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Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude and Adopt a Design Law Treaty (DLT)

Geneva, October 9 to 11, 2023

AGENDA, DATES AND VENUE FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

prepared by the Director General

INTRODUCTION

1. At its fifty-fifth (30th extraordinary) session, held in Geneva from July 14 to 22, 2022, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) General Assembly decided as follows (see document WO/GA/55/12, paragraph 309):

“The General Assembly:

- a) considered the contents of document WO/GA/55/4;
- b) decided to convene a Diplomatic Conference to conclude and adopt a Design Law Treaty to take place no later than 2024;
- c) decided to convene a Preparatory Committee in the second half of 2023, to establish the necessary modalities of the Diplomatic Conference. The Preparatory Committee will consider at this time, the draft Rules of Procedure to be presented for adoption to the Diplomatic Conference, the list of invitees to participate in the conference, and the text of the draft letters of invitation, as well as any other document or organizational question relating to the Diplomatic Conference. The Preparatory Committee will also approve the Basic Proposal for the administrative and final provisions of the Treaty;
- d) welcomed with gratitude the offer by some Member States to host the Diplomatic Conference no later than 2024;
- e) directed the SCT to meet in a special session for five days in the second half of 2023, preceding the Preparatory Committee, to further close any existing gaps to a sufficient level. It is understood that the Preparatory Committee will invite Observer Delegations and Observers;
- f) agreed that documents SCT/35/2 and SCT/35/3 as well as the 2019 proposal considered by the WIPO General Assembly, on draft Articles and Regulations on Industrial Design Law and Practice, will constitute the substantive articles of the Basic Proposal for the Diplomatic Conference. The Preparatory Committee shall incorporate in the Basic Proposal such further agreements of the SCT as are reached pursuant to paragraph (e) above, with the understanding that any Member State and the Special Delegation of the European Union may make proposals at the Diplomatic Conference.

The WIPO General Assembly decided to convene Diplomatic Conferences to conclude and adopt international legal instruments relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources, and the Design Law Treaty, no later than 2024.”

2. In accordance with the decision of the WIPO General Assembly, this document presents a draft agenda, dates and venue for the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude and Adopt a Design Law Treaty (DLT).

AGENDA OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

3. The proposed draft agenda of the Diplomatic Conference is set out in the Annex and it is modeled on the agendas of previous diplomatic conferences held under the auspices of WIPO.

DATES AND VENUE OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

4. By Note Verbale of November 24, 2022, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expressed its interest in hosting the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude and Adopt a Design Law Treaty. With reference to the expression of interest by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the Diplomatic Conference to Conclude and Adopt a Design Law Treaty, it is proposed that the Diplomatic Conference take place in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from November 11 to 22, 2024.

5. The Preparatory Committee is invited to approve the draft agenda of the Diplomatic Conference and the proposed venue and dates of the Diplomatic Conference.

[Annex follows]

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

1. Opening of the Conference by the Director General of WIPO
2. Consideration and adoption of the Rules of Procedure
3. Election of the President of the Conference
4. Consideration and adoption of the agenda
5. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the Conference
6. Election of the Members of the Credentials Committee
7. Election of the Members of the Drafting Committee
8. Election of the Officers of the Credentials Committee, the Main Committees and Drafting Committee
9. Opening declarations by Delegations and by Representatives of Observers
10. Consideration of the first report of the Credentials Committee
11. Consideration of the texts proposed by the Main Committees
12. Consideration of the second report of the Credentials Committee
13. Adoption of the Treaty and the Regulations
14. Adoption of any recommendation, resolution, agreed statement or final act
15. Closing declarations by Delegations and by Representatives of Observers
16. Closing of the Conference by the President*

[End of Annex and of document]

* Immediately after the closing of the Conference, the Final Act, if any, and the Instrument will be open for signature.