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## Jury chooses winning design for new WIPO building

The international jury appointed by WIPO to oversee the architectural competition to extend its premises awarded first prize to an innovative design by the German firm Behnisch, Behnisch & Partner on March 2. Of the 27 entries from 18 countries, five awards were presented to architects from Italy, Switzerland, Norway and the United States of America. The 15 member jury, which includes a number of eminent architects, senior government officials and legal experts from across the globe, met at WIPO headquarters from 28 February to 2 March to select the winning designs.

Commenting on the winning entry, Director General Dr. Kamil Idris described it as "a building of architectural beauty and technical excellence, which will symbolize creativity, facilitate our activities and incorporate technology of the twenty-first century."

The second prize went to Massimiliano Fuksas, Italy. In addition, four third prizes were awarded to: Luscher Architectes, Switzerland, Riechter & Dahl Rocha, Switzerland, Snøhetta, Norway, and Bernard Tschumi, the United States of America.

In its final report, the jury noted that the winning design is "a project for a new generation." The jury stated "The overall concept for this project can be found in its integration with the surrounding environment. It is completely coherent -- the whole is the sum of its parts. The building is inserted into its site in a way that plays with the existing landscape and brings the outside in." In his submission to the jury, the winning architect emphasized the importance of integrating the surrounding landscape into the design. "People should perceive their environment not so much as fixed

building but rather as a three-dimensional, open-spatial structure, which can be "filled" according to changing requirements".

Mr. Shigeki Sumi, President of the jury, said "The successful entries were judged to be those that offered the most suitable architectural, environmentally-friendly, and operationally efficient proposals." He added, "We were very impressed by the interesting and imaginative proposals, and by the extremely high standard of the entries."

The winner of the competition will receive 100,000 Swiss francs. The second prize winner will receive 50,000 Swiss Francs. Third prize winners will receive 25,000 Swiss Francs each. All entrants whose proposals complied with the rules of the competition and which were examined by the jury, will receive the sum of 10,000 Swiss francs.

*Commenting on the winning entry, Director General Dr. Kamil Idris described it as "a building of architectural beauty and technical excellence, which will symbolize creativity, facilitate our activities and incorporate technology of the twenty-first century."*



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Mr. Francis Gurry, jury Vice-President and Assistant Director General of WIPO, said "This project is a contemporary expression oriented towards both the environment and the future."

All prizes will be awarded at a ceremony in April 2000, when the winning entries will be displayed at an exhibition, as well as a scale model of the first prize entry. This will take place at WIPO headquarters in Geneva.

The competition was launched following a decision by WIPO member States in June 1998 to authorize the acquisition of additional land adjacent to the existing headquarters' building for expansion of its administrative headquarters in Geneva. In February 1999 some 800 architectural practices from 62 countries had expressed interest in the competition. Of these, 186 followed through by submitting profiles, which were the basis of selection for the finalists.

An international jury, appointed in June 1999 and made up of fifteen permanent members and three substitutes supported by a team of technical experts, was responsible

for ensuring that the selection process was undertaken in an objective and transparent manner.

At a meeting in September 1999, the jury chose the finalists to compete in the last leg of the competition. Mr. Sumi stated "The finalists not only represent the diversity of architectural practice in the world today, but also hold sufficient professional resources to meet the specialized needs of WIPO."

The competition covers the design of a complex comprised of:

- An office building with some 500 work places, several meeting rooms, an underground car park for approximately 300 vehicles, a cafeteria, service areas and a link to the main building.
- A conference room, offering approximately 600 seats for delegates and equipped with

modern six-language interpretation facilities and appropriate computer and audiovisual equipment, located in immediate proximity to the existing WIPO conference and meeting facilities.

- Enlargement and restructuring of the lower floors to provide parking facilities for delegates and visitors.

With the decision of the jury, WIPO will now move into the next phase of implementing the construction project.

The growing importance of intellectual property issues and the consequent expansion of WIPO's activities has created a pressing practical need for additional premises. The new complex will bring all WIPO headquarters' staff together. Currently, WIPO rents office space in several commercial buildings located in Geneva.



Photo: Christian Poite

The winning design will be linked to the Arpad Bogsch building (above). This building has 19 levels, 5 underground and 14 above ground; the new design will enlarge and restructure the lower floors to provide for increased parking facilities for delegates and visitors.

## Visits

### Director General of WIPO visits the Sultanate of Oman

The effects of globalization on developing countries and the role of intellectual property in the preservation and use of national cultural heritage were the focus of talks between the Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, and senior Omani officials on February 16 in Muscat. Dr. Idris discussed bilateral relations and emphasized the importance of a strong intellectual property system in promoting social, cultural, and economic development.

During his visit to Muscat the Director General also met with His Highness Sayyid Fahad bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Minister for the Council of Ministers, Maqbool bin Ali bin Sultan, Minister for Commerce and Industry, Abdul Aziz bin Mohammed Al-Rowas, Minister for Information, and Yousuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs. In the course of these discussions, Dr. Idris emphasized the advantages of an effective intellectual property system in promoting economic development and in preserving the rich cultural patrimony of a country such as Oman.

The Director General assured the Omani Government of WIPO's continued support in modernizing and strengthening the intellectual

property system of that country by providing assistance on legislative matters, institution building and human resource development. Dr. Idris also emphasized the readiness of WIPO to provide advice to Oman in preparing intellectual property legislation with enforcement provisions compatible with Oman's obligations under other international treaties.

It was also agreed that WIPO would collaborate with the Omani Government to establish an Omani on-line museum. Several leading world museums are moving towards the use of digital technology to store and display priceless cultural artifacts. An on-line museum facility will serve an important role in preserving, safeguarding and disseminating the rich cultural heritage and traditions of Oman.

Oman became a member of the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in February 1997. It joined the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in July 1999.

## WIPO Director General visits Sweden

Ways to promote innovation among small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) featured strongly in discussions between Director General Dr. Kamil Idris and Ms. Mona Sahlin, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications. During a one-day visit to Stockholm on February 9, the Director General and the Swedish Minister of Industry exchanged views on future avenues of cooperation and agreed on the need to bring together ministers from other countries sharing the same concerns to discuss the issue in more depth later this year.

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are an important engine of economic growth and generate a significant proportion of Sweden's gross domestic product. Since the advent of the Internet in Sweden, known as the most wired and wireless country in the world, many start-up ventures have emerged. The success of these businesses hinges on their innovative ideas which need protection. The registration systems that are administered by WIPO, such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and the Madrid and Hague systems for the protection of trademarks and industrial designs respectively, can provide SMEs with access to strategically important information on state-of-the-art technologies. Ready access to such information is of critical importance to the competitiveness of SMEs and their performance within both national and international markets.

Dr. Idris also met with Mr. Bo Göransson, Director General of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and

other senior officials to exchange views on strategies to support developing countries in their efforts to establish effective intellectual property protection systems, to promote innovation and to commercialise creative activities. In this regard, emphasis was placed on the importance of training in the area of information technology. In particular, Dr. Idris expressed appreciation for the invaluable expertise and the dynamism of SIDA's international cooperation activities in various areas including intellectual property. Mr. Göransson and Dr. Idris also discussed future collaboration between SIDA and WIPO to assist developing countries in meeting the challenges of the digital age. SIDA officials expressed specific interest in working with WIPO to further the objectives of the WIPO Digital Agenda. Launched in October 1999, the Digital Agenda consists of a set of guidelines to address problems arising from the impact of electronic commerce on intellectual property rights. The Digital Agenda reflects WIPO's desire to take practical steps to ensure that all countries participate in the process of defining policy and addressing issues relating to intellectual property law in the digital age.



*WIPO Director General Dr. Kamil Idris also met with Mr. Carl Anders Ifvarsson, Director General of the Swedish Patent Office to exchange views on strategies to support developing countries in establishing effective intellectual property protection and promoting innovation.*

Sweden has a long-standing and dynamic intellectual property tradition. It has been a member of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since 1885 (of which the latest Act, known as "the Stockholm Act", was adopted at a Conference in Stockholm in 1967) and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works since 1904. Sweden became a member of WIPO in 1970 and is party to a total of thirteen WIPO-administered international treaties in the field of intellectual property.

## WIPO Director General wraps up Washington visit

Director General Dr. Kamil Idris, wrapped up a visit to Washington on March 1 by expressing hope that the United States would soon join an international treaty for the registration of marks.

"Accession by the United States to the Madrid Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks will give added impetus to American companies - big and small - seeking markets for their trademarked goods and services around the world," Dr. Idris said. "It will also have a very strong and positive effect on the international intellectual property system" he added.

During a reception hosted on behalf of the United States Committee for WIPO by the Honorable Orrin Hatch, Chairman of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Dr. Idris also welcomed the United States' signature of the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. He looked forward to rapid accession by the United States to this agreement which, he noted "will strengthen our global protection systems that allow individuals and companies to start and build business at the local level but quickly and easily establish a global presence". WIPO administers three global protection systems, namely, the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), the Madrid system for the registration of marks and the Hague system for the registration of industri-

### Protecting trademarks under the Madrid system

Under the Madrid system, a trademark owner in one of the member countries can obtain protection for his mark in some or all of the other member countries by filing a single international application in which he indicates the countries in which the application is to apply. The Madrid system is governed by two treaties: the Madrid Agreement, which dates from 1891 and the Madrid Protocol, which became operational in 1996, introducing a number of new features into the system to better meet the needs of potential new members. A country may adhere to either the Agreement or to the Protocol or to both.

al designs. They all offer a simplified and cost-effective means of intellectual property protection in multiple countries.

The Director General also paid tribute to the continued support of the United States government, the business sector and their important contribution to the enhancement of the international intellectual property system in the 21st century. In this regard, Dr. Idris made reference to WIPO's commitment to strengthening its global protection systems; promoting adherence to WIPO-administered treaties, including the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Phonograms and Performers Treaty (WPPT) and providing assistance to developing countries to enable them to meet their international obligations, including those under the TRIPS Agreement. Within an economic environment that is increasingly knowledge-based, such measures are the

building blocks of the future. Dr. Idris said, "Modern economies are becoming increasingly knowledge-based. Intellectual property can be the fuel to drive that economy. But, we all must ensure that it is an economy in which people from developed and developing countries can and should participate. I am convinced we can do that. I am convinced that it is in the best interest of the United States to do so".

## PAC Task Force meets in Washington

The Director General's visit to Washington also featured a meeting of the Task Force of the WIPO Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) under the Chairmanship of HRH Prince El-Hassan bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Task Force discussed ways and means of managing globalization, intellectual property and its role in supporting small and medium-sized enterprises. The meeting also considered further proposals by its members to commission studies on the link between the intellectual property system and wealth creation in both developing and developed countries.



*Members of the Policy Advisory Committee (from the right), Mr. Bruce Lehman, President, International Intellectual Property Institute, former Assistant Secretary for Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, United States of America, Mr. Marino Porzio, Chairman of the WIPO General Assemblies, Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile, and former Deputy Director General, WIPO, also attended this meeting of the Task Force.*



*His Royal Highness, Prince El-Hassan bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan chaired the meeting of the Task Force of the Policy Advisory Committee.*

## Focus on inventors from developing countries

### WIPO Gold Medallist Dr. Ovadje - promoting health and patent information in developing countries

Excitement and scepticism greeted Dr. Oviemo Ovadje's invention—an emergency autologous blood transfusion device called the EAT-SET, a life-saving device to enable doctors to use a patient's own blood for necessary blood transfusions during surgery.

Excitement, because his discovery provided an economical and accessible means of significantly reducing the number of people who die in Nigeria every year simply because blood for transfusions is not readily available. In Nigeria, as in many developing countries, there is no emergency blood transfusion service. Patients who know that they will have surgery can prepare in advance by giving blood to be on "standby" if they should need it, but an emergency call to relatives is often the only possibility when an urgent operation is needed.

Scepticism, for back in the early 1990s no device for such blood recycling existed in Nigeria and it was thought impossible to find a solution given the severe limits on funding for medical research.

The early development of the EAT-SET device took place in the



*Dr. Ovadje's invention, an emergency autologous blood transfusion device called the EAT-SET enables doctors to use a patient's own blood for necessary blood transfusions during surgery.*

Nigerian Army where the inventor, Lt. Col. Dr. Oviemo Ovadje worked and specialized as an anaesthetist. This invention would not, however, have been possible without significant support from the Nigerian Government and international agencies such as the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and WIPO. The Government, in an effort to provide sustainable technological development in Nigeria established the Ministry of Science and Technology in 1979. One of the

Ministry's objectives was to train Nigerian scientists and engineers to adapt available technological advances to the specific needs of Nigeria. This assisted in the early work on this and similar projects. Funding was then provided by the WHO and UNDP which helped in the development and promotion of the invention in Nigeria and other developing countries.

In 1995, Dr. Ovadje's significant contribution to African innovation in the field of health care was recognized when he received the Organization for African Unity and WIPO Gold Medal Award for EAT-SET. Dr. Ovadje has continued to work to promote the EAT-SET device and the advantages it offers to other developing countries. He has also shared his precious experience as an inventor from a developing country at WIPO seminars in Ethiopia and most recently took part in the WIPO medal winners' exhibition at the AFRO-ARAB Commercial Trade Fair in April 1999.

*Dr. Ovadje sharing his precious experience as an inventor from a developing country with participants at a WIPO seminar in Ethiopia.*





# Copyright

## WIPO roving seminars address urgent need for the collective management of copyright in Viet Nam



Photo: Helga Tabuchis

*Mrs. Nahla Haidar El Addal, Director, Copyright Collective Management Division (standing) and (from the left) Mr. Nguyen Trung Kien, Vice Minister, Ministry of Culture and Information, Government of Viet Nam, and Mr. Do Khae Chien, Deputy Director General, Copyright Office of Viet Nam, Ministry of Culture and Information, at the Hanoi session of the Roving Seminar.*

A diverse audience comprising government officials, rights owners and legal practitioners keen to learn more about the basics of protecting copyright and related rights and supportive of the Vietnamese Government's commitment to strengthening copyright and related rights protection attended two seminars held in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam from February 21 to 25, 2000.

WIPO organized the seminars at the request of the Government of Viet Nam with the financial assistance of the Government of Japan. The program was prepared in cooperation with the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) Asia-Pacific Office, and the

Recording Industry Association of Japan. The program sought to explain how copyright and related rights can be effectively managed collectively. No collective management organization exists in Viet Nam at present. Although Viet Nam joined WIPO in 1976, it has yet to join any of the international treaties on copyright and related rights; legal provisions for such rights are part of the 1996 Civil Code which has a chapter dedicated to copyright.

The roving seminars identified the work to be done to enable the establishment of collective management systems, and the need for Viet Nam to be part of the international copyright protection mechanisms such as the Berne Convention.

The Copyright Office of Viet Nam is fully prepared to move in this direction. It has already prepared draft statutory documentation for the establishment of Viet Nam's first collecting society.

While it was clear during the seminars that the concept of copyright and related rights is new to many in the country, the seminars increased awareness among those most directly concerned, namely copyright owners and the judiciary. WIPO also confirmed that it will continue to cooperate with the Government in increasing awareness of copyright issues, training, and assistance with developing an effective enforcement mechanism.

## Cooperation for Development

### WIPO demonstrating techniques for speedy access to patent information for CIS countries



Photo: Belarus Patent Office

*Roundtable discussions at the end of the regional seminar revealed increased awareness among participants of the great advantages the Internet offers in gaining rapid access to patent information.*

High speed access to the wealth of patent information now available globally was the focus of a two-day WIPO regional seminar for some 160 participants from the CIS. The seminar was organized in cooperation with the State Patent Committee of the Republic of Belarus and took place in Minsk.

A hands-on practical approach with demonstrations of the services accessible via the WIPO and European Patent Office (EPO) websites, as well as the well known CD-ROM patent databases, took

place on the first day of the seminar. The participants were guided on the types of electronic sources available and on choosing the correct one for a specific patent search, be it a commercially-hosted databank, CD-ROM, DVD-ROM or Internet-based database.

Discussions also covered the importance of increasing awareness in the business and research sectors where the advantages of free access to valuable information on new products via the Internet is not being fully exploited.

The seminar continued with concrete examples of how available patent information has been used by European industry to great advantage. The seminar concluded with an overview of the services that will become available with the launch of the WIPONET. During the concluding roundtable several representatives of the CIS expressed keen interest in participating in WIPONET and were very much aware of the improved access it would provide to patent information.

### Did you know?

- Approximately 4.5 million patent applications were made in 1997
- Approximately 0.8 million patents were granted
- The number of inventions covered by these patents is even smaller (one invention gives rise to several applications)
- Nearly 40 million patent documents published worldwide so far.

Much of this valuable information is freely available.

## WIPO working together with the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia to promote the Madrid and the Hague international registration systems

At the invitation of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia, WIPO held a series of seminars attended by local attorneys and representatives of the business community on the advantages of the Madrid and the Hague systems for international registration from February 21-23. Georgia joined the Madrid system in 1998 and has expressed a strong interest in the advantages offered by the Hague system.

Discussions were also held with senior government officials including Academician Nodary Amaglobely, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of Sciences and Technology who confirmed his support of efforts to accede to the Hague system and adopt modern legislation in the field of intellectual property. Discussions also touched on Georgia's possible accession to the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin, an area that had prompted many questions during the seminars.

At the conclusion of the seminars, Georgian officials indicated the country intends to accede to both the 1960 and 1999 Acts of the Hague Agreement. The Director General of the Center, Mr. David Gabunia proposed that cooperation with WIPO continue after Georgia's accession with seminars on the practical implications of the Hague Agreement.



*Working to promote the Hague and the Madrid systems with (from the left) Mr. David Gabunia, Director General of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia, Mr. Denis Cohen, Legal Officer, WIPO, International Registrations Department, Mr. Boris Khabirov, Senior Counselor, WIPO, International Registrations Department, and Mr. Nodary Amaglobely, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Science and Technology.*

### Georgia positive about membership of the Madrid System

Georgia joined the Madrid Protocol in 1998 and received some 1,771 designations in 1999. The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia was pleased with the performance and anticipates continued growth following Japan's accession in 1999.

## The TRIPS Agreement prompts lively debate in Benin

Nearly 100 participants gathered together in Cotonou, Benin from January 18-21 to discuss how the TRIPS Agreement (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) (1994) affects business practices. The seminar was aimed at magistrates and customs officials from French-speaking countries in the region and was organized in cooperation with the Government of Benin

While much of the material to be discussed focused on the legal requirements as set out in the TRIPS Agreement, and thus required a relatively formal approach, the seminar had a varied format including role playing, lively group discussions and roundtables.

This flexible approach, balancing formal teaching with practical exercises, proved particularly powerful in examining the different views the prospective client, magistrate, or customs official takes towards infringing intellectual property rights.

Participants also used the opportunity to exchange views on their different regional approaches to the enforcement of intellectual property rights. It became clear from the discussions that some work remains to be done to revise regional agreements in accordance with the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

During their stay in Benin, WIPO officials also visited l'École régionale supérieure de la magistrature (ERSUMA) to discuss the possible introduction of an intellectual property module into their training course for magistrates. ERSUMA officials were most enthusiastic about the project, as intellectual property issues are not presently covered on their syllabus.

## High-level meetings consider the sharing of the benefits of globalization

### UNCTAD X

Globalization and the benefits it may bring to all countries, in particular developing countries, countries with economies in transition, and least developed countries

(LDCs) was the theme of UNCTAD X, the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held in Bangkok, Thailand from February 12-19. WIPO Director General Dr. Kamil Idris addressed the High Level Round Table at the opening of UNCTAD X.

In his address Dr. Idris emphasized that in today's global economy wealth creation is largely based on the magnitude of technological knowledge, in particular digital and genetic information, and the availability of a well-structured intellectual property system. He stressed how creativity, knowledge and information are the keys to success for developing countries. Economic growth and increasing trade opportunities are not simply a question of increasing market access, he said, but also of the need for capacity-building in institutions and human resources, empowering developing countries with information technology, distance learning and access to global information networks.

Dr. Idris went on to consider the use of nationally focused action

Photo H. Saigado



## Cooperation with other organizations

plans by WIPO and others to fill the information gap, enable more foreign direct investment and thus more export growth and subsequently the creation of indigenous information technologies. He called for empowering developing countries with the legal means to compete.

The objective of this roundtable was to increase awareness among United Nations organizations of the role that each plays in promoting the sharing of the benefits of globalization and the importance of a cohesive approach by all for effective progress.

### ASEAN summit

On the occasion of UNCTAD X in Bangkok, the Director General also participated at the ASEAN-UN Summit on February 13 with other specially invited heads of agencies. Dr Idris contributed to the exchange of views at the Summit, emphasizing the role of intellectual property on global economic development.

ASEAN was established on August 8, 1967 by five countries, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The organization now includes Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. The organization represents a region of some 4.5 million square kilometers and some 500 million people with a combined GDP of US\$737 billion.

## WIPO working with WTO and the Islamic Development Bank on world trade issues

A two-week training course on the fundamental principles of the multilateral trading system organized by the Islamic Development Bank and the World Trade Organization brought 38 participants from 12 French-speaking African countries together to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from February 14 to March 3. WIPO was invited to this training session to complement a comprehensive program of lectures given by some 12 experts from WTO, which covered the scope and functions of the WTO as well as roundtable discussions on its dispute settlement system.

WIPO presentations commenced with an overview of the

Organization's work and in particular its cooperation with the WTO under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (1994).

Participants were very much interested in these IP issues and responded well to the opportunities for questions, which served to expand the scope of IP discussions to include:

- protecting traditional knowledge
- protecting plant varieties
- counterfeiting and piracy
- the enforcement of intellectual property rights and necessary customs controls.



*Such was the interest of participants at the training course, that the subjects covered were expanded from basic notions of IP rights to include topical issues.*

## Focusing on LDCs needs to share in the benefits of globalization

The importance of integrating least developed countries (LDCs) into the global economy and the multilateral trading system dominated presentations by heads of international organizations at a meeting of ministers of trade of LDCs, held on February 13 on the occasion of UNCTAD X, in Bangkok (see page 12).

In his address to the ministers, WIPO Deputy Director General Roberto Castelo outlined the efforts made by WIPO, notably with the establishment of nationally tailored programs for LDCs to address their immediate needs and promote durable development.

He expressed concerns that the income gap between the richest and the poorest of the world has significantly widened with globalization. There is a growing bleak contrast between LDCs and the rest of the world, which is experiencing growing prosperity. In many LDC's, Mr. Castelo noted, increasing numbers of people are living in absolute poverty. Mr. Castelo pledged to continue WIPO assistance in institution-building and modernizing



Photo H. Salgado

*Mr. Castelo pledged to continue WIPO assistance to LDCs so that they reach a position where they will be able to attract foreign investment and new technology.*

national legislation to help LDCs reach a position where they will be able to attract foreign direct investment and new technology.

The meeting of ministers was designed as a contribution to cooperation among United Nations organizations and as part of the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on LDCs to be held in Brussels in May 2001.

# Calendar of meetings

April 11, 12 & 14 (Geneva)

## **Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (Fourth session)**

The Committee will continue its work based on the results of its third session (November 16 to 20, 1999).

Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO and/or of the Berne Union, and the European Community; as observers, other States and certain organizations.

April 12 and 14 (Geneva)

## **Preparatory Committee for the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on Audiovisual Performances**

The preparatory Committee will prepare recommendations to the WIPO General Assembly concerning the convening of a Diplomatic Conference on Audiovisual Performances, including dates, venue, invitations and rules of procedure.

Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO, as observers, other States.

April 13 and 14 (Geneva)

## **WIPO General Assembly (Eleventh Extraordinary session)**

The General Assembly will review the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on Audiovisual Performances and decide on the convening of a Diplomatic Conference.

Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO, as observers, other States and certain organizations.

May 11 to June 2 (CICG, Geneva)

## **Diplomatic Conference on Proposed Patent Law Treaty**

The Diplomatic Conference will consider the adoption of the Patent Law Treaty as well as Regulations thereunder.

Invitations: As ordinary members, the States members of WIPO and the States party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property; as special members, the African Intellectual Property Organization, the African Regional Industrial Property Organization, the Eurasian Patent Organization and the European Patent Organisation; as observers, the States members of the United Nations but not of WIPO or the Paris Union, as well as certain inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

July 3 to 6 (Geneva)

## **Working Group on Constitutional Reform (Second session)**

The Working Group will continue its work based on the results of its first session (March 22 to 24, 2000).

Invitations: States members of WIPO and of the Paris and Berne Unions.

July 10 to 14 (Geneva)

## **Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) (Fifth Plenary session)**

The Committee will discuss, among other issues, project management methodologies to be implemented by WIPO and planning mechanisms relating to the Information Technology Strategic Implementation Plan.

Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO and certain organizations; as observers, other States and certain organizations.

September 25 to October 3 (Geneva)

## **Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (Thirty-fifth series of meetings)**

Some of the assemblies will meet in extraordinary session, other bodies concerned in ordinary session.

Invitations: As members or observers (depending on the assembly), the States members of WIPO; as observers, other States and certain organizations.

October 2 to 13 (Geneva)

## **Committee of Experts of the Nice Union (Special Union for the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks) (Eighteenth session)**

The Committee of Experts will consider proposals for amendments and other changes to the seventh edition of the International Classification of Goods and Services (Nice Classification) in view of the entry into force of the Eighth edition on January 1, 2002.

Invitations: The States members of the Nice Union and, as observers, the States members of the Paris Union but not members of the Nice Union, the African Intellectual Property Organization, the Benelux Trademark Office and the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs).

# Products

## The following new products were issued by WIPO:

- *International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations* (Arabic) No. 328(A), 10 Swiss francs
- *The WIPO Internet Treaties* (English) No. L450IN/E, free of charge
- *Les traités internet de l'OMPI* (French) No. L450IN/F, free of charge
- *Joint Recommendation Concerning Provisions on the Protection of Well-Known Marks* (English) No. 833(E,F,S), 28 Swiss francs



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