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WIPO ICT Leadership Dialogue (WILD)

First Session
Geneva, April 14 to 16, 2025

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Monday, April 14, 2025: Setting the stage for digital transformation

On Day 1, we will examine the evolution of the information and communication technology (ICT) landscape and its impact on businesses and service delivery. ICT leaders and senior managers will engage in interactive discussions on digital strategy and technology trends, share best practices and address the challenges and opportunities associated with digital transformation, considering aspects such as emerging technologies, data governance and cyber resiliency, as well as potential areas for collaboration.

08.30 – 09.30 **Registration**

09.30 – 09.40 **Opening remarks**

Mr. Daren Tang, Director General, will open the first session of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) ICT Leadership Dialogue (WILD) and welcome participants.

09.40 – 10.00 **Theme 1: Emerging technologies: key challenges and opportunities**

Intellectual property (IP) offices face both opportunities and challenges in incorporating new and rapidly evolving technologies. Under this theme, we will examine how they can effectively integrate emerging technologies to update operations, streamline processes and enhance service delivery, while managing the related challenges.

10.00 – 11.00 **Theme 2: Digital business strategy and best practices**

A comprehensive digital business strategy is crucial for IP offices to boost efficiency and service quality, and adapt to technological developments. Effective strategies align technology with organizational goals and require leadership, stakeholder alignment and innovation. For this theme, we will explore how IP offices implement digital strategies and achieve operational excellence, and we will share best practices and case studies of successful digital solutions worldwide.

11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break

11.20 – 12.30 **Theme 3: Digital transformation and key challenges**

Implementing digital transformation in IP offices involves adopting complex systems and processes, and implementing digitalization projects. That can present challenges relating to resource allocation, staff training, change management and technology integration. Overcoming them requires strategic planning, effective leadership and continuous workforce development. Under this theme, we will discuss how IP offices can address those challenges in order to render their operations more efficient and to boost stakeholder engagement.

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 14.40 **Theme 3 (cont.): Digital transformation and key challenges**

14.40 – 15.20

Theme 4: Data strategy and governance

Data is vital for IP offices, enabling informed decision-making, policy development and service optimization. The secure, ethical and efficient use of data requires a robust data strategy and governance framework. For this theme, we will focus on how IP offices can harness data as a strategic resource, promote data-driven decision-making and implement governance frameworks that support transparency and security.

15.20 – 16.00

Theme 5: Cyber resiliency and best practices

The increasing digitalization of IP office operations has heightened their vulnerability to cyber threats. Cyber resiliency involves developing systems capable of withstanding, recovering from and adapting to cybersecurity incidents. Implementing a proactive cybersecurity strategy is crucial for safeguarding sensitive IP data and maintaining operational integrity. Under this theme, we will explore how IP offices can build cyber-resilient systems, apply best practices in cybersecurity and cooperate at the international level to address cyber threats.

16.00 – 16.20

Coffee break

16.20 – 17.30

Panel 1: Implications of technology trends

The panel will discuss the implications of technology trends, including the associated challenges, and identify priority areas for practical collaboration.

17.30

Group photo to be followed by reception, hosted by WIPO Director General Daren Tang

Tuesday, April 15, 2025: Harnessing emerging technologies for IP

On Day 2, we will examine how emerging technologies are transforming the global IP landscape and impacting IP ecosystems. Participants will discuss how to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) tools and other innovative technologies into IP business operations and services. A discussion will also be held on extending collaboration and utilizing technology to improve efficiency and innovation in the global IP ecosystem.

09.30 – 10.40 Theme 6: Impact of emerging technologies on IP ecosystems

Emerging technologies such as AI and blockchain are transforming global IP ecosystems. Under this theme, we will examine how those technologies are reshaping IP business models and operations, creating opportunities and challenges for IP offices and other stakeholders.

10.40 – 11.00 Theme 7: AI tools for IP businesses

The integration of AI tools into IP businesses is revolutionizing operations by enhancing efficiency, accuracy and customer service. AI-powered tools automate labor-intensive tasks, streamline processes and provide valuable insights into IP trends. For this theme, we will explore AI tools that IP offices develop or implement, and the challenges that those offices face, including with regard to data security, costs and technical barriers. ICT leaders and senior managers will also discuss how IP offices can work together to develop or use AI-powered tools.

11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break

11.20 – 12.30 Theme 7 (cont.): AI tools for IP businesses

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 14.40 Theme 7 (cont.): AI tools for IP businesses

14.40 – 16.00 Theme 8: Emerging technologies for small IP offices: tailored approaches to empowerment in the digital age

Smaller IP offices often face resource constraints, limited technical capacity and challenges when adopting cutting-edge technologies. Those offices need a tailored approach to the uptake of such technologies in order to remain competitive and efficient in the digital era. Under this theme, we will explore how emerging technologies can be adapted to the needs of smaller IP offices, and discuss capacity-building strategies and collaborative frameworks that can enable smaller offices to modernize operations and deliver efficient services.

16.00 – 16.20 Coffee break

16.20 – 17.30 Panel 2: Extending collaboration on emerging technologies for IP businesses

The panel will summarize the use cases of emerging technologies in IP businesses, discuss their impact on IP ecosystems and explore areas of practical collaboration in their use to enhance IP services.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025: Strengthening global collaboration and digital harmonization

In today's interconnected IP world, global collaboration and harmonization of IP information systems are crucial for effective business operations and the protection of IP rights internationally. Digital harmonization through multilateral partnerships can create efficient, secure and interoperable systems for global IP operations.

On Day 3, we will focus on global collaboration to advance IP information systems and digital initiatives. We will explore how to enhance interoperability with WIPO Standards, improve global data exchange and foster ICT partnerships. In their discussions, participants will address bridging the digital divide for inclusive participation in the digital economy, concluding with actionable steps for sustainable digital transformation in IP offices.

09.30 – 10.30 Theme 9: Further harmonizing and digitalizing IP information systems

Interoperability is crucial for a digitalized global IP ecosystem. WIPO Standards ensure interoperability, consistency and data quality across IP information systems, allowing IP offices worldwide to operate more efficiently. Under this theme, we will discuss strategies for further harmonizing and digitalizing IP information systems, leveraging WIPO Standards. Participants will also share their offices' experiences and challenges in implementing standards to improve digital operations.

10.30 – 11.00 Theme 10: Global IP data exchange and sharing platforms

Efficient and secure data exchange is essential for a seamless global IP ecosystem. Global IP data-sharing initiatives not only enhance efficiency but also enable faster innovation and better enforcement of IP rights. This theme will examine current data-sharing environments and discuss how to advance data-sharing collaboration and platforms with a view to improving global IP operations.

11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break

11.20 – 11.50 Theme 10 (cont.): Global IP data exchange and sharing platforms

11.50 – 12.30 Theme 11: Bridging the digital divide

Significant disparities exist between advanced and less advanced IP offices in terms of digital capabilities. Bridging that digital divide is crucial to ensuring that all IP offices can participate in the global IP ecosystem. WIPO solutions and capacity-building initiatives are designed to assist less advanced offices by providing them with access to affordable digital tools, training and infrastructure support. For this theme, we will examine strategies for bridging digital gaps, with a focus on scalable solutions, inclusive policies and international cooperation to empower all IP offices.

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 15.00	<p>Panel 3: Strengthening digital collaboration across Member States</p> <p>The panel will discuss how to enhance digital cooperation among IP offices through interoperability, resource-sharing, emerging technologies and more.</p>
15.00 – 16.00	<p>Next Step: Key actions to be taken by IP offices and WIPO</p> <p><u>Part 1:</u></p> <p>Considering the results of the pre-meeting survey presented by the Secretariat, the chair and panel moderators will explore common ICT priorities across IP offices and propose some recommendations for working together.</p>
16.00 – 16.20	<p>Coffee break</p>
16.20 – 17.20	<p>Next Step (cont.): Key actions to be taken by IP offices and WIPO</p> <p><u>Part 2:</u></p> <p>Considering the recommendations provided in Part 1, all participants will discuss possible digital collaborations among IP offices and conclude the first session with key actions to be taken.</p>
17.20 – 17.30	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Assistant Director General Ken-Ichiro Natsume, Infrastructure and Platforms Sector, will close the meeting.</p>