

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

Fifty-Second Session
Geneva, March 4 to 13, 2026

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 Secretariat

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 present Information Note communicates to the Committee the report and recommendations adopted by the Advisory Board at the conclusion of its meeting held on the margins of the fifty-second session of the Committee. This report is attached in the Annex.

3. In accordance with Article 6(d) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11 as approved by the General Assembly (39th 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 5 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 fifty-second session and whose names appear at the end of this report, held its fifty-second meeting on March 11, 2026, under the chairmanship of Mr. Pablo Latorre Tallard, member *ex officio*, on the margins of the fifty-second 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/52/INF/4 dated February 6, 2026, which specified that the amount available in the Fund was 6,175.40 Swiss francs on January 15, 2026. The Advisory Board noted with grave concern that the Fund is again almost depleted. It 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 implemented with sufficient funding.
4. The Advisory Board expressed its appreciation of the most recent contributions to the Fund received respectively from the Government of Australia on November 18, 2025, and anonymous contributors following a call for voluntary contributions made by the Co-Chairs of the Committee during its fifty-first session.
5. 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/52/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 session intended for financial support in accordance with Article 5(e):
fifty-third session;
 - (ii) applicants whom the Advisory Board agreed should be supported in principle,
pending sufficient availability of funds (in order of priority):

Jennifer Tauli Corpuz (Mrs.)

Hamadi Ag Mohamed Abba (Mr.)
 - (iii) applicant whose application should be postponed for further consideration by
the Advisory Board until the next session of the Committee:

Babagana Abubakar (Mr.)
 - (iv) applicant whose application should be rejected:

Davy Pouaty Nzembialela (Mr.)

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 WO/GA/39/11.

Done in Geneva, March 11, 2026

Names of the members of the Advisory Board of the WIPO Voluntary Fund:

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

and in alphabetical order:

Mouhamed Nour-Dine ASSINDOH (Mr.), Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Togolese Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva [agreed]

Vital BAMBANZE (Mr.), Representative, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association (MBOSCUDA) [unavailable]

Flor DE MARÍA GARCÍA (Ms.), Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the WTO, WIPO, UNCTAD and ITC in Geneva [agreed]

Alice GUERINOT (Ms.), Advisor on Intellectual Property Policy, Directorate for Economic Diplomacy, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France [agreed]

Johnny HADLEY (Mr.), First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Federated States of Micronesia in Geneva [agreed]

Olnar Alberto ORTIZ BOLIVAR (Mr.), Representative, *ECOHUMANITA* [agreed]

Anna SINKEVICH (Ms.), Representative, Elders Council of the Shor People [agreed]

[End of Annex and of document]