations with Greece on the basis of mutual interest and respect.

61. The Delegation of Greece replied that it was not aware of the said interpretation and added that, in any case, it knew of no authority in the United Nations system that was competent to interpret Security Council Resolutions.

62. The Chairman of the Coordination Committee confirmed that the name used in WIPO documents was The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

63. The Delegation of Sudan praised the Director General and gave its strong support for his reelection for another two years. Sudan placed much importance on WIPO's training activities, particularly long-term fellowships which were essential to the industrial property offices in Africa, and expressed the wish to see an increase in the number of trainees. The Delegation thanked WIPO for the CD-ROM work stations which its country had received. The Delegation described the current situation regarding national intellectual property legislation. The Delegation commended the efforts of the Development Cooperation and External Relations Bureau for Africa and the Development Cooperation and External Relations Bureau for Arab countries and stressed that they should be given more financial support to render better services. On relations with the future WTO, the Delegation stated that WIPO and the WTO should explore suitable modalities of cooperation. WIPO should examine the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on developing countries.

64. The Delegation of Cameroon said that Cameroon was particularly grateful to WIPO for its training and technical assistance as it faced the growing complexity of intellectual property matters today. Examples of the assistance recently received were cited. The Delegation expressed the wish to receive long-term scholarships, the training of trainers in the framework of university programs and the organization of seminars which combined both industrial property and copyright subjects. Given the uncertainty of extrabudgetary resources, Cameroon welcomed the increase in allocations in the Organization's regular budget for the 1994/95 biennium for development cooperation. As a member of the Executive Board of UNDP, Cameroon recently urged that body to increase UNDP funds for WIPO activities. The Delegation further announced that the ratification of the Rome Convention and the Film Register Treaty would be considered in Parliament at one of its forthcoming sessions. Cameroon supported the proposal of the Director General that WIPO provide comparative studies on the TRIPS Agreement and WIPO's treaties.

65. The Delegation of India stated that the conclusion of the GATT negotiations had opened up a new chapter in intellectual property rights. The developing countries would be looking increasingly towards WIPO as the premier institution in intellectual property rights matters, for advice. The Delegation described the main features of the new Indian Copyright Law which was enacted this year after extensive consultations and study and which took into account the latest relevant technological changes. WIPO had contributed its expertise in this exercise. A new Trademark Bill was at present before Parliament, with provisions on the protection of well-known marks and service marks. WIPO was helping to implement, together with the Government of India, two UNDP-financed projects, with substantial Indian Government inputs, for modernizing the Trademark Registry and Patent Information Services. Appreciation was expressed for the official visit of the Director General to India in March 1994 where he met with government leaders and addressed the business and academic community. Cooperation between India and WIPO was close, with a number of seminars to take place in the country later in the year, including one on the enforcement of copyright. The Delegation also stressed the importance of involving developing country consultants in the sessions of the WIPO Academy and other Seminars.

66. The Delegation of Colombia stated that the expected functioning of the WTO and the entry into force of the TRIPS Agreement was an opportunity to establish a joint working group between WIPO and the future WTO with the view to taking appropriate measures for cooperation. However, the Delegation feared that such efforts would be in vain unless there were clear-cut proposals which would also prevent the risk of overlapping of functions and jurisdictions and of differing interpretations on the same subjects. Turning to questions of copyright, the Delegation expressed the need to explore possibilities for repeating such meetings as the WIPO Worldwide Symposium on the Impact of Digital Technology on Copyright and Neighboring Rights, held in Harvard in 1993 and the WIPO Worldwide Symposium on the Future of Copyright and Neighboring Rights, held in Paris in June 1994, also in other countries, for example, in Latin America. The Latin American countries should have an opportunity to participate fully and express their views on the subject matters mentioned, and not be attending as on-lookers. There was a need to allocate more resources for development cooperation, especially in a time of major changes. The WIPO Academy could become a forum of discussion on WIPO's future role and its efficient cooperation with the future WTO and could also offer solutions to possible conflicting interpretations of international treaties.

67. The Delegation of Peru expressed its gratitude for WIPO's assistance, particularly after the creation of the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (INDECOPI). The Delegation also emphasized the importance of the WIPO Academy and expressed the hope that it would be continued. It requested that more resources for development cooperation be allocated in the WIPO budget for the next biennium, as the post-Uruguay Round period made it necessary for WIPO to be ever more active in this field. In this context, the Delegation supported the proposal of the Director General for cooperation with the future WTO, which should be as fruitful as possible and should be based on the closest working links between both Organizations. It also expected WIPO to help member countries in the adaptation of their legislation to the requirements of the TRIPS Agreement.

68. The Delegation of Indonesia said that its country had greatly benefitted from WIPO's activities in the development of human resources and in enhancing public awareness in the field of intellectual property. The Delegation expressed its appreciation to WIPO not only for what the organization had done in its own country, but throughout the ASEAN subregion. A number of important meetings organized by WIPO ASEAN countries took place in Jakarta in 1993 and 1994. In Indonesia, a new law on trademarks had entered into force on April 1, 1993. The Government of Indonesia was presently revising its legislation in the fields of copyright, patents and trademarks and was drafting new laws in the fields of industrial designs, integrated circuits and trade secrets. The Delegation requested the help of WIPO in this important endeavour. In September 1994, the Indonesia Intellectual Property Office organized an orientation course on intellectual property for some 60 members of the judiciary, and participated in making presentations on intellectual property to some 30 public prosecutors and also to the staff of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences at meetings in three Indonesian cities. A training course for teaching in the field of intellectual property was currently conducted with the cooperation of WIPO at the University of Indonesia. As far as the nomination of the Director General was concerned, the Delegation reiterated the statement made by the Delegation of Brunei Darussalam on behalf of the member States of ASEAN, in support of the candidature of the Director General for an additional two-year term.

69. The Delegation of Côte d'Ivoire considered intellectual property as a key tool for economic and social development. The efforts of its country in this field had received strong support from WIPO as well as from certain industrial property offices. Appreciation was expressed for the Organization's commitment to promoting intellectual property development in developing countries through many diverse activities. The Delegation said that its Government would work for the harmonization of the activities of WIPO and those of the future WTO.

70. The Delegation of Togo expressed its gratitude for the various forms of assistance provided by WIPO to Togo, both in the areas of industrial property and copyright. Such assistance included advice on the reorganization of the National Center of Industrial Property, training, the provision of a CD-ROM workstation as well as support for the organization of a national event to promote technological progress in the country. The Delegation suggested that the countries of West Africa should organize, with the assistance of WIPO, annual meetings in order to create efficient mechanisms for the fight against piracy of musical works, in line with the action endorsed by the Conference of Ministers in Charge of Copyright in Western Africa held in March 1992 in Dakar. The participating countries could be the 16 member States of the West African Economic Community. The Delegation announced that Togo was about to work out a three-year plan of cooperation in the field of copyright which it would submit to WIPO in the months to come. The wish was expressed for more training, advice and equipment for the better functioning of the country's copyright administration.

71. The Delegation of Belgium praised the work of WIPO which was well balanced between development cooperation on the one hand and the setting of norms and international registrations on the other. Multilateralism, harmonization and legal security were fundamental aspects in the field of intellectual property to which Belgium felt strongly attached. It was therefore of the greatest importance that as many countries as possible

adhered to treaties thereby permitting the attainment of the highest degree of harmonization. Belgium thus supported the efforts of WIPO in this context, in both the industrial property and copyright and neighboring rights fields. In particular, it was to be hoped that the Diplomatic Conference on the Trademark Law Treaty would be successful and that compromises in other areas would allow fruitful results to be achieved to the benefit of all parties.

72. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia said that its country had put into place systems for the protection of patents, trademarks and copyright. However, it faced certain difficulties in the training of managers. It commended WIPO for the assistance so far rendered and asked for further training possibilities. The Delegation stated that it followed the debates in the various WIPO meetings with great interest, even if its country was not yet a party to most substantive intellectual property treaties.

73. The Delegation of Mongolia expressed satisfaction for the multifarious activities of WIPO. It gave full support to the Director General's candidature for a further two-year term. In recognition of his fruitful leadership, the Mongolian State University had decided to confer on the Director General an honorary Doctor's degree. Within its capacities, Mongolia was determined to participate as much as possible in WIPO's activities, on bilateral and multilateral levels. The Delegation expressed its gratitude for the assistance provided by WIPO in the modernization of its industrial property system, including the training of specialists. Thanks were also conveyed to donor countries. A new patent law had entered into force on September 1, 1993, and a draft trademark law would be submitted to Parliament soon. At the beginning of 1994, the Patent Office was reorganized and made more efficient. Mongolia hoped for continued support by WIPO and appealed to member countries to also extend assistance.

74. The Delegation of Belarus expressed its great appreciation to WIPO for its important assistance to countries in transition to market economy through training specialists and legislative advice. The Belarus Patent Office had benefitted significantly from such help throughout the first years of its existence. The adoption of national laws on patents and trademarks had led to a growing number of applications. After the adoption of additional laws and the introduction of computerized systems, the work of the Office should become more efficient. A programme for the further modernization of the Office over the coming five years would be submitted to WIPO. This included training of experts from the government and private sectors. The Delegation also thanked a number of countries for their support in this context. The Delegation referred to the recent signing of the Eurasian Patent Convention at a meeting of the Heads of State and Government and commended WIPO for helping to bring about that Convention. In this context, the Delegation also stressed the importance of cooperation among the States of the former Soviet Union, including the possible creation of a joint CD-ROM and an information exchange mechanism. Belarus looked forward to the start-up of the Interstate Bureau for the Protection of Industrial Property, created under the said Convention. The Delegation also recalled the visit of the Director General to Minsk in August 1994, where he had fruitful exchanges with government leaders and officials. The Delegation supported the extension of the Director General's mandate by a two-year period.

75. The Delegation of Libya called for full support for the work of WIPO in performing its vital role as the international organization specialized in intellectual property, given the existing impediments and challenges which the Organization was facing at an important point of its history. Libya fully endorsed the request to WIPO to work out a study on the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on WIPO's treaties. That study would enable individual member countries to better determine their own positions. Nationally, a UNDP-financed country project for the modernization of the Patent Office over the next three years would soon commence, to be implemented by WIPO. The Delegation felt that WIPO should respond more rapidly to requests from developing countries, especially from the Arab region where the countries had similar levels of development and shared the same outlook and needs. Lastly, the Delegation expressed a wish for more assistance in various fields for the Arab countries and that more resources be allocated to the Development Cooperation and External Relations Bureau for Arab countries.

76. The Delegation of Malawi requested for WIPO's assistance in the training of personnel in industrial property matters and the modernization and computerization of the Industrial Property Office. The Delegation was pleased to report that the Office had been able to receive recently for training an official from the Lesotho Patent Office under a bilateral agreement between the two countries. The Delegation hoped that it would be possible for WIPO to award more long-term scholarships at academic institutions. Turning to copyright, the Delegation said that thanks to the help of WIPO, the Copyright Society of Malawi was in a position to distribute royalties to its members within two years of its existence. It requested from WIPO the software required to complement the computer equipment received, so as to improve the efficiency of the Society. The Delegation further requested WIPO to help organize copyright seminars for judges and customs and police officers as well as a special seminar to explain the work of the Society. At the regional level, Malawi asked for WIPO's support of the Southern Africa Development Community's (SADC) efforts to promote the implementation and future harmonization of the member countries' copyright laws and to fight piracy. Lastly, the delegation welcomed the offer of WIPO to help harmonize the intellectual property laws of developing countries with the TRIPS Agreement.

77. The Delegation of Kenya expressed particular satisfaction with the excellent results of WIPO's assistance in training its country's government officials and facilitating their participation in seminars. Those officials were able to work more efficiently afterwards. The WIPO Academy was an especially good example of such training. WIPO was asked to assist in developing appropriate curricula for the teaching of intellectual property in universities, besides those for agents and lawyers. To continue its good work in development cooperation, the Organization should consider increasing fundings from its regular budget. Kenya had witnessed a rapid development in the intellectual property area. The country acceded to the PCT with effect from June 8, 1994, and the Industrial Property Act was being amended accordingly. Other laws to be brought in line with international requirements included those for trademarks and copyright. Given the importance of inventive activity, a documentation and information center was to be established with an effective outreach program. The country looked to WIPO for help in this respect. Appreciation was also expressed for the assistance received from other countries and organizations.

78. The Delegation of Romania said that the draft of a new law on copyright and neighbouring rights was in a well-advanced stage and a draft of a new law on trademarks and geographical indications was already being prepared, which took into account the harmonization work done in WIPO. WIPO's expert comments on that draft law had been very helpful. In 1992, the Patent Law entered into force. Under the first Law on Industrial Designs of 1993, about 5,000 applications had already been granted protection. Thus, in this transitional period, the legislation in this domain would be entirely modernized and harmonized. In this context, a symposium dealing with trademarks and industrial designs in a market economy had been successfully held very recently in Bucarest. The Delegation also pointed out that Romania was the fourth non-member State of the EPO which had signed a cooperation agreement with that Organization, providing the possibility of extending the effects of European patents to the territory of Romania.

79. The Delegation of Bulgaria recalled two industrial property meetings which were held in its country. One of them dealt with the PCT, and was an example of the close cooperation between WIPO and Bulgaria. Earlier this year, WIPO began implementation of a UNDP-financed country project for the computerization of the Bulgarian Patent Office, especially in its trademark tasks. The EPO also contributed to that project which was now proceeding well. The Delegation expressed its satisfaction with the imminent start of the WIPO Arbitration Center and expressed the hope that the forthcoming Diplomatic Conference on the Trademark Law Treaty would be successful.

80. The Delegation of Ukraine informed the meeting that the Ukrainian Parliament had adopted laws dealing with inventions and utility models, industrial designs, trademarks, copyright and plant breeders' rights. The Parliament was now considering a proposal for the creation of a special court for intellectual property disputes. Further, it was hoped that the Parliament would ratify the Berne Convention before the end of 1994. One of the tasks of the Interstate Council for the Protection of Industrial Property and of the countries of the Commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS) was to coordinate and resolve various matters in order to facilitate the early functioning of the Patent Office to be created by the Eurasian Patent Convention. That Convention was recently signed at a meeting of the Heads of State and Government of member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Great help had been received from WIPO to bring about the Convention and also from the EPO. WIPO was the depositary authority of the Convention which was now open for ratification.

81. The Delegation of Kazakhstan thanked WIPO for the help its country had received from it. Kazakhstan now had a patent and a trademark law, and the Parliament was at present considering a law on the protection of plant varieties. In June 1994, a Training Course for Industrial Property Attorneys in Central Asia was successfully held in Almaty, jointly organized by WIPO and the Government of Kazakhstan. The country had much potential for development and welcomed assistance from abroad. The Delegation stated that it supported the extension of the mandate of the Director General for another two years.

82. The Delegation of Zimbabwe warmly welcomed South Africa to the meetings of the Governing Bodies. Zimbabwe had actively participated in WIPO's development cooperation programs, both as a beneficiary and as a benefactor. Its nationals received a number of fellowships for training and participated in various meetings organized by WIPO in both the industrial property and

copyright fields and was particularly grateful for the selection of one of its nominees for a long-term scholarship at the Franklin Pierce Law Center in the United States of America. In turn, Zimbabwe received trainees from other countries of the African sub-region and also provided consultant speakers to some seminars organized by WIPO. For the future, Zimbabwe was seeking further assistance from WIPO in human resources development, the modernization of industrial property management systems, revision of legislation as well as for the intellectual property program at the University of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe had pleasure in supporting the extension of the term of the Director General by another two years.

83. The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago remarked that its country had benefitted considerably from WIPO's activities in the fields of industrial property and copyright. In particular, WIPO had also rendered valuable assistance to Trinidad and Tobago over the last year in drafting new patent legislation and in amending the trademark legislation. That amended law would provide for the registration of service marks and the adoption of the International Classification of Goods and Services. The new patent law was due to go to Parliament shortly. In addition, WIPO had completed, earlier this year, work on draft model laws on industrial designs and copyright and was currently engaged in preparing model laws on unfair competition, trade secrets and integrated circuits for the country. A modernization project of the trademarks and patents registry was also being undertaken, with WIPO as the consulting agency.

84. The Delegation of Jordan said that as intellectual property protection was the main incentive for inventors and creators and encouraged human progress, WIPO should provide even more assistance to developing countries, especially Arab countries, to meet their needs and aspirations and to develop and improve their standards and mechanisms of work in such a very vital field. The official visit of the Director General to Jordan last month, when he was received by H.M. King Hussein and Jordanian officials, contributed to increasing the awareness of the importance of intellectual property in the country and the need to modernize the national system. The Delegation was pleased to announce its support for the continuation of the Director General's mandate for a further two-year period.

85. The Delegation of Lesotho expressed its gratitude for WIPO's development cooperation activities from which Lesotho had greatly benefitted. Its gratitude also went to developed countries and some countries in Africa for their cooperation and support of the training program in the Industrial Property Office. With regard to the implementation of the Copyright Law, the Delegation thanked WIPO which had prepared draft regulations under the Law, including provisions on the protection of expressions of folklore. The Delegation declared that it supported the candidature of the Director General for an extension of his current mandate for another two years.

86. In referring to WIPO's multi-faceted activities, the Delegation of Benin expressed great appreciation for the Organization's assistance and gave as an example the remarkable speed by which the country received a positive reaction from WIPO to its request for a CD-ROM workstation. The Organization was requested to give emphasis to training, especially to judges, the teaching of intellectual property law in universities, promotion of public awareness, revision of laws and the improvement of the collective administration of copyright. The Delegation expressed the hope that the country would soon be in a position to accede to other WIPO-administered treaties.

87. The Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania voiced satisfaction with the cooperation between its country and WIPO, a recent high point of which was the Director General's official visit to the country in 1993. As a result of that visit and the holding of a national copyright seminar, the United Republic of Tanzania acceded to the Berne Convention in July 1994. With the institution of the attractive unitary contribution system, the United Republic of Tanzania was considering joining other WIPO-administered treaties in due course. Given the relevance of intellectual property rights in technology transfer and capacity building in least-developed countries (LDCs) and the fact that patents in those countries were almost exclusively owned by non-residents, WIPO should actively support inventive and innovative activities in the LDCs through laying the necessary foundations, including support of research and development activities, the provision of equipment, teaching of intellectual property in universities and establishing societies for the fair and efficient administration of copyrights and neighboring rights. The Delegation expressed its concern at the decline of extra-budgetary resources to WIPO, appealed to the donor community to increase their assistance directly and suggested the allocation of resources from the budgets of the international registration unions, particularly in favor of LDCs. In this regard, WIPO could look into the possibility of setting up a special funding facility for assisting LDCs in establishing the necessary infrastructures for intellectual property activities. The TRIPS Agreement had extended the scope of protection to new areas such as product patents for foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, plant varieties and animal species, as well as copyright protection for computer software. Even though it had been suggested that the future WTO should administer the TRIPS Agreement, the Delegation believed that WIPO was the most appropriate forum for the elaboration of international standards and norms in the field of intellectual property rights. Moreover, WIPO should help the LDCs to secure the protection of their rights in the area of biodiversity. In conclusion, the Delegation gave its full support to the proposal to grant the Director General an extension of two years of his present mandate.

88. The Delegation of Liberia informed the meeting that WIPO's programs were a source of impetus to the economic and technological development of its country. Throughout its short history of participation in WIPO activities, Liberia had followed with keen interest WIPO's many contributions to development in the form of training and technical assistance. Recently, Liberia benefitted from a variety of assistance such as training and the provision of a CD-ROM workstation, with the related products, under the PCT.

89. The Delegation of Ghana said that with WIPO's unstinting assistance, its country was able to set in place a range of intellectual property facilities such as a new patent law, the teaching of intellectual property in a university in Ghana, the establishment of a patent information and documentation center and the creation of an inventors' association. However, the existence of such an infrastructure had not led to take-off in the level of intellectual property activities. Instead, those facilities were under used. As the reasons for this unexpected development were unclear, the Delegation offered various possible explanations and solutions. For instance, the format of patent documents might be difficult for unskilled users. Further, the crucial element of know-how was not described in patent documents, which made exploitation of inventions in the public domain impractical. The Delegation therefore suggested that the Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information (PCIPI) consider revising the format of

patent documents. Another solution could be to identify potential users and train them when they were still young. The organization of science fairs for school children in Ghana was an example of a solution which was proving quite successful, thanks to the gold medals and certificates offered by WIPO, which was a very encouraging factor.

90. The Delegation of the Central African Republic expressed full satisfaction with the account of the work of WIPO. The copyright sector in its country still encountered problems. It urged WIPO as well as other international organizations to help in their resolution, and expressed thanks for the assistance extended in the past to the Central African Copyright Bureau.

91. It was the view of the Delegation of the Netherlands that although good progress had been made in the past year regarding some norm-setting activities, those activities had not been as fruitfully pursued as might have been wished from the point of view of intellectual property protection, due to discussions held elsewhere in Geneva. It was the Delegation's sincere wish that, now that those discussions had come to a conclusion, it would soon be possible to resume, with new enthusiasm and élan, all pending normative activities within WIPO. This was of great importance to the Organization which should stay the main forum of international cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

92. Speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American countries, the Delegation of Mexico requested the International Bureau, when preparing the draft budget for the 1996-97 biennium, to give high priority and more resources to the development cooperation program. A collective appeal was addressed to the Governing Bodies of WIPO to give instructions along that line to the WIPO Budget Committee. Speaking on behalf of Mexico, the Delegation outlined recent developments at the national level. A new copyright law was being prepared with the participation of all the sectors concerned with this field of intellectual property, whose importance was ever increasing, and that law would take into account not only international tendencies but also new technological advances. Mexico's copyright office was now fully computerized with its own resources, and it contained one of the oldest copyright databases. The establishment, in December 1993, of the Mexican Industrial Property Institute had institutionally strengthened the national industrial property system. Mexico had entered into cooperation agreements in the field of industrial property with several counterparts in other countries. In order to strengthen cooperation between the Institute and WIPO, an agreement would shortly be signed with WIPO concerning technical assistance for the development of the Institute, with funds made available by the World Bank. A new industrial property law incorporating international trends in this field, including the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement, would enter into force on October 1, 1994. Mexico's accession to the PCT had been approved by the Parliament and the country's instrument of accession would be deposited within a few days. In respect of WIPO's development cooperation activities, Mexico gave particular importance to training for professionals and sessions of the WIPO Academy. Concerning the Academy, the Delegation was of the view that the grouping of countries in different sessions according to language accentuated the differences between countries with different levels of development. Such a practice would be counterproductive in the preparations for such common instruments such as the possible Protocol to the Berne Convention and the possible Instrument on the Protection of the Rights of Performers and

Producers of Phonograms. In that context, it regretted that WIPO had not acceded to the request of the Latin American Group of countries for financial support for the participation of delegates of the region in the WIPO Worldwide Symposium on the Future of Copyright and Neighboring Rights held in the Louvre in Paris in June 1994. Regarding links between WIPO and the future WTO, the matter was of vital importance. It was necessary to promote and support joint activities and cooperation between the two Organizations, provided that WIPO continued to play, at all times, the vanguard role and keep its high profile in norm-setting and registration activities. The Delegation of Mexico concluded by saying that, in contrast to its very favorable assessment of the substantive activities carried out by WIPO with regard to WIPO staffing policy, its Government deplored not only the fact that the high-quality candidates proposed by it for posts at various levels within the Organization had not been accepted, but also the fact that it had not even received timely, detailed replies from the International Bureau regarding the manner in which and times at which the vacant posts concerned had been filled.

93. The Delegation of Pakistan said that its Government was making efforts to strengthen the intellectual property system of the country, including a review of existing legislation. WIPO's assistance had already been discussed on the occasion of the recent visit of a government official to the headquarters of the Organization. To increase the awareness of and respect for intellectual property rights, Pakistan felt that it was necessary to educate the public as well as the government officials implementing the protection of those rights. It therefore would appreciate the assistance extended by WIPO and other countries. Because the demand for development cooperation work was constantly rising, the Delegation suggested that budget allocations for such work be increased in the future. The conclusion of the Uruguay Round Negotiations had brought about new challenges for WIPO. It was imperative that WIPO initiated immediately a study on the implications of the TRIPS Agreement. WIPO should continue its central role in the field of intellectual property under the continuing leadership of the Director General.

94. The Delegation of Swaziland attributed great importance to the assistance that its country had received from WIPO. That assistance enabled Swaziland to implement its new Trade Mark Act, which became effective on July 1, 1994. There was still much work to do. Presently, Swaziland was preparing a bill on patents, designs and utility models and it was hoped that this important act could be finalized in the near future with the continued assistance of WIPO. In the field of copyright and neighboring rights, a new act was also being considered. Those two important pieces of legislation were expected to be finalized in the course of 1995. The Delegation of Swaziland had pleasure in reporting to the meeting that its country had acceded to the PCT with effect from September 20, 1994. WIPO was urged to continue provisions for long-term fellowships for the benefit of developing countries.

95. The Delegation of Monaco drew the attention of the members of WIPO to the urgent need for the convening of a diplomatic conference on the protection of geographic indications, although this question was not on the agenda. That problem was indeed a very sensitive one for the authorities of Monaco, which suffered from misappropriation of the names "MONACO" and "MONTE-CARLO" for commercial purposes. The Government of Monaco had, for that reason, approached Member States of WIPO on this subject matter individually, by correspondence, and hoped that they would actively cooperate in this respect. Concerning the nomination to the post of Director General, the Delegation of

Monaco was of the opinion that both candidatures should be examined by all the delegations. The Delegation of Monaco supported the Delegation of France in its declaration that WIPO, by reason of the establishment of the WTO, was at a crossroad and that long-term political choices were necessary.

96. The Delegation of Madagascar expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to WIPO for the assistance that WIPO unceasingly provided its Government for the preparation of legislative texts in the field of industrial property as well as for the setting up of the Malagasy Industrial Property Office. That Office was presently operational and accepting patent and trademark applications. Next week, its Government would be hosting the WIPO General Introductory Course on Industrial Property for French-speaking African countries. Countries which had provided assistance were also thanked.

97. The Delegation of Congo expressed much satisfaction with the diverse assistance that it had received from WIPO, covering training, computerization and attendance at meetings. It was a manifestation of the Organization's support for enhancing the role of intellectual property for socio-economic development. The Delegation also endorsed the Director General's proposal on the establishment of mutually supportive cooperation between WIPO and the future WTO. In that case, it was important that arrangements be established to ensure that WIPO was consulted on all intellectual property matters. It praised the unitary system of contribution which reduced contributions for developing countries and encouraged accession to more treaties administered by WIPO. The Assembly of the PCT Union's decision to finance the attendance of delegates was welcomed in that it encouraged participation, in particular, in the Governing Bodies' meetings. As the National Industrial Property Unit had been recently severely damaged, the Delegation of Congo appealed to WIPO for a program of action to reactivate the Unit and replace its patent documentation collection which had been completely destroyed. The organization of an industrial property seminar in the country would also be very helpful. Finally, the Delegation of Congo supported the candidature of the Director General for a further term of two years.

98. The Delegation of the EPO highlighted the growth in the number of applications under the PCT. With the signing of extension agreements between the EPO and Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Slovenia, a European patent application, whether direct or via the PCT, could now be extended to those countries as well. The EPO hoped to sign similar agreements with further countries in the near future. The Delegation gave an account of its significant program of cooperation with many countries, whether directly, in collaboration with WIPO or with third organizations or countries. The beneficiary countries included countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America as well as Central and Eastern European countries and those in Central Asia. The assistance provided ranged from training and the provision of patent documentation, especially in CD-ROM form, to computerization and general management. In this context, the Delegation underlined the three principles guiding the EPO's external cooperation: openness, cooperation adapted to needs and the desire to coordinate. In the case of the third principle, coordination was particularly with WIPO and the member States of the EPO, in order to avoid duplication of work.

99. The Delegation of OAU praised WIPO's work in assisting African countries in the fields of industrial property and copyright, particularly in human resource development and strengthening national legislation. It welcomed WIPO's interest and concern for the problems of Africa which had been shown on

the occasion of the many visits from WIPO officials to the OAU Secretariat. The Director General of WIPO had participated, in June 1994, in the meeting of the Council of Ministers of OAU held in Tunis and delivered an address which laid down the broad lines of WIPO's activities in Africa. Further, the Delegation said that the OAU cooperated in the WIPO-OAU Award which consisted of a WIPO gold medal to be awarded, every two years, to the best African inventor. The award always took place at the OAU Summit, before the assembled Heads of State and Government. The third such award would be presented in Addis Ababa in 1995. This institution had produced its desired effects, namely, the increase of the number of inventors in Africa. The Delegation of OAU took the opportunity to urge WIPO to increase and further develop its development cooperation activities in view of the immense needs in the region.

100. The Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities highlighted three aspects: WIPO played a primary role for the protection of intellectual property on a worldwide level; the Commission gave its largest possible support for the preparation, within WIPO, of new multilateral treaties and for all initiatives taken by WIPO; the Commission also supported WIPO's cooperation activities in favor of certain countries. The Delegation next briefly described the European legislative developments that had taken place in 1993 in the industrial property area: a regulation establishing the Community trademark had been adopted; two legislative proposals relating to industrial designs and models had been put forward, one aimed at harmonizing the national industrial design and model laws and the second at instituting a Community design and model law; a "common position," that is, the first step toward final adoption, had been reached within the Council on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions (the final adoption was expected to occur before the end of the year). The technical cooperation program of the Commission now covered not only industrial property but also copyright and neighboring rights. It extended not only to the Central and Eastern countries but also the Russian Federation, some Republics of the former Soviet Union, China and the six ASEAN countries. New actions aimed at new countries had reached an advanced stage of preparation. In the field of copyright and neighboring rights, two important measures of harmonization had been adopted at the Community level: two Directives dealing with the coordination of certain rules concerning copyright and rights related to copyright applicable to broadcasting and cable retransmission, and with harmonizing the term of protection. In addition, work was continuing on a Council Directive on the Legal Protection of Databases. A hearing was held in Brussels in July 1994 on copyright and neighboring rights in the information society and work was continuing with a view to the publication of a Green Paper.

101. The Delegation of ARIPO thanked WIPO for the excellent cooperation which prevailed between the two Organizations. The Delegation also thanked various countries and organizations for their excellent cooperation. The Administrative Council of ARIPO had recently adopted the Banjul Protocol on Marks, which had been signed by six countries and which would enter into force upon ratification or accession by three States. In April 1994, the Administrative Council incorporated the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) into the Harare Protocol in order to establish links between the two instruments. This would enable PCT Contracting States which were also party to the Harare Protocol to be designated for an ARIPO patent. The Delegation of ARIPO further thanked WIPO, the United Kingdom Patent Office and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office for providing resource persons to the Regional Workshop on Intellectual Property System organized by ARIPO in July 1994.

102. The Delegation of OAPI commended WIPO's very active training activities for nationals of the member States of OAPI. WIPO had also helped OAPI put its patent documents on CD-ROM and organized seminars in some of its member States. A fresh impetus had to be infused in OAPI in order to meet changed circumstances and demands. Training for both OAPI officials and those of the member States of OAPI was crucial. Favorable conditions had to be created to link science and technology with industry and enterprises through the medium of intellectual property. The Delegation of OAPI hoped that further assistance could be extended by WIPO to support the new direction which OAPI was taking. Finally, the Delegation expressed itself in favor of the holding of an international conference on the impact of new technologies, particularly on least developed countries, under the aegis of WIPO.

103. The Delegation of the BBM/BBDM mentioned that the Benelux Offices as well as their member States actively cooperated with WIPO and would continue as before to do so through the provision of training for officials of developing countries. It informed the meeting that it would be pleased to make a demonstration of its new computerized search system for figurative marks at the next meeting of the Working Group on Trademark Information of the PCIPI.

104. The Delegation of EBU drew attention to the fact that broadcasters lacked protection at the international level. It renewed its request that the interests of broadcasters be taken into account in the future work of WIPO on neighboring rights.

105. The Delegation of IFRRO expressed its appreciation of the work of WIPO in the field of copyright, particularly in developing countries where the two Organizations already cooperated in certain regions. The first fruits of this cooperation was seen in the emergence of new collective administration organizations for reprographic rights in those regions. In the field of norm-setting, WIPO's ongoing work regarding a possible Protocol to the Berne Convention was extremely important to IFRRO. Older technologies, such as reprography, and new technologies, specifically digital uses, both needed solutions on a worldwide level.

106. The Director General expressed his sincere thanks to all delegations of States, intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations for the great wealth of ideas and the rich thoughts that had been expressed and which would constitute a good reference base for the International Bureau when planning its future program of work, especially in drafting the program and budget for the coming 1996-97 biennium. He paid tribute to the staff of the International Bureau, comprised of a good mix of nationalities, whose excellent work and loyalty was the key to the success of the Organization's work.

107. The WIPO Coordination Committee and the Executive Committees of the Paris and Berne Unions, each as far as it was concerned, noted the reports and activities contained or referred to in documents AB/XXV/2 and 3.

ITEM 5 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

NOMINATION OF THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

108. See the report on the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document WO/CC/XXXIII/6)

ITEM 6 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

**CONTINUATION OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE CONCLUSION
OF A TREATY SUPPLEMENTING THE PARIS CONVENTION AS FAR AS
PATENTS ARE CONCERNED ("PATENT LAW TREATY" OR "PLT")**

109. See the report on the session of the Paris Union Assembly (document P/A/XXII/2).

ITEM 7 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

**MATTERS CONCERNING A POSSIBLE PROTOCOL TO THE BERNE CONVENTION
AND A POSSIBLE INSTRUMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF PERFORMERS
AND PRODUCERS OF PHONOGRAMS**

110. See the report on the session of the Berne Union Assembly (document B/A/XVI/2).

ITEM 8 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

MATTERS CONCERNING THE PCT UNION

111. See the report on the session of the PCT Union Assembly (document PCT/A/XXII/2).

ITEM 9 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

**MATTERS CONCERNING THE DRAFT TREATY FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES
BETWEEN STATES IN THE FIELD OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

112. See the report on the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document WO/GA/XV/3).

ITEM 10 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

WIPO AND THE WTO AND TRIPS AGREEMENTS

113. See the report on the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document WO/GA/XV/3).

ITEM 11 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

PREMISES

114. Discussions were based on document AB/XXV/5.

115. The Director General, in introducing his memorandum (document AB/XXV/5), expressed his thanks to the Swiss authorities for their very positive response to the request formulated by the Governing Bodies in their September 1993 sessions, namely the request that the authorities of the Swiss Confederation, the Republic and Canton of Geneva and the City of Geneva make it possible for WIPO to construct a building on the so-called Steiner lot. Notwithstanding this promising response, it was not yet possible to present concrete proposals because several questions had to be examined first. Among such questions was the question of the exact size and exact location of that part of the land on which the new building could be built. It was now being examined whether a part of the chemin des Colombettes could not also be built upon which would cause the deviation of the vehicular traffic to a street parallel to the route de Ferney. Such a solution would be greatly facilitated and the future building would be better situated if some of the small parcels near the Steiner lot could also be acquired, a possibility that was also under examination. Furthermore, one would have to know the permitted height of the proposed new building. The Director General said that the answers to these questions might be expected only in a few months time. Once the answers were available, WIPO would draw up detailed plans and discuss with the Steiner firm the proposed price. The Director General would then convene the WIPO Premises Committee, reply to any questions and furnish any further data that that Committee would ask for or desire, and, on the basis of the views of the Premises Committee, he would ask for decisions by the Coordination Committee or other competent Governing Bodies. Since the construction would have to be entrusted to the Steiner firm--otherwise that firm was not ready to part with the lot that was its property--the Director General would request the authorities of the host country to certify the reasonableness of the contemplated price. Without all these steps completed and without the express authorization of the Coordination Committee, WIPO would not conclude any contract or undertake any obligations for the acquisition of any land and the construction of any building. Finally, the Director General said that for these reasons he could not and did not ask for any decision at the present session.

116. The Delegation of Chile stated that a decision concerning the plan to construct on the Steiner lot was far too important, particularly as regards the cost of the land and the building and that it was essential to have more information, even if preliminary, concerning the cost of the project and the resources available to the Organization for that project, because the project

should be financed from those resources and in no case from the contributions of the member States. That Delegation added that, as concerns the information in paragraph 8 of the document, it was not an appropriate condition that the owner of the Steiner lot should itself undertake the construction because apart from its abusive nature, it would force the Organization to make a number of exceptions to the type of contract which normally should be arrived at after a public tender. In the view of that Delegation, that condition would rule out any negotiation by WIPO with the Steiner firm regarding the cost of the land and of the construction of the building. The Delegation of Chile proposed that this matter be negotiated by the Premises Committee with the assistance of the Swiss authorities, which had experience as regards prices that were reasonable for land and buildings. The Delegation of Chile also stated that the decision on the purchase of the land and on the construction of the building should be taken without haste and that it should be taken at sessions of the Governing Bodies in which all the member States of WIPO could participate; therefore, it could not support the proposal of the Director General that the decision be taken by the Coordination Committee in an extraordinary session.

117. The Delegation of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of Group B, stated that more information would have been useful on the expectations of the International Bureau, both for the further growth of the Organization, and on the best way to meet its needs for accommodation. That Delegation said that, while it was difficult at the present stage to make precise forecasts, it looked forward to receiving further explanations and to the opportunity to explore and discuss the forecast for staff growth as well as at least some indicative costing of the construction options. That Delegation was grateful that the Director General had just confirmed that as soon as his contacts with the competent Swiss authorities and with the Steiner firm had sufficiently advanced, he would convene the Premises Committee for a full examination of all the factors relevant to the accommodation needs of WIPO and that if, thereafter, negotiations on the Steiner lot ripened before September 1995, he would put the matter to the Coordination Committee in an extraordinary session. That Delegation said that on that basis, the countries of Group B would be content with the recommendations of the Director General.

118. The Delegation of India stated that the estimates made by the International Bureau that were set forth in the document concerning the number of work places that would be needed until the next century seemed reasonable and that there was clearly a need for additional meeting rooms, as already evident by the insufficient accommodation for even the current meetings. The Delegation said that the registration activities were growing in importance; challenges were being presented to the Organization by the heightened role of intellectual property rights protection. Those challenges were brought about by the global interdependence of the economies of the world, which increasingly had to resolve more and more complicated problems arising from technological advances; all this demonstrated the need for urgency and foresight in planning ahead; hence, there was a reasonable basis on which the Governing Bodies could manifest their support for the Organization's continuing contacts with the Swiss authorities concerned to arrive at measures to meet the International Bureau's future needs. The Delegation added, however, that it hoped that when considering those future needs, the increase of staff would be controlled and kept to the very minimum. The Delegation of India concluded by noting that no decisions were being sought at this stage and that the plans and their details would be worked out in consultation with the Premises Committee and the Coordination Committee.

119. The Delegation of Switzerland said that it was going to speak in two different capacities, first as a Member State of WIPO, like all the States concerned, and secondly as the host State, a position that gave it special responsibilities. Speaking as a Member State, the Delegation said that it endorsed fully the wish expressed by the United Kingdom in the name of Group B. Speaking as host State, it also said that it wished to confirm to WIPO and to the Member States that the Swiss authorities intended to respond adequately, as they always had, on the one hand to the needs of the intergovernmental organizations with headquarters in Geneva and on the other hand to the wishes of the international community. The Delegation added that the Swiss Government was at the disposal of WIPO for the issue of an opinion on the construction price quoted by the Steiner firm.

120. The Delegation of Egypt stated that the Governing Bodies, in their sessions in 1993, had agreed in principle to new premises being constructed and had taken a decision requesting the Swiss authorities to allow the Organization to construct the new building on the Steiner lot; in addition, those Bodies had asked the Director General to make a request in this respect to the Swiss authorities. The Delegation noted that the discussions with the Swiss authorities had commenced and were awaiting the completion of certain studies on very important matters. The Delegation noted that since a final decision had to be taken, it could approve the proposal made by the Director General, namely, that, after consideration by the Premises Committee, any decision would be taken by the Coordination Committee in an extraordinary session and, consequently, the Delegation of Egypt was ready to approve the proposal that the General Assembly give the Coordination Committee that mandate.

121. The Delegation of Argentina stated that it shared the view expressed by the Delegation of Chile that, in view of the magnitude of the decision that would be taken, it was preferable not to delegate the decision on the matter of premises to the Coordination Committee and that the decision should be taken by the Governing Bodies at their ordinary sessions in 1995.

122. The Delegation of the United States of America said that it concurred with the proposal made by the Director General and associated itself with the statement made by the Delegation of the United Kingdom on behalf of Group B. That Delegation added, however, that if an extraordinary session of the Coordination Committee were to be scheduled, it should be done within the limits of the existing 1994-95 budget. The Delegation of the United States of America said furthermore that it still had questions regarding the overall construction plans and, consequently, it would not be able to comment or express full support for those plans in either the Premises Committee or in the Coordination Committee without further details from the Secretariat.

123. The Delegation of the Russian Federation stated that, after having heard the statements made by the Delegations of the United Kingdom and Chile, it regarded acceptable the conditions put forth by those delegations.

124. The Delegation of Finland stated that the matter of new premises was a very important one for the Organization, which had been discussed for some time in the Premises Committee and in previous sessions of the Governing Bodies. The Delegation said that the process leading to the construction of new premises should continue as soon as possible in order to obtain good results and, therefore, that Delegation was prepared to support the proposal made by the Delegation of the United Kingdom on behalf of the members of Group B.

125. The Director General said that it was his hope and plan that the cost of a possible new building would not be borne by the contributions of the member States. This was the reason why every effort was being made to achieve surpluses in the PCT and the other registration systems, surpluses that, pursuant to earlier decisions of the Governing Bodies, were being placed in a reserve fund destined to finance the cost of new premises and increased computerization. As to the possibility of the Coordination Committee making decisions in an extraordinary session, the Director General said that every State member of WIPO or the Unions which was not a member of the Coordination Committee would be invited to every session of the Coordination Committee whether the session was ordinary or extraordinary, and each of them could participate in the deliberations. As concerns the Premises Committee, the Director General said that it would be given all the required details. Naturally, the number of working places needed was a matter of estimation rather than a question for the Premises Committee. In any case, such estimates would also be communicated to the Premises Committee and it would be up to the Coordination Committee to modify the estimates if it did not agree with them.

126. The WIPO General Assembly and the Coordination Committee noted the contents of document AB/XXV/5 and adopted the proposal contained in paragraphs 10 and 11 of that document, it being understood that the Premises Committee will consider the matter first.

ITEM 12 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

STAFF MATTERS

127. See the report on the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document WO/CC/XXXIII/6).

ITEM 13 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

**DRAFT AGENDAS OF THE 1995 ORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
THE WIPO CONFERENCE, THE PARIS UNION ASSEMBLY
AND THE BERNE UNION ASSEMBLY**

128. Discussions were based on document AB/XXV/4.

129. The Delegation of Chile said that in view of the importance of agenda item 10 on the relations between WIPO and GATT/WTO and the discussions that took place and the decisions that were made on that item, it could be useful to place a similar item on the agenda of the next session of the WIPO General Assembly.

130. The Director General said that he had no objection to the suggestion made by the Delegation of Chile and that his report on the activities of the International Bureau to be presented to the next session of the Governing Bodies would, in any case, cover in detail all the developments of the WIPO-GATT/WTO relations and that it was not yet clear whether a separate item would be justified.

131. The WIPO Coordination Committee adopted Annexes I and II, the Paris Union Executive Committee adopted Annex III, and the Berne Union Executive Committee adopted Annex IV, of document AB/XXV/4.

ITEM 14 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

**ADOPTION OF THE GENERAL REPORT AND OF
THE INDIVIDUAL REPORTS OF THE 25TH SERIES OF MEETINGS**

132. This General Report was unanimously adopted by the Governing Bodies concerned on October 4, 1994.

133. Each of the seven Governing Bodies unanimously adopted the separate report concerning its session, in a separate meeting of the Governing Body concerned, on October 4, 1994.

ITEM 15 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA:

CLOSING OF THE SESSIONS

134. The Delegation of Mexico expressed its thanks to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Governing Bodies that met in these 25th series of meetings for their efforts in the direction of the work of their respective Bodies. It also recognized and appreciated the efforts of the staff of WIPO, not only in the preparation, but also in the conclusion, of these meetings. Referring to its active participation at all times with the aim of strengthening the institutional relations between Governments and the Organization, the Delegation stated that it recognized, in the experience of Dr. Bogsch, the necessary leadership to revitalize WIPO and allow it to successfully face current and future challenges. It was for that reason that its Delegation would like to take advantage of this opportunity to congratulate him for his nomination to continue at the helm of this Organization for an additional period of two years.

135. The Delegation of Zimbabwe, speaking on behalf of the African Group, expressed their thanks to the Chairmen of the respective Assemblies of these 25th series of meetings of the Governing Bodies of WIPO as well as to the Director General and his staff for guiding and assisting them, respectively, in their deliberations. It also thanked the other coordinators of the other Groups and China for the spirit of understanding and cooperation that prevailed throughout the duration of the meeting which made it possible to conclude all the discussions on time. The Delegation went on to urge those States which appeared to be hesitant on matters on which little progress was made, to approach those issues with a wider perspective, as opposed to a purely nationalistic approach, in order to achieve the evolution towards worldwide harmonization in the field of intellectual property.

136. The twenty-fifth series of meetings of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions administered by it were closed by the Chairman of the WIPO Coordination Committee, Mr. Roland Grossenbacher (Switzerland).

[The Annex follows]

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