

# WIPO



SCIT/7/9  
ORIGINAL:English  
DATE:April26,2002

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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

## **STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES**

### **PLENARY Seventh Session Geneva, June 10 to 14, 2002**

#### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS WORKING GROUP WORKPLAN**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. At its last session, held in January 2001, the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) had divided the tasks within the SCIT Work Program between its two working groups on Standards and Documentation and Information Technology Projects. The Working Groups were instructed to review the individual tasks, taking into account the suggestions made during the SCIT Plenary meeting and to relay the outcome of their respective discussions to the next session of the SCIT in December 2001.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE WORKPLAN**

2. The Information Technology Projects Working Group (ITPWG) at its first session, held in September 2001, considered the Work Plan tasks that had been assigned to it by the SCIT Plenary (see document SCIT/ITPWG/1/2).

3. With regard to the majority of tasks the ITPWG (see document SCIT/ITPWG/1/13):

“decided to delete Task Nos. 1, 9, 12, 14 (first part), 16 and 27 from its Work Program, on the understanding that the monitoring and advisory role of the Working Group, in respect of these activities, would be maintained through the process of progress reporting to the ITPWG. Also, that proposals for new activities could be considered under the SCIT process for task initiation.”

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE AUTOMATION

4. With the deletion of the tasks listed in paragraph 3, above, three tasks remain on the ITPWG Work Program, all of which relate to the subject of intellectual property Office automation. During the Working Group meeting the Secretariat reported that responsibility for this matter now fell under the mandate of the Intellectual Property Office Automation Division, which had been created by the Director General in April 2001. The mandate of the Division is three-fold; the development of a policy framework; the coordination of all automation-related activities that WIPO carries out in its Member States; and the provision of technical guidance in the modernization of intellectual property Offices. The Division was presented in the Draft Program and Budget for the 2002 -2003 biennium under Main Program 12, Cooperation with Developing Countries, and would work closely with this Sector.

5. The ITPWG recognized that the establishment of the IP Office Automation Division under the aegis of the Cooperation for Development Sector meant that the responsibility for tasks Nos. 2, 5 and part of 14, no longer lay with the Information Technology Program.

6. In consideration of the fact that the tasks mentioned in paragraph 5, above, are carried out by the IP Office Automation Division and its work is closely aligned with the Cooperation for Development Sector, whose activities are reported to the Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development related to Intellectual Property (PCIPD), it is recommended that these remaining three tasks be removed from the Task list of the ITPWG.

7. Should the SCIT Plenary approve the recommendations in paragraph 5, above, the ITPWG will no longer have any tasks on its Work Program. Taking this fact into account and mindful of the monitoring function of the Working Group and its emphasis on electronic working methods, no physical meeting of the ITPWG has been scheduled at this time. Should the SCIT Plenary decide at a future date to reinstate the Work Plan through the allocation of new tasks to the ITPWG, a decision will be taken on the convening of a meeting based on the Working Methods of SCIT.

8. *The SCIT Plenary is invited to:*

(a) *comment on the information contained in this document; and*

(b) *approve the recommendations contained in paragraph 6 of this document.*

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