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

Thirty-Sixth Session
Geneva, June 25 to 29, 2018

BRIEF SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

I. WORKING DOCUMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

1. The following is a brief summary of the documents prepared or due to be prepared for the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the “Committee” or “IGC”) as at June 5, 2018. Each of these documents, as well as any additional documents, will be posted as soon as they are finalized at:

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/1 Prov. 3: Draft Agenda for the Thirty-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/36/2: 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/36/INF/4.

5. At its Thirty-Fifth Session, the Committee developed, on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/4, a further text, the "The Consolidated Document Relating to Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources Rev. 2". The Committee decided that this text, as at the close of Agenda Item 7 “Genetic Resources” on March 23, 2018, be transmitted to the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Committee. Document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/4 has been prepared for this session pursuant to this decision.

6. The WIPO General Assembly in 2017 requested the Secretariat to “produce a report(s) compiling and updating studies, proposals and other materials relating to tools and activities on databases and on existing disclosure regimes relating to GR and associated TK, with a view to identify any gaps.” Pursuant to this decision, document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/5 was prepared for the Thirty-Fifth Session of the Committee. The same document with a few updates has been re-issued as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/5.

7. The WIPO General Assembly in 2017 requested the Secretariat to “produce a report(s) compiling and updating studies, proposals and other materials relating to tools and activities on databases and on existing disclosure regimes relating to GR and associated TK, with a view to identify any gaps.” Pursuant to this decision, document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/6 was prepared for the Thirty-Fifth Session of the Committee. The same document with a few updates has been re-issued as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/6.

8. During the Twentieth Session of the IGC, which took place in February 2012, the Delegations of Canada, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America made available a “Joint Recommendation on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge”. This was contained in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/9/Rev. This document was resubmitted to the Twenty-Third, Twenty-Fourth, Twenty-Sixth, Twenty-Seventh, Twenty-Eighth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Second, Thirty-Fourth and Thirty-Fifth
Sessions of the IGC, and circulated as documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/23/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/24/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/27/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/31/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/32/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/34/9, and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/7, respectively. The co-sponsors have resubmitted this joint recommendation as a working document for this session.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/8: Joint Recommendation on the Use of Databases for the Defensive Protection of Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources

9. During the Twenty-Third Session of the IGC, which took place in February 2013, a joint recommendation regarding the use of databases for the defensive protection of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources was co-sponsored by the Delegations of Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America. This proposal was contained in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/23/7. The Joint Recommendation was resubmitted to the Twenty-Fourth, Twenty-Sixth, Twenty-Seventh, Twenty-Eighth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Second, Thirty-Fourth and Thirty-Fifth Sessions of the IGC by the co-sponsors as documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/24/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/27/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/31/6, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/32/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/34/10 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/8, respectively. The co-sponsors have resubmitted this joint recommendation as a working document for this session.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/9: Proposal for the Terms of Reference for the Study by the WIPO Secretariat on Measures Related to the Avoidance of the Erroneous Grant of Patents and Compliance with Existing Access and Benefit-Sharing Systems

10. During the Twenty-Third Session of the IGC, which took place in February 2013, a proposal for the terms of reference for a study on measures related to the avoidance of the erroneous grant of patents and compliance with existing access and benefit sharing systems, was made available by the Delegations of Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America. This proposal was contained in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/23/6. The proposal was resubmitted to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the IGC as document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/24/6 Rev. by the Delegations of Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and further resubmitted to the Twenty-Sixth, Twenty-Seventh, Twenty-Eighth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Second, Thirty-Fourth and Thirty-Fifth Sessions of the IGC by the Delegations of Canada, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America as documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/27/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/9, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/31/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/32/8 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/34/11, respectively. The co-sponsors of documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/26/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/27/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/28/9, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/29/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/31/7, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/32/8, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/34/11 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/9 have resubmitted this proposal as a working document for this session.

II. INFORMATION DOCUMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/36/INF/1 Prov.: List of Participants

11. A draft list of participants will be circulated at the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Committee.
12. The present document has been prepared as an informal guide to the Committee’s documentation.

13. In line with the Committee’s request at its Tenth Session, this document sets out a suggested program and identifies a possible timing for each agenda item. This draft program is indicative only, and the actual organization of work of the Committee would be determined by the Chair and its members in line with the rules of procedure.

14. 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 Thirty-Second 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.

15. Following a decision of the Committee at its Seventh Session, 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 28 sessions of the Committee. On each occasion, representatives of indigenous and local communities gave presentations 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 the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Committee.

16. 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 the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Committee.
17. At its Nineteenth Session, “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.

III. OTHER DOCUMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/35/2: Accreditation of Certain Organizations

18. This document sets out the names, contact details and aims and objectives of organizations which applied to IGC 35 for accreditation as ad hoc observers.

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