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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REVISION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.66

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. At its eighth session, held in March 2007, the Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) adopted the new WIPO Standard ST.66, entitled "Recommendation for the Processing of Trademark Information Using XML (eXtensible Markup Language)". The SDWG also agreed to create a new Task to ensure continuous revision and updating of WIPO Standard ST.66 and also to establish the ST.66 Task Force to deal with this Task. The SDWG also temporarily authorized the ST.66 Task Force to adopt revisions of WIPO Standard ST.66. (See document SCIT/SDWG/8/14, paragraphs 55 and 56.)

2. In accordance with the above-mentioned decision by the SDWG, the International Bureau (IB) issued Circular C.SCIT 2637, dated April 30, 2007, inviting those offices wishing to participate actively in the discussions to nominate a representative to the ST.66 Task Force. The following 16 Offices appointed their representatives: AU, BX, CA, DE, DK, EM, EP, GB, JP, KR, LT, RU, SE, US, VN and WO/IB.

3. To prepare and review the proposals for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.66, two informal meetings of the ST.66 Task Force took place: one in Alicante in June 2007, and the other one in Geneva in October 2007. The results of the meetings and copies of the presentations given at the meetings are available on the ST.66 Task Force web page: <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskforce/st66/background.htm>.

Revision of WIPO Standard ST.66

4. The ST.66 Task Force has discussed the proposals for the revision of the WIPO Standard ST.66 main body and the ST.66 Appendices: Appendix A (XML Dictionary), Appendix B (Model Schema), Appendix C (Class Diagram) and Appendix E (ST.36 Compatibility Form).

5. Regarding the WIPO Standard ST.66 main body, the Task Force discussed the following proposals and subsequently, on December 3, 2007, adopted the revision of the ST.66 main body:

- Maintaining the latest version of the XML schemas;
- Adding the revision history and contact information for the XML schema to the ST.66 main body; and
- Giving more precise guidelines on character encoding in XML.

6. Regarding the revision of the ST.66 Appendices A, B, C and E, the Task Force discussed the following proposals and subsequently, on December 3, 2007, adopted the revision of the said Appendices:

- Updating XML Schemas for the External Referenced Standards, i.e., WIPOST3CodeType.xsd and ISOCountryCodeType.xsd, in accordance with the update of referenced standards, i.e., respectively, WIPO Standard ST.3 and ISO 3166-1;
- Adding, removing or changing Types, Elements and Enumeration values to cope with business requirements from trademark offices. The summary of the changes is available at http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml_material/st66/revision-history;
- Removing the list of the ST.36 XML Schema fragments from paragraph 6 of the Appendix E. The fragments are still downloadable from the WIPO website at http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml_material/st66/.

7. The newly adopted version 1.1 of WIPO Standard ST.66 (main body) and Appendices are available, respectively, at http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_03_standards.html and http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/xml_material/st66/.

Further Discussion

8. It was proposed to include, as another Appendix to WIPO Standard ST.66, guidelines addressed to trademark offices for the implementation of schemas of WIPO Standard ST.66. In the course of the discussion of this proposal, it was pointed out that the said guidelines

would be useful for all WIPO standards defining XML schemas for industrial property rights. Consequently, the guidelines should not just be part of any specific Standard, but a reference for all WIPO XML Standards with schema addressed to industrial property offices. Finally, it was agreed that this proposal would be further discussed within the framework of the XML4IP Task Force rather than the ST.66 Task Force.

9. The SDWG is invited to note the results of the work of the ST.66 Task Force and the progress report of the Task Leader, as set out in this document.

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