

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

**Forty-Seventh Session**  
**Geneva, June 5 to 9, 2023**

### **VOLUNTARY FUND FOR ACCREDITED INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD**

*Information Note prepared by the Director General*

1. The arrangements establishing the WIPO Voluntary Fund (“the Fund”), as approved by the General Assembly, are contained in the Annex to Document WO/GA/39/11. Article 6(i) of the Decision states:

“The Advisory Board will adopt its recommendation before the end of the Committee session on the margins of which it meets. This recommendation will identify:

- (i) the subsequent Committee session and, should the case arise, the IWG meeting(s) intended for financial support (i.e., the subsequent session of the Committee),
- (ii) the applicants whom the Advisory Board agrees should be supported for that session and/or the IWG meeting(s), for whom funds are available,
- (iii) any applicant or applicants whom the Advisory Board agrees should be supported in principle but for whom insufficient funds are available,
- (iv) any applicant or applicants whose application has been rejected in accordance with the procedure in Article 10,
- (v) any applicant or applicants whose application has been postponed until the next session of the Committee in accordance with the procedure in Article 10.

The Advisory Board will immediately forward the contents of the recommendation to the Director General who will take a decision in accordance with the recommendation. The Director General will inform the Committee immediately and, in any case, prior to the end of its current session, by means of an information note specifying the decision taken concerning each applicant.”

2. Accordingly, the Secretariat wishes to communicate to the Committee the report and recommendations adopted by the Advisory Board at the conclusion of its meeting held on the margins of the Forty-Seventh Session of the Committee. This report is attached in the Annex.

3. The Committee is advised that, in accordance with Article 6(d) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11 as approved by the General Assembly (39<sup>th</sup> session), the Director General has taken note of the content of this report and adopted the decisions as recommended by the Advisory Board in paragraph 4 of its report.

[Annex follows]

WIPO VOLUNTARY FUND

ADVISORY BOARD

REPORT

1. The Advisory Board of the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities (“the Fund”), whose members were appointed by decision of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”) during its Forty-Seventh Session and whose names appear at the end of this report, held its thirty-seventh meeting on June 7, 2023, under the chairmanship of Mr. Yonah SELETI, member *ex officio*, on the margins of the Forty-Seventh Session of the Committee.
2. The members of the Advisory Board met in accordance with Articles 7 and 9 of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11.
3. Recalling Article 5(a) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11, the Advisory Board took note of the financial situation of the Fund as described in the Information Note WIPO/GRTKF/IC/47/INF/4 dated May 15, 2023, which was distributed before the opening of the Forty-Seventh Session of the Committee and which specified that the amount available in the Fund minus the previously committed amount was 213.48 Swiss francs on May 12, 2023. In this regard, the Advisory Board reiterated its appreciation of the contribution to the Fund received from the Federal Ministry of Justice of Germany on September 13, 2022, amounting to 14,233.70 Swiss francs (the equivalent of 15,000 euros at the time of the transfer) and expressed its appreciation of the crediting of 817.10 Swiss francs on behalf of anonymous contributors on March 3, 2023. The Advisory Board noted that the Fund was presently practically depleted and regretted that only one of the three applicants recommended by the Advisory Board for funding with the view to the Forty-Seventh Session of the Committee could be funded. The Advisory Board strongly encouraged WIPO Member States and other potential donors to contribute further to the Fund so that the recommendations of the Advisory Board could be followed through with sufficient funding.
4. The Advisory Board adopted the following recommendations based on the consideration of the list of applicants as it appears in the Information Note WIPO/GRTKF/IC/47/INF/4 as well as of the content of the applications of those applicants, and in accordance with Article 6(i) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11:
  - (i) future sessions intended for financial support in accordance with Article 5(e):  
Special Session of the Committee (September 4 to 8, 2023) and  
Forty-Eighth Session of the Committee (pending the renewal of the mandate of the Committee after 2023 by the WIPO General Assembly);
  - (ii) applicants whom the Advisory Board agreed should be supported in principle for the Special Session of the Committee, pending sufficient availability of funds (in order of priority):
    - Lucia Fernanda INÁCIO BELFORT (Ms.)
    - Rodrigo DE LA CRUZ INLAGO (Mr.)
    - Musa Usman NDAMBA (Mr.)
    - Babagana ABUBAKAR (Mr.)

- (iii) applicants whom the Advisory Board agreed should be supported in principle for the Forty-Eighth Session of the Committee, pending sufficient availability of funds, taking into account previous expenditures, if any, made with the view to the Special Session, and pending the renewal of the mandate of the Committee after 2023 by the WIPO General Assembly (in order of priority):
- Hamadi AG MOHAMED ABBA (Mr.)
  - Nelson DE LEON KANTULE (Mr.)
  - Agoussou Marcellin AIGBE (Mr.)
  - Lucia Fernanda INÁCIO BELFORT (Ms.)
- (iv) applicants whose application introduced with the view to the Special Session of the Committee should be postponed for further consideration by the Advisory Board until the next ordinary session of the Committee (IGC 48), with the view to the session that will follow such session (IGC 49) (pending the renewal of the mandate of the Committee after 2023 by the General Assembly) (in alphabetical order):
- Edith BASTIDAS (Ms.)
  - Osaruigiemwin Joseph OGIERIAKHI (Mr.)
  - Nongpoklai SINHA (Ms.)
- (v) applicants whose application introduced with the view to the Forty-Eighth Session of the Committee should be postponed for further consideration by the Advisory Board until the next ordinary session of the Committee (IGC 48), with the view to the session that will follow such session (IGC 49) (pending the renewal of the mandate of the Committee after 2023 by the General Assembly) (in alphabetical order):
- Babagana ABUBAKAR (Mr.)
  - Musa Usman NDAMBA (Mr.)
  - Osaruigiemwin Joseph OGIERIAKHI (Mr.)
- (vi) applicant whose application introduced with the view to the Special Session of the Committee should be rejected:
- Agoussou Marcellin AIGBE (Mr.)
- (vii) applicant(s) whose application introduced with the view to the Forty-Eighth Session of the Committee should be rejected:
- None.

The content of the present report and the recommendations it contains will be forwarded to the Director General of WIPO following its adoption by the members of the Advisory Board in accordance with Article 6(i) last paragraph of the Annex to document WIPO/GA/39/11.

Done in Geneva, June 7, 2023

Names of the members of the Advisory Board:

Chair: Mr. Yonah SELETI (Mr.), Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Committee, member *ex officio*, [agreed]

and in alphabetical order:

Dietrix Jon Ulukoa DUHAYLONSOD (Mr.), Representative, Adviser, KA'UIKIOKAPŌ [agreed]

Pablo LATORRE (Mr.), First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Chile, Geneva [agreed]

June L. LORENZO (Ms.), Representative, International Indian Treaty Council [agreed]

Allan NDAGIJE MUGARURA (Mr.), Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Uganda, Geneva [agreed]

Rodrigo Eduardo PAILLALEF MONNARD (Mr.), Representative, *Fundación Empresas Indígenas* [agreed]

Thomas REITINGER (Mr.), Senior Patent Examiner, Patent Division, German Patent and Trademark Office, Federal Ministry of Justice, Germany [agreed]

Uzair Zahid SHAIKH (Mr.), First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Pakistan, Geneva [agreed]

Lucie ZAMYKALOVÁ (Ms.), Head, International Affairs Unit, International and Legal Affairs Department, Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic [agreed].

[End of Annex and of document]