

WIPO



SCIT/SDWG/7/9

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES
STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Seventh Session
Geneva, May 29 to June 1, 2006

REPORT

adopted by the Working Group

INTRODUCTION

1. The Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) held its seventh session from May 29 to June 1, 2006.
2. The following Member States of WIPO and/or the Paris Union were represented at the session: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States of America (39).
3. Representatives of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the European Patent Office (EPO), the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) and the European Community (EC) (4) took part in the session in a member capacity.
4. Representatives of the Patent Documentation Group (PDG) took part in the session in an observer capacity.

5. The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Session

6. The session was opened by Mr. Francis Gurry, Deputy Director General, who welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director General.

Agenda Item 2: Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

7. In recognizing the mandate of elected officials to officiate at two sessions of the SDWG, the Working Group unanimously elected Mr. Marc Krier (EPO) as Chair and Mrs. Valeria Maximova (Russian Federation) and Mrs. Karen Ryan (Ireland) as Vice-Chairs.
8. Mr. Neil Wilson, Director and Chief Information Officer, acted as Secretary of the session.

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of the Agenda

9. The Secretariat pointed out that "Task No. 37" referred to in item 7 of the draft agenda should read "Task No. 24".
10. The Secretariat proposed the addition of a new agenda item No. 10(e). The new agenda item No. 10(e) would read:

"Publication of PCT international applications in multiple languages
Oral report by the International Bureau."

11. The revised agenda was unanimously adopted by the SDWG and appears as Annex II to this report.

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

12. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings held from September 24 to October 2, 1979 (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), the report of this session reflects only the conclusions of the SDWG (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participant, except where a reservation in relation to any specific conclusion of the SDWG was expressed or repeated after the conclusion was reached.
13. The presentations given to the SDWG and for which an electronic file is available can be found on the area of WIPO's website along with the working documents of this session of the SDWG (http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=10266).

Agenda Item 4(a): Revision of WIPO Standard ST.10/C (Task No. 30)

Report by the ST.10/C Task Force: Draft proposal on an application number format

14. Discussions were based on document SCIT/SDWG/7/2.

15. The Task Leader gave an oral report concerning the work done by the ST.10/C Task Force. He referred to Appendix 1 of the Annex to SCIT/SDWG/7/2, paragraph 7, about the proposal on the application number prototype format, which contained groups of items to be agreed first and other items that required further discussion. The SDWG reviewed and commented on the contents of the said paragraph 7 and the outcome of this review is presented in Annex III.

16. The SDWG approved the proposal concerning Step 2 and Step 3 referred to in paragraph 15 of the Annex to document SCIT/SDWG/7/2.

Agenda Item 4(b): Revision of WIPO Standard ST.10/C (Task No. 30)

Survey on the implementation of paragraph 12(a) of WIPO Standard ST.10/C

17. Discussions were based on document SCIT/SDWG/7/3.

18. The Secretariat presented the results of the 33 replies to the survey concerning the implementation of paragraph 12 (a) of WIPO Standard ST.10/C, as described in document SCIT/SDWG/7/3.

19. Following a discussion, the SDWG agreed that the survey remained available and IPOs should be encouraged to provide updates whenever possible and that once the survey has been completed, the results be published in the WIPO *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* for reference. The SDWG also agreed that the Secretariat would send out a reminder to countries that had not replied to Circular SCIT 2619 to complete the survey and, when applicable, to invite industrial property offices (IPOs) to provide updated information regarding the survey, including updated copies of filing notifications and priority certificates of patent documents.

20. The Secretariat was requested to amend the information concerning Mexico in paragraph 9 of the Annex of document SCIT/SDWG/7/3 to read “MX in January 2007”, and to replace the incomplete example for Slovakia in Appendix 3 with the completed one.

Agenda Item 5: Report of the Correction Procedures Task Force: Summary, survey results and conclusions concerning the Questionnaire on Correction Procedures in Patent Offices (Task No. 35)

21. The Task Force Leader presented document SCIT/SDWG/7/4 including Appendices 1 and 2 thereof.

22. The Secretariat was requested to add the following kind-of-document codes for corrected patent documents:

“A8 patent application, republication of the first page

A9 patent application, republication of the complete document”

for Austria, under Question 3 of Appendix 2 of the Annex to SCIT/SDWG/7/4.

23. The SDWG approved the conclusions referred to in paragraphs 16 to 18 of Appendix 1 of the Annex to document SCIT/SDWG/7/4.

24. The SDWG approved the proposals given in paragraph 4 of the Annex to document SCIT/SDWG/7/4 as follows:

“(a) WIPO Standard ST.50 meets the needs of offices. No changes are recommended at this time;

(b) The consolidated results of the questionnaire on the status of implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 should be published in the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation*;

(c) A further review of WIPO Standard ST.50 should take place in three years. That review should take into account possible changes to WIPO Standard ST.50 to reflect offices’ experience with online internet publication.”

Agenda Item 6: Oral progress report by the Task Leader of the P-Docs Task Force (Task No. 15)

25. The Task Force Leader informed the SDWG that a proposal with respect to priority document exchange was being prepared by the Secretariat and should be presented to the September Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO meetings. Task Force members would be informed as soon as the proposal was finalized.

Agenda Item 7: Oral progress report by the Task Leader of the Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) Task Force (Task No. 24)

26. The Task Leader gave an oral report to the Working Group and indicated that the work would be undertaken in two phases. The first phase would clarify the objectives and target users of ATRs. The second phase would prepare a proposal to revise and update the current recommended contents of the ATRs, as well as user guidelines for preparing the ATRs.

27. As part of Phase I, a survey would be undertaken for three months starting June 1, 2006.

28. The SWDG supported the invitation by the Task Force to IPOs to announce the ATR web survey at <https://webaccess.wipo.int/opinio/s?s=519> to their clients via their websites. Delegations attending the meeting were invited to inform interested parties about the survey.

29. In accordance with the Task Force's proposal, the SDWG requested the Secretariat to inform the offices about the survey with a notice on the SCIT website and also by e-mail.

30. The SDWG approved the following schedule regarding further activities of Phase I as follows:

August 31, 2006	conclude the ATR Survey submissions
September 30, 2006	prepare initial analysis of survey results
October 31, 2006	make final analysis of survey results and recommendation for Phase II activities

31. Following a question concerning benchmarking of ATR website activity before and after the survey, the Secretariat undertook to prepare detailed information to be presented to the Task Force.

Agenda Item 8: Request for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.22

32. Discussions were based on document SCIT/SDWG/7/5.

33. The Secretariat introduced document SCIT/SDWG/7/5 concerning a request for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.22. The request had been proposed by the Secretariat and the European Patent Office (EPO). A presentation was given to the SDWG by the proposers which explained the need for such revision.

34. The SDWG approved the creation of a new Task for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.22.

35. The SDWG also established a Task Force to undertake this Task and appointed the Secretariat as Task Leader.

36. The SDWG requested the Task Force to examine the use of non-Latin based characters, so that the standard can cover non-Latin character based languages at a later stage.

37. The SDWG also mandated the Task Force to examine the optical character recognition (OCR) accuracy rate (currently better than 98.5%) to see if a higher accuracy rate should be specified.

38. The SDWG instructed the Task Force to take into consideration what font styles and font sizes should be recommended for optimizing readability, for screen presentation, and OCR.

39. The SDWG supported the idea that the revised standard should be brought to the attention of the applicants, offices, commercial information providers and patent attorneys.

Agenda Item 9: Trademark Standards Task Force (Tasks Nos. 20 and 34)

40. Discussions were based on document SCIT/SDWG/7/6.

41. The Task Force Leader gave a progress report on the work done by the Trademark Standards Task Force on the survey concerning formats for figurative elements of marks currently in use by IPOs.

42. Following the publication of the report in the electronic forum of the Task Force only one Representative had returned comments, which were made available to all participants during the seventh session of the SDWG.

43. One Delegation raised two questions related to the TIFF compression and the form in which the resolution had been defined. It was agreed that these points would be discussed in the Task Force meeting to be held on May 31, 2006.

44. The SDWG noted the report from the Task Force and agreed that it should continue to analyze the survey results as well as prepare recommendations concerning the electronic management of the figurative elements of trademarks referred to Task No. 20.

45. As a follow-up to the presentation on the status of the XML standard for trademarks, that was being developed by the TM-XML Working Group of the OHIM, that was given at the sixth session of the SDWG, the Secretariat informed the SDWG that OHIM had almost completed their work on the preparation of this standard which would be forwarded in due course to the Trademark Standards Task Force as input to a future WIPO Standard.

46. In order to be able to present the outcome of the Task Force concerning both the figurative elements and the XML standard at the next SDWG meeting, the Secretariat offered to share the leadership of the Task Force with the Korean Intellectual Property Office. The latter would continue to lead discussions on figurative elements of trademarks while the Secretariat would lead discussions related to the XML standard for trademarks. The Representative of the OHIM offered to collaborate with the Leader of the Task Force in the preparation of the new WIPO XML standard. The SDWG welcomed the support offered to the Task Force Leader.

Agenda Item 10: Exchange of Information

47. The SDWG noted, with gratitude, the presentations given by the Secretariat and the Representative of the EPO.

48. The Secretariat demonstrated the new features of their on-line services supporting the Madrid international trademark registrations system, which improved the cost effectiveness and efficiency of international trademark management.

49. The Secretariat's second presentation concerned the PatentScope Portal which was launched in July 2005, and centralized all patent and PCT-related information.
50. The Secretariat's third presentation on the electronic interchange of PCT data between the International Bureau and the different Regional and National Offices indicated that since 2004, the electronic interchange of documents had grown to over 45% of the total amount of documents received by WIPO each month.
51. A Representative of the EPO presented the latest release of MIMOSA which included the access to GTI V5 patent databases on many media, including CD-ROMs, DVDs, across local area networks or via the Internet.
52. The Secretariat gave an oral report on the outcome of the eighth session of the Working Group on Reform of the PCT held from May 8 to 11, 2006, concerning the proposals for the amendment of the Regulations under the PCT to provide for the publication of international applications in multiple languages as these proposed changes could have an impact on WIPO Standards. Detailed information related to this matter can be found in the report of the said session of the Working Group, document PCT/R/WG/8/9 (http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=61372).
53. The Secretariat undertook to inform participants of the progress of these proposals at the next SDWG meeting.

Agenda Item 11: Consideration of the SDWG Task List

54. Following a brief introduction by the Secretariat, the SDWG discussed the Tasks contained in Annex I to document SCIT/SDWG/7/7 and, in addition to updating the information regarding the status of the tasks that had been discussed during the seventh session, agreed the following:

Task No. 17 and 19: That the Trilateral Offices would report on matters regarding improvements and extensions to WIPO Standard ST.36 at the next meeting of the SDWG.

Task No. 23: That the Secretariat would clarify the question concerning the non-entry into the national (regional) phase of published PCT international applications by the next session of the SDWG.

Task No. 26: A new site of the WIPO Handbook had been made available for testing and comment by the Renewal of the WIPO Handbook Task Force. By the end of 2006 the English version of the WIPO Handbook should be completed, at which point work would start on the French and Spanish versions. The Secretariat informed the SDWG about the revision of the definitions of the patent families that was currently being discussed by the Renewal of the WIPO Handbook Task Force. The Secretariat invited Delegations interested in providing comments on the proposed definitions to submit them to the Secretariat via scit.mail@wipo.int. The deadline for comments had been set for July 7, 2006. The proposals are available under the area "Documentation" of the

entry Renewal of the WIPO Handbook Task Force on the Task Force's web page (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskfrce/handbook/background.htm>).

Task No. 32: The Secretariat reported on the discussion of the Task with the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks of Romania. Following the discussion, a joint proposal had been made by the Secretariat and the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks of Romania to monitor the development of Task No. 24, which had a certain similarity with Task No. 32, and consider possible ways of continuing Task No. 32 at the eighth session of the SDWG when the progress in elaboration of Task No. 24 would be known. The work on Task No. 32 could be resumed in the 2008-09 biennium if necessary resources were available. The SDWG agreed with this proposal.

Task No. 33/3: The SDWG requested the Secretariat to send a letter to the International Standard ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency recommending that the two letter codes to be assigned to the new state of Montenegro and the new state of Serbia would be chosen from those that had not been previously assigned, as had been the case with the code "CS" for Serbia and Montenegro.

Task No. 35: The SDWG requested that the Secretariat explicitly mention that the next survey would take place in 2009.

Agenda Item 12: Schedule of activities

55. The Secretariat proposed March 19 to 23, 2007, for the next session of the SDWG and indicated that December 15, 2006, would be the deadline for all documents relating to the next meeting to be received by the Secretariat.

56. The SDWG agreed that its eighth session was tentatively scheduled to be held from March 19 to 23, 2007.

Meetings of the SDWG Task Forces

57. During this session of the SDWG, the following meetings of the SDWG Task Forces took place: the joint meeting of the Trademark Standards Task Force and the OHIM's XML Working Group, the meeting of the Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) Task Force, and the meeting of the ST.10/C Task Force.

Retirement of Mr. Krier (EPO)

58. On the occasion of the last participation of Mr. Krier in a session of a SCIT body, the SDWG and the Secretariat took the opportunity to thank him for, and pay tribute to, his many years of attendance at the various meetings convened by the Secretariat of WIPO and to his outstanding contribution to international cooperation in the field of industrial property information and documentation, and expressed their best wishes to him a happy retirement.

Agenda Item 13: Adoption of the report of the session

59. This report was adopted by the Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT).

Agenda Item 14: Closing of the session

60. The meeting was closed following the adoption of the Report.

[Annexes follow]