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WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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MATTERS CONCERNING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENFORCEMENT (ACE)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE), established in September 2002 in accordance with a corresponding decision by the WIPO General Assembly, held its first two sessions in June 2003 and June 2004, respectively. The third session, initially scheduled for 2005, is now planned to be held in Geneva in the week of April 24, 2006.
2. In its second session, the Committee approved the proposal made by the Secretariat in paragraph 6(i) of document WIPO/ACE/2/2 to open the “Information Exchange” part of the IPEIS Forum to a larger audience of stakeholders by no longer requiring registration as a precondition to submit information to, or to access information contained in the databases of, this platform. The Secretariat restructured the IPEIS Forum accordingly, and the “Information Exchange” is now accessible without registration formalities.
3. Following reiterated requests by Member States in the second session, as referred to in paragraph 17 of document WIPO/ACE/2/13, the Secretariat made available a large part of the meeting documents of the second session in Arabic. In addition, with a view to responding to similar requests voiced during the 2004 session of the WIPO General Assembly (paragraphs 77 and 83 of document WO/GA/31/15), the Secretariat has commenced translation of the meeting documents into Russian to be followed by Chinese subject to budget availability. All meeting documents are posted on the WIPO enforcement website.

4. As agreed at its first session, the work of the ACE follows a thematic approach. The second session addressed the role of the judiciary, quasi-judicial authorities and prosecution in the field of enforcement of intellectual property rights, as well as related issues such as litigation costs and specialization of the judiciary. It was agreed that, in its third session, the ACE would discuss the theme of education and awareness building, including training, concerning all factors related to enforcement, and primarily those indicated in requests for assistance by Member States.

5. Since the second session, the Secretariat continued to respond to the large number of such requests for assistance, both by Member States and cooperating organizations, by organizing, coordinating and participating in activities relating to education and awareness raising, touching upon a variety of issues related to the effective enforcement of intellectual property rights. These activities will be reflected in the working documents for the third session.

6. In addition, and in order to foster discussions in the third session, Member States and Observers wishing to make a presentation on their activities and experiences in the field of education, awareness raising and training related to the enforcement of intellectual property rights are invited to contact the Secretariat.

7. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to take note of the information contained in this document.

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