

WIPO



WO/GA/32/2

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: September 19, 2005

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-Second (17th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 26 to October 5, 2005

MATTERS CONCERNING A DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FOR WIPO

Report to the General Assembly

1. The WIPO General Assembly, in its Thirty-First (15th Extraordinary) Session held in Geneva, from September 27 to October 5, 2004, decided “to convene inter-sessional intergovernmental meetings to examine the proposals contained in document WO/GA/31/11 (Proposal by Argentina and Brazil for the Establishment of a Development Agenda for WIPO), as well as additional proposals of Member States”. It was also decided that the meetings “will prepare a report by July 30, 2005, for the consideration of the next General Assembly”.
2. Furthermore, at the said session of the WIPO General Assembly, it was decided that the “International Bureau shall undertake immediate arrangements in order to organize with other relevant multilateral organizations, including UNCTAD, UNIDO, WHO and WTO, a joint international seminar on Intellectual Property and Development, open to the participation of all stakeholders, including NGOs, civil society and academia”. The International Seminar on Intellectual Property and Development (IS) was organized by WIPO jointly with UNCTAD, UNIDO, WHO and the WTO at WIPO headquarters, in Geneva, on May 2 and 3, 2005. Under the two broad themes of *IP and Public Policy* and *IP and Development*, the IS covered a wide spectrum of issues, including public health, traditional knowledge, biodiversity, copyright and related rights in the digital environment, competition policy, creating value from intellectual property (IP) assets, technology transfer and national best practices. Panels of experts, delivered presentations on the different thematic topics. Over 120 participants

attended the event, representing a wide cross-section of stakeholders from government, industry, academia and civil society.

3. The first, second and third sessions of the Inter-Sessional Intergovernmental Meeting (IIM) on a Development Agenda for WIPO were held from April 11 to 13, 2005, June 20 to 22, 2005, and July 20 to 22, 2005, respectively. Ambassador Rigoberto Gauto Vielman, Permanent Representative of Paraguay, and Ambassador Dimiter Tzantchev, Permanent Representative of Bulgaria, were Chair and Vice-Chair for the three sessions of the IIM.

4. The first session of the IIM was attended by 100 Member States, 18 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and 40 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In addition, the IIM decided to admit, on an *ad hoc* basis, 17 non-accredited NGOs, without implications as to their status for future WIPO meetings. The IIM discussed a proposal by Argentina and Brazil (co-sponsored by Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Peru, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela) relating to the Establishment of a Development Agenda for WIPO (documents WO/GA/31/11 and WO/GA/31/14), an additional elaboration of the “Group of Friends of Development” relating to a Proposal to Establish a Development Agenda for WIPO: An Elaboration of Issues Raised in Document WO/GA/31/11 (document IIM/1/4), a proposal by the United States of America for the Establishment of a Partnership Program in WIPO (document IIM/1/2), a proposal by Mexico on Intellectual Property and Development (document IIM/1/3), and observations by the United Kingdom relating to IP and Development (document IIM/1/5). In order to discuss the proposals in greater detail, the IIM decided to continue discussions and consideration of the proposals at subsequent sessions of the IIM, scheduled from June 20 to 22, and July 20 to 22, 2005. Member States were informed that they could submit additional proposals, in operational and actionable language, for consideration at the June session of the IIM.

5. The second session of the IIM was attended by 77 Member States, 10 IGOs and 33 NGOs. Two non-accredited NGOs were admitted to attend, on an *ad hoc* basis, without implications as to their status for future WIPO meetings. The Report of the first session was adopted. Two new proposals were presented by Bahrain (co-sponsored by Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen) (document IIM/2/2) relating to the Importance of Intellectual Property in Social and Economic Development and National Development Programs, and by the United Kingdom relating to Intellectual Property and Development (document IIM/2/3). The IIM had a useful exchange of views on a number of proposals, taken from a list derived from written submissions from Member States. The IIM decided to continue consideration of those and any other possible new proposals, at the subsequent session from July 20 to 22, 2005.

6. The third session of the IIM was attended by 92 Member States, 10 IGOs and 34 NGOs. Four non-accredited NGOs were admitted to attend on the same basis, as above. The Report of the second session was adopted. The IIM discussed the proposal presented by Bahrain (co-sponsored by Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen) (document IIM/2/2) relating to the Importance of Intellectual Property in Social and Economic Development and National Development Programs. Morocco presented, on behalf of the African Group, a proposal entitled “The African Proposal for the Establishment of a Development Agenda for the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)” (document IIM/3/2). The IIM had a

useful exchange of views on a number of proposals, taken from a list derived from written submissions from Member States. However, the IIM did not have time to examine the said proposal of the African Group. The said proposal will be added to the said list derived from written submission from Member States. The third session of the IIM also considered and discussed proposals on the report of the IIM to the General Assembly, presented by the “Group of Friends”, the United States of America and the African Group, but did not reach any consensus. The third session of the IIM was resumed on September 16, 2005, and adopted its report.

7. The reports of the first, second and third sessions of the IIM are available as documents IIM/1/6, IIM/2/10 and IIM/3/3, respectively.

8. *The WIPO General Assembly is invited to consider the information contained in this document.*

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