



**DATE:** February 23, 2009

## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION GENEVA

### QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR THE 2010/11 BIENNIAL

#### I. BACKGROUND

The present questionnaire is being issued pursuant to the mechanism for the preparation and the follow-up of the Program and Budget (see Annex I) and the decision taken by the forty-sixth session of the WIPO Assemblies held in December 2008 (document A/46/12, paragraph 54).

Member States' replies to the questionnaire will be published on the WIPO website in their original language. These replies will assist the Secretariat in the preparation of the draft Program and Budget for the 2010/11 biennium, which will be reviewed by the Program and Budget Committee at its June 2009 session.

#### Strategic Goals

The Program and Budget for the 2010/11 biennium is prepared on the basis of the same nine strategic goals approved by the Member States under the revised Program and Budget for the 2008/09 Biennium (document WO/PBC/13/4 and A/46/12), and in parallel with the Medium-Term Strategic Plan 2010-15 (MTSP). The Strategic Framework, the program structure and the summary of the nine Strategic Goals are attached as Annex II. For reference, the nine Strategic Goals are:

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| Strategic Goal I:    | Balanced Evolution of the International Normative Framework for IP                                 |
| Strategic Goal II:   | Provision of Premier Global IP Services  |
| Strategic Goal III:  | Facilitating the Use of IP for Development   |
| Strategic Goal IV:   | Coordination and Development of Global IP Infrastructure   |
| Strategic Goal V:    | World Reference Source for IP Information and Analysis   |
| Strategic Goal VI:   | International Cooperation on Building Respect for IP   |
| Strategic Goal VII:  | Addressing IP in Relation to Global Policy Issues  |
| Strategic Goal VIII: | A Responsive Communications Interface between WIPO, its Member States and All Stakeholders         |
| Strategic Goal IX:   | An Efficient Administrative and Financial Support Structure to Enable WIPO to Deliver its Programs |

## II. COMMENTS

Please provide, in the right-hand column, your Government's comments on the strategic issues and priorities which you would like to see addressed in the context of the preparation of the next draft Program and Budget of the Organization.

<b>Strategic Goals</b>	<b>Comments</b>
I. Balanced Evolution of the International Normative Framework for IP	The United States strongly supports this strategic goal and the need to continually evolve the international intellectual property framework to keep pace with legal and technological developments. The U.S. urges the International Bureau to devote sufficient resources to the substantive divisions, in particular those dealing with Patents, Trademark and Copyright law, so that they may conduct the necessary studies and prepare excellent working documents. In our view, the harmonization of IP laws, in particular those relating to patent prior art issues, would benefit IP offices both large and small, as well as patent applicants and the public at large.
II. Provision of Premier Global IP Services	As the income-producing business areas of WIPO, it is critical that these services receive adequate resources to efficiently deliver improved services. The United States supports information technology investments so that these services are state-of-the-art and cost-effective for their users. We believe that these services, and the legal instruments under which they operate, should be continually improved.
III. Facilitating the Use of IP for Development	The United States strongly supports WIPO's activities aimed at facilitating the use of IP for development, in particular those which help Member States to establish robust intellectual property regimes that provide adequate and effective protection to creators and innovators. Because Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) are responsible for the bulk of job creation and economic growth, the United States believes that WIPO's SME activities should be strengthened and expanded.
IV. Coordination and Development of Global IP Infrastructure	The United States applauds the International Bureau for bringing together WIPO's strategic IP infrastructure assets under this strategic goal for further development and improvement. IP infrastructure is critical to the good functioning of the IP system and can greatly facilitate use of the system by rights holders, IP offices and the public at large. In addition to patent and trademark infrastructure, the U.S. believes that copyright infrastructure, such as voluntary electronic registers, is also important to rights holders, IP offices and the public at large.
V. World Reference Source for IP Information and Analysis	The United States believes that WIPO is uniquely suited to develop and disseminate unbiased economic studies, statistics and analysis on IP as the UN specialized agency charged with promoting the protection of IP worldwide. In fact, the U.S. has provided extra-budgetary contributions through Funds-In-Trust arrangements to support this important work, and we welcome WIPO expanding its

<b>Strategic Goals</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	efforts under this strategic goal.
VI. International Cooperation on Building Respect for IP	The United States supports WIPO's efforts with regard to international cooperation on building respect for IP, and believes that respect for IP is critical to having IP serve as a tool for economic, social and cultural development. The U.S. supports the activities enumerated under this strategic goal. The U.S. hopes that WIPO Member States can, in addition to sharing experiences and raising awareness, also develop best practices, guidelines and/or joint recommendations that reflect the most effective IP enforcement practices.
VII. Addressing IP in Relation to Global Policy Issues	As the only UN specialized agency charged with promoting the protection of intellectual property worldwide, it is critical that WIPO be positioned at the center of intellectual property discussions that relate to global challenges. The United States supports WIPO's engagement with other UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations to contribute its expertise to discussions involving IP issues in those bodies. The U.S. hopes that WIPO re-establishes itself as the leader on IP issues generally, and on IP issues that relate to global policy issues.
VIII. A Responsive Communications Interface Between WIPO, its Member States and all Stakeholders	The United States welcomes the addition of this new strategic goal and the customer service orientation that it will hopefully deliver to WIPO's Member States and other stakeholders.
IX. An Efficient Administrative and Financial Support Structure to Enable WIPO to Deliver its Programs	The United States strongly supports WIPO's efforts to establish an efficient administrative and financial support structure that is efficient and transparent. The U.S. supported the funding of capital improvements to this support structure from WIPO's reserves, and looks forward to the realization of these important improvements.

### III. GENERAL COMMENTS

Any comments of general nature may be provided in the box below.

<b>General Comments</b>
The United States urges WIPO to closely monitor its income projections and actual income in order to avoid running a deficit.  In the follow-up to the Price Waterhouse Coopers desk-to-desk review, we hope that WIPO will undertake cost-saving measures where appropriate and plan to reduce the number of redundant staff.  As the construction project progresses, we urge WIPO to seek to contain or cut costs where possible and complete the project in a timely manner.

### IV. PROCEDURES FOR REPLY

It would be appreciated if the completed questionnaire could be returned to the International Bureau, preferably by email to <[controller.mail@wipo.int](mailto:controller.mail@wipo.int)>, before Thursday, March 19, 2009. A confirmation copy may be sent by post. The questionnaire is also available in the electronic form on the Organization's Website at <<http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/pb/>>.

#### List of Annexes:

- Annex I    Implementation of the New Mechanism
- Annex II    The Strategic Framework, the program structure and the summary of the nine Strategic Goals

[Annexes follow]