

REGISTRATION SYSTEMS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Meeting of International Authorities Under the PCT (PCT/MIA). Sixth Session (Canberra, February 17 to 21, 1997).....	194
Training and Promotion Meetings for PCT Users.....	194
Computerization Activities	195

WIPO ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTER..... 195**ACTIVITIES OF WIPO SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Africa	196
Arab Countries.....	196
Asia and the Pacific	197
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	199

ACTIVITIES OF WIPO SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION TO MARKET ECONOMY..... 200**CONTACTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF WIPO WITH OTHER COUNTRIES AND WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS..... 201****RECENT WIPO PUBLICATIONS..... 203****CALENDAR OF MEETINGS..... 204****INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY LAWS AND TREATIES
(INSERT)**

Editor's Note

ANDORRA

Trademark Law of the Principality of Andorra (as last amended on October 16, 1996) (<i>This text replaces the one previously published under the same code number.</i>)	Text 3-001
---	------------

AUSTRIA

Utility Models Act 1994 (Federal Act on the Protection of Utility Models).....	Text 2-003
--	------------

CANADA

Integrated Circuit Topography Act (1990, c. 37 amended by S.C. 1992, c. 1; 1993, c. 15; 1994, c. 47; 1995, c. 1) (<i>This text replaces the one previously published under the same code number.</i>).....	Text 1-001
Trade-marks Act (R.S.C. 1985, c. T-13 amended by R.S.C. 1985, c. 10 (2nd Supp.); S.C. 1990, c. 14; c. 20; 1992, c. 1; 1993, c. 15; c. 44; 1994, c. 47; 1995, c. 1; 1996, c. 8) (<i>This text replaces the one previously published under the same code number.</i>).....	Text 3-001
Industrial Design Act (R.S.C. 1985, c. I-9 amended by R.S.C. 1985, c. 10 (2nd Supp.); 1985, c. 10 (4th Supp.); S.C. 1992, c. 1; 1993, c. 15; c. 44; 1994, c. 47).....	Text 4-001

GERMANY

Law on the Protection of Trade Marks and Other Signs (Trade Mark Law) (of October 25, 1994, as amended by the Law of July 19, 1996) (<i>Replacement sheet</i>).....	Text 3-001
---	------------

**COPYRIGHT AND NEIGHBORING RIGHTS LAWS AND TREATIES
(INSERT)**

Editor's Note

AUSTRALIA

Copyright Act 1968 (as last amended by the Copyright (World Trade Organization Amendments) Act No. 149 of 1994) [<i>Article 135ZB to the end</i>].....	Text 1-01
--	-----------

GERMANY

Law on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Copyright Law) (of September 9, 1965, as last amended by the Law of July 19, 1996) (<i>Replacement sheet</i>).....	Text 1-01
---	-----------

ROMANIA

Law on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (No. 8 of March 14, 1996).....	Text 1-01
--	-----------

MULTILATERAL TREATIES

Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms (of October 29, 1971).....	Text 9-01
--	-----------

Governing Bodies of WIPO

WIPO Coordination Committee

Thirty-Seventh Session (10th Extraordinary)
(Geneva, March 18 and 19, 1997)

The WIPO Coordination Committee met at WIPO's headquarters on March 18 and 19, 1997.

The following 66 member States of the Committee were represented at the meeting: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka,

Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia.

The substantive item on the agenda of the Coordination Committee was the nomination to the post of Director General of WIPO. Ten candidatures had been received.

The Coordination Committee decided to nominate Mr. Kamil Idris for appointment to the post of Director General by the General Assembly of WIPO.

Mr. Idris is a national of Sudan. He is, since 1994, Deputy Director General of WIPO. The appointment itself is expected to be made by the General Assembly in September 1997.

Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administered by WIPO

Thirtieth Series of Meetings
(Geneva, March 20 and 21, 1997)

The following three Governing Bodies of WIPO met at WIPO's headquarters on March 20 and 21, 1997:

- WIPO General Assembly, twentieth session (8th extraordinary)
- WIPO Coordination Committee, thirty-eighth session (11th extraordinary)
- Berne Union Assembly, twenty-first session (9th extraordinary).

The following 95 States and seven intergovernmental organizations were represented at the meetings: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic

People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay,

Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Commission of the European Communities (CEC), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Organization of African Unity (OAU), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), World Trade Organization (WTO).

As regards preparatory work on a protocol concerning audiovisual performances and a treaty concerning intellectual property in databases, the Governing Bodies decided that (i) a Committee of Experts on the protocol concerning audiovisual performances will be convened for September 15 and 16, 1997, and an Information Meeting concerning intellectual property in databases will be convened for September 17 and 18, 1997. The following day, September 19, 1997, will be reserved for the adoption of the reports of both the Committee of Experts and the Information Meeting; (ii) the International Bureau will, separately for each of the two subjects, prepare a document on the existing national and regional laws and regulations. Furthermore, the International Bureau will invite the Governments of the Member States of WIPO and the European Community, by circular, to communicate to it, in writing, information on the *de facto* situation, particularly contractual practices, existing in their respective countries, as well as any official statistics; (iii) the number of WIPO Member States for which WIPO will finance participation in each of the said two meetings (one government-designated representative from each of 38 countries: 10 developing countries from Africa, 10 developing countries from Asia, 10 developing countries from Latin America and the Caribbean, China and seven transition

countries from Eastern Europe and Central Asia) will be increased by 30% in respect of each group of countries mentioned.

The WIPO General Assembly considered a proposal from the United States of America concerning the establishment of an *ad hoc* information technologies committee to guide efforts related to the use of modern information technologies across WIPO's work program and with respect to the operations of the International Bureau.

The WIPO General Assembly decided that a Working Group will meet in June or July 1997, which should make recommendations as to whether there should be a new committee or should the task be entrusted to existing WIPO bodies, what should be the program in this field for the rest of 1997 and for the next biennium, and the general objectives beyond 1999.

The WIPO General Assembly also examined a proposal from the Russian Federation concerning representation in WIPO of the Central and East European region (countries in transition to market economy) aiming at restoring the balance which existed in the past in the International Bureau, with a post of Deputy Director General and with a regional office for those countries. Because of the coming on board of a new Director General, later in 1997, it was decided that this proposal should be addressed together with the whole structure of the Secretariat at the next proper occasion.

The WIPO Coordination Committee approved the Director General's intention to promote to grade D.1 (Director grade) Mr. Kurt Kemper (a national of Germany), Mr. Sharif Saadallah (a national of Egypt) and Mr. Albert Tramosch (a national of the United States of America).

Notifications Concerning Treaties Administered by WIPO

WIPO Convention

Accessions

CAPE VERDE

The Government of Cape Verde deposited, on April 7, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, signed at Stockholm on July 14, 1967.

The said Convention will enter into force, with respect to Cape Verde, on July 7, 1997.

WIPO Notification No. 191, of April 7, 1997.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

The Government of Equatorial Guinea deposited, on March 26, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, signed at Stockholm on July 14, 1967.

The said Convention will enter into force, with respect to Equatorial Guinea, on June 26, 1997.

WIPO Notification No. 190, of March 26, 1997.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Government of Papua New Guinea deposited, on April 10, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, signed at Stockholm on July 14, 1967.

The said Convention will enter into force, with respect to Papua New Guinea, on July 10, 1997.

WIPO Notification No. 192, of April 10, 1997.

Paris Convention

Accession

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

The Government of Equatorial Guinea deposited, on March 26, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of March 20, 1883, as revised at Stockholm on July 14, 1967, and amended on September 28, 1979.

Equatorial Guinea has not heretofore been a member of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property ("Paris Union"), founded by the Paris Convention.

The Paris Convention as revised will enter into force, with respect to Equatorial Guinea, on June 26, 1997. On that date, Equatorial Guinea will become a member of the Paris Union.

Paris Notification No. 176, of March 26, 1997.

Berne Convention

I. Accessions

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

The Government of Equatorial Guinea deposited, on March 26, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of September 9, 1886, as revised at Paris on July 24, 1971, and amended on September 28, 1979.

The Berne Convention as revised will enter into force, with respect to Equatorial Guinea, on June 26, 1997. On that date, Equatorial Guinea will also become a member of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic

Works ("Berne Union"), founded by the Berne Convention.

Berne Notification No. 180, of March 26, 1997.

GUATEMALA

The Government of Guatemala deposited, on April 28, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of September 9, 1886, as revised at Paris on July 24, 1971, and amended on September 28, 1979.

The said instrument of accession contains the following declaration:

"The Republic of Guatemala does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Paragraph (1) of Article 33 of that Convention." (*Translation*)

The Berne Convention as revised will enter into force, with respect to Guatemala, on July 28, 1997. On that date, Guatemala will also become a member of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works ("Berne Union"), founded by the Berne Convention.

Berne Notification No. 182, of April 28, 1997.

II. Accession to the Paris Act (1971)

CAPE VERDE

The Government of Cape Verde deposited, on April 7, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of September 9, 1886, as revised at Paris on July 24, 1971, and amended on September 28, 1979.

The Paris Act (1971), as amended on September 28, 1979, of the said Convention, will enter into force, with respect to Cape Verde, on July 7, 1997. On that date, Cape Verde will also become a member of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works ("Berne Union"), founded by the Berne Convention.

Berne Notification No. 181, of April 7, 1997.

Lisbon Agreement

Accession

COSTA RICA

The Government of Costa Rica deposited, on April 30, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration of October 31, 1958, as revised at Stockholm on July 14, 1967, and amended on September 28, 1979.

The said Agreement will enter into force, with respect to Costa Rica, on July 30, 1997.

Lisbon Notification No. 22, of April 30, 1997.

Vienna Agreement (International Classification of Figurative Elements of Marks)

Accession

CUBA

The Government of Cuba deposited, on April 18, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Vienna Agreement Establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks, done at Vienna on June 12, 1973, as amended on October 1, 1985.

The said instrument of accession contains the following declarations:

"The Government of the Republic of Cuba regrets the inclusion of provisions of the kind contained in Article 12(3) of the Vienna Agreement, which refer to Article 24 of the Stockholm Act (1967) of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, following the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples—Resolution 1514 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 14, 1960—which proclaims the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba likewise does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 16(1) of the Vienna Agreement, under which the International Court of Justice has jurisdiction in any dispute between two or more countries over the interpretation or application of the Agreement. The Republic of Cuba maintains that, for a dispute to be referred to the International Court of Justice, the consent of all the parties to the dispute should be obtained in each specific case.”
(*Translation*)

The said Agreement will enter into force, with respect to Cuba, on July 18, 1997.

Vienna (Classification) Notification No. 12, of April 18, 1997.

Budapest Treaty

I. Accessions

SOUTH AFRICA

The Government of South Africa deposited, on April 14, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, done at Budapest on April 28, 1977, and amended on September 26, 1980.

The said Treaty will enter into force, with respect to South Africa, on July 14, 1997.

Budapest Notification No. 154, of April 14, 1997.

UKRAINE

The Government of Ukraine deposited, on April 2, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, done at Budapest on April 28, 1977, and amended on September 26, 1980.

The said Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Ukraine, on July 2, 1997.

Budapest Notification No. 153, of April 2, 1997.

II. Acquisition of the Status of International Depository Authority

MICROBIAL STRAIN COLLECTION OF LATVIA (MSCL)

(Latvia)

The following written communication, addressed to the Director General of WIPO by the Government of Latvia under Article 7 of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, done at Budapest on April 28, 1977, as amended on September 26, 1980, was received on February 26, 1997, and is published by the International Bureau of WIPO pursuant to Article 7(2)(a) of the said Treaty:

“Considering the fact that the Republic of Latvia is a Contracting State of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure since December 29, 1994, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia requests to approve the Microbial Strain Collection of Latvia (MSCL) as an international depository authority.

The Government of the Republic of Latvia declares that the Microbial Strain Collection of Latvia (MSCL) complies and will continue to comply with the requirements specified in Article 6(2) in the Regulations of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

INFORMATION ON THE MICROBIAL STRAIN COLLECTION OF LATVIA (MSCL)

MICROBIAL STRAIN COLLECTION OF LATVIA (MSCL)

University of Latvia, Faculty of Biology
blvd. Kronvalda 4
Riga LV-1586
Latvia
Telephone: 00371-7322914
Fax: 00371-7325657
e-mail: indrikis@laima.acad.latnet.lv.

1. Requirements for Deposit

(a) *Kinds of Microorganisms that May Be Deposited*

Bacteria (including actinomycetes), microscopic fungi (including yeasts) and plasmids in a host that can be preserved without significant

changes to their properties by freeze-drying or during storage on slant agar slope.

(b) Technical Requirements and Procedures

(i) Form and Quantity

Cultures submitted to MSCL for deposit must be in the form of agar stabs (slants) or lyophilized. The minimum number of replicates that must be provided by the depositor is five stabs (slants) or 25 lyophilized ampoules.

(ii) Time Required for Viability Testing

The average time required for testing the viability of various microorganisms accepted by MSCL is seven days, but in some cases viability testing may take 20 days.

(iii) Depositor Checks and Renewal of Stocks

The MSCL prepares its own batches by subculturing material originally supplied by the depositor. New batches are prepared for renewal of diminishing stocks. MSCL routinely asks the depositor to check the authenticity of the preparations made by the MSCL at the time of deposit from material supplied by the depositor. The MSCL routinely checks newly received deposits for contamination and, if they are found contaminated, returns them to the depositor. The MSCL stores original material supplied by the depositor.

(c) Administrative Requirements and Procedures

(i) General

Language. The official language of the MSCL is Latvian. Communications are accepted in English, German and Russian.

Contract. The MSCL does not enter into any written contract with the depositor defining the liabilities of either party but, signing the MSCL deposit forms, the depositor surrenders any right to withdraw his deposit during the required storage period and accepts that the microorganisms will be distributed according to the relevant patent requirements.

Import and/or Quarantine Regulations. The kinds of microorganisms accepted for deposit by the MSCL are not subject to import or quarantine regulations. The MSCL does not

advise the depositor of the procedures he must follow to obtain an import permit.

(ii) Making the Original Deposit

Requirements to Be Met by the Depositor. Depositors are required to complete form MSCL - BP/1 (the equivalent of model form BP/1) which is the accession form used for Budapest Treaty deposits. They must complete the equivalent of model form BP/2 when making a new deposit and the equivalent of model form BP/7 when communicating a later designation or amendment of a scientific description and/or taxonomic designation.

Official Notifications to the Depositor. Other than the mandatory 'international forms', official notifications are not issued on standard forms.

Unofficial Notifications to the Depositor. If requested, the MSCL will telephone or telefax the date of deposit and the accession number before the official receipt is issued, but only after a positive viability test has been obtained. The MSCL will similarly communicate the results of the viability test before the viability statement is issued.

Supply of Information to Patent Agent. The MSCL does not routinely ask the depositor for the name and address of his patent agent. However, if requested, the MSCL will send copies of the receipt and viability statement to both the depositor and his patent agent.

(iii) Converting a Previous Deposit

Deposits made outside the provisions of the Budapest Treaty may be converted by the original depositor to deposits under the Budapest Treaty only if they were originally made for patent purposes. The administrative requirements for conversion are similar to those to be met in respect of an original deposit made under the Treaty.

All conversions are subject to the storage fee normally levied for Budapest Treaty deposits.

(iv) Making a New Deposit

The depositor is required to complete the equivalent of model form BP/2 when making a new deposit, and to supply copies of the rele-

vant documents required by Rule 6.2. The receipt and viability statement for a new deposit are issued on mandatory 'international forms' BP/5 and BP/9.

2. Furnishing of Samples

(a) Request for Samples

The MSCL advises third parties of the correct procedures to follow in order to make a valid request. In the case of requests requiring proof of entitlement, the MSCL will provide requesting parties with copies of model request form BP/12 and/or request forms used by individual industrial property offices (where it has been supplied with such forms). All samples furnished by the MSCL are from batches of its own preparations.

(b) Notification of Depositor

Depositors are notified on model form BP/14 when samples of their microorganism have been furnished to third parties.

(c) Cataloguing of Budapest Treaty Deposits

The MSCL does not list Budapest Treaty deposits in its published catalog.

3. Schedule of Fees

	<i>Latvian Lats (Ls)</i>
(a) Storage	300
(b) Issuance of viability statement	30
(c) Furnishing of samples	30
	(plus cost of transport)

4. Guidance for Depositors

At present the MSCL does not have specific written notes for the guidance of depositors, but is always ready to offer advice by telephone, telefax or e-mail."

[End of text of the communication of the Government of Latvia]

Pursuant to Article 7(2)(b) of the Budapest Treaty, the Microbial Strain Collection of Latvia (MSCL) acquires the status of international depositary authority as from May 31, 1997.

Budapest Communication No. 108 (this communication is the subject of Budapest Notification No. 155, of May 26, 1997).

Trademark Law Treaty

Ratification

SLOVAKIA

The Government of Slovakia deposited, on April 9, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the Trademark Law Treaty, done at Geneva on October 27, 1994.

The Trademark Law Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Slovakia, on July 9, 1997.

TLT Notification No. 14, of April 9, 1997.

Normative Activities of WIPO

Committee of Experts on Trademark Licenses

First Session
(Geneva, February 17 to 20, 1997)

The following 61 States members of WIPO and/or the Paris Union were represented at the first session: Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Germany, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe. The European Communities (EC) were also represented. A representative of the Benelux Trademark Office (BBM) took part in the session in an observer capacity. The representatives of 17 non-governmental organizations also took part in the session in an observer capacity.

The Committee of Experts examined a memorandum and its two annexes, prepared by

the International Bureau, containing five draft Articles aimed at the simplification and harmonization of procedures relating to the recordal of licenses for the use of marks, and a model international request form for the recordal of licenses. The draft Articles had been drafted in the same treaty language as the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), and it is proposed that they become the substantive part of a Protocol to the TLT.

All the delegations and representatives of observer organizations which made general declarations welcomed WIPO's endeavor to simplify and harmonize administrative procedures relating to the recordal of licenses for marks, and expressed their support for that initiative.

A new draft of the Articles will be prepared for the second session of the Committee of Experts, taking into account suggestions made during the present session. In particular, the scope of the next draft will be broadened in order to make the draft Articles applicable to licenses concerning applications for a registration and to sub-licenses.

Trademarks and Internet Domain Names

From February 12 to 14, 1997, WIPO convened in Geneva the first session of a meeting of consultants on trademarks and Internet domain names. Sixteen consultants from France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the European Commission and the ITU participated in the session. A full range of issues dealing with the subject matter of the meeting were discussed. The Final

Report of the International Ad Hoc Committee (IAHC) of the Internet Society on the Internet domain name system was reviewed in detail, including those aspects which would involve ongoing activities on the part of WIPO. In the light of those discussions, it was decided that WIPO would convene a consultative meeting in May 1997, to which all WIPO Member States and concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations would be invited, to further discuss those issues.

Registration Systems Administered by WIPO

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Meeting of International Authorities Under the PCT (PCT/MIA)

Sixth Session
(Canberra, February 17 to 21, 1997)

Nine International Authorities were represented at the session, namely, the Australian Industrial Property Organisation (AIPO), the Austrian Patent Office, the Chinese Patent Office (CPO), the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japanese Patent Office (JPO), the Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks, the Swedish Patent and Registration Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), in their capacity as International Searching Authorities and International Preliminary Examining Authorities, and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as an International Searching Authority.

The Meeting discussed the following topics, among others: possible modifications of the PCT Search Guidelines; proposed modifications of the PCT Preliminary Examination Guidelines; establishment of a uniform standard for the presentation of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listings in international applications; international search in case of a disproportionate number of claims or extremely broad, vague and/or imprecise claims; demand for international preliminary examination (late filing, right to file, late payment of fee, filing with non-competent Authority); confidential nature of the international preliminary examination; renewal of the Agreements under which the International Searching Authorities (ISAs) and International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs) carry out their functions; impact of electronic transmission of documents (including international applications and international search reports) on the PCT procedure.

Training and Promotion Meetings for PCT Users

Ghana. In February 1997, Mrs. Elizabeth Owiredu-Gyampoh, Acting Registrar General, Registrar General's Department, and another government official were given training in administrative procedures under the PCT at WIPO's headquarters, and had discussions with WIPO officials on PCT matters.

Japan. In late February and early March 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Japan, where he had a meeting with about 50 senior examiners of the JPO, in Tokyo, to discuss PCT procedures. He also gave presentations on the PCT at two seminars on the PCT organized by the Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA) in Tokyo and Osaka and attended by 60 and 36 participants, respectively, mostly patent attorneys. Thereafter, he visited 10 large industrial enterprises in Kyoto, Osaka, Hamamatsu and Tokyo in order to discuss with managers of their patent departments the further use of the PCT in Japan.

Saint Lucia. In February 1997, a government official was given training in administrative procedures under the PCT at WIPO's headquarters, and had discussions with WIPO officials on PCT matters.

United States of America. In February 1997, a WIPO consultant from the United States of America gave a seminar on the PCT to a group of patent attorneys and legal assistants from a private company in Austin, Texas. There were 26 participants.

Yugoslavia. In February 1997, two government officials were given training in administrative

procedures under the PCT at WIPO's headquarters, and had discussions with WIPO officials on PCT matters.

Computerization Activities

Japan. In February 1997, two officials of the JPO participated in the first WIPO/JPO technical meeting on PCT issues, held at WIPO's headquarters. An EPO official also attended. The meeting included presentations of the WIPO computerization systems which support the PCT, as well as discussions concerning, *inter alia*, the progress of the EASY (*Electronic Application SYstem*) software project, and areas of future cooperation in the exchange of electronic data.

United States of America. In February 1997, an official of the USPTO and a computer specialist from the United States of America had

discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on the above-referred PCT EASY software development.

European Patent Office (EPO). In February 1997, a delegation of eight EPO officials visited WIPO to participate in a further WIPO/EPO meeting on PCT technical issues of mutual interest, in particular the reduction in the number of paper PCT pamphlets, possible revision of certain WIPO standards, and electronic communication of PCT documents.

JPO/USPTO/EPO. In February 1997, a government official each of the JPO and the USPTO, an EPO official and the above-mentioned computer specialist participated in a trilateral meeting with WIPO officials in Geneva, where issues of electronic filing were discussed, in particular the setting up of an electronic network system between industrial property offices.

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

The Intellectual Property Lawyers Organization (TIPLO). In February 1997, a WIPO official spoke on the WIPO Arbitration

and Mediation Center at a dinner-meeting on arbitration matters organized by TIPLO in London.

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Developing Countries

Africa

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Subregional Workshop on the Role of Patent Information in the Process of Industrial Development (Togo). From February 19 to 21, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Lomé in cooperation with the Government of Togo. The Workshop was attended by 12 participants from the industrial property administrations of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Senegal and by 20 local participants. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from France, an official of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and a WIPO official.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Ghana. In February 1997, Mrs. Elizabeth Owiredu-Gyampoh, Acting Registrar General, Registrar General's Department, and two other government officials had discussions with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva on WIPO's assistance in the modernization and computerization of the national industrial property administration and the revision of national industrial property legislation, particularly to bring it into conformity with the provisions of

the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement).

Seychelles. In February 1997, two government officials met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss cooperation between the Seychelles and WIPO, in particular changes to the country's intellectual property legislation to bring it into conformity with the TRIPS Agreement and the strengthening of the national industrial property administration.

Sierra Leone. In February 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft Industrial Property Act with a commentary on its main provisions.

Organization of African Unity (OAU). In February 1997, three WIPO officials attended a session of the Council of Ministers of the OAU, held in Tripoli.

During their stay, the three WIPO officials met with the Secretary General of the OAU and other OAU officials to discuss possible future cooperation activities.

In the same month, two OAU officials held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva and obtained certain clarifications regarding the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Arab Countries

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO National Seminar on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (United Arab Emirates). From February 17 to 19, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Abu Dhabi in cooperation with the Ministry of Information and Culture. The Seminar was attended by over 80 participants from

government and private sectors, as well as from academic and development institutions. Presentations were made by a WIPO consultant from Canada, two speakers from Egypt and Jordan, and three WIPO officials.

WIPO National Seminar on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (Bahrain). On Febru-

ary 22 and 23, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Manama in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Commercial Arbitration Centre. The Seminar was attended by 70 participants from government and private sectors. Presentations were made by five WIPO consultants from Austria, Bahrain (two), Canada, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom, and two WIPO officials.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Bahrain. In February 1997, three WIPO officials held discussions with government officials in Manama on the accession of Bahrain to certain WIPO-administered treaties, the preparation of a new industrial property law and revision of the copyright law of Bahrain in the light of the TRIPS Agreement, and assistance in the computerization of the national industrial property administration.

Kuwait. In February 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the patent, industrial design and trademark legislation, in particular with regard to its compatibility with the Paris Convention and the TRIPS Agreement.

Libya. In February 1997, three WIPO officials had meetings with government officials in Tripoli to discuss matters of cooperation between Libya and WIPO in strengthening the national industrial property system.

Oman. In February 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request,

comments on the trademark legislation and the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Sudan. In February 1997, a WIPO official visited the Attorney General's Chambers in Khartoum to provide advice on the compatibility of the Sudanese industrial property legislation with obligations under the TRIPS Agreement.

Syria. In February 1997, a government official held discussions with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva on accession to WIPO-administered treaties and activities to be implemented under a planned WIPO country project for Syria.

Tunisia. In February 1997, two officials of the National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property undertook a study visit, organized and funded by WIPO, to the French National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) and the National Research Development Agency (ANVAR) in Paris.

United Arab Emirates. In February 1997, three WIPO officials held discussions with government officials in Abu Dhabi on the possible accession of the United Arab Emirates to the Berne Convention, and future cooperation in the field of legislative advice and training.

International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA). In February 1997, Mr. Farag Moussa, President of IFIA, visited WIPO to discuss possible cooperation between WIPO and IFIA in providing advice to a certain number of Arab countries on the promotion of inventive and innovative activity.

Asia and the Pacific

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Sub-Regional Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for the South Pacific (Tonga). From February 3 to 5, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Nuku'Alofa in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Commerce and Industries of the Government of Tonga and with the assistance of the Agency for Cultural Affairs

of Japan. The Seminar was attended by 10 government officials from Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa, and some 55 local participants representing musicians' associations, publishers and writers groups. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Japan and the Asia and the Pacific Office of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers

(CISAC), as well as by two WIPO officials. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Singapore—WIPO Joint Training Program in the Field of Industrial Property. In February 1997, the Director General and the Permanent Representative of Singapore in Geneva signed a Memorandum of Understanding which established the training program. The program, to be jointly funded by the Government of Singapore and WIPO, is aimed at training government officials from developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region in such areas as the use of technological information in patent documents in industry and research and development activities; the computerization of patent collections and of patent and trademark administration; the promotion and commercialization of inventions; the promotion of university-industry relations; and the teaching of intellectual property law. It envisages one or more training courses per year for an initial two-year period (1997-98), to be held in Singapore.

China. In February 1997, six government officials of the CPO undertook a study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in computerization and industrial property information, patent examination and re-examination practices. In the same month, two government officials of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) undertook a similar study visit, in respect of trademarks, to the JPO in Tokyo. Both visits were funded by the funds-in-trust arrangement concluded between the Government of Japan and WIPO in the field of industrial property.

Also in February 1997, two government officials met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement.

India. In February 1997, two government officials of the Office of the Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks undertook a study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in industrial property administration, computerization and industrial property information and patent examination practices. The visit was funded by

the above-mentioned Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

Indonesia. In February 1997, two government officials of the Directorate General of Copyrights, Patents and Trademarks undertook a study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in patent and trademark examination practices. The visit was funded by the same Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

In the same month, a World Bank official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss a possible World Bank-funded project for Indonesia with an intellectual property component.

Iran (Islamic Republic of). In February 1997, a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) official visited WIPO and had discussions with WIPO officials on development cooperation activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights.

Japan. In February 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss, *inter alia*, possible activities to be included in the 1997-98 work program under the above-referred Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

Malaysia. In February 1997, two WIPO consultants from Japan undertook a mission to the Intellectual Property Division of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs in Kuala Lumpur to provide training on industrial property administration, computerization of industrial property office procedures and patent information and documentation. In the same month, two government officials of the same Division undertook a study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in trademark and industrial design examination practices. The mission and the study visit were funded by the Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

Pakistan. In February 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss the comments sent by the International Bureau to the government authorities, at their request, on the draft Trade Mark Law of Pakistan, to bring it into conformity with the TRIPS Agreement. The modernization of the national trademark administration system and the possible assistance of WIPO in that respect were also discussed.

Philippines. In February 1997, two government officials of the Bureau of Patents, Trademarks and Technology Transfer (BPTTT) undertook a

study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in computerization and industrial property information. The visit was funded by the Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

Also in February 1997, a WIPO consultant from Canada undertook a mission to the BPTTT in Manila to advise on the modernization of the patent information services and the computerization of patent and trademark administrative procedures.

Viet Nam. In February 1997, two government officials of the National Office of Industrial Property undertook a study visit to the JPO in Tokyo for training in trademark examination practices. The visit was funded by the Japanese funds-in-trust arrangement.

Western Samoa. In February 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft law on copyright and neighboring rights.

Hong Kong. In February 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss the progress of forthcoming legislation in the industrial property field.

World Bank. In February 1997, an official of the World Bank visited WIPO and had discussions with WIPO officials on development cooperation activities between the two organizations in the field of intellectual property rights in Asia.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Latin America and Caribbean Region. In February 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on WIPO's work plan of activities for 1997, in respect of the computerization of the industrial property offices of Latin America and Caribbean countries.

Bahamas. In February 1997, a WIPO official visited the Registrar General's Department in Nassau to discuss cooperation matters and the possible accession of the Bahamas to certain WIPO-administered treaties.

Brazil. In February 1997, three government officials held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on future cooperation in the area of the promotion of technological innovation.

Cuba. In February 1997, a government official held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on future cooperation in the field of international trademark registration.

Ecuador. In February 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss cooperation in the field of industrial property.

El Salvador. In February 1997, Mr. José Silverio E. Henríquez Toledo, Executive Director, National Center of Registries, visited WIPO and discussed with WIPO officials development cooperation activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights.

Haiti. In February 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Port-au-Prince to discuss with government officials cooperation matters and the possible accession of Haiti to certain WIPO-administered treaties.

Paraguay. In February 1997, three government officials held discussions with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva on possible cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

Saint Lucia. In February 1997, a government official held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on future cooperation in respect of training and office computerization, and on the possible organization of a national seminar for industrial property practitioners.

Trinidad and Tobago. In February 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft 1996/97 Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules, and their compatibility with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Uruguay. In February 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile undertook a mission to the National Directorate of Industrial Property in Montevideo to provide advice on the further computerization of the operations of that office.

Training Center for Regional Integration (CEFIR) (Uruguay). In February 1997, an official of that Center, which is based in Montevideo, held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on the activities of the Center and requested information about WIPO.

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Countries in Transition to Market Economy

Regional Activities

WIPO Academy for Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). From February 10 to 21, 1997, WIPO organized in Geneva the first session of the WIPO Academy for countries of the CIS region. It was held in English and Russian, with simultaneous interpretation. The aim of the program, which dealt both with industrial property and copyright matters, was to inform the participants of the main elements and current issues relating to intellectual property, highlight the policy considerations behind them and thereby enable the participants, after their return to their respective countries, to further contribute to the formulation of government policies on intellectual property questions, particularly the impact of those questions on cultural, social, technological and economic development. Twenty-two government officials from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, as well as an official of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) attended the session. The two coordinators of the session were Mr. Tolesh E. Kaudyrov, Chairman of the National Patent Office of Kazakstan, and Mr. Mihály Ficsor, Assistant Director General, WIPO. Presentations were made by eight WIPO invited speakers from Austria, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the EAPO, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the WTO, as well as by WIPO officials and an official of the Inter-

national Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).

Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO). In February 1997, a WIPO official participated as an observer in a session of the Administrative Council of the EAPO, held at WIPO's headquarters. The session was attended by government officials from Armenia, Belarus, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova and Turkmenistan.

European Patent Office (EPO). In February 1997, an EPO official had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on possible cooperation in the organizing of several industrial property seminars in CIS countries in the second half of 1997.

National Activities

Bulgaria. In February 1997, the International Bureau sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft Industrial Design Law of Bulgaria.

Georgia. In February 1997, two government officials visited WIPO and had discussions with WIPO officials relating, in particular, to Georgia's possible accession to the Madrid Agreement and Protocol and to the establishment of new intellectual property legislation in that country.

Also in February 1997, two government officials had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on the modernization of national copyright legislation, taking into account the relevant provi-

sions of the TRIPS Agreement, as well as on future cooperation between Georgia and WIPO in the field of copyright and neighboring rights.

Hungary. In February 1997, three WIPO officials discussed with representatives of a

private computer company in Budapest a draft contract to be signed between WIPO and that company for the conversion into machine-readable format of certain intellectual property legislative texts available at WIPO in paper form.

Contacts of the International Bureau of WIPO with Other Countries and with International Organizations

National Contacts

Monaco. In February 1997, a government official visited WIPO's headquarters. He was given a general presentation on WIPO-administered treaties and WIPO's industrial property activities concerning, in particular, international registrations under the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems, international patent and trademark classifications (the International Patent Classification (IPC) and the Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), respectively), and industrial property information and documentation.

United Kingdom. In February 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the structure and use of the International Classification for Industrial Designs established under the Locarno Agreement (Locarno Classification) to 10 staff members of the Patent Office in Newport.

United Nations

Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). In February 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the ACC Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development, held in New York.

Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions)

(CCAQ(FB)). In February 1997, a WIPO official attended a session of that Committee, which took place in Vienna.

Geneva Association of United Nations Correspondents. In February 1997, some 30 journalists of that Association visited WIPO's headquarters and received a briefing specially designed for them in order to inform them about the Organization and its activities. Presentations were made by WIPO officials.

International Computing Centre (ICC). In February 1997, a WIPO official attended the ICC Technical User Group meeting, held in Geneva.

Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). In February 1997, a WIPO official visited the headquarters of ISESCO in Rabat to discuss with officials of ISESCO and of UNDP the organization of a Regional Symposium on Copyright and Neighboring Rights and Cultural Industries for Member States of ISESCO, to take place in Rabat in June 1997. On that occasion, he also had discussions with ISESCO officials on further cooperation between WIPO and that Organization.

Intergovernmental Organizations

Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs) (OHIM). In February 1997, a WIPO official attended in Alicante

(Spain) a session of the Administrative Council of OHIM.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In February 1997, a WIPO official attended as an observer a meeting of an Expert Group dealing with certain aspects of a draft Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) to be adopted under the aegis of OECD, held in Paris.

World Trade Organization (WTO). In February 1997, two WIPO officials attended as observers a meeting of the Council for TRIPS of the WTO, held in Geneva.

Also in February 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the General Council of the WTO, held in Geneva.

Other Organizations

Association of International Librarians and Information Specialists (AILIS). In February 1997, two WIPO officials attended a meeting of the Executive Committee of AILIS, held in Geneva.

Australasian Performing Rights Association (APRA). In February 1997, a WIPO official visited APRA in Sydney and had discussions with representatives of APRA on possible development cooperation activities for South Pacific countries in the field of copyright and neighboring rights.

Business Studies University (Liège, Belgium). In February 1997, 35 students of that University visited WIPO's headquarters and were given a presentation by a WIPO official on the activities of the Organization.

Collection and Distribution Society for the Rights of Music Performers and Dancers (SPEDIDAM). In February 1997, two WIPO officials visited SPEDIDAM in Paris and had

discussions on future cooperation between the two organizations in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, for the benefit of developing countries.

Copyright Agency Limited (CAL). In February 1997, a WIPO official visited CAL in Sydney and had discussions with CAL officials on development cooperation activities for South Pacific countries in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, for the benefit of developing countries.

International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC). In February 1997, two WIPO officials visited CISAC in Paris and had discussions on future cooperation between the two organizations in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, for the benefit of developing countries.

International Federation of Industrial Property Attorneys (FICPI). In February 1997, a WIPO official participated in a meeting of the Executive Committee of FICPI, held in Hong Kong.

Society of Authors and Composers of Dramatic Works (SACD). In February 1997, two WIPO officials visited SACD in Paris and had discussions on future cooperation between the two organizations in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, for the benefit of developing countries.

University of Leiden (Netherlands). In February 1997, a group of 20 postgraduate law students visited WIPO's headquarters and were briefed by a WIPO official on WIPO and its activities.

University of Nantes (France). In February 1997, two WIPO officials visited Paris and had discussions with a Professor of the University of Nantes on that University's academic programs on intellectual property for students from developing countries.

Recent WIPO Publications

The following new publications¹ were issued by WIPO in February 1997:

States Party to the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Treaties Administered by WIPO (status on February 1, 1997) (in English and French), No. 423(E)(F), 30 pages, free.

WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) (1996) with the agreed statements of the Diplomatic Conference

¹ WIPO publications may be obtained from the Publications Sales and Distribution Section, WIPO, 34, chemin des Colombettes, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland (telex: 412 912 OMPI CH; fax: (41-22) 733 5428; telephone: (41-22) 730 9111).

Orders should indicate: (a) the number or letter code of the publication desired, the language (E for English, F for French, G for German, S for Spanish), the number of copies; (b) the full address for mailing; (c) the mail mode (surface or air). Prices cover surface mail.

Bank transfers should be made to WIPO account No. 487080-81, at the Swiss Credit Bank, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

that adopted the Treaty and the provisions of the Berne Convention (1971) referred to in the Treaty, No. 226(E), 53 pages, 10 Swiss francs.

WIPO General Information Brochure (1997 edition), No. 400(E), 111 pages, free.

WIPO Mediation Rules, Arbitration Rules and Expedited Arbitration Rules (in German), No. 446(G), 77 pages, free.

WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries (in English, French and Spanish), No. 705(E)(F)(S), 53 pages (E and F) and 51 pages (S), free.

WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) (1996) with the agreed statements of the Diplomatic Conference that adopted the Treaty and the provisions of the Berne Convention (1971) and of the Rome Convention (1961) referred to in the Treaty, No. 227(E), 36 pages, 10 Swiss francs.

Calendar of Meetings

WIPO Meetings

(Not all WIPO meetings are listed. Dates are subject to possible change.)

1997

June 23 to 27 (Geneva)

Committee of Experts on the Draft Patent Law Treaty

This (the fourth) session of the Committee of Experts will continue to examine draft provisions for the planned Patent Law Treaty.

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

July 14 to 18 (Geneva)

Working Group on an International System for Information Technology for Industrial Property (ISITIP)

The Working Group is expected to make recommendations as to the possible future structure or institutional aspects of such a system, the program for advancing the system in the second half of 1997 and in the 1998-99 biennium and the general objectives beyond 1999.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; certain intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

September 15, 16 and 19 (Geneva)

Committee of Experts on a Possible Protocol Concerning Audiovisual Performances (Protocol to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty)

The Committee will consider the possible contents of such a Protocol.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; the European Community; certain other intergovernmental organizations; certain non-governmental organizations.

September 17 to 19 (Geneva)

Information Meeting Concerning Intellectual Property in Databases

The Information Meeting will consider questions concerning intellectual property in databases.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; the European Community; certain other intergovernmental organizations; certain non-governmental organizations.

September 22 to October 1 (Geneva)

Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administered by WIPO

All the Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions administered by WIPO will meet in ordinary session.

They will, *inter alia*, review and evaluate WIPO's activities undertaken since July 1995, decide the program and budget of WIPO for the 1998-99 biennium and appoint the new Director General.

Invitations: States members of these Governing Bodies; other States; certain organizations.

October 20 to 23 (Geneva)

Committee of Experts on Well-Known Trademarks

This (the third) session of the Committee of Experts will continue to study questions concerning the application of Article 6*bis* of the Paris Convention (e.g., the criteria for determining whether a mark is well-known) as well as the conditions and scope of protection of famous or well-known marks against dilution and/or undue exploitation of the goodwill acquired by such marks.

Invitations: Member States of the Paris Union, the European Community and, as observers, Member States of WIPO not members of the Paris Union and certain organizations.

October 24 (Geneva)

Conference on the Institutional Response to Changing Needs of Users of Arbitration

WIPO is hosting this Conference which is the biennial conference of the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI). The Conference will bring together representatives of the major arbitration centers in the world. The theme of the Conference is the response of arbitration institutions to the changing needs of users of arbitration and mediation services.

The subjects to be discussed will include recent revisions of the arbitration rules of various arbitration centers; the relationship between the courts and the arbitral process; the worldwide growth of mediation; and the attitude of users to arbitration.

Invitations: Any member of the public, against payment of a registration fee.

October 24 and 25, 1997 (Eger, Hungary) Symposium on the Protection of Geographical Indications in the Worldwide Context

The Symposium will deal with the protection of geographical indications (appellations of origin and other geographical indications) at the national, regional and global levels.

Invitations: Governments, selected intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and any member of the public (against payment of a registration fee).

UPOV Meetings

(Not all UPOV meetings are listed. Dates are subject to possible change.)

1997

October 27 (Geneva)

Administrative and Legal Committee (Thirty-Seventh Session)

Invitations: Member States of UPOV and, as observers, certain non-member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

October 28 (Geneva)

Consultative Committee (Fifty-Fourth Session)

Invitations: Member States of UPOV.

October 29 (Geneva)

Council (Thirty-First Ordinary Session)

Invitations: Member States of UPOV and, as observers, certain non-member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

