

Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)

Sixteenth Session
Geneva, November 9 to 13, 2015

WIPO AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

prepared by the Secretariat

1. During its fifteenth session, the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), following a proposal by the Delegation of Mexico, requested the Secretariat to provide an analytical document to propose possible courses of action as to how WIPO needs to adapt itself (fit for purpose) in order to support Member States on the attainment of the goals of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
2. The Annex to this document seeks to provide initial information in response to the above request.
3. *The CDIP is invited to consider the information contained in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

I. Introduction

At its 15th session, the CDIP requested the Secretariat to prepare an analytical document which would address ways in which WIPO could support Member States' efforts to achieve the Post-2015 Development Agenda and more specifically the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As the SDG's have just been adopted (September 2015) and the process of identifying and agreeing indicators is ongoing in the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the SDG Indicator Framework (IAEG-SDG), this paper provides a short summary on WIPO's engagement in the Post-2015 Development Agenda process and the ongoing work on the SDG Indicator Framework. Further updates on the subject will be provided to Member States.

II. The Intergovernmental Process on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- *United Nations Summit (September 25 to 27, 2015)*

At the United Nations Summit (September 25 to 27, 2015) the Member States of the United Nations (UN) adopted the Summit Outcome Document:

"Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"

(<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/69/L.85>). Building upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the 2030 Agenda sets the course and establishes a plan for sustainable development for the period up until 2030 and incorporates 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their associated 169 Targets. The 2030 Agenda calls for bold and transformative steps to shift the world to a sustainable and resilient path. In so doing, it seeks to be universal in its application to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and to integrate and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, environmental and social. It calls upon all countries and stakeholders to collaborate and develop partnerships to support its implementation. The Summit was the culmination of a number of political processes which are outlined below and which WIPO has followed closely.

- *Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (March 2013 to July 2014)*

The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG) was established by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012. The Rio+20 Outcome Document titled *"The Future We Want"* was adopted by the UNGA in resolution 66/288 on July 27, 2012. It called for the establishment of an Open Working Group (OWG) that would submit a report to the 68th session of the General Assembly, containing a proposal for SDGs. The Rio+20 outcome document stressed that this work should:

- (i) reflect the importance of remaining firmly committed to the full and timely achievement of the MDGs and of respecting all Rio principles, taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities;
- (ii) ensure that the SDGs are action-oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, and focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development;
- (iii) ensure coordination and coherence with the processes considering the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and to receive initial input to the OWG's work from the UN Secretary-General in consultation with national governments;

- (iv) enable assessment of progress towards the achievement of the goals, accompanied by targets and indicators, while taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and levels of development; and
- (v) acknowledge the importance of global, integrated and scientifically-based information on sustainable development, and of supporting regional economic commissions in collecting and compiling national inputs to inform this global effort.

The OWG met in sessions and in informal consultations between March 2013 and July 2014. The Co-Chairs of the OWG presented a “zero draft” of the goals and targets on June 2, 2014. On July 19, 2014, the OWG at its 13th session adopted by acclamation a report containing 17 proposed SDGs and 169 targets and submitted it to the UNGA for consideration and action at its 68th session. At that session the UNGA adopted resolution 68/309 and in doing so it: acknowledged the conclusion of the work of the OWG; welcomed its report; and decided that the proposal of the OWG should be the main basis for integrating the SDGs into the Post-2015 Development Agenda and at the same time acknowledging that other inputs would be considered.

- *UN Secretary General’s Synthesis Report (January 2015)*

At its 68th session, the UNGA also called on the UN Secretary-General, to synthesize inputs on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in a report as an input to the intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. In January 2015, the UN Secretary-General presented to UN Member States his report: “The Road to Dignity by 2030: Ending Poverty, Transforming All Lives and Protecting the Planet”. The report proposed an integrated set of six essential elements: dignity, people, prosperity, planet, justice, and partnership.

- *Intergovernmental Negotiations (January to August, 2015)*

In January 2015, the UNGA adopted the decision on modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (A/69/L.46). The decision states that:

- (i) the report of the OWG on SDGs would be the main basis for integrating the SDGs into the Post-2015 Development Agenda, while other inputs would also be taken into consideration;
- (ii) “every effort shall be made” to ensure effective coordination between the intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the preparatory process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and other relevant UN intergovernmental processes;
- (iii) the outcome document for adoption at the summit “may include” as main components: a declaration; the SDGs and targets; means of implementation and global partnership for sustainable development; and follow-up and review; and
- (iv) the initial draft of the outcome document shall be prepared by the Co-Facilitators “on the basis of views provided by Member States,” as well as “taking into account substantive discussions in the process of intergovernmental negotiations,” and issued by May 2015.

The first intergovernmental negotiating session took place from January 19 to 21, 2015 and took the form of a “stocktaking” of governments’ views on the agenda. In total eight sessions were held culminating with agreement on Sunday, August 11, 2015, on the Outcome Document for adoption at the UN Summit.

- *Interagency and Expert Group on the SDG Indicator Framework (IAEG-SDG)*

At its 46th session (March 6, 2015), the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) created an Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), composed of Member States and including regional and international agencies as observers. The purpose of the IAEG-SDGs is to develop a proposal for a global indicator framework for consideration by the UNSC at its forty-seventh session in March 2016. It is also intended that the IAEG-SDG would support Member States in the implementation of the framework. It is anticipated that the framework will be agreed by the UNSC in March 2016 and approved by ECOSOC later in 2016. The IAEG-SDG held its first meeting in June 2015. Its second meeting is scheduled for October 2015.

- *Technology Facilitation Mechanism*

The Summit Outcome Document: *“Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”* launches a Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM). The TFM was established by the Outcome Document of the Third International Financing for Development Conference: the “Addis Ababa Action Agenda”. Its purpose is to support the achievement of the SDGs based on a multi-stakeholder collaboration between Member States, civil society, private sector, scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders. It is composed of: a United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, a collaborative Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs and an on-line platform. The UN Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the SDGs will promote coordination, coherence, and cooperation within the UN System on STI related matters with the aim of enhancing synergy and efficiency, in particular to enhance capacity-building initiatives. The Task Team is open to the participation of all UN agencies, funds and programmes, and ECOSOC functional commissions. It is initially composed by the entities that were part of the informal working group on technology facilitation that contributed to the development of the TFM: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), WIPO and the World Bank.

- *Reporting on Progress in Achieving the SDGs*

Member States have committed to engaging in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of this Agenda over the next 15 years. This will take the form of a *“robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated follow-up and review framework”* to help countries progress in implementing the Agenda. Operating at the national, regional and global levels, it will promote accountability, support effective international cooperation and foster exchanges of best practices and mutual learning.

The Goals and targets will be followed up and reviewed using a set of global indicators. These will be complemented by indicators at the regional and national levels which will be developed by Member States. The global indicator framework, to be developed by the IAEG-SDG, will be agreed by the UN Statistical Commission by March 2016 and adopted thereafter by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in line with existing mandates. This framework is intended to be simple yet robust, address all Sustainable Development Goals and targets including means of implementation, and preserve the political balance, integration and ambition.

At the global level, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) will have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes. This will be informed by an annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals to be prepared by the UN Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system, based on the global indicator framework and data produced by national statistical systems and information collected at the regional level. The HLPF will also be informed by the Global Sustainable Development Report. Every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly, the HLPF will provide high-level political guidance on the Agenda and its implementation, identify progress and emerging challenges and mobilize further actions to accelerate implementation. The next HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly will be held in 2019. The Summit Outcome Document requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to prepare a report, for consideration at the seventieth session of the General Assembly in preparation for the 2016 meeting of the HLPF outlining critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level.

III. WIPO's Engagement in the development and implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- *WIPO's participation in the Post-2015 Development Agenda process*

As a specialized agency of the UN, WIPO participates as an UN observer organization at all major UN processes, including those processes outlined in Section II of this paper. The role of the WIPO Secretariat is:

- (i) to monitor the negotiations and discussions in these processes as they relate to WIPO's mandate;
- (ii) to ensure WIPO senior management are aware of these developments and the extent to which they may impact upon WIPO's work;
- (iii) to participate in UN inter-agency initiatives aimed at supporting Member States in these processes, with a specific focus on where WIPO's mandate may be of relevance;
- (iv) to respond to requests from Member States, or UN Secretariat, by providing factual information on the role of the intellectual property system in relation to these broader policy areas; and
- (v) to raise awareness of the various WIPO programmes, projects and initiatives which may support Member States in achieving sustainable development.

The WIPO Secretariat participated as an UN observer organization at the OWG and at the intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, as well as at other related processes e.g. the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and its preparatory process, the Informal Interagency Group on the Technology Transfer Facilitation Mechanism. The Secretariat has also contributed to inter-agency work on these issues within the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) as well as in the work of the UN Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (UNTT), and the UN Technical Support Team (TST) to the OWG.

- *WIPO's support to Member States in implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda*

Agenda 2030 sets an ambitious and universal course for sustainable development and puts in place 17 SDGs and 169 targets. Technology, innovation and creativity are key elements which cut across and can contribute to the achievement of many of the SDGs. WIPO's mandate to lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual

property system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all, can play an important role in supporting Member States' efforts to achieve the SDGs. WIPO's work with its Member States to develop national IP and innovation strategies which are anchored in and tailored to national development needs, presents the greatest chance of success. In the proposed Program and Budget 2016/17, Program 9 sets out the clear intent of the Secretariat to support countries in this regard and elaborates on how that assistance will be provided.

Ensuring that this support is focused and effective requires a clear identification of those SDGs and targets which are of greatest relevance to the work of WIPO. The box below includes two goals (SDGs 9 and 17) that could be linked to the mandate and strategic objectives of WIPO.

SDG 9 (Targets 9.4, 9.5, 9.a and 9.b): "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation". The references in these targets are to adoption of clean environmentally sound technologies and more broadly to support technology development and innovation. Given WIPO's mandate, our work supports Member States in fostering innovation and is therefore relevant to all of these targets. The Global Innovation Index provides a valuable resource for policy makers to measure the performance of their national innovation systems for evidence based policy making.

SDG 17 (Targets 17.6, 17.7 and 17.8): "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development". The targets relate to technology and are relevant to a number of areas of WIPO's work to support Member States in using the IP system to support technology development, use of the IP systems and sharing of technological knowledge.

The following box includes others goals (SDGs 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 12 and 13) with relevance to WIPO's programs and activities, for which WIPO will partner or report as and when requested with others UN agencies and stakeholders in charge of their implementation.

SDG 2 (Target 2.a): "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture". The reference in the target is to investment in technology development to enhance agricultural productivity. WIPO provides support to its Member States in using the IP system to support technology development. The Development Agenda project on the use of appropriate technology-specific technical and scientific information as a solution for identified development challenges is an example of such support.

SDG 3 (Targets 3.3 and 3.b): "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages". Target 3.3 refers to ending "epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases...". WIPO Re:Search supports achievement of this target. Target 3.b makes reference to the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement. WIPO's work with the WTO and as part of the WIPO-WTO-WHO trilateral supports efforts related to this target.

SDG 4 (Target 4.a): "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all". The target includes the provision of inclusive education facilities with specific reference to the disabled. The Accessible Books Consortium (ABC Consortium) supports achievement of this target as it aims to increase the number of books worldwide in accessible formats - such as braille, audio and large print - and to make them available to people who are blind, have low vision or are otherwise print disabled.

SDG 7 (Targets 7.a and 7.b): "Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all". The references in these targets are to access to and upgrading of technologies. WIPO GREEN is one of WIPO's activities which support Member States in relation to this target.

SDG 8 (Target 8.2 and 8.3): "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all". Target 8.2 refers to "technological upgrading" which relates to a number of WIPO support activities. Target 8.3 makes specific reference to creativity and innovation, which is explicit in WIPO's mission statement.

SDG 12 (Target 12.a): "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns". Target 12.a refers to strengthening "technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production." A number of WIPO activities support Member States in increasing their technological capacity.

SDG 13 (Target 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3): "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts". The work of WIPO GREEN supports implementation of all three targets under this goal.

It is important to state that while WIPO's support to Member States may help achievement of these SDGs, that support is only one element of the broader aspects of the SDGs identified in the box above. Agenda 2030 stresses the importance of relevant, quality and timely data to support measurement of progress and reporting based on an appropriate SDG indicator. In this respect, to enable more meaningful reporting by WIPO on the impact of the support it provides to Member States, it will be important to limit this to those SDGs and targets which have indicators of direct relevance to WIPO and where appropriate data is available.

As described in Section II above, the SDG Indicator Framework has not yet been completed and it is therefore too early to say how the final product of this Member State process will look like. WIPO's participation in the IAEG-SDG as an UN observer has been to support the Group in terms of the indicators which may be of relevance to WIPO's work. The focus of attention in this respect has been mainly in relation to the Section of SDG 17 (Means of Implementation) dealing with technology and on SDG 9 which includes innovation. Our engagement in this work has been to promote those WIPO statistical products which may make a useful contribution to this work, such as the World Intellectual Property Indicators Report and the Global Innovation Index.

[End of Annex and of document]