

WIPO



SCIT/6/3

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

PLENARY

Sixth Session

Geneva, January 22 to 26, 2001

WIPONET PROJECT

Document prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. The Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) at its fifth Plenary session, held from July 10 to 14, 2000, noted the progress report on the implementation of the WIPONET Project, in particular, on the development of a deployment strategy intended to pave the way for Project implementation within the existing financial means. This document is intended to provide an update on the status of the Project since the fifth Plenary session.

PROGRESS SINCE THE FIFTH SCIT PLENARY MEETING

2. In concluding the bid evaluation process, the Secretariat selected a consortium formed by two leading international companies and entered into negotiations with them in July 2000. Following detailed negotiations, held between August and October, to elaborate the technical details, service level agreements and costs to be included in the contract, a decision was taken, with the mutual consent of all parties, to split the consortium. This enabled WIPO to divide discussions with the aim of concluding separate contracts (one with each of the two companies) for the deployment of equipment and the provision of interconnectivity, and the

implementation of the WIPONET Center in Geneva and staff training for intellectual property Offices (IPOs), respectively.

3. The costs indicated by the two companies, covering the completion of deployment of the network by the end of 2002, the associated recurring costs for the 156 IPOs to be connected and staff costs, are within the budget forecasts for both the 2000-2001 and the 2002-2003 biennia.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

4. Implementation of the services, such as secure e-mail and web-hosting, that will be available from the WIPONET Center will take approximately nine months following contract signature. Once in production they will be available to all IPOs that are connected to the Internet.

5. In parallel to the development and implementation of the WIPONET Center, plans have been prepared to start the deployment of the WIPONET Kit (computer hardware and connectivity) to the 65 IPOs to be covered under Phase I (see Annex I). IPO connectivity will start with five sites, in early 2001, and which will be used as a test-bed to verify deployment procedures. Further deployment to the remaining 60 IPOs will be done in batches beginning in May 2001.

6. As part of the installation procedure, each IPO will be asked to nominate a focal point who will act as the main liaison with WIPO on issues of WIPONET deployment and operation. Although the training strategy is still under review, it is envisaged that the nominated focal points will receive more extensive training than other users as a result of a 'train the trainer' approach. It is likely that this training will be provided through regional training workshops.

NEXT STEPS

7. The Secretariat will soon inform Member States listed under Phase I of the deployment requesting the nomination of the IPO where the WIPONET installation will be made. It should be noted that some Member States have more than one IPO, and it will be left to each Member State to make the appropriate selection. Once the Office is nominated, the Secretariat will liaise directly with the Office concerned in order to complete the deployment.

8. A further update on the contract negotiations and network deployment will be made to the SCIT at its meeting on January 22, 2001.

9. *The SCIT Plenary is invited to note the information provided in this document.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

LIST OF WIPO MEMBER STATES WITH NO INTERNET ACCESS FROM ANY IPO*

1. Albania
2. Angola
3. Antigua and Barbuda
4. Azerbaijan
5. Bahamas
6. Bangladesh
7. Belize
8. Benin
9. Bolivia
10. Brunei Darussalam
11. Burundi
12. Cambodia
13. Cape Verde
14. Central African Republic
15. Chad
16. Congo
17. Côte d'Ivoire
18. Cyprus
19. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
20. Democratic Republic of the Congo
21. Dominica
22. Equatorial Guinea
23. Eritrea
24. Fiji
25. Gabon
26. Gambia
27. Grenada
28. Guinea
29. Guinea-Bissau
30. Guyana
31. Haiti
32. Honduras
33. Iraq
34. Kazakhstan
35. Kuwait
36. Lao People's Democratic Republic
37. Lebanon
38. Liberia
39. Madagascar
40. Malawi
41. Mali
42. Mauritania
43. Mozambique
44. Nepal
45. Niger
46. Nigeria
47. Pakistan
48. Rwanda
49. Saint Kitts and Nevis
50. Saint Lucia
51. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
52. Samoa
53. San Marino
54. Sao Tome and Principe
55. Senegal
56. Sierra Leone
57. Somalia
58. Sri Lanka
59. Suriname
60. Swaziland
61. Tajikistan
62. Togo
63. Uganda
64. Yemen
65. Zimbabwe

* This is a provisional list based on information available to the Secretariat at the time of preparation of the document SCIT/6/3, and is liable to change.

[End of Annex and of document]