Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Twenty-Sixth Session
Geneva, February 3 to 7, 2014

BRIEF SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

I. WORKING DOCUMENTS FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

1. The following is a brief summary of the documents prepared or due to be prepared for the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the “Committee” or “IGC”) as at November 19, 2013. Each of these documents, as well as any additional documents, will be posted as soon as they are finalized at: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=31362.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/1 Prov. 2: Draft Agenda for the Twenty-Sixth Session

2. This document contains the proposed items to be dealt with by the Committee, and is submitted to the Committee for possible adoption.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/2: Accreditation of Certain Organizations

3. This document sets out the names, contact details and aims and objectives of organizations which have applied to the Committee for accreditation as ad hoc observers to the current and future sessions of the Committee.
4. The WIPO General Assembly, in 2005, established the “WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities”. The decision was taken on the basis of document WO/GA/32/6, subsequently amended by the WIPO General Assembly in September 2010, which sets out the objectives and operation of the Fund. This document refers to the appointment of the Fund’s Advisory Board, and provides information on the fund-raising drive initiated by the Secretariat. The required information note providing details of contributions received and beneficiaries is circulated in parallel as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/INF/4.

5. During the Twenty-Third Session of the IGC, which took place in February 2013, the Committee developed, on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/23/4, a further “Consolidated Document Relating to Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources”. The IGC decided that this text, as at the close of the session on February 8, 2013, be transmitted to the WIPO General Assembly for consideration by the General Assembly in accordance with the Committee’s mandate contained in document WO/GA/40/7 and work program for 2013 as contained in document WO/GA/41/18. This document was transmitted to the 2013 General Assembly as Annex A to document WO/GA/43/14 and was also made available to the Twenty-Fifth Session of the IGC, which took place in July, 2013, as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/5. The General Assembly, in October 2013, took note of document WO/GA/43/14, including its annexes, and agreed that the work of the Committee would build on the existing work carried out by the Committee and use all WIPO working documents, including WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/6 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/7 which are to constitute the basis of the Committee’s work on text-based negotiations, as well as any other textual contributions from members. Based on par. (c) of the 2014-2015 mandate, document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/4 has been prepared as a working document for this session.

II. INFORMATION DOCUMENTS FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

6. A draft list of participants will be circulated at IGC 26.

7. The present document has been prepared as an informal guide to the Committee’s documentation.
9. This document sets out information required to be reported to the Committee on the operation of the Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities. The rules are set out in the Annex to document WO/GA/32/6, as approved by the WIPO General Assembly at its 32nd session and subsequently amended by the WIPO General Assembly in September 2010. In particular, it gives information on contributions received or pledged, and actual support provided to representatives of accredited indigenous and local communities.

10. Following a decision of the Committee at IGC 7, each subsequent session of the Committee has commenced with a panel chaired by a member of an indigenous community. The panel has been held at the commencement of the previous 18 sessions of the Committee. On each occasion, representatives of indigenous and local communities gave presentations on their communities’ experiences and concerns in relation to TCEs, TK and GRs or on a specific theme related to the IGC’s negotiations. The presentations are available on WIPO’s site at: http://wipo.int/tk/en/igc/panels.html and may also be accessed through the Indigenous Portal on the WIPO website. This document sets out the proposed practical arrangements for the panel at IGC 26.

11. This information note will inform the Committee on the decisions on funding that the Director General will take in accordance with the recommendation that the Advisory Board of the Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities may adopt in the margins of IGC 26.

12. At IGC 19 “the Committee requested the Secretariat to finalize, and update regularly, as required, the activities referred to in Cluster C (“Options on Mutually-Agreed Terms for Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing”) and to provide information thereon to the Committee at each session”. This document is prepared and made available pursuant to this request.

13. At IGC 19, “the Committee invited the Secretariat to update the glossaries available in documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/19/INF/7 (‘Glossary of Key Terms Related to Intellectual Property and Traditional Cultural Expressions’), WIPO/GRTKF/IC/19/INF/8 (‘Glossary of Key Terms Related to Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge’) and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/19/INF/9 (‘Glossary of Key Terms Related to Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources’), to combine them in a single document and to publish the consolidated glossary as an information document.
for the next session of the Committee”. This document is made available as an updated version of the consolidated glossary for the session.


14. At IGC 20, the Committee supported a proposal for the organization of an Indigenous Expert Workshop on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions. This proposal was contained in paragraphs 10 and 11 of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/7. Pursuant to this decision, which is contained in paragraph 801 (d) of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/10, the WIPO Secretariat, in cooperation with the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, organized an Indigenous Expert Workshop on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions from April 19 to 21, 2013. This document, which provides a report of the meeting, was submitted to the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Committee as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/INF/9 by the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and has been resubmitted by the UNPFII as an information document for the Twenty-Sixth Session of the IGC.

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