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

Fifty-Third Session
Geneva, September 16 to 25, 2026

WIPO VOLUNTARY FUND FOR ACCREDITED INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES: INFORMATION NOTE ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR SUPPORT

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. This document contains information required to be reported to the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”) on the operation of the Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities (“the Fund”). The rules of the Fund are set out in the Annex to document WO/GA/32/6. They were approved by the WIPO General Assembly at its Thirty-Second Session in September 2005 and subsequently amended by the General Assembly at its Thirty-Ninth Session in September 2010.

2. Article 6(f) of the rules states:

“(f) Before each Committee session, the WIPO Director General will communicate for the information of participants an information note setting out:

- (i) the level of the voluntary contributions paid into the Fund on the date on which the document was drafted;
- (ii) the identity of the contributors (unless individual contributors have expressly requested to remain anonymous);
- (iii) the amount of the resources available taking into account the funds disbursed;

- (iv) the list of people who have benefited from the Fund's support since the previous information memorandum;
- (v) the people chosen to benefit from the Fund but who withdrew;
- (vi) the amount of the support allocated to each beneficiary; and
- (vii) a sufficiently detailed description of the applicants seeking support for the following session.

This document will also be addressed by name to the members of the Advisory Board for examination and deliberation."

3. Accordingly, the present document constitutes the forty-fifth such information note, prepared for the Fifty-third session of the Committee.

4. The information required to be communicated to the participants in the Fifty-third session of the Committee is as follows:

Level of the voluntary contributions paid to the Fund until August 13, 2026, and names of the contributors:

86,092.60 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 500,000 Swedish Kronas at the date) credited on November 7, 2006, by the Swedish International Biodiversity Programme (SwedBio/CBM);

31,684 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 20,000 Euros at the date) credited on December 20, 2006, by the Government of France;

29,992.50 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 25,000 United States of America Dollars at the date) credited on March 27, 2007, by the Christensen Fund;

150,000 Swiss Francs credited on June 8, 2007, by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, Berne, Switzerland;

5,965.27 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 5,000 United States of America Dollars at the date) credited on August 14, 2007, by the Ministry of Science and Technology, South Africa;

98,255.16 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 60,000 Euros at the date) credited on December 20, 2007, by the Government of Norway;

100,000 Swiss Francs credited on February 7, 2008, by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, Berne, Switzerland;

12,500 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 13,441 United States of America Dollars at the date) credited on March 25, 2011, by the Ministry of Science and Technology, South Africa;

500 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 573 United States of America Dollars at the date) credited on May 10, 2011, by an anonymous contributor;

89,500 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 100,000 Australian Dollars at the date) credited on October 20, 2011, by the Government of Australia;

15,000 Swiss Francs credited on June 20, 2013 by the Government of Australia¹;

4,694.40 Swiss Francs credited on June 20, 2013 by the Government of New Zealand;

37,835 Swiss Francs credited on February 28, 2017 by the Government of Australia;

18,268.75 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 25,000 Canadian Dollars at the date) credited on March 27, 2019, by the Government of Canada;

16,227.93 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 15,000 Euros at the date) credited on November 6, 2019, by the Government of Finland;

16,158.98 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 15,000 Euros at the date) credited on December 9, 2019, by the Government of Germany²;

14,233.70 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 15,000 Euros at the date) credited on September 13, 2022, by the Government of Germany;

817.10 Swiss Francs credited on March 3, 2023, on behalf of anonymous contributors, following a call for voluntary contributions made by the Chair of the Committee during its Forty-Sixth Session;

29,795.36 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 50,000 Australian Dollars at the date) credited on June 22, 2023 by the Government of Australia;

872.60 Swiss Francs credited on July 4, 2023, on behalf of anonymous contributors, following a call for voluntary contributions made by the Chair of the Committee during its Forty-Seventh Session;

8,239.99 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 167,555 Mexican Pesos at the date) credited on August 7, 2023, by the *Instituto Nacional de los Pueblos Indígenas* of Mexico;

18,518.24 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 20,000 Euros at the date) credited on February 8, 2024, by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, Spain;

2,392.95 Swiss Francs credited on July 31, 2025, on behalf of anonymous contributors, following a call for voluntary contributions made by the Co-Chairs of the Committee during its Fifty-First Session; and,

10,117.12 Swiss Francs (the equivalent of 20,000 Australian Dollars at the date) credited on November 18, 2025, by the Government of Australia.

5. Total amount of the voluntary contributions credited to the Fund as of August 13, 2026:
797,661.65 Swiss Francs.

6. Total amount of the reimbursements made to donors as of August 13, 2026:
16,941.20 Swiss Francs.

7. Net total of the voluntary contributions made to the Fund as of August 13, 2026:
780,720.45 Swiss Francs.

¹ 782.22 Swiss francs were reimbursed on September 2, 2013, to the Government of Australia in accordance with the agreed terms for the use of the contribution made by the Government of Australia.

² 16,158.98 Swiss francs were reimbursed on January 8, 2021, to the Government of Germany in accordance with the agreed terms for the use of the contribution made by the Government of Germany.

Amount of the resources available:

- Amount available in the Fund on August 13, 2026, including bank fees and interest: 6,190.01 Swiss Francs.
- Amount committed in respect of the Fifty-third session of the Committee as at August 13, 2026: 3,874.80 Swiss Francs.
- Amount available in the Fund, after deduction of the committed amount as at August 13, 2026: 2,315.21 Swiss Francs.

List of persons who benefited or were recommended for funding since the previous information note³:

Applicants who were recommended for funding, pending availability of funds, in respect of the Fifty-Second session of the Committee⁴ and who were funded (in order of priority):

Jennifer Tauli CORPUZ (Mrs.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO nominating the candidate: Tebtebba Foundation – Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Baguio City, Philippines

Nationality of the applicant: Philippines

Nihal KADIOĞLU ÇEVİK (Mrs.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO nominating the candidate: Kültürel Araştırmalar Vakfı (KAV)/Cultural Research Foundation

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Karşıyaka/İzmir, Türkiye

Nationality of the applicant: Türkiye

Applicant who was recommended for funding, pending availability of funds, in respect of the Fifty-Third Session of the Committee⁵, as first in order of priority, and for whom sufficient funds were available on August 13, 2026:

Jennifer Tauli CORPUZ (Mrs.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO nominating the candidate: Tebtebba Foundation – Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Baguio City, Philippines

Nationality of the applicant: Philippines

Applicant who was recommended for funding, pending availability of funds, in respect of the Fifty-Third Session of the Committee⁶, as second in order of priority, and for whom sufficient funds were not available on August 13, 2026:

Hamadi AG MOHAMED ABBA (Mr.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO that nominated the applicant: ADJMOR

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Timbuktu, Mali

Nationality of the funded participant: Mali

Expenditures made by the Fund in respect of the Fifty-Second Session of the Committee:

Jennifer Tauli CORPUZ (Mrs.): 4,657.65 Swiss Francs.

³ See document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/52/INF/4, dated February 6, 2026.

⁴ See the Annex to document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/51/INF/6, dated June 4, 2025.

⁵ See the Annex to document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/52/INF/6, dated March 12, 2026.

⁶ *Ibid.*

Nihal KADIOĞLU ÇEVİK (Mrs.): 1,671.20 Swiss Francs⁷

Commitments in respect of the Fifty-Third Session of the Committee:

Jennifer Tauli CORPUZ (Mrs.): 3,874.80 Swiss Francs

Applicants seeking support in respect of the Fifty-Fourth Session of the Committee:

Babagana ABUBAKAR (Mr.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO that nominated the candidate: Kanuri

Development Association

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Maiduguri, Nigeria

Nationality of the funded participant: Nigeria

Rebecka EKBERG (Mrs.)

Name of the accredited observer NGO that nominated the applicant: Sámi Duodji

Sameslöjdstiftelsen

Seat of the accredited observer NGO: Jokkmokk, Sweden

Nationality of the funded participant: Sweden

8. *The Committee is invited to take note of the content of this document.*

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⁷ Mrs. Nihal KADIOĞLU ÇEVİK did not attend the Fifty-second session of the Committee during its entire duration, since she had to leave Geneva (Switzerland) on March 6, 2026, for personal reasons. She received a reduced number of DSAs in proportion of her participation in the Consultative Forum on March 3, 2026, and in the Fifty-second session of the Committee on March 4 and 5, 2026.