

Program and Budget Committee

Twenty-Third Session
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PROPOSAL TO REFORM AND ENHANCE PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its twenty-second session (September 2014), the Program and Budget Committee:

- “(i) Recognized the opportunity to improve biennial performance and financial reporting;
- (ii) Welcomed the Secretariat’s proposal to move to a comprehensive and integrated Biennial Performance Report; and
- (iii) Requested the Secretariat to submit a detailed proposal on the format and content of such a report at its next session, taking into account Member States’ feedback through a structured survey.”¹

2. The questionnaire on the format and content of a comprehensive and integrated Biennial Performance Report was sent to Member States on January 20, 2015, to seek their detailed input on each aspect of the proposal. Responses were received from 23 Member States and these have been consolidated in Annex I to this document. On the basis of the responses received, the key conclusions that may be drawn are:

¹ Document [WO/PBC/22/27](#) “Proposal to Reform and Enhance Program Performance and Financial Reporting”

- (i) The proposal to launch a Biennial Performance Report by minimizing duplications with the Financial Statements (FS) and by including relevant financial management information in the Program Performance Report (PPR), thus producing a report that examines both biennial programmatic and financial performance, has met with significantly varying responses. It is therefore not appropriate to pursue this proposal at this stage. Clear and strong preference has been expressed by some Member States for the retention of the Financial Management Report (Biennial).
 - (ii) The qualitative comments of the Member States in response to the questionnaire may be used as a guide by the Secretariat to continue to improve financial and performance reporting at WIPO in future reporting cycles;
3. The following decision paragraph is proposed.

4. The Program and Budget Committee (PBC), having reviewed the consolidated responses of the Member States to the questionnaire on the format and content of a comprehensive and integrated biennial performance report, requested the Secretariat to:

- (i) continue with the current reporting documents, and*
- (ii) take into consideration the qualitative inputs provided by the Member States for the preparation and improvement of the program performance and financial reports in future cycles.*

[Annex follows]

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE FORMAT AND CONTENT OF
A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED BIENNIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES

1. FMR Sections: "Key Financials and other Parameters" and "Financial Statements"

The information in the Financial Management Report (FMR) section "Key Financials and other Parameters" appears in both the FMR and the Financial Statements (FS), with the data contained in the tables in the FMR split across various sections in the FS.² The FMR section "Financial Statements" is a biennial view of the same information presented as an annual view in the FS.³

In view of the above, this FMR section does not provide added value over the information already provided in the FS.

Do you agree with this statement?

Azerbaijan	Yes we do.
Belarus	We agree that the FMR section "Financial Statements" contains the same information presented in the FS. At the same time the FS is more detailed section.
Chile	<p>Considering that the Financial Management Report compares the biennial results with the biennial budget (on a budgetary basis) and provides details of the financial performance of the Organization and its financial situation at the end of every biennium, it seems appropriate to include boxes with the key financials and other parameters, as this will serve as the framework for analyzing management during the biennium.</p> <p>Moreover, Regulation 6.6 (b) of WIPO's Financial Regulations and Rules provides that there should be a statement of budget and actual income and expenditure for the financial period reported, on the same accounting basis as the adopted budget.</p> <p>Taking as a reference what is stated in question 1, the data repeated at page 6 of document A/54/8 covers one page of the document and does not provide significant added value, given that the information is duplicated in other documents. However, it provides a framework, or, as the title of the section indicates, the "key financials and other parameters" to be taken into consideration when reading the report.</p> <p>Since these are the biennial Financial Management Report and annual Financial Statements, we consider that a report on the financial statements presented from a biennial perspective in the financial management report facilitates reading and understanding.</p>

² The FMR section "Key Financial and Other Parameters" appears on page 6 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). Data contained in the tables in this FMR section that is split across various sections in the FS can be found, in particular, in Statements I, II and V of the most recent FS (document [A/54/10](#))

³ The FMR section "Financial Statements" begins on page 24 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)).

China	<p>The FMR mainly presents information on the biennial financial results while the FS provides the annual financial information. As WIPO Program and Budget is developed on a biennial basis, it is therefore desirable to retain the add up values of the biennial financial results as well as the comparison between and analysis of the biennial financial results and the biennial program and budget, to facilitate the member states' quick understanding of the overall biennial financial performance.</p>
Czech Republic	<p>We agree with this statement. Financial statements (Statement I – V) presented in the latest FMR on pages 26 – 31 are exactly the same as shown in the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements on pages 13 – 20.</p>
Ecuador	<p>Yes, we agree. If this is the same information, which is provided annually in the financial statements, there is no need to duplicate it in the FMR, which is biennial.</p>
France	<p>WIPO's budget is biennial. The FMR is produced “during” the biennium and includes references to the previous biennium. It also includes information about the differences between the “biennial performance” and the biennial budget in question, supplemented by a recapitulation of the biennial budget implemented in the previous year. Thus, the table on page 6, “Key financials and other parameters”, which also covers reserves, provides a comprehensive and scalable view of the financial position of WIPO, unlike annual financial statements. The importance of the FMR is firstly to establish a uniform document containing only financial information not spread out over several sections, unlike the annual financial statements, and focused on management. Articles 6.5 and 6.6 of the Financial Regulation clearly distinguish the two types of financial reports.</p>
Gabon	<p>On November 30, 2005, the High-Level Committee on Management recommended that all United Nations system organizations should adopt International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) as their accounting standard effective no later than 2010.</p> <p>This recommendation was driven by a clearly identified need within the UN system to adopt improved, independent and universally accepted standards, with the aim of increasing quality and credibility in financial reporting.</p> <p>The IPSAS standards are developed by the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) which is part of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).</p> <p>Since IPSAS requires the preparation of annual financial statements, the financial statements of WIPO are prepared individually for each year of the biennium. These annual financial statements are presented separately from the financial management report and the complete financial information on the Organization prepared according to IPSAS standard can only be found in the annual financial statements of WIPO.</p> <p>Pursuant to IPSAS, financial statements comprise the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statement I – Statement of financial position ▪ Statement II – Statement of financial performance ▪ Statement III – Statement of changes in net assets/equity ▪ Statement IV – Cash flow statement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statement V – Comparison of budget and actual amounts ▪ Notes to the financial statements <p>Statements I to V are presented for the 2012-2013 biennium.</p> <p>Financial information is provided to highlight the differences between the results of the Organization generated on a budgetary basis and those based on financial statements prepared in accordance with IPSAS. Other extracts of the annual financial statements also provide more detailed information on the assets and liabilities of the Organization.</p> <p>In light of the foregoing, it would be appropriate to substantiate this statement.</p>
Germany	<p>We do not agree with this statement. Clear presentation of the most important data provides the delegates a quick overview (linked to the source where you will find detailed information).</p>
Japan	<p>Japan appreciates the Secretariat's initiative to improve financial reporting, through reducing duplicate information in the reports and, at the same time, through maintaining or enhancing the quality of information. It also believes that, since the report is technical, showing the data in a clear and understandable way is also an important consideration in preparing the reports.</p> <p>(1) Key Financials and Other Parameters: The table of "Key Financials and Other Parameters" is very useful for the Member States to obtain an overview of the income, expenditure, and surplus in the biennium. It helps to introduce Member States to key parameters at the opening of the report in an understandable way. In addition, since it is only one page, we cannot expect to achieve any significant cost reduction by eliminating this one page. Also, when considering the incorporation of the table of "Key Financials and Other Parameters" into the FS or the PPR, Japan considers the PPR to be more appropriate than the FS, because it is prepared in order to assess the programs in terms of the biennium rather than in a single year. Thus, the table of "Key Financials and Other Parameters" should be kept and integrated into the PPR, for example, in section III "Consolidated Budget and Actual Expenditure".</p> <p>(2) Financial Statements: Japan supports the Secretariat's proposal to reduce reporting duplicate "Financial Statements" which are in both the FMR and the FS</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>Agree, as this information is contained in the annual FS.</p>

Mexico	<p>We consider that the information contained in the “Key Financials and other Parameters” section (FMR) has added value in the sense that it presents comparative biennial information. Said data enables us to have an overview of the main financial movements per biennium. However, in order to avoid duplication of information and to improve the presentation of the reports, we suggest the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - include the box “Key Financials and other Parameters” (FMR) in the biennial report, using the same format. - The same principle applies to the “Financial Statements” section. In order to simplify presentation of the reports, the following could be undertaken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include the boxes relating to the « Financial Statements » of the FMR exclusively in the Financial statements of the 2nd year of the biennium. 2. Improve the visual presentation of the boxes in the Financial Statements. We suggest that you use the same format as the boxes that appear in the FMR.
Philippines	<p>Yes, in the interest of streamlining the presentation of financial information to the WIPO Member States and stakeholders, the detailed “Key Financials and other Parameters” should be included in the FS, and a summary of the key points reflected in the biennial FMR.</p>
Qatar	<p>Although there are some common financial points between the two sides (left and right) in the schematic diagram on the contents of the FMR, which is released every two years, and the Financial Statements report (FS), the report of the Department of Financial Management must be prepared according to their functional duties, even if included in the financial statements, which issued the same information in its annual report on the financial statements. Therefore, it is not a duplication of work. Each section of them has its competent functions in accordance with regulatory [framework]. Taking the same information that issued is in annual report within the FMR, which is published every two years, is not a duplication but rather to facilitate the work. The results will be the same and known for its content and clauses.</p>
Russian Federation	<p>The Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) considers it possible to agree with this statement.</p>
Slovakia	<p>Yes, I agree</p>
Trinidad and Tobago	<p>I would disagree with the statement. It must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements in the first place. Condensation of multiple tables presents a more compact view and attempts some analysis that more adept users of the data may do in any case.</p>

Turkey	<p>First, as in line with the decision taken by the PBC's 22nd session, biennial performance and financial reporting has to be improved. FMR is a biennial report whereas the FS is an annual one. So the question arises if the FMR is no use anymore, does the FS become the new biennial report? We are not very clear about that we would appreciate some clarification. Also amendments in the FRR would absolutely be necessary to this end. When the docs A/54/8 and A/54/10 is analyzed to find overlaps and duplications, as suggested, there are many between these two documents. FS is a more comprehensive doc which contains, to a very large extent, all the information contained in FMR. In this regard, we agree that, biennial FMR does not seem to be adding any added value over the information already contained in the FS. However, the FMR, particularly the page 6 and the table in this page that is drawn attention in the footnote 2 of question 1 is a concise, compact and easy to understand table with respect to the related FS's parts and statements for example. We believe that this executive summary type compact information would be helpful, particularly for non-financial colleagues and/or executives. Similar parts for ease of understanding should be remained in the new biennial report.</p>
Uganda	<p>These are two different reports for different information needs of users. However, the financial statement in FMR should be filtered/condensed to cover management issues (financial).</p>
Ukraine	<p>Yes, we agree with the statement as the FMR section repeats the FS in content.</p>
United Kingdom	<p>We agree that the FMR section "Key Financials and other Parameters" duplicates the information available in the FS. We would of course expect the FS progress report to be prepared and published annually.</p>
United Republic of Tanzania	<p>No, not at all. The two documents are distinct separate and serve different purposes. Similarity or slight differences in respect of the information contained therein each of the said two documents do not necessarily make them repeating or duplicating each other. In other words the two documents are creatures of the same ancestor yet they are not one and the same. However for purposes of cross referencing they complement each other depending on the prevailing circumstances that warrant making such cross reference so important. While the FMR portrays the managerial aspects of the appropriation and related financial transactions as were so transacted over a period of time given the underlying financial rules and guide lines; the latter, that is, Financial Statements essentially, portray the breakdown of financial transactions as were so transacted over a period under review, such that in the cause of preparing FMR such statements are vital and to a large extent may influence recommendations if any, that forms part and parcel of the Financial Management Report. Conceptually, the two documents ought to be examined critically and avoid self-misdirection. In absence of the Financial Statements I see no way how the FMR could prepare covering fully the specific period under which financial transactions took place. The value addition provided by the FMR is therefore, the analytical assessment conducted on the basis of the FS that give rise to recommendations on measures to be taken for implementation during the next biennium as opposed to the previous one. To recapitulate all the aforesaid, an FMR cannot be construed FS and <i>vice versa</i></p>
Uruguay	<p>Yes</p>

2. FMR Section: “Summary of Results by Union”

The FMR section “Summary of Results by Union” provides a comprehensive summary of the financial performance by Union, and also presents the Reserves and Working Capital Funds (RWCF). The FS also contains information on the Reserves and Working Capital Funds as well as on the Revenue, Expenses and Reserves by Segment.⁴

In view of the information already contained in the FS, the “Summary of Results by Union” section of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the FS.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We consider it possible to support this proposal. The FMR section “Summary of Results by Union” can be incorporated into the FS.
Chile	We agree that the summary of results by Union should only be set out in the Financial Statements. This is because in Section I, we considered it appropriate to reference at least the main features of the financial parameters in the Financial Management Report.
China	The FMR mainly presents information on the biennial financial results while the FS provides the annual financial information. As WIPO Program and Budget is developed on a biennial basis, it is therefore desirable to retain the add up values of the biennial financial results as well as the comparison between and analysis of the biennial financial results and the biennial program and budget, to facilitate the Member States’ quick understanding of the overall biennial financial performance.
Czech Republic	Yes, we support the incorporation of the “Summary of Results by Union” section of the FMR into the FS. We suggest to omit tables 1.3 and 1.4 of the FMR (page 8) since they seem not to be too much related to the result of the Unions.
Ecuador	Yes, this should be incorporated into the financial statement.

⁴ The FMR section “Summary of Results by Union” begins on page 7 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). Information in the FS on the Reserves and Working Capital Funds that is split across various sections of the FS can be found, in particular, on pages 4, 5, 54 and 56 of the latest FS (document [A/54/10](#)). Information on the Revenue, Expenses and Reserves by Segment may be found on page 65 of the FS for 2013 (document [A/54/10](#)).

France	<p>This proposal cannot be supported.</p> <p>The current presentation of reserves in the 2013 financial statements is completely unsatisfactory. See Note 21 on page 58 of the French version of document WO/PBC/22/5 [English page 54].</p> <p>Table 1.3, “Reserve-funded Special Projects as of end 2013”, Financial Management Report (Doc WO/PBC/22/6, p. 8) is clearer, although its scope is limited to special projects funded from reserves. The situation of the reserve fund and the special projects funded from reserves should be recorded in annual documentation and presented as a table either separately or in a single chapter or section of the financial statements. Spreading the reporting over several sections of the financial statements, as is currently done, is inappropriate. Beginning of year/year end evolution should be shown. This report should also be annexed to draft budgets in a form that make it possible to make comparisons and follow evolutions.</p>
Gabon	<p>WIPO sector information is presented in a format that sets out the various unions as composite segments of the Organization. Hence, a review of the various tables under the section entitled “Summary of results by union” in the financial management report, such as <i>Table I: Reserve and Working Capital Funds by Union at end 2013</i>, shows that this data sums up the global financial situation in 2012-2013 per union.</p> <p>A review of <i>Table 1.3: Reserve-funded Special Projects as of end 2013</i> clearly highlights project budgets, expenditure and reserves.</p> <p>It should be noted that the creation and presentation within the financial statements of a special reserve for reserve-funded special projects was prompted by a recommendation of the external auditor.</p> <p>Presentation of the data in document A/54/10, on income, expenditure and reserves by segment in the financial statements, is clear and user-friendly.</p> <p>It should also be noted that in the financial statements of the same financial management report, the data is split across various sections mentioned above.</p> <p>Consequently, we support this proposal which will lead to the simplification of procedures.</p>
Germany	<p>Yes, provided that the detailed data / information are taken from the FMR for the FS. We consider all content in this section as adding value.</p>
Japan	<p>The “Summary of Results by Union,” currently provided in the FMR, is very useful to get an overview of the fiscal revenue and expenditure of the Unions presented in the table. The table provides useful information that enables the Member States to compare the fiscal soundness of each Union. In addition, the section is only two pages, so we cannot expect to achieve any significant cost reduction by eliminating these two pages. Also, when considering the incorporation of the “Summary of Results by Union” section into the FS or the PPR, Japan considers the PPR to be more appropriate than the FS, because it is prepared in order to assess the programs in terms of the biennium rather than in a single year. Therefore, the table of “Summary of Results by Union” should be kept and integrated into the PPR or/and the FS.</p>

Kyrgyzstan	Support.
Mexico	We support the idea that the “Summary of Results by Union” should be incorporated into the Financial Statements. We propose that the box “Reserves and Working Capital Funds By Union” (FMR) should be included in the Financial Statements. The added value of the box can be found in the summary of the performance of all Unions administered by WIPO.
Philippines	Yes, the financial performance by each Union and the Reserves and Working Capital Funds can be contained in the FS.
Qatar	The summary of the provided Results by Union that relate to the FMR are contained in the FS and the PPR as shown in the schematic diagram. Each of these sections has additional information. It is preferred to standardize the financial reporting especially if it presents the Reserves and Working Capital Funds (RWCF), information on the Reserves and Working Capital Funds as well as on the Revenue, Expenses and Reserves by Segment. Issue a comprehensive report on each item.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. Again, it must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements and the data may in fact be used by multiple persons of multiple aptitudes.
Turkey	We support the proposal. RWCF, in WIPO, are accounted for as the net assets of the organization which is the difference between total assets and total liabilities and they are separately defined in FRR in 101.3 (n) and 101.3(q). The first thing noticed is that there is no separation in the FS (the one on page 65) with regard to the actual and budgeted income and expenditure. This can be discussed as to whether keeping it in the FS could make sense and useful for making better predictions for the next biennium when preparing the budget. The table in the FS, particularly the one in page 65, is more comprehensive and seems to contain important parameters such as the “reserves and working capital funds at December 31, 2013”, which is already reached in the FMR, as well. There is no separation in the FS as regards to the “direct union/admin” and “indirect union/admin” which is deducible from the FS we believe if definition regarding them is provided. It can also be discussed whether this separation (direct/indirect union/admin) would add any value to the FS that already more comprehensive information it contains.
Uganda	Agreed. Since the information is all about performance, this can be understood well under the FS.
Ukraine	Yes, the “Summary of Results by Union” section of the FMR is to be incorporated into the FS.

United Kingdom	We would support the proposal to include the “Summary of Results by Union” section of the FMR. We would expect this information to be prepared and published annually in the expanded FS.
United Republic of Tanzania	No, the two instruments should not be merely, simply and easily be allowed to complement each other as they are not one and the same.
Uruguay	Yes.

3. FMR Section: “Budget”

The FMR section “Budget” shows transfers of financial resources during a biennium and the primary objectives of those transfers. Additional details on the achievement of expected results, transfers by program and resource utilization also appear in the Program Performance Report (PPR).⁵

In view of the information already contained in the PPR, the “Budget” section of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We support this proposal. The PPR can contain the FMR section “Budget”.
Chile	Under Art. 6.6(c)(ii) of the Financial Regulations and Rules, the biennial Financial Management Report must record any transfers made by the Director General under Regulation 5.5 from one budget program to another. In this light, it seems inappropriate to omit this information from the Financial Management Report. If possible, or if the intent of this document is to modify the WIPO Financial Regulations and Rules (Regulation 6.6), then in order to reduce duplication of information, "Budget" should only be incorporated into the Program Performance Report.
China	Data in the FMR "Budget" section can be incorporated into the PPR. After the incorporation, it is desirable to retain the FMR figures of “Transfers”, “Transfers as % of Program Approved Budget” and “Transfers as % of Total Approved Budget” in the PPR, as those figures can visually show the usage of transfers among programs. In addition, the table for "Posts Reports by Program" in the FMR is not listed in the PPR and shall also be retained in the PPR.
Czech Republic	Yes, we support this proposal. Moreover, we submit for consideration omitting the Table 2 on page 11 of the FMR since information contained in this table is more or less stated in Table 1 on page 28 of the PPR.

⁵ The FMR section “Budget” begins on page 9 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). Additional details on achievements of expected results, transfers by program and resource utilization are presented, program by program, throughout the PPR (for latest PPR, see document [WO/PBC/22/8](#)).

Ecuador	Yes, we agree with this proposal, especially as The FMR and the PPR report are biennial.
France	The PPR is already extremely long at 300 pages. Its content is defined in section 2.14 of the Financial Regulations. Moreover, it is accompanied by a 105-page "Internal Audit and Oversight Division (IAOD) Validation Report on the Program Performance Report (PPR) for 2012/13", preceded by an excellent summary report with recommendations (document WO/PBC/22/9; 105 pages). It is reasonable to hesitate to agree that a 300-page document should be further lengthened by the inclusion of information that does not fall under "program performance". In any event, a program performance report cannot serve as FMR. Regarding transfers, the FMR is important in that it provides a comprehensive, concise and consolidated explanation of these, with a table (Table 2) for the biennium, in a homogenous document. It was noted that in its "Validation Report on the Program Performance Report (PPR) for 2012/13", the IAOD makes a recommendation (No. 5) on this issue, with a view to strengthening transparency by providing information on the funds transferred to and from programs during the biennium.
Gabon	<p>The "Budget" section of the Financial Management Report for the 2012-2013 biennium, submitted to the Fifty-fourth series of meetings held in Geneva from September 22 to September 30, 2014, presents information on transfers of financial resources and the main targets of such transfers in <i>Table 2: Approved Budget and Transfers by Program</i>.</p> <p>Similarly, the data contained in the "Budget" section of the Program Performance Report 2012-2013 entitled <i>Consolidated Budget and Actual Expenditure 2012/13</i> presents transfers per program and expenditure in <i>Table 1: Summary by Program for 2012-2013</i>.</p> <p>However, the Program Performance Report for 2012-2013 has additional information in the section <i>2012/13 Summary by Expected Result</i>, in Table 2</p> <p>Consequently, in light of the details provided in the "Budget" section, it would be appropriate for the information contained in the Program Performance Report to include data from the Financial Management Report.</p>
Germany	See no. 2 – as long as not be lost in transition into PPR.
Japan	Japan supports the Secretariat's proposal to incorporate the "Budget" section of the FMR into the PPR.
Kyrgyzstan	Support to avoid duplication of information.

Mexico	We believe that there is no need to duplicate information and that the “Budget” section which is provided in the FMR should continue to be incorporated into the PPR document. Nevertheless, we would urge you to keep the comprehensive budget information in the PPR in order to avoid the loss of key data. Likewise, we would recommend to you to use graphic elements in all sections dealing with figures and the evolution thereof. The added value of this section in the FMR can be found in the aggregated data relating to transfers and the overall post ratio (boxes 2 and 3 respectively included on pages 11 and 12 of document A/54/8).
Philippines	Yes, the Philippines supports the proposal to reflect the transfers of financial resources and the objectives of the transfers in the PPR
Qatar	According to this schematic diagram, the FMR section “Budget” shows transfers of financial resources during a biennium and the primary objectives of those transfers also appear in the PPR. We support this proposal, this data is already included in both reports and there will be no conflict with them.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. Again, it must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements and the data may in fact be used by multiple persons of multiple aptitudes. These multiple users would need to be consulted before a definitive statement on what is considered as not adding value could be holistically formulated.
Turkey	We support the proposal. In the FMR, after brief information on the budget and transfers 2 tables provided which are the “Approved Budget and Transfers by Program” and the “Posts Report by Program”. In the PPR, the transfers are covered in various tables either according to the program or according to the expected results no. and description. Also at the end of each program in the PPR there is the table which addresses the transfers. The only difference between the FMR’s tables and the tables in the PPR seems to be the “Transfers as % of total Approved Budget” and the “Transfers as % of program Approved Budget” which only addressed in the FMR. The necessity and usefulness of these parameters could be discussed. The “posts report by program” part of the FMR could be incorporated into the PPR under the related programs. The related table in the FMR does not seem to be contained in the PPR and it would be useful to see the differences between the budgeting years in the posts. The post issue is a sensitive one as brought forward several times during the PBC sessions. As known, the biggest share of the expenditure goes to the staff and the changes in staff not only in numbers also in position etc., we believe, should be reflected in the budget related documents including PPR.
Uganda	FMR should still contain a summary report on budget execution to show budget performance biennium with the details on resource utilization incorporated in the PPR.
Ukraine	Yes, the “Budget” section of the FMR could be incorporated into the PPR in light of information duplication but provided that expediency of the mentioned incorporation is discussed and decided during the Program and Budget Committee sessions.

United Kingdom	We can support this proposal but would expect the new PPR to be published annually (through a progress report) and include updates and information on the transfers of financial resources during the biennium and the primary objectives of those transfers.
United Republic of Tanzania	The way we look at this proposal we are of the conviction that it is in fact the FMR that may take account of the PPR including each and every program that was undertaken. Conducted during the biennium under review. The other aspect which is also critical is the established guidelines and regulations of which have to be changed given any strong desire to change in pursuance of doing away with overlapping approach elements. In essence, we see no harm to redesign the FMR given critical consideration. The proposal in absence of a thorough analytical assessment has the risk of shifted focus on managerial aspects that are primary elements of the instrument. We could not identify a section that we consider substantially not adding value.
Uruguay	Yes. The transfers by program are already reflected in the PPR, which analyzes the performance of all programs, including the transfers for each one.

4. FMR Sections: “Expenditure” and “Income”

The FMR “Expenditure” section provides an overview of biennial budget and expenditure by program, a comparison of the budgeted and actual expenditures by cost categories, and summarizes the implementation of various cost-efficiency measures. The FMR “Income” section provides an overview of biennial income as compared to the budget. The PPR contains information on budget utilization by program (personnel and non-personnel) and provides extensive reporting on cost efficiencies implemented in a biennium.

In view of the information already contained in the PPR, the “Expenditure” and “Income” sections of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR.⁶

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We support this proposal.
Chile	Pursuant to Regulation 6.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules, income and expenditure should be recorded in the biennial Financial Management Report. If possible, or if the intent of this document is to amend Regulation 6.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules, then it seems appropriate, with a view to reducing duplication of information, just to add "Income and Expenditure" only to the Program Performance Report. However, if this is done, it must be borne in mind that the information currently contained in the Financial Management Report under "expenditure" includes an analysis that is generally not incorporated into Financial Statements.

⁶ The FMR sections “Expenditure” and “Income” begin on pages 13 and 20, respectively, of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). Information on budget utilization is presented, program by program, throughout the PPR (for latest PPR, see document [WO/PBC/22/8](#)).

China	<p>A great deal of information in the FMR "Expenditure" section is not listed in the PPR, which includes "Expenditure by Object of Expenditure", "Evolution of Personnel Expenditure by Year", "Evolution of Travel and Fellowships Expenditure by Year", "Evolution of Contractual Services Expenditure by Year", "Evolution of Operating Expenses by Year", and "Evolution of Equipment and Supplies Expenditure by Year". Such information is very helpful to the Member States for their understanding of the specific expenditure information and the corresponding cost efficiency measures, as well as the reasons for the evolution. Therefore, even if the FMR "Expenditure" section is incorporated into the PPR, the information mentioned above shall still be retained.</p> <p>The FMR "Income" section is not listed in the PPR, but it might be advisable to have it incorporated into the PPR.</p>
Czech Republic	<p>Yes, we support the proposal. We suggest to shift the "Expenditure" and "Income" sections of the FMR into the "Consolidated Budget and Actual Expenditure" section of the PPR.</p>
Ecuador	<p>No, it is necessary for the FMR to continue to contain a general breakdown of income and expenditure, as a general reference mechanism. Such information could be drawn from the PPR.</p>
France	<p>This proposal cannot be supported.</p> <p>The PPR presents expenditures in a scattered manner.</p> <p>The importance of the FMR is that it presents revenue and expenditure overall, against the approved budget. This report also presents studies of the evolution of certain types of expenditure over several years. For the latest FMR for 2012/2013, the study of the annual change in travel expenses since 2006 (expenses which vary greatly from one year to the next) and contractual services (22.6 million CHF in 2006 as against 61.4 million CHF in 2013) is interesting. The same applies to the evolution of operating expenses: 31.2 million CHF in 2006, as against 25.3 million CHF in 2013.</p> <p>This type of study should not be included in the PPR.</p>
Gabon	<p>The final report on cost efficiency measures adopted during the 2012-2013 biennium features in the Program Performance Report 2012-2013.</p> <p>Table 4 of the Financial Management Report provides an overview of the approved budget for 2012-2013, the final budget after transfers, total expenditure and the utilization rate of the program budget.</p> <p>Yet, the Program Performance Report 2012-2013 contains detailed information on resource utilization per program and on attainment of expected results.</p> <p>Furthermore, Table 5 of the Financial Management Report presents a comparison of the approved budget for 2012-2013, the final budget after transfers and actual expenditure per cost category (personnel resources, other resources, etc.).</p> <p>Program Performance Report 2012-2013 highlights useful information on the "Expenditure and Income" section (Tables 3-4 and 9). Hence, there is no new element in the budget and expenditure section per program in the biennium. There is a comparison of budgeted and actual expenditure per cost category.</p> <p>Consequently, the proposal is valid.</p>

Germany	Yes. See no. 2 + 3.
Japan	Japan supports the Secretariat's proposal to incorporate the "Expenditure" and "Income" sections of the FMR into the PPR. Current "Expenditure" and "Income" sections in the FMR provide useful and necessary information for evaluating the fiscal health of the biennium. Thus, the sections should be incorporated into the PPR and kept, in order to show the value of the information contained. They can even be enhanced, for example, by reporting data in an even more understandable way.
Kyrgyzstan	Support.
Mexico	In order to avoid duplication of information and to ensure better organization of said information, we support the proposal that the sections related to "Expenditure" and "Income" of the FMR should remain incorporated into the PPR document. However, incorporation should not signify deletion of the aggregated information on expenditure (by category of costs), nor should the same apply to the general overview of biennial income compared to the budget. We would like to reiterate the point made earlier that comprehensive information on expenditure and income should be maintained in the PPR in order to avoid the loss of key data, and that graphic elements should be used in all sections dealing with figures and the evolution thereof.
Philippines	Yes, the information contained in the PPR is more comprehensive and need not be repeated in the FMR.
Qatar	According to these aforementioned explanations the FMR "Expenditure" section provides an overview of biennial budget and expenditure by program, a comparison of the budgeted and actual expenditures by cost categories, and summarizes the implementation of various cost-efficiency measures and also in the PPR. Then we support this proposal. In view of the information already contained in the PPR, the "Expenditure" and "Income" sections of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR due to the binding between the items.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. Again, it must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements and the data may in fact be used by multiple persons of multiple aptitudes.

Turkey	<p>We cautiously support the proposal. In the FMR, the “expenditure” part covers approved budget, final budget after transfers, total expenditure and utilization rate in one table and evolution of personnel expenditure throughout years in the following table. Travel and fellowship expenditures are addressed throughout years with a comparison vis-a-vis previous year. The very same approach is applied for operating expenses, contractual services, equipment and supplies. We find the comparative approach showing the differences in these cost efficiency related subjects very useful. It helps make a judgment from the cost efficiency perspective. In the PPR, firstly, the table covering all the programs’ budget does not indicate the utilization rate for each program. It is indicated in each program per se only for the said program. There is no possibility to see the whole picture related to the utilization rate in the PPR including whole utilization rate. On the other hand, the PPR enhances the utilization rate related tables under each program by adding personnel and non-personnel resources parts. When exploration and tackling of the cost efficiency related measures are compared between the FMR and the PPR, the presentation of information provided in the FMR seems to be more useful than that of the PPR. For example, the travel and fellowships related expenditures are tabulated with more parameters which give the opportunity for comparison to the previous year. We think it is very important to be able to make a comparison to see the results regarding whether the measures taken working or not. Even if there is good amount of information in the PPR related to the cost efficiency related activities not only in the part specifically addressing this issue also under each program, the tackling of the evolution of cost efficiency measures with tables and graphics would be more useful and informative. It enables to see the whole picture throughout years. As regards to income, the related information and table in the FMR could be incorporated into the PPR.</p>
Uganda	<p>Not agreed. The two reports should still be carried/maintained. The users’ needs of the two reports could be different. The FMR on expenditure/income should have information on budgeted and actual expenditure to facilitate proper decision making. The PPR should only have a summary on program performance both qualitative and quantitative.</p>
Ukraine	<p>Yes, the “Expenditure” and “Income” sections of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR in order to avoid duplication of information.</p>
United Kingdom	<p>We can support the proposal to move “expenditure” and “income” sections from the FMR into the PPR. Again we would expect this information to be published and updated annually.</p>
United Republic of Tanzania	<p>Apparently, the FMR seemingly to reflecting the contents of PPR. However, as FMR given in its summary form a like most of reports may not have the details that the PPR shall necessarily by its nature supposed to contain reflecting actual performance of the program activities. Let the two instruments co-exist for want of comprehensiveness of accounting system.</p>
Uruguay	<p>Yes. The income and expenditure for each program are already analyzed in the PPR.</p>

5. FMR Section: “Investments”

The FMR section “Investments” details investments made during the biennium.⁷ IPSAS currently recommends, in a Recommended Practice Guideline, that the FS should include an analysis of cash flows on investments.

Accordingly, the information in the FMR “Investments” section could potentially be incorporated into the FS.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We consider it possible to incorporate the FMR section “Investments” into the FS.
Chile	We agree with this proposal, in light of the IPSAS recommendation. However, we believe that the content of the "Investments" section of the Financial Management Report is not consonant with the IPSAS definition, "analysis of the cash flows on investments"; it merely provides details of investments made, without analysis.
China	SIPO is in favor of the proposal above. Currently the FS does not include information on “Investment” and it is advisable to incorporate the FMR “Investment” section into the FS.
Czech Republic	We support this proposal. No other comments.
Ecuador	Yes, it is relevant.
France	In theory, investments are part of management.
Gabon	IPSAS currently recommends, in a Recommended Practice Guideline, that the FS should include an analysis of cash flows on investments. This is clearly evident from information contained in STATEMENT IV (Statement of Cash Flow) within the Financial Management Report 2012-2013, which highlights the entry "interest earned". However, the “Investments” section of the Management Report does not mention cash flows in <i>Table 7: Investments in 2012 and 2013</i> . Consequently, it does not provide any added value. This "investment section of the financial management report could be incorporated into the financial statements.
Germany	We support this proposal. Contents and structure are predefined by IPSAS (not flexible. Further clarification could be possibly provided in the text and or footnotes. It would be particularly interesting to include a review of the term “investments” - at WIPO and general consumable supplies were called investments - not always long-term assets.
Japan	Japan supports the Secretariat’s proposal to incorporate the “Investments” section in the FMR into the FS.

⁷ The FMR section “Investments” begins on page 22 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)).

Kyrgyzstan	Support.
Mexico	We support the view that information indicated under “investments” should remain incorporated into the Financial Statements, given that all WIPO investments are made in accordance with the WIPO investment policy as approved by the General Assembly, and that as a result said information should be included in box 7 which provides for the amount of investment in Swiss francs, the period, the bank and the percentage rate, as indicated on page 24 of document A/54/8.
Philippines	Yes, the Philippines agrees with the proposal to include information on investments in the FS.
Qatar	We support this proposal for the information in the FMR “Investments” section to be incorporated into the FS, according to IPSAS recommendations in the Recommended Practice Guidelines.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. Again, it must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements and the data may in fact be used by multiple persons of multiple aptitudes. These multiple users would need to be consulted before a definitive statement on what is considered as not adding value could be holistically formulated.
Turkey	We support the proposal. There seems to be no “investment” part per se in the FS. Investment related information is addressed in various parts of the FS, including statements and notes. The investment part in the FMR is more concise although some other investment related information scattered throughout the report. When the contents of the information related to the investments are compared, it seems to be feasible to incorporate the section investment into the FS.
Uganda	We should follow IPSAS recommendation.
Ukraine	Yes, it is expedient that the information in the FMR “Investments” section was incorporated into the FS.
United Kingdom	We can support the proposal to move the section on “investments” from the FMR to the FS. In addition we would expect that elements of the investments also feature in the PPR. While this may lead to some duplication but we believe the PPR should reflect elements of the “investments” that have impacted on program performance. Again we would expect MS to be provided with annual update on “investments” over the biennium.
United Republic of Tanzania	Let FMR and FS here to stay separately for want of a logical and consistence accounting approach. The two instruments would appear to us serving different purposes.
Uruguay	Yes.

6. FMR Section: “Trust Funds”

The FMR section “Trust Funds” details biennial movements in the Funds-in-Trust. The PPR contains detailed information on Funds-in-Trust⁸. The FS contains a summary table (Annex III) on special accounts by donor contributions.⁹ The summary table in the FS is already contained in the PPR and is, therefore, a duplication.

In view of the information already contained in the PPR, the “Trust Funds” section of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR, and the summary table in the FS on special accounts by donor contributions could be discontinued.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We support this proposal on discontinuation of the summary table in the FS on special accounts by donor contributions.
Chile	We agree that the information from the special accounts by donor contributions should be eliminated from the Financial Management Report and be reflected in the PPR. As to also removing it from the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements, it should be considered that some of the funds are charged to the WIPO budget, so it appears necessary to maintain the information in these documents.
China	The “Fund-in-Trust” section of the PPR presents in detail the activities implemented under the various funds, as well as information on the annual income, expenditure and balance. The “Trust Funds” section in the FMR and the FS presents in detail the financial information of the various funds. The different reports vary in their focus. SIPO is of the opinion that if the FMR “Trust Funds” section is to be incorporated into the PPR, the details of the financial information regarding the income and expenditure of each fund shall still be retained in the PPR. It is no longer necessary to list in the FS the summary table on special accounts by donor contributions.
Czech Republic	We fully support this proposal. No other comments.
Ecuador	Yes, we agree with this proposal.
France	Information relating to trust funds as currently provided in detail in the appendix of the FMR is not only interesting as figures/volumes, but also in terms of the cooperation policy pursued by each donor. While it is true that the tables presented in the financial statements already give a quantitative indication, this indication is in no way commensurate with the detailed information currently provided in the FMR. It would be better to maintain it.

⁸ The FMR section “Trust Funds” begins on page 82 of the most recent FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). This information may also be found on page 216 of Appendix II of the PPR for 2012/13 (document [WO/PBC/22/8](#)).

⁹ Information on Funds-in-Trust appears in Annex III “Special Accounts by Donor Contributions” of the FS (page 68 of the latest FS (document [A/54/10](#))).

Gabon	<p><i>Annex III: Special Accounts by Donor Contributions</i> in the annual financial report and financial statements for 2013 presents information on Trust Funds in the table. The table cannot be easily understood by non-experts in finance, because it is very complex, though detailed.</p> <p>In contrast, the Program Performance Report presents information on trust funds with activities/missions, beneficiary countries, targets, results and the table which presents the financial aspect with income, expenditure and balance at the end of the year.</p> <p>It should also be noted that the financial management report shows the table on trust funds entitled, <i>Trust Funds as December 31, 2013</i>. This table has no added value since it is a true copy of the one in Annex III of the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements for 2013.</p> <p>In conclusion, the "Trust Funds" section of the Financial Management Report could eventually be incorporated into the Program Performance report and the summary table in the financial statements, relating to special accounts, could either be made available online or deleted.</p>
Germany	<p>We do not agree entirely with this proposal. In some cases duplications are reasonable and helpful. Concerning to the trust funds: It might be helpful for the delegates to get important information presented without major (search) efforts in the FMR. Concerning donor contributions: Germany assumes that the summary table in the FS on special accounts by donor contributions is a real overlap and therefore the discontinuation is proposed.</p>
Japan	<p>(1) Incorporation of the "Trust Funds" section of the FMR into the PPR: Japan supports the Secretariat's proposal to incorporate the "Trust Funds" section in the FMR into the PPR. Since the information on the trust fund in the FMR and that in the PPR are not the same, the information on "Trust Funds" section in the FMR should be kept in the PPR after it is integrated.</p> <p>(2) Discontinuation of the summary table in the FS: Since the summary table in the PPR gives data for two years, and the one in the FS gives data for only one year, these tables have different values. Also, considering the importance of the trust funds in terms of the WIPO's budget, and the fact that the summary table is only one page of the FS, one option would be to keep the summary table in the FS to show the allocation of each fund to Member States, or another option would be to keep at least the information described only in the summary table in the FS, after it is integrated into the PPR.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>Support.</p>
Mexico	<p>We support the proposal that information contained in the "Trust Funds" section of the report on program performance should continue to be incorporated into the PPR.</p> <p>We propose that the summarized box in the FS relating to special accounts per donor should be subject to further development, since the added value of this box lies precisely in the manner in which it presents the special accounts per donor in a summarized form on a single sheet and thus enriches the information contained in the PPR in this section.</p> <p>We recommend that a Trust Fund Code glossary should be included for the sake of simplicity or that a column should be incorporated indicating the name of the Trust Fund.</p>

Philippines	Yes, the status of Funds-in-Trust and the projects or disbursement therefrom could be incorporated in the PPR while discontinuing the summary table in the FS in order to avoid duplication.
Qatar	According to this explanation and the schematic diagram, the common binding in the FMR section "Trust Funds" details biennial movements in the Funds-in-Trust. The PPR contains detailed information on Funds-in-Trust and the FS contain a special accounts by donor contributions, which is already contained in the PPR and, therefore, we support this proposal.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. Again, it must be appreciated that the FS is not always read by persons who can easily comprehend financial statements and the data may in fact be used by multiple persons of multiple aptitudes. These multiple users would need to be consulted before a definitive statement on what is considered as not adding value could be holistically formulated.
Turkey	We support the proposal. As already explained above, there is duplication regarding the summary table between FS and PPR. As regards trust funds section of the FMR, it is rather detailed covering country specific funds. Also the income and expenditure sections exist in a country's trust fund with again some detail. In the appendix II of the PPR, using of every trust fund is detailed from a perspective of program and performance, that is, the activities, results and purposes etc. are mentioned under every trust fund benefited. Then the financial information is followed and it seems the financial information provided in the PPR is not as detailed as the one contained in the FMR. In the Annex III of the FS, very detailed pure financial information is provided regarding the fund-in-trusts. As mentioned, this summary table is already contained in the PPR, is therefore, duplication. In this regard, we think that the information contained in the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the PPR and the detailed summary table could be discontinued.
Uganda	The reports for trust funds should be maintained in both FMR and PPR and only discontinued from the annex in the FS. This is so because the relevance of reporting/disclosing trust funds in the FMR is key for management decision making.
Ukraine	Yes, the "Trust Funds" section of the FMR could be incorporated into the PPR excluding information repetitions.
United Kingdom	We do not support this proposal and would like to see Trusts Funds the summary table in the FS continued.
United Republic of Tanzania	While the FMR may highlight on the programs conducted under the Trust Funds the summary table in the FS should always be left to form part of the FS as may also be reflected in respect of the PPR. It is not a duplication provided the instruments in question are considered and regarded separate, different hence intended to serve different purposes.
Uruguay	Yes.

7. FMR Section: “Contributions and Working Capital Funds”

The FMR section “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” contains information on Member States’ contributions and Working Capital Funds (RWCF). A document entitled “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]” is presented annually to the Assemblies.¹⁰

In view of the information already contained in the document “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]”, the “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” section of the FMR could potentially be incorporated into the “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]” document.

This detailed data on arrears in contributions could be made available online only rather than in a paper document format which would allow cost efficiencies through a reduction in the volume of printed reporting matter. This information would continue to be provided with the same frequency as per current practice.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We support this proposal.
Chile	We agree that the detailed information on arrears in contributions should be published exclusively on the Internet, in light of the view we take in Section I, which suggests that the table of "key financials and other parameters" and the "Financial Statements" be maintained in the Financial Management Report.
China	Since the document “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]” already contains information on the FMR section “Contributions and Working Capital Funds”, SIPO supports the incorporation of the FMR section “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” into the “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]” and supports making available online the detailed data on arrears in contributions.
Czech Republic	We support this proposal. “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” section of the FMR should be shifted to the “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at (...)”. Online format of the document would be environment-friendly option.
Ecuador	Yes, we agree that the section “Contributions and working capital funds” should be incorporated into “Status of the payment of contributions as at September 1, [year]”. However, we suggest that while this information is not notified in writing to Member States, it should be published annually in a Note.
France	On this point, more openness might be advisable. The key point should be that all the information remains available and easily accessible.
Gabon	The document <i>Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, 2014</i> from the Fifty-fourth Series of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, held in Geneva from September 22 to 30, 2014 contains information on arrears in contributions as at September 1, 2014, based on the unitary contribution system established with effect from January 1, 1994 and in

¹⁰ The FMR section “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” begins on page 46 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)). For “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, 2014”, see document [A/54/9](#).

	<p>accordance with the previous contribution systems of the six contribution-financed unions (Paris, Berne, IPC, Nice, Locarno and Vienna) and of WIPO (for non-union WIPO Member States), excluding the arrears in contributions of least developed countries (LDCs) for the years preceding 1990, which have been placed in a special (frozen) account. This information does not in this table but in the table in paragraph 5.</p> <p>In the Financial Management Report 2012-2013, Tables 8 and 8bis present data on contributions based on the unitary contribution system. See <i>Table 9: Outstanding contributions as at December 31, 2013, and arrears in contributions of LDCs having a special (frozen) account.</i></p> <p>The same applies to the document <i>Status of Payment of Contributions</i> and the Financial Management Report, as regards the Working Capital Fund. Hence, the content in the “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” section of the Financial Management Report has no added value.</p> <p>This proposal ought to be supported.</p>
Germany	<p>The proposal cannot be supported. Detailed data on arrears in contributions should continue to be disclosed in an established manner (and are not only to see “online”). We ask the Secretariat to continue to publish the Status of Payments and Contributions 30 June [year] in paper and update it for the GA for reasons of transparency and availability of data (easy access). This approach has proven to be valuable. Moreover, to lay open arrears has shown its effect, because many members paid quickly after the publication of the document to avoid negative publicity. As for online publication see question 10 and 11.</p>
Japan	<p>(1) The FMR section “Contributions and Working Capital Funds”: The contributions from Member States are important sources of income for the WIPO’s programs, and the section takes up only 3 pages in the FMR. Therefore, the “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” in the FMR should be incorporated into the FS or PPR, rather than “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year].”</p> <p>(2) “Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1, [year]”: On the other hand, the detailed data on arrears is, as the Secretariat proposes, not necessarily distributed in paper form because it can be made available only online since the data is continually updated. This is, however, as long as the quality of the data is maintained or enhanced.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	Support.
Mexico	<p>We endorse the view that the information from the “Contributions and Working Capital Funds” section (FMRt) should be incorporated into the document on the “Status of the payment of Contributions as of September 1 [year]”.</p> <p>We endorse the view that information on arrears in contributions should be published on the internet, provided that this information continues to be made available with the same frequency as at present and ensuring that all WIPO Member States, including least developed countries, should be able to access this information.</p>
Philippines	<p>Yes, Philippines agrees that the information of contributions could be removed from the FMR as it duplicates the information in the "Status of the Payment of Contributions". Also, to save on costs of printing and reproduction, and for ease of access for Member States and stakeholders, the "Status of the Payment of 'Contributions" could be made available online rather than in a paper document format.</p>

Qatar	For solving this problem, and reducing cost of paper printing of the reporting matter, we support this proposal to be made available online for all. Keep the original paper copy in the Finance Department as reference and for archiving.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO provided that there is continuous access to online information and maintaining information updated.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported.
Turkey	We fully support that the data on arrears in contributions could be made available online only rather than in a paper document format which would certainly allow cost efficiencies as long as it would continue to be provided with the same frequency as per current practice. There is an overlap and duplication between the FMR and the “Status of payment of contributions as at September 1”, particularly regarding arrears. It would be avoidance of duplication to incorporate the other information, not only the arrears, contained in the FMR into the said document.
Uganda	We agree with increasing online accessibility. This will hopefully reduce the amount of paper printout which is positive in light of environmental sustainability considerations.
Ukraine	We would ask to provide for approval and reconciliation of Member States a detailed calculation of contributions made on the basis of the yearly results of activities.
United Kingdom	We do not support this proposal. We believe the most appropriate place for the Contributions and Working Capital Funds and the status of Status of the Payment of Contributions as at September 1 would be in the FS. Again we would expect this information to be published annually.
United Republic of Tanzania	No, we do not support the proposal on the ground that printed reporting would appear to us hitherto preferred by a number of users as opposed to availability on line only.
Uruguay	Yes.

8. FMR Section: “Distribution Madrid and Hague”

The FMR section “Distribution Madrid and Hague” contains detailed information on fees collected and distributed under the Madrid and Hague Unions respectively.¹¹

This detailed data could be made available online only rather than in a paper document format which would allow cost efficiencies through a reduction in the volume of printed reporting matter.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
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¹¹ The FMR section “Distribution Madrid and Hague” begins on page 63 of the latest FMR (document [A/54/8](#)).

Belarus	We consider it possible to support this proposal.
Chile	We agree.
China	SIPO supports making available online the detailed information on fees distributed under the Madrid and Hague Unions.
Czech Republic	Online format of this data would be an option. Our question is: to what report would whatever format (online, paper) be incorporated? Or would it be an independent document? We consider this data as very important and interesting.
Ecuador	N/A.
France	<p>“Distribution Madrid and Hague” in the FMR recalls the rules for allocating emoluments of these two Unions between Member States and gives States the result of calculations made by the International Bureau on the database which only the International Bureau seems to have.</p> <p>The FMR is not subject to external audit; c.f. presentation page of document WO/PBC/22/6 submitted to the Program and Budget Committee for its meeting in September 2014.</p> <p>In any event, each Member State concerned must continue to receive – as now – all the bases and methods of calculating Madrid and the Hague income annexed to the notification by the International Bureau concerning the transfer made by the International Bureau to the Office of the recipient Member State.</p>
Gabon	<p>Detailed information in the "Distribution Madrid and Hague" section of the Financial Management Report and which covers 18 pages of said report could help generate additional savings by reducing the volume of printed documents.</p> <p>Considering that it has many extremely long tables, it would be appropriate to post this section online.</p> <p>It should be noted that the table (pg. 69) clearly presents the essential elements, from fees collected to distribution, and the sub-items supplementary fees and complementary fees.</p> <p>The new document management directive is that services should print less. Many printed documents are either not used or end up in the waste-paper basket.</p> <p>For the above reason, we support this proposal.</p>
Germany	We do not support this proposal. The revenues from the Madrid and Hague system are important information and not to be treated differently from other information. However, we could support a voluntary scheme for “online access only” (see comments to question 10 and 11). Moreover, it is not only a question of saved printing costs but also of saved interpretation costs.
Japan	Japan has no preference on this item, as long as the quality of the information is maintained or enhanced.

Kyrgyzstan	Do not agree. FMR Section "Distribution of Madrid and Hague" still need to be received officially in a hard copy together with a covering official letter from WIPO in KyrgyzPatent in order to provide this information to the official inspection bodies.
Mexico	We support the proposal that the section entitled "Distribution Madrid and Hague" of the FMR should be published online in order to reduce the volume of printed reporting matter.
Philippines	The detailed information on the fees collected and distributed under the Madrid and Hague Unions could be reflected only in the WIPO website. However, a summary of the total fees collected and distributed should be reflected in the FS.
Qatar	For solving this problem, and reducing cost of paper printing of the reporting matter, we support this proposal for the detailed information on fees collected and distributed under the Madrid and Hague Unions respectively to be made available online for all, and keeping the original paper copy in the Finance Department as reference and for archiving.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO provided that there is continuous access to online information and maintaining information updated.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. A summary of totals could be provided instead and the detailed analysis left online.
Turkey	We support the proposal.
Uganda	We support this proposal such that whoever wants to access this kind of data can do it online. However, this should not mean that this report is scrapped from FMR.
Ukraine	Yes, to provide for cost efficiencies through a reduction in the volume of printed reporting matter it is quite reasonable to make the corresponding information ("Distribution Madrid and Hague") available online, though broken down by Contracting Parties.
United Kingdom	We would not support this proposal. The fees collected and distributed from Madrid and Hague should be included in the FS.
United Republic of Tanzania	No, we subscribe for the availability in both printed [format] and on line for convenience of users as <i>per</i> the current practice.
Uruguay	Yes.

9. Cost-efficiency Measures Reporting

The PPR for the 2012/13 biennium contained a detailed report on cost efficiency measures.¹²

This PPR section could be strengthened, for example, by providing information on long-term trends in addition to a biennial view.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we agree.
Belarus	We agree with this proposal.
Chile	It would indeed be very useful for the measures intended to promote cost efficiency to have a more structural and long-term approach. For example, measures such as that indicated in WO/PBC/22/8 "postponement of the establishment of a Building Maintenance Fund" are clearly temporary and do not indicate a fundamental change in the future expenditure of the Organization.
China	SIPO supports strengthening this section by providing information on long-term trends in addition to a biennial view.
Czech Republic	Development of cost efficiency measures in long term would be a significant indicator of efforts of the Organization. It could be presented in the form of a single table or chart (where applicable). We support the proposal and welcome further improvement of a detailed report on any cost efficiency measures.
Ecuador	Yes, we agree.
France	Despite its undeniable importance, this detailed report on cost control measures implemented during the 2012-2013 fiscal year, is "drowned" in the report on "program" performance. These are budgetary measures. This report should have been presented separately. For the future, it is suggested that the information be presented in tabular form in order to shorten narratives.
Gabon	The report on the implementation of cost efficiency measures in the 2012/2013 biennium provides a final overview of the cost efficiency measures implemented by the Secretariat during that period. These measures targeted a wide range of areas, reflecting the Secretariat's commitment to vigorously pursue all possible avenues for enhancing cost efficiencies, including measures beyond those endorsed by Member States in approving the 2012-2013 Program and Budget. In particular, it entailed complying with the main strategies. These cost efficiencies could go farther to include long-term trends such as the improvement of procurement procedures, recourse to new technologies, leasing, staff, trips, etc.

¹² A detailed report on cost efficiency measures appears as Section V "Final Report on the Implementation of Cost Efficiency Measures in the 2012/13 Biennium" in the latest PPR (document [WO/PBC/22/8](#)).

Germany	We do support this proposal. In view of the importance of the topic “cost-efficiency measures” should remain an independent report in a section of the PPR. The information should be provided- primarily to the PBC and should also cover, but also for decentralized programs, etc. (always where the topic will (and should) provide savings). It is also important to improve the information for a better overview: for example, by several years interpretations in order to detect better the development of WIPO and / or comparable data to other UN organizations to recognize where and how WIPO is compared. Germany supports the providing of the additional information of long-term trends. We assume that the long term trend is not less than four years. Such a period would facilitate the work for delegates who change position after some years. We ask the Secretariat add – where possible – comparable information from other UN agencies. Long-term trends would be of value here as well.
Japan	It is useful and important for Member States to be shown cost efficiency measures in more transparent and understandable ways. Thus, Japan supports the Secretariat’s proposal.
Kyrgyzstan	Agree.
Mexico	We support the idea of improving information on “cost efficiency measures” by using data on long-term evolution, in addition to a biennial view that provides a broader overview enabling impact assessment. We suggest that data on long-term evolution should be presented in the form of graphs and tables.
Philippines	Yes, cost efficiency measures serve an important role in the operations of WIPO and should be prioritized. This Issue should be given more attention and the information contained in the PPR should have more value-added to Member States and stakeholders. The PPR should also reflect the status of cost efficiency measures recommended in previous biennia, particularly as to how they have been implemented in the Organization.
Qatar	We agree with this proposal to provide information on long-term trends in addition to a biennial view in the PPR and to include a detailed report on cost efficiency measures.
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the proposal of the Secretariat of WIPO.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported.
Turkey	We agree with the proposal. As already stated in answer to the question 4, when exploration and tackling of the cost efficiency related measures are compared between the FMR and the PPR, the presentation of information provided in the FMR seems to be more useful than that of the PPR. For example, the travel and fellowships related expenditures are tabulated with more parameters which give the opportunity for comparison to the previous year. We think it is very important to be able to make a comparison to see the results regarding whether the measures taken working or not. Even if there is good amount of information in the PPR related to the cost efficiency related activities not only in the part specifically addressing this issue also under each program, the tackling of the evolution of cost efficiency measures with tables and graphics would be more useful and informative. It enables to see the whole picture throughout years. Additionally, other parameters could be discussed and added. Past information is important when trends are to be explored.

Uganda	We agree with the proposal as this would increase disclosure of the forecast but the basis should be clearly disclosed to prevent such information being misleading.
Ukraine	Move towards making data available on-line is one of advantageous cost efficiency measures.
United Kingdom	We would support strengthening the PPR section on cost efficiencies and would welcome information on the long term trends. This may also include key risks.
United Republic of Tanzania	We do agree, any improvement for the better is welcome.
Uruguay	Yes. It would be interesting to have information on trends in such measures.

10. Improved Access and Potential cost savings through online access to detailed reports

The PPR for the 2012/13 biennium comprised some 252 pages (some 175 pages in the 2008/09 and 2010/11 biennia), of which some 200 pages contained highly detailed information at the Program level.

Performance reporting information is expected to continue to increase in the future, with a resulting increase in the volume of printed matter. In this connection, Member States may wish to consider limiting the printed matter provided on the PPR to the summary sections only¹³, with the detailed information at the Program level being made available to Member States online. This information would continue to be provided with the same frequency as per current practice.

Do you support this proposal?

Azerbaijan	Yes, we support this proposal.
Belarus	We support this proposal.
Chile	We agree, provided that the reports by head/program continue to provide summaries of the information contained in the PPR simultaneously and with the current frequency.
China	SIPO supports the proposal and supports printing only the PPR summary sections, with the detailed information on the Program level being made available online. But SIPO hopes that the Secretariat will continue to provide online the full text PPR in Chinese.
Czech Republic	We fully support the proposal.
Ecuador	Yes, we agree with the proposal. However, we consider it necessary to notify Member States, following the proper schedule, that the information has been published, and to provide them with web links to access it.

¹³ i.e. sections I to V on pages 1 to 41 in the PPR for 2012/13 (document [WO/PBC/22/8](#)).

France	<p>The International Bureau's intention to reduce the volume of pages to print can only be salutary. However, the question remains as to the logic and purpose of the reform proposed by the International Bureau to remove the FMR by transferring some information to the PPR while offering to print only the summary sections of this report.</p>
Gabon	<p>The steady increase in the number of pages of the Program Performance Report in 2012-2013, with 300 pages compared to 190 pages in 2008 and 2009 is an indication that future reports will keep increasing in volume. Can Member States afford to continue generating a large volume of printed matter without selecting what they need? Making information on the sections available online and ensuring that it is as regular as the documents would improve access and enhance efficiency. Complementarity between printed documents and those made available online would reduce paper wastage, improve management and gain time.</p>
Germany	<p>We do not support this proposal and suggest a voluntary solution. We do not entirely see the environmental and allover financial benefit. Online only publication of the summary allows lower printing costs at WIPO. On the other hand, most member states would print the documents by themselves. Thus, the cost of printing and the environmental impact would only be shifted to the member states. Many developing countries would struggle to absorb these costs. We therefore propose the following regarding online publication: WIPO continues to provide documents available in print. However, the member states have the early option to take a pass on paper documents (they can either print itself or operates largely electronically) (Opt out solution). For online documents there should be a WIPO consistent reporting format. It would be important that the members find comparable information always at the same place (and not have to search for long), which enhances the readability and acceptance for online reporting.</p>
Japan	<p>Japan generally supports the Secretariat's idea to provide information in a cost effective way. However, on the other hand, it regards Sections VI and VII as fundamental and essential parts of the PPR, so needs more explanation from Secretariat on how it is planning to make the data available online.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>Support.</p>
Mexico	<p>We support the proposal that detailed online information relating to each of the PPR programs should be made available to Member States, whilst ensuring that all Member States, including least developed countries, can access this information. Consequently, we would also support the plan to limit the printed version of the PPR exclusively to the sections summarizing the information contained therein.</p>
Philippines	<p>Performance reporting information is critical to decision-making by WIPO Member States and stakeholders, and therefore serves an important purpose and must be readily available. The Philippines agrees that more detailed information made available online would be cost-efficient and avoid too much printed matter. However, the availability of such document online should be immediately notified to the Member States and IP offices through a notification system that is effective and efficient, i.e. through email distribution lists with opt-out options.</p>

Qatar	Due to the increase in the volume of printed matter for the financial reports that contain highly detailed information and which is duplicated in one or two reports, and for saving the cost of printed matter, we support this proposal for the information to be available online in sufficient time to give the Member States the chance for printing and review of it before their meetings..
Russian Federation	Rospatent considers it possible to support the suggestion of the Secretariat of WIPO provided that there is continuous access to online information and maintaining information updated.
Slovakia	Yes, I agree.
Trinidad and Tobago	The proposal could be supported. A summary of totals could be provided instead and the detailed analysis left online.
Turkey	We support the proposal as long as the information at the program level would continue to be provided with the same frequency as per current practice.
Uganda	Agreed.
Ukraine	Yes, making information at the Program level available to Member States online is acceptable and will provide for limiting the printed matter. This measure will be effective in case of timely provision of the information at least 15 days prior to its consideration within the Committees.
United Kingdom	We expect these changes will require the publication of a version of the PPR on an annual basis. We can strongly endorse the printing of summary information only with MS access the remaining information online or by specific request.
United Republic of Tanzania	We do support and let same approach be kept up.
Uruguay	Yes. It is important to reduce the volume of printed matter. In any event, the information is available on the Internet and any member country which wishes to access such information can do so by that means.

11. General Comments

Any general comments on streamlining of financial and performance reporting and/or the format and content of a comprehensive and integrated Biennial Performance Report may be provided below.

Chile	As noted in Section 3, it should be clarified whether the changes proposed imply the need to amend the Financial Regulations of WIPO. Moreover, as guiding principles of these changes, it should always be borne in mind that the information provided should be clear, complete and timely.
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China	<p>SIPO appreciates WIPO's efforts to reform the financial performance reports to further implement the cost efficiency measures. SIPO holds that the purpose of reforming the financial performance report is to reduce the duplication and overlap of the contents while ensuring that the financial performance reports present information in a detailed, comprehensive and transparent manner. Sufficient reasons should be given in the deletion or omission of any non-duplicated information subject to consent from the Member States. In the case when such information is no longer listed, it should be made available to the member states upon request.</p>
Czech Republic	<p>Czech Republic attaches great importance to accuracy, clarity and comprehensiveness of information and data provided to Member States. We therefore support and appreciate efforts of the Secretariat to streamline the reporting, prevent duplication and overlap in order to further improve the content and format of the relevant financial and performance reports. We also pay great attention to an easy and quick access to these information. Further switch to the online version of documents/information is welcome. We look forward to seeing the outputs of this survey at the next session of the Program and Budget Committee.</p>
France	<p>The move to reduce the volume of reports and documents for Member States is understandable.</p> <p>During the discussions on language policy, it was agreed to reduce the length of meeting documents submitted to Member States by limiting them to a dozen pages if possible. If such a limitation is difficult to meet for some reports, it is certain that for budgetary and financial issues, presenting information in tabular form is much more functional and makes for shorter documents. This approach should be favored.</p>
Gabon	<p>The different reports and documents consulted, which relate to the program and budget (PBC) and financial management, were reviewed in order to improve on reporting. They highlight many instances of duplication which have to be deleted from the document and raise the possibility of making certain information on the sections available online.</p> <p>The format and content of a global and integrated biennial performance should include information found in the financial statements on program performance and in the financial management report, presented as a general summary.</p>

<p>Germany</p>	<p>Germany supports the approach to improve the quality, transparency, comprehensiveness and readability of information and reports of WIPO especially the performance and financial reporting. We mostly support the incorporation of overlapping data from the FMR in the FS, PPR and, to a lesser extent, PBC background documents without the loss of data. We assume that identical data with same key date and/or time period as well as the same data actuality will be provided (keyword: no loss of data). Germany is of the opinion that all data that is now in the FMR and/or foreseen in the FS, PPR as well as in other documents (see page 4 “Online and/or PBC background documents”) shall be available in print. We do not support the proposals where data will be available online exclusively for reasons of transparency and workability. We are of the opinion that this relevant data shall completely be included and published as print versions in as few documents as possible. However, we could support a voluntary scheme to opt out of obtaining printed material. It would be important that the members find comparable information always at the same place (and not have to search for long), which enhances the readability and acceptance for online reporting. We ask the Secretariat to estimate the amount of cost savings for every single proposal/measure of the preliminary detailed proposal by the Secretariat for reasons of comprehensibility.</p> <p>In respect of cost savings, we have the following additional questions: Why are reform efforts limited to performance reporting? There is a deep interest to learn what is WIPO doing with the available means. There might be other sections where the reporting and the associated printing and translation costs should be questioned – e.g. with applications/documents of member countries.</p>
<p>Japan</p>	<p>Japan appreciates the Secretariat’s initiative to improve financial reporting. It supports the basic direction proposed to streamline the information provided, and ensure that disclosure will be maintained or enhanced. Japan believes that the integration of programmatic, budgetary and other relevant information into a biennium performance report could be done in a way which would enable a more holistic review to be conducted.</p>

Mexico	<p><u>Comments on the Annual Financial Report and the Financial Statements for 2013</u> We have identified repetitive parts in the Annual Reports for 2012 and 2013 (Introduction, Review and Analysis of the Financial Statements, Transition to IPSAS, etc.). We consider that in order to reduce any extension of the Annual Financial Statements, the Secretariat should refer to data from the immediately preceding year and not repeat information contained in previous reports.</p> <p><u>Comments on the printed versions of reports</u> We are of the view that Member States and accredited participants at meetings should be able to request printed versions of reports. We propose that such information should be disseminated as part of the contents of the invitation to attend the PBC meeting. We urge the Secretariat to reproduce printed versions of decision documents in view of the demand for documents at the previous session. It is a good idea to simplify the presentation of financial reports that are addressed to Member States since it will reduce the workload of the WIPO Secretariat and also reduce the costs of translation and printing of said documents; however, it is advisable to ensure that the simplification process does not contravene the principle of information transparency. We would like to emphasize the importance of including graphic elements (boxes and graphs) in all sections dealing with figures and the evolution thereof in order to make the information clearer and easier to understand and analyze. We would also like to highlight the utility of promoting online electronic versions in order to maximize cost efficiency.</p>
Qatar	<p>This questionnaire contains, according to the schematic diagram, different kinds of WIPO financial reports, their purposes and many kinds of common sections. Not to mislead in all these reports, one must be clear in drafting them. As for the proposals for putting the information online, as mentioned above, for reducing the costs, it is preferable that it be on the WIPO webpage, in a clear place, and in an appropriate time for the Member States to review. Also, sending emails on the availability of these reports online in all publication languages, not in a limited language, will be highly appreciated.</p>
Trinidad and Tobago	<p>From our point of view, the FMR seems to present a duplication, for the most part, of data already available. What appears to be needed is a more palatable summary of highlights and enhancement, where necessary, in line with requests for additional information. Financial reports may seem very detailed except where they are of interest to the reader. It is, however, the responsibility of those preparing the financial statements to apply the same due diligence across the board and leave it to analysts to mine the extra information. Perhaps the provision of data tables in Excel format could facilitate easier analysis of areas of interest instead of making them specific reporting items.</p>
Turkey	<p>We thank the Secretariat for preparing this questionnaire. We believe that, as in line with the decision adopted in September 2014 PBC, it is a good step towards increasing the efficiency in the works related to the budget and program and ultimately aiming to move to a comprehensive and integrated Biennial Performance Report. We look forward to discussing the issues raised here during the PBC.</p>
Uganda	<p>The reduction in reporting information should not be an avenue of curtailing disclosure. The same information could be provided online for wider accessibility and printing only when required. All in all, the proposals are welcome.</p>

Ukraine	<p>It would be advantageous to extend duration of the PBC sessions, e.g. seven days instead of three. Quite a number of issues proposed for consideration by the Program and Budget Committee are complex and complicated to be discussed within three days.</p> <p>It would be reasonable to make provision for making information on the Program and Budget Committee working documents available for Offices on-line in advance.</p>
United Kingdom	<p>We agree with the general proposal that the FMR should be discontinued with the information split into either the FS or the PPR. However we would like to emphasize that both the FS and PPR reports should be stand alone documents and should not require readers to access information contained in other documents. To this end we do not mind if either document replicated information contained in the other. It is our understanding that the Program and Budget will be published biannually but that the new material in FS and PPR will be updated annually (PPR through progress reports), particularly those documents which we have identified in sections 1 to 8. We support the information provided by our Regional Group coordinator that the following tables should be preserved from the FMR and would support efforts to ensure these tables and related information is not lost in the transition. Table "Key Financial and other Parameters" "(pg. FMR) provides added value because of the biennial comparative information. In this regard, this table could be presented in the 2nd biennial year of the FS. Table 1 "Reserve and Working Capital Funds by Union"(pg. 7 FMR) contains a comprehensive summary of the financial performance in 2012/13 by Unions. Table 2 "Approved Budget and Transfers by Program" and Table 3 "Posts Report by Program" (pgs. 11-12 of the FMR) provide added value because of the information contained about transfers among Programs during the budget cycle. Tables on "Trust funds" (pg. 83 FMR) provides a comprehensive summary of the special accounts per donor." More generally we believe that information contained in the FS and PPR documents is accessible to as wide a range of readers as possible and strongly support efforts by the secretariat to use jargon free summaries supported by easy to understand tables and graphs.</p>
United Republic of Tanzania	<p>The instruments that have been developed including FMR, FS, PPR, are hitherto useful to afford scientific approaches cum measuring yard stick for accounting given biennium planned and activities based budget.</p>

[End of Annex and of document]