

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

Thirty-Fifth Session
Geneva, March 19 to 23, 2018

RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE WIPO TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE,
TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND GENETIC RESOURCES WEBSITE

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its Twentieth Session, held from February 14 to 22, 2012, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the IGC”) invited the Secretariat to produce an information document briefly describing the resources available on the WIPO Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources website (“the WIPO TK website”)¹.
2. Pursuant to that decision, a detailed description of the resources available on the WIPO TK website (<http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/>) was prepared for all subsequent IGC sessions. The latest version of such description was included in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/INF/9.
3. As indicated in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/INF/8 prepared for the Thirtieth Session of the IGC, this information document would only be issued once a year or when significant amendments have been made to the website.

¹ See report of the Twentieth Session (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/10), paragraph 801 (f).

4. The Annex of the current document provides a concise list of main entries of the WIPO TK website and an update on the resources available on the website since January 2017, when such an information document was last prepared.

5. *The IGC is invited to take note of this document and the Annex to it.*

[Annex follows]

RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE WIPO TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND GENETIC RESOURCES WEBSITE

1. The present Annex provides a list of the main entries of the WIPO TK website (<http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/>) and an update on the new resources since January 2017.
2. There are five main entries of the WIPO TK website:
 - IGC: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/index.html>. This webpage constitutes the most important gateway to detailed information for IGC participants.
 - Indigenous Portal: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/indigenous/>. This is part of the WIPO Secretariat's effort to improve access to available information for and relating specifically to indigenous peoples and local communities. It offers links to the practical workshops, relevant WIPO resources, information on accreditation to, and participation in, the IGC process and provides access to external links of interest to indigenous peoples and local communities.
 - Traditional Knowledge: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/tk/>. This webpage includes a concise description of the issues involved and the links to the relevant resources.
 - Traditional Cultural Expressions: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/folklore/>. This webpage includes a concise description of the issues involved and the links to the relevant resources.
 - Genetic Resources: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/genetic/>. This webpage includes a concise description of the issues involved and the links to the relevant resources.
3. More resources, including databases and publications, are available at: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/#resources>.
4. Information on seminars and practical workshops organized by WIPO is available at: <http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/#meetings>.
5. Below are the main updates since January 2017.

The IGC

6. The IGC webpage offers direct links to, *inter alia*:
 - the renewed mandate of the IGC for 2018-2019: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/igc_mandate_2018-2019.pdf;
 - the provisional IGC schedule for 2018: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/igc_2018_prov_schedule.pdf.
7. A special page containing an “**IGC Preparation Kit**” for the Thirty-Fifth Session of the IGC will be available in order to help participants in the IGC to prepare for the session with various shortcuts: (<http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/preparation/>).
8. The complete list of available documents related to the Thirty-Fifth Session of the IGC is available at: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=46369.

The Seminars

9. The mandate of the IGC for the 2016/2017 biennium requested the WIPO Secretariat to organize seminars to “build regional and cross regional knowledge and consensus on issues related to intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions with a focus on unresolved issues”.

10. A Seminar on Intellectual Property and Traditional Cultural Expressions was organized on June 8 and 9, 2017, prior to the Thirty-Fourth Session of the IGC. Information is available at: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=42301.

The Workshops

11. The WIPO Secretariat organized regional and national workshops, aimed at building capacity and raising awareness amongst different stakeholders, and reinforcing national policy dialogues and processes around the interface between intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions. Information on these workshops is available at: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=309.

New Resources

12. At its Twenty-Ninth Session, the IGC requested the Secretariat to establish “a new webpage consolidating all existing resources on regional, national, local and communities experiences (such as studies, collections of laws, submissions, databases, voluntary codes and protocols, and presentations) prepared by the WIPO Secretariat or submitted by Member States and observers for purposes of the Committee to date”. A webpage including resources available on WIPO’s website on regional, national, local and community experiences regarding intellectual property and genetic resources/traditional knowledge/traditional cultural expressions was established: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/tk_experiences.html, and has been frequently updated since its establishment.

13. The following new publications are published:

- Protect and Promote Your Culture: A Practical Guide to Intellectual Property for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: <http://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4195&plang=EN>;
- Key Questions on Patent Disclosure Requirements for Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge: <http://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4194>;
- Documenting Traditional Knowledge – A Toolkit: <http://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4235>; and
- A Guide to Intellectual Property Issues in Access and Benefit-Sharing Agreements: coming soon.

14. The disclosure requirements table, which comprises a non-exhaustive selection of extracts from existing national and legislative texts providing for a specific disclosure requirement related to genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge, has been updated. The table is available at: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/documents/pdf/genetic_resources_disclosure.pdf.