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**PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION FOR
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THE WIPO WORLDWIDE ACADEMY: PROGRESS REPORT

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Now in its fifth year of existence, the WIPO Worldwide Academy (hereinafter referred to as the Academy) is continuing in its objective to serve as a leading educational institution for human resource development by providing teaching, training, and research services in intellectual property. The Academy's programs are carried out both at the headquarters of WIPO in Geneva, and in different parts of the world, fulfilling its mandate of being truly worldwide. The Academy has extended its cooperation with academic institutions and intellectual property offices to further the accomplishment of its role as an institution of excellence.
2. With the increasing importance of intellectual property in everyday life, the Academy has expanded the scope of its development training programs to include not only courses and seminars on the legislative and administrative aspects of intellectual property but also topical subjects such as intellectual property and its links with access to genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, IP and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), enforcement of intellectual property rights, electronic commerce, etc.
3. The programs of the Academy comprise the following categories described briefly below:

The *Professional Training Program* offers intermediate and advanced training courses for managers and technical staff of intellectual property offices and other professional users of the system. These courses are directed not only at persons working in intellectual property offices, but also at those involved with research work in universities and Research and Development institutions, as well as chambers of commerce and industry. These training courses are offered by the Academy jointly with more than 25 cooperating States and institutions.

Under the *Policy Development Program*, the Academy organizes sessions for decision-makers, policy advisors, development managers, diplomats and other target groups, to promote policy debate and a deeper understanding of the practical implications of the intellectual property system. These sessions are also designed to provide a forum for sharing information and exchanging views on the experience of other developing countries and countries in transition in using the intellectual property system as a tool for development. Two types of sessions are conducted: (a) General Academy sessions, which cover a broad range of topics on the protection, administration and enforcement of intellectual property rights, where the experience of developing countries and countries in transition is given particular emphasis; and (b) Special Academy sessions, for specific target groups, which deal intensively with specialized issues, such as the enforcement of intellectual property rights, the implications of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and promoting the teaching and training of intellectual property.

The *Distance Learning Program* is a cost-effective complement to traditional training, with the advantages of flexibility of time and space, and the capacity to reach the unreached. These courses are delivered via the Internet, using a format that allows for online registration, student-teacher interaction, student tests, course-monitoring and evaluation systems. The first introductory course on intellectual property launched

in 1999 has now been expanded and upgraded to become a general course on intellectual property and is a prerequisite for participation in the interregional intermediate seminars for IP professionals.

The *Library*, which specializes in intellectual property materials, is designed to support the research and information needs of WIPO staff, students of the Academy and external researchers. The library is an excellent source of information on intellectual property. Its features include an online, automated public access catalogue, reading room for reference study, access to laws and treaties, Lexis-Nexis and a cybercenter which houses a CD-ROM terminal and several workstations. The Library also publishes specialized bibliographies on intellectual property topics.

Various *Specialized Programs* are administered by the Academy, in particular in its program of cooperation with universities. The development of curricula for the teaching of intellectual property in universities and the award of long-term fellowships are intended to stimulate scholarship and research in intellectual property. The publication of various teaching materials is also an activity carried out by the Academy in direct response to widespread demands from universities and other academic institutions. The Academy has also entered into programs of cooperation with universities for joint award of degrees, diploma or certificates. The Academy supports a variety of other activities related to academia through sponsorship of participants or in cooperation with other sectors of WIPO. The Academy also organizes a Summer School, which is open to senior students and young professionals from all regions of the world. Based on the success of its sessions, the program has been expanded both in terms of its content as well as student intake.

II. PERFORMANCE

Professional Training Program

4. During the period from January 2001 to June 2002, the Academy continued to carry out its activities through its professional training programs. Specialized and advanced courses were offered in patent information, search and examination; trademarks; collective management of copyright and related rights, etc. With a view to providing a sharper focus and meeting the demand for more specialized training, during this period the Academy organized about 40 interregional training courses and seminars for some 478 participants.

5. At the intermediate and advanced levels, regular training activities were organized as follows:

(i) Two seminars on industrial property for officials from national and regional intellectual property offices in charge of industrial property, followed by practical training in cooperation with national or regional partner institutions. Of the 140 nationals who participated in the two seminars, the European Patent Office (EPO) in The Hague and Vienna organized practical training for 49 participants, the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Cairo for six participants, the Moroccan Industrial Property Office, Casablanca for seven participants, the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI), Lisbon for seven participants, the Austrian Patent Office, Vienna for 14 participants, the German Patent and Trademark Office, Munich for 13 participants, the Spanish Patent and Trademark

Office (OEPM), Madrid for eight participants, the Benelux Trademark Office, The Hague for 10 participants, the National Institute for Industrial Property (INPI), Paris for six participants, the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic, Prague for three participants, the *Centre d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle* (CEIPI), Strasbourg for 13 participants, the Israel Patent Office, Jerusalem for two participants and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IFPI), Bern for two participants.

(ii) One seminar on copyright and related rights for officials in charge of copyright administration, followed by practical training at copyright offices or various authors' societies and institutions involved in the collective management of copyright. Of the 52 nationals who participated in the seminar, practical training was organized for six participants at the Joint Copyright Association (KOPIOSTO), Helsinki, for nine participants at the Ministry of Culture and Francophone Affairs, Paris, for 12 participants at the British Copyright Council, London, for two participants at the Directorate General of Entertainment, Entertainment and Copyright Department, Lisbon, for 15 participants at the General Authors' and Publishers' Society of Spain, Madrid and for eight participants at the Swiss Society for Authors of Musical Works, Zurich.

(iii) Five interregional specialized training courses were organized in cooperation with the EPO, on streamlining patent search and examination procedures, coordinated patent examination procedures and administrative issues in patent and trademark procedures for 80 patent examiners and technical staff of industrial property offices.

(iv) Two interregional advanced courses were organized in cooperation with the *Centred'études internationales de la propriété industrielle* (CEIPI) attended by 32 representatives of national and regional intellectual property offices and ministries in charge of intellectual property matters.

(v) One advanced course was organized in cooperation with the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM) for 16 participants on the legal, administrative and economic aspects of industrial property.

(vi) The OEPM and the EPO cooperated with WIPO in the organization of a seminar on coordinated patent examination procedures for 15 participants.

(vii) The Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), Alicante and the EPO cooperated with WIPO in the organization of a seminar on administrative issues in patent and trademark procedures for 19 participants.

(viii) One interregional course on the legal and administrative aspects of trademarks, organized in cooperation with the Benelux Trademark Office (BBM) for 10 officials in charge of trademark and industrial designs in intellectual property offices.

(ix) Two training courses were organized in cooperation with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), on clients service and quality management in the delivery of patent services, attended by a total of 22 participants.

(x) Two advanced courses on administrative issues in patent and trademark procedures for over 38 managers and administrators of industrial property offices was organized in cooperation with the Norwegian Patent Office in Oslo.

(xi) A training course on copyright and related rights was held in Stockholm for 19 participants in cooperation with the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (SPRO).

(xii) A training course on copyright and related rights was held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, for 35 participants from the Latin American region in cooperation with the General Authors' Society of Spain (SGAE).

Policy Development Program

6. In the period from January 2001 to June 2002, the Academy continued to organize General and Special Academy sessions. A total of 12 sessions and symposia were organized with the participation of 277 officials from all regions of the developing world and countries in transition to a market economy.

(i) Two General Academy sessions on intellectual property and development were held in Khartoum in English and Arabic and in Singapore in English. Another two sessions were held in Geneva for officials from Africa. A total of 67 participants were invited to these sessions.

(ii) The Academy continued its cooperation with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in training of enforcement officials, especially judges, prosecutors, police and customs officers. Two special academy sessions on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights were jointly held in Arlington in 2001 and again in 2002.

(iii) One Special Academy session was organized in cooperation with the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of China in Beijing and Shanghai in 2001. At these sessions, special emphasis was given to the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement on border measures and customs procedures, with a view to enhancing the ability of these officials to deal effectively with piracy and counterfeiting. Forty-three participants from developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy benefited from the sessions in the United States and China.

(iv) Special Academy sessions were also organized in 2001 and 2002 in Geneva for Ambassadors from developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy. These sessions were highly appreciated by the 28 ambassadors who encouraged the Academy to organize more of such sessions in the future.

(v) In the context of training of judges, the second part of an academy session, organized in France in cooperation with the *Institut national de la propriété industrielle* (INPI), France and the *Ecole nationale de la magistrature* (ENM), France, was held in Geneva and Paris in 2001 on Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for Judges of Continental Law Jurisdiction from Developing Countries. The 20 selected participants had already participated in the first part of this session in Paris in 2000.

(vi) An International Conference on Intellectual Property Education and Training was organized in cooperation with the Government of India and the Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi to which 16 persons were invited. Its objective was to promote teaching, training and research in intellectual property through the exchange of information

and experience among university professors and government officials in charge of training activities from different regions of the world.

(vii) Following the success of the International Symposium on the Effects of Technology on Copyright and Related Rights in cooperation with the United States Copyright Office in 2000, a further Symposium was co-organized in 2001 to provide 14 senior government officials with updated information on the effects of new technologies on the creation, dissemination, exploitation and administration of literary, musical, artistic and audiovisual works. Special emphasis was given to the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT), the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) and the US Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

(viii) Further emphasis was placed on the training of persons engaged in the teaching of intellectual property law in universities. In this connection, the Academy organized a Seminar on IP for Universities in cooperation with the University of Vale do Rio Sinos (UNISINOS), Brazil. Twenty-nine university professors and students specializing in intellectual property attended the program.

(ix) A third intensive Post-graduate Course on Copyright Law was organized with the University of Los Andes, Merida, Venezuela, and the Inter-American Institute of Copyright (IIDA) and with the assistance of the Central American Book Center (CERLALC). Ten university professors teaching copyright law in Latin American countries attended the program under the sponsorship of WIPO.

(x) Study visits to WIPO in Geneva were organized for ten students from the master program at the University of Lund under the long-term fellowship program and for 40 students from the *Université de Paris X*.

Distance Learning Program

7. Three sessions of the Distance Learning DL -101 "Introduction to Intellectual Property" course were organized in 2001, in three languages, with a total number of 3,456 registrations (2,371 in English, 315 in French and 770 in Spanish). A pilot course of DL -101 was organized in 2001 in Chinese with 50 selected participants.

8. In 2002, an upgraded version of the introductory course was launched which included three new modules and was renamed "General Course on Intellectual Property -DL -101." From January to June 2002, a total of 3,171 participants were registered for this course (1,914 in English, 292 in French, 558 in Spanish and 373 in Chinese). Thirty-four staff members also completed the course.

9. Therefore, for the period from January 2001 to June 2002, a total number of 6,627 persons registered for the distance learning courses.

10. To complement the online version of the upgraded DL -101 course, a new CD-ROM version of the course was produced to ensure access to the course by larger numbers of beneficiaries, especially in countries with inadequate Internet connectivity.

11. In addition to the upgrading of the introductory course, special emphasis was placed on the development of DL -101 into three further language versions, Arabic, Portuguese and Russian. It is expected to launch these versions in the autumn of 2002. The development of advanced courses is being pursued on the following topics: Copyright and Related Rights; Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge; Intellectual Property and Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property and Biotechnology. These courses should be available online at the beginning of 2003.

Library

12. The Library continued with its core services and provided reference and research assistance to some 2,000 visitors. A "Table of Contents (TOCs)" of IP journals is now distributed by e-mail to WIPO staff members on a monthly basis. The Library contains approximately 35,000 monographs and over 300 periodicals, and since January 2001, 500 new books, journals and CD ROMs were purchased. The Library continued to catalogue items acquired and posted the list on the Internet and Intranet. In-house requests for inter-library loans and document delivery were fulfilled.

13. The Library renewed its efforts on developing its electronic resources. Its website was updated to include new links to various online catalogues, dictionaries, journals, documents, reports, etc. The Library further subscribed to six online information products via the *United Nations System Electronic Information Acquisition Consortium (UNSEIAC)*. (These included subscription to the Economist Intelligence Unit databases, the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Encyclopaedia Universalis, the Oxford English Dictionary, ProQuest Direct, and the Yearbook of International Organizations.) The Library negotiated a new contract with LexisNexis, a major legal database.

Specialized programs

(a) Post-graduate Specialization Course for University Professors

14. In 2001, the Academy organized a second Post-graduate Specialization Course on Intellectual Property, in cooperation with the University of Turin, and with the assistance of the Government of Italy and the International Training Center of the International Labor Office (ILO) in Turin, Italy. The main objective of the course is to develop and strengthen the capacity of institutions and universities in developing countries in their teaching of intellectual property. The course is also intended to serve as an intermediate option between WIPO short-term training courses (one to four weeks) and the long-term fellowship programs (nine to 12 months). The course was attended by 42 students, of which 18 from developing countries were sponsored by WIPO.

(b) Long-term Fellowship Program

15. The Long-term Fellowship Program has enabled professional staff to pursue a postgraduate degree in intellectual property in various universities and research institutes. In order to maximize the impact of such long-term fellowships, the program focuses more on the training of trainers, with the objective of investing in human resources in teaching positions at the university level. In 2001, 14 fellowships were awarded in five universities: Franklin Pierce Law Center, United States of America; University of Alicante, Spain; University of Cairo, Egypt; University of Buenos Aires, Argentina and the University of Lund, Sweden.

(c) Master Program on Human Rights and IP

16. The Academy continued with its joint venture Master Program on Human Rights and Intellectual Property in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and the University of Lund, Sweden. Four of the students following the course were from developing countries and were financed by WIPO. After graduation they are expected to teach intellectual property and human rights in their countries.

(d) Summer School

17. In 2001, a Summer School on Intellectual Property was held to which 33 students were admitted from several developing and developed countries. The students appreciated the opportunity to acquire or increase their knowledge on intellectual property rights, which would serve them in their future careers in all spheres of activity. Another session of the Summer School started on July 1, 2002.

ATRIP

18. The Academy has been supporting the activities of the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP), mainly by providing financial aid to enable the participation of its members and professors from developing countries at its annual congress. ATRIP, founded in 1981 is aimed at promoting teaching and research in the field of intellectual property. Its members meet once a year to discuss recent developments in the field of intellectual property. In 2001, 16 participants from developing countries and countries with the economies in transition were sponsored by WIPO to participate in the congress in Lausanne. Two Academy officials also participated in the congress.

Advisory Board

19. In 2002, the second meeting of the Academy Advisory Board was held. The members reviewed the performance of the Academy in the past two years and made suggestions for the future.

International Essay Competition

20. As part of the activities of World Intellectual Property Day on April 26, an International Essay Competition was organized under the auspices of the Academy. The results were declared on World Intellectual Property Day in 2002. A total of 140 entries were received and prizes were awarded for six essays by language: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Publications

21. The Academy continued with its program to produce a series of information brochures, catalogues and leaflets on its programs. Three issues of the magazine, *WIPO Worldwide Academy Review*, were published in the period under review.

Cooperation Agreements

22. In order to strengthen the links between the Academy and the member states and to facilitate human resources development on a national level, the Academy has entered into Framework Agreements of Cooperation with government agencies, intellectual property offices, universities and other institutions. In this connection, three new agreements have been entered into since the beginning of 2001 with authorities in the Russian Federation, Romania and the Ukraine. Another agreement has been finalized with India and is expected to be formally concluded in September 2002. As a result of a collaboration agreement signed earlier, a Chinese version of the distance learning general course on intellectual property has gone online and the Russian version of the same course is in preparation and will be launched before the end of 2002. The agreement with governmental and academic authorities in Romania and Ukraine will lead to targeted assistance in the development of their intellectual property system.

Aggregates

23. The total number of participants for the programs organized by the Academy from January 2001 to June 2002 was 7,413. This represents an increase of about 120 percent over the previous two -year reporting period 1999/2000. Several hundred other persons also benefited from courses and programs organized by the Academy or at which Academy resource persons were provided. This includes programs in China, Cuba, India, Italy, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Venezuela.

24. The Permanent Committee is invited to comment on, and note, the information contained in this document.

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