

Special Union for the International Deposit of Industrial Designs (Hague Union)

Assembly

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (HAGUE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM): PROGRESS REPORT

prepared by the International Bureau

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this document is to outline progress on the Information Technology (IT) Modernization Program (hereafter referred to as “the Program”) since the last Assembly of the Hague Union (hereinafter referred to as “the Assembly”) in October 2013. The document also serves to update members of the Assembly on any change to the overall approach to the completion of the Program, as well as to notify any change to the Program schedule.
2. Document H/A/32/1 contains the previous Program Progress Report.
3. It is recalled that the Program is to be undertaken in three phases: Phase I, Phase II and Phase III. Phase I consists of sub-projects aimed to produce immediate positive results or to lay down the technical foundations for Phase II. Phase II is the actual one-to-one technical migration from the current IT legacy system, supporting both the Madrid and Hague international registration procedures, to a modern technology that will ensure Madrid and Hague System stakeholders benefit in the years to come from an industry standard technical platform. Phase III is the optional phase to be undertaken by the International Bureau to cater for the stabilization of the new system after official go-live date.

PHASE I – IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

4. Following the successful launch of the new on-line electronic filing software on June 2013, Phase I of the Program has been successfully closed. As a consequence, the remaining Phase I funds will be used in Phase II, and Phase I of the Program will not be further reported on in future Assembly documents.

PHASE II – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

5. It is recalled that the approved approach to the execution of Phase II of the Program is to perform a one-to-one technical migration of the legacy system to a modern, service-oriented architecture *via* the selection of a qualified external information technology partner (*ELCA Informatique SA*).

6. The objective of the technical migration is to convert the legacy application, database and internal bespoke workflow, from the programming language Natural and the database management system Adabas, to the programming language Java and database management system Oracle, including the injection of a state-of-the-art Business Process Management (BPM) tool. Achieving such migration removes the risk of the obsolescence of the current legacy infrastructure.

PHASE II – ACHIEVED RESULTS

7. Following the successful completions of Stages 1 and 2 of the Project (Analysis and Design) the selected external IT partner started as planned the technical conversion of the legacy system known as DMAPS, at the end of the year 2013.

8. Prior to the end of 2013, it was evident that the upcoming accession of new Member States (China, Japan, Republic of Korea and United States of America) to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs, would require modifications to the Hague System procedure and therefore to the legacy DMAPS system.

9. Therefore, in order to minimize the operational risk in externally developing such new functions, it was decided to address this important functional requirement with internal development resources, and directly within the legacy system, DMAPS, and to restart the technical conversion exercise at a later date.

10. The external implementation partner was promptly informed to (1) suspend activities related to the technical conversion of DMAPS, even though a preliminary DMAPS conversion, of the newly branded Design International Registries Information System (DIRIS), had been delivered to the International Bureau and (2) put on hold the DIRIS component of the IT Modernization Program (the actual conversion of the DMAPS system into the new software platform) until the stabilization of the necessary modifications to the legacy DMAPS system had been completed. At that time, the technical conversion of the legacy DMAPS system could be promptly restarted by an external implementation partner.

11. While DIRIS is put on hold, the implementation of the equivalent software application MIRIS (Madrid International Registries Information System) is ongoing. Therefore, the resumed conversion of DMAPS will benefit from the learning experience of the full MIRIS implementation.

PHASE II – HIGH LEVEL PROJECT PLAN

12. The challenges to the Hague Registry when the IT Modernization Program began in 2008 are fundamentally different to the challenges of today. Given the very dynamic and fluid nature of the Hague international registration procedures, it is extremely important that the DIRIS system is able to address the original, as well as any new challenges. In order to mitigate any associated risks, an external review of the IT Modernization Program has been initiated late in the second quarter of 2014, whilst noting that, following an internal audit of the Brands and Designs Sector revenue processes, there is a recommendation that a post IT Modernization Phase II implementation review should be undertaken. The terms of reference of the review includes overall approach, system functionality, system performance, testing processes, and commissioning strategies. Such a review will allow the International Bureau to more accurately determine the scheduled DIRIS go-live date.

13. Phase II of the Program was initiated in the third quarter of 2010. Tasks from 1 to 10 of the High Level Project Plan presented in Figure 1, below, have already been completed. Task 11 has been currently put on-hold with a projected resume date of January 1, 2015. The Program is running according to the following schedule:

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish	% Complete	2010		2011				2012				2013				2014				2015				2016
					Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
1	Project Manager Selection Process	01.07.2010	30.09.2010	100%																							
2	Publication of Expression of Interest (EOI) - First Round	13.09.2010	08.10.2010	100%																							
3	Evaluation of EOI Responses - First Round	09.10.2010	30.11.2010	100%																							
4	Project Manager at WIPO	01.12.2010	01.12.2010	100%																							
5	Publication of EOI - Second Round	15.12.2010	17.01.2011	100%																							
6	Evaluation of EOI Responses - Second Round	18.01.2011	18.03.2011	100%																							
7	Publication of Request for Proposal (RFP)	21.03.2011	20.06.2011	100%																							
8	RFP Due Date	20.06.2011	20.06.2011	100%																							
9	Evaluation of RFP Responses	21.06.2011	30.09.2011	100%																							
10	Contract Review Committee (CRC) Approval & Contract Negotiation	01.10.2011	31.12.2011	100%																							
11	Project Execution	16.01.2012	01.11.2015	50%																							
12	Go Live (indicative date)	01.11.2015	01.11.2015	0%																							

Figure 1- Phase II High Level Project Plan

14. As indicated in earlier IT Modernization Program Progress Reports, and only if needed, the International Bureau will propose to enter into the execution of Phase III of the Program to accommodate post-go-live activities, such as bug-fixes, performance improvements as well as the transformation of the end-user interface and possible process reengineering. Since the need for a possible Phase III can only be evaluated after deployment, the details of a possible Phase III will be elaborated in the next Progress Report.

BUDGET UTILIZATION

15. A total resource envelope of 13.804 million Swiss francs was approved for the project (10.804 million Swiss francs by the Assembly of the Madrid Union and 3 million Swiss francs by the Assembly of the Hague Union). To date, actual expenditure on the project amounts to 10.464 million Swiss francs, or 76 per cent of the project budget. The remaining resources are expected to be sufficient to complete Phase II of the Program, it being understood that the conclusions of the external review may imply the assignment of additional resources in order to ensure appropriate risk management and quality assurance.

Table 1 - Financing Status (in thousands of Swiss francs), as of end March 2014

	Resource from Reserve	Expenditure excludes encumbrances and pre-encumbrances	Balance as of end March 2014
Phase I	3,569	3,277	292
Phase II	10,235	7,187	3,048
Total	13,804	10,464	3,340

16. *The Assembly is invited to take note of the content of the Progress Report on the Information Technology Modernization Program (Hague International Registration System) (document H/A/34/1).*

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