

## **Program and Budget Committee**

### **Twenty-Fifth Session**

**Geneva, August 29 to September 2, 2016**

#### **PROPOSAL BY GROUP B ON AGENDA ITEM 17: GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

1. At its twenty-fourth session, the Program and Budget Committee (PBC):

"(i) recognizing the need to address the issue of governance, in accordance with the request of the fifty-fourth Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (see documents WO/PBC/24/17, item 16, and WO/PBC/24/18, item 16);

"(ii) engaged in active discussions on this subject at both its 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> sessions. These resulted in the proposals made during the 23<sup>rd</sup> session, as reflected in Annexes I and II of document WO/PBC/23/9, and in the Chair's document circulated during the 24<sup>th</sup> session (attached as Annex I to the present document (WO/PBC/24/18)). While divergences in the views of delegations remained, delegations expressed willingness to continue discussions on this subject;

"(iii) agreed that discussions continue on the subject of governance at WIPO during the PBC's 25<sup>th</sup> session in light of recommendation 1 of the JIU's Review of Management and Administration in the World Intellectual Property Organization (MAR) (document JIU/REP/2014/2); and

"(iv) agreed that Member States would provide proposals for specific topics for discussion in good time prior to the 25th session, and no later than July 1, 2016, and requested the Secretariat to compile these as part of the documentation for that session."

2. To this end, the Secretariat sent a communication (please refer to C.N. 3677, dated June 7, 2016) to Member States requesting them to submit, not later than July 1, 2016, any proposals they may have on the issues above.

3. The Hellenic Republic of Greece, on behalf of Group B, has submitted the following proposal on Agenda item 17 (Governance issues):

[The proposal by Group B follows]

**PROPOSAL BY GROUP B**  
**AGENDA ITEM 17: GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

Group B does not have any new issue to raise regarding governance. However, we remain concerned with the inefficiency of meetings, and we would welcome any suggestions or proposal from the Secretariat to help improve meeting efficiency. Additionally, we would like to ask the Secretariat to make a presentation on the 2003 constitutional reform to inform and update member States on the implications of this reform as well as to encourage member States to ratify it, in view of its implementation.

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