

QUESTIONNAIRE

ON THE

DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR THE 2010/11 BIENNIUM

GENERAL COMMENTS PROVIDED BY THE NETHERLANDS

General Comments

The Netherlands welcomes that the Program and Budget for the 2010/11 biennium will be prepared on the basis of the same nine strategic goals as approved by Member States under the revised Program and Budget for 2008/09. The Netherlands also appreciates that in parallel a MTSP will be drawn up which may provide WIPO a good framework for executing its core tasks in the field of IPR and related matters, reflecting WIPO's efforts to implement the recommendations of the Desk to Desk review as well. The Netherlands trust that under its new leadership WIPO remains determined to this process that it considers to be of utmost importance for the organisation's future.

A further harmonization of IP law is considered to be of great importance. In this context the Netherlands envisages a realistic approach, taking small steps in areas where progress can be made.

A high level performance by WIPO in its income generating tasks in the field of PCT and the Madrid Union, the settlement of disputes relating to IP and the administration and promoting the various IP related international treaties is considered essential. These activities are the fundament of the organisation and to a large extent provide the means for WIPO's further activities such as the implementation of the development agenda and the activities undertaken to address the relation of IP with global policy issues.

The Netherlands stresses the importance of budgetary discipline and appreciates WIPO's attentiveness on the implications of the financial crisis on the organisations income. It calls upon WIPO to follow its financial situation closely and take the necessary steps for keeping its budget balanced. In looking for means to cut down expenses all possible efficiency measures should be considered.