

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

Fifty-First Session
Geneva, May 30 to June 5, 2025

BRIEF SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

I. WORKING DOCUMENTS FOR THE FIFTY-FIRST SESSION

1. The following is a brief summary of the documents prepared for the Fifty-First Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the “Committee” or “IGC”) as of April 15, 2025. Each of these documents, as well as any additional documents, will be posted as soon as they are finalized at: https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=85309.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/1 Prov. 2: Draft Agenda for the Fifty-First 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/51/2: Accreditation of Certain Organizations

3. This document sets out the name, contact details and aims and objectives of the organizations that have applied to the Committee for accreditation as *ad hoc* observers to the current and future sessions of the Committee.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/3: Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities: Voluntary Fund

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/51/INF/4.

II. INFORMATION DOCUMENTS FOR THE FIFTY-FIRST SESSION

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/1: List of Participants

5. A draft list of participants will be circulated at the Fifty-First Session of the Committee.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/2: Brief Summary of Documents

6. The present document has been prepared as an informal guide to the Committee’s documentation.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/3: Draft Program for the Fifty-First Session

7. 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.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/4: Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities: Information Note on Contributions and Applications for Support

8. 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 Peoples and local communities.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/5: Information Note for the Panel of Indigenous and Local Communities

9. Following a decision of the Committee at its Ninth 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 41 sessions of the Committee. On each occasion, representatives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities gave presentations on a specific theme related to the IGC’s negotiations. This document sets out the proposed practical arrangements for the panel at the Fifty-First Session of the Committee.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/7: Glossary of Key Terms Related to Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions

10. 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 in the same version of the consolidated glossary for the session.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/8: Update of the Technical Review of Key Intellectual Property-Related Issues of the WIPO Draft Instruments on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions Within the Framework of Indigenous Human Rights

11. At its Fortieth Session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to commission, within existing resources, the updating by an Indigenous expert of the Technical Review of Key Intellectual Property-related Issues of the WIPO Draft Instruments on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions (“the Technical Review”), submitted to the Committee as an information document during the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Committee. Ms. Neva Collings, Board Director, NSW Aboriginal Housing Office, Department of Family and Community Services, Australia, and Mr. Elifuraha Laltaika, Senior Lecturer and Director, Research Tumaini University Makumira, Tanzania, were commissioned to update the Technical Review. This document provides an updated version of the Technical Review.

III. OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR THE FIFTY-FIRST SESSION

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/4: The Protection of Traditional Knowledge: Draft Articles

12. At its Fiftieth Session, the Committee worked on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/4. However, Member States were unable to reach consensus on the consolidated text and decided not to transmit that text to IGC 51. Instead, the Committee decided to continue working on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/4. This document has been made available for this session pursuant to this decision.

WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/5: The Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions: Draft Articles

13. At its Fiftieth Session, the Committee worked on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/5. However, Member States were unable to reach consensus on the consolidated text and decided not to transmit that text to IGC 51. Instead, the Committee decided to continue working on the basis of document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/49/5. This document has been made available for this session pursuant to this decision.

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