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(INSERT)**

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YEMEN

Law No. 19 of 1994 on Intellectual Property [*Extracts*] Text 1-01

Notifications Concerning Treaties Administered by WIPO

WIPO Convention

SAMOA

Accession

The Government of Samoa deposited, on July 11, 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 Samoa, on October 11, 1997.

WIPO Notification No. 193, of July 11, 1997.

Paris Convention

CHINA

Application of the Paris Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China

On June 6, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China in Geneva:

"In accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong will, with effect from that date, become a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defence affairs which are the responsibilities of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

In this connection, I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China to make the following notification:

'The Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of March 20, 1883, as revised in 1967 (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention"), to which the Government of the People's Republic of China deposited its instrument of accession on December 19, 1984,¹ will apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the People's Republic of China also makes the following declaration: the statement made on Article 28(1) of the Convention by the Government of the People's Republic of China will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.²

The Government of the People's Republic of China will assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.'

It would be appreciated if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Convention."

Paris Notification No. 178, of June 10, 1997.

¹ See *Industrial Property*, 1985, p. 24 (*Editor's note*).

² The said statement is to the effect that China does not consider itself bound by the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 28 of the Paris Convention (*Note of the International Bureau*).

INDONESIA

Ratification of Articles 1 to 12 of the Stockholm Act (1967)

The Government of Indonesia, which had deposited, on September 18, 1979, its instrument

of ratification of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of March 20, 1883, as revised at Stockholm on July 14, 1967 (“Stockholm Act (1967)”), and as amended on September 28, 1979, which deposit was accompanied by a declaration that its ratification did not apply to Articles 1 to 12 of the Stockholm Act (1967) (see Paris Notification No. 95³), deposited, on June 5, 1997, its instrument of ratification of Articles 1 to 12 of the Stockholm Act (1967).

These Articles will enter into force, with respect to Indonesia, on September 5, 1997.

Paris Notification No. 177, of June 5, 1997.

³ See *Industrial Property*, 1979, p. 219 (*Editor’s note*).

UNITED KINGDOM

Cessation of the Application of the Paris Convention to Hong Kong by the United Kingdom

On June 16, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom in Geneva:

“I am instructed by Her Britannic Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to refer to the Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property done at Paris on 20 March 1883, as amended at Stockholm on 14 July 1967 (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Convention’) which applies to Hong Kong at present.

I am also instructed to state that, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the Government of the United Kingdom will restore Hong Kong to the People’s Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to have international responsibility for Hong Kong until that date. Therefore, from that date the Government of the United Kingdom will cease to be respon-

sible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Convention to Hong Kong.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Convention.”

Paris Notification No. 179, of June 23, 1997.

Berne Convention

CHINA

Application of the Berne Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China

On July 7, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the People’s Republic of China in Geneva:

“In accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the People’s Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong has become, with effect from that date, a Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China and enjoys a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defence affairs which are the responsibilities of the Central People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China.

In this connection, I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China to make the following notification:

“The Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of September 9, 1886, as amended in 1979 (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”), to which the Government of the People’s Republic of China deposited its instrument

of accession on July 10, 1992⁴ will apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with effect from 1 July 1997.

The Government of the People's Republic of China will assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.'

It would be appreciated if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Convention."

Berne Notification No. 186, of July 10, 1997.

⁴ See *Copyright*, 1992, p. 145 (*Editor's note*).

INDONESIA

Accession

The Government of Indonesia deposited, on June 5, 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 Indonesia does not consider itself bound by the provision of Article 33(1) of the Convention, which provides: 'Any dispute between two or more countries of the Union concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention, not settled by negotiation, may, by any one of the countries concerned, be brought before the International Court of Justice by application in conformity with the Statute of the Court, unless the countries concerned agree on some other method of settlement. The country bringing the dispute before the Court shall inform the International Bureau; the International Bureau shall bring the matter to the attention of the other countries of the Union.' The Republic of Indonesia takes the position that for any dispute to be referred to the International Court of Justice for its decision, the agreement of all the Parties to the dispute shall be necessary in each individual case."

The Berne Convention as revised will enter into force, with respect to Indonesia, on September 5, 1997. On that date, Indonesia 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. 184, of June 5, 1997.

UNITED KINGDOM

Cessation of the Application of the Berne Convention to Hong Kong by the United Kingdom

On June 16, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom in Geneva:

"I am instructed by Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to refer to the Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works done at Berne on 9 September 1886 as amended on 2 October 1979 at Paris; together with the Additional Act done at Paris 1896; the Revising Convention done at Berlin on 13 November 1908 and its Protocol done at Berne on 20 March 1914; and the Revising Conventions done at Rome on 2 June 1928 and at Brussels on 26 June 1948 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Convention') which applies to Hong Kong at present.

I am also instructed to state that, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the Government of the United Kingdom will restore Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to have international responsibility for Hong Kong until that date. Therefore, from that date the Government of the United Kingdom will cease to be responsible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Convention to Hong Kong.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and

brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Convention.”

Berne Notification No. 185, of June 23, 1997.

Madrid Agreement and Madrid Protocol (Marks)

CHINA

Situation of the Madrid Agreement and Protocol in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China

On June 6, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China in Geneva:

“I have the honour to inform the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization and, through the Director General, the member States of the Madrid Agreement and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement of the following:

With effect from 1 July 1997, the People's Republic of China shall resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong. Starting from that date, the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Agreement and its Protocol’) and, in particular, the requests for territorial extension of the international registration of marks to China will be deferred to be applied to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Possible measures to change this state of affairs are under studies. Once a solution is worked out, all the member States will be notified, in due course, of the measures as to when and how the above-mentioned Agreement and its Protocol will apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.”

*Madrid (Marks) Notification No. 91, of
June 10, 1997.*

Madrid Protocol (1989)

HUNGARY

Ratification

The Government of Hungary deposited, on July 3, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, adopted at Madrid on June 27, 1989 (“Madrid Protocol (1989)”).

The said instrument of ratification was accompanied by the declaration that, in accordance with Article 14(5) of the Madrid Protocol (1989), the protection resulting from any international registration effected under the said Protocol before the date of entry into force of the said Protocol with respect to Hungary cannot be extended to it.

The Madrid Protocol (1989) will enter into force, with respect to Hungary, on October 3, 1997.

*Madrid (Marks) Notification No. 93, of
July 3, 1997.*

SLOVAKIA

Accession

The Government of Slovakia deposited, on June 13, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, adopted at Madrid on June 27, 1989 (“Madrid Protocol (1989)”).

The said instrument of accession was accompanied by a declaration, in accordance with Article 5(2)(d) of the Madrid Protocol (1989), that, under Article 5(2)(b) of the said Protocol, the time limit of one year to exercise the right to notify a refusal of protection referred to in Article 5(2)(a) thereof is replaced by 18 months.

The Madrid Protocol (1989) will enter into force with respect to Slovakia, on September 13, 1997.

*Madrid (Marks) Notification No. 92, of
June 13, 1997.*

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

CHINA

Application of the Patent Cooperation Treaty to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China

On June 6, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China in Geneva:

"In accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong will, with effect from that date, become a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defence affairs which are the responsibilities of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

In this connection, I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China to make the following notification:

'The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) of June 19, 1970, as amended on September 28, 1979 and February 3, 1984 (hereinafter referred to as the "PCT"), to which the Government of the People's Republic of China deposited its instrument of accession on October 1, 1993,⁵ will apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the People's Republic of China also makes the following declarations:

1. The designation of China in any international PCT application filed on or after July 1, 1997, shall also cover the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.
2. The modalities of "entering the national phase" under Article 22 and Article 39 of

the PCT as far as international applications filed on or after July 1, 1997, and designating China are concerned, will be communicated to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization not later than by the end of the current year (that is, by December 31, 1997).'

The Government of the People's Republic of China will assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Treaty to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

It would be appreciated if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Treaty."

PCT Notification No. 121, of June 10, 1997.

⁵ See *Industrial Property*, 1993, p. 339 (Editor's note).

INDONESIA

Accession

The Government of Indonesia deposited, on June 5, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), done at Washington on June 19, 1970, amended on September 28, 1979, and modified on February 3, 1984.

The said instrument of accession contains the following declaration:

"The Republic of Indonesia does not consider itself bound by the provision of Article 59 of the Treaty, which provides: 'Subject to Article 64(5), any dispute between two or more Contracting States concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty or the Regulations, not settled by negotiation, may, by any one of the States concerned, be brought before the International Court of Justice by application in conformity with the Statute of the Court, unless the States concerned agree on some other method of settlement. The Contracting States bringing the dispute before the Court shall inform the International Bureau; the International Bureau shall bring the matter to the attention of the other Contracting States.' The Republic of Indonesia takes the position that for any dispute to be referred to

the International Court of Justice for its decision, the agreement of all the Parties to the dispute shall be necessary in each individual case.”

The said Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Indonesia, on September 5, 1997.

PCT Notification No. 119, of June 5, 1997.

SPAIN

Withdrawal of Declaration Concerning Chapter II

The Government of Spain, in a notification received on June 6, 1997, has withdrawn the declaration contained in its instrument of accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) done at Washington on June 19, 1970, amended on September 28, 1979 and modified on February 3, 1984, to the effect that Spain does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Chapter II of the said Treaty (see PCT Notification No. 55, of August 21, 1989⁶).

The withdrawal of the said declaration will take effect on September 6, 1997. Consequently, from the said date, Spain will be bound also by the provisions of Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

PCT Notification No. 120, of June 6, 1997.

⁶ See *Industrial Property*, 1989, p. 315 (*Editor's note*).

UNITED KINGDOM

Cessation of the Application of the Patent Cooperation Treaty to Hong Kong by the United Kingdom

On June 16, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom in Geneva:

“I am instructed by Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to refer to the Patent Cooperation Treaty done at Washington on

19 June 1970 as amended on 28 September 1979 and modified on 3 February 1984 (hereinafter referred to as the ‘convention’) which applies to Hong Kong at present.

I am also instructed to state that, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the Government of the United Kingdom will restore Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to have international responsibility for Hong Kong until that date. Therefore, from that date the Government of the United Kingdom will cease to be responsible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the convention to Hong Kong.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the convention.”

PCT Notification No. 122, of June 23, 1997.

Phonograms Convention

CHINA

Application of the Phonograms Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China

On June 17, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Acting Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China in New York:

“In accordance with the Declaration of the Governments of the People's Republic of China and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong will, with effect from that date, become a Special Admin-

istrative Region of the People's Republic of China and will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defense affairs which are the responsibility of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

In this connection, I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China to make the following notification:

'The Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention"), to which the Government of the People's Republic of China acceded on 5 January 1993,⁷ will apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with effect from 1 July 1997.

The Government of the People's Republic of China will assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Convention to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.'

It would be appreciated if the contents of the Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the Convention."

Phonograms Notification No. 65, of July 3, 1997.

⁷ See *Copyright*, 1993, p. 49 (*Editor's note*).

UNITED KINGDOM

Cessation of the Application of the Phonograms Convention to Hong Kong by the United Kingdom

On June 10, 1997, the Director General of WIPO received the following communication from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom in New York:

"I am instructed by Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to refer to the treaties listed in the annex attached to this

Note (hereinafter referred to as the 'Treaties'), which apply to Hong Kong at present.

I am also instructed to state that, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong signed on 19 December 1984, the Government of the United Kingdom will restore Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997. The Government of the United Kingdom will continue to have international responsibility for Hong Kong until that date. Therefore, from that date the Government of the United Kingdom will cease to be responsible for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the 'Treaties' to Hong Kong.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of the other Parties to the 'Treaties'.

ANNEX

LIST OF TREATIES FOR WHICH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS THE DEPOSITARY AND WHICH APPLY TO HONG KONG AT PRESENT

[...]

Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms done at Geneva on October 29, 1971

[...]"

Phonograms Notification No. 64, of July 3, 1997.

Budapest Treaty

PORTUGAL

Accession

The Government of Portugal deposited, on July 16, 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 Portugal, on October 16, 1997.

Budapest Notification No. 157, of July 16, 1997.

SPAIN

Change of Address of International Depositary Authority

The Government of Spain has informed the Director General of WIPO by a communication of July 2, 1997, which was received on July 8, 1997, that the new address of the Colección Española de Cultivos Tipo (CECT), an international depositary authority under 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 (see Budapest Notification No. 106, of April 27, 1992⁸), is as follows:

Colección Española de Cultivos Tipo (CECT)
Universidad de Valencia
Edificio de Investigación
Campus de Burjasot
46100 BURJASOT (Valencia)
Spain
Telephone: (34-6) 386 4612
Fax: (34-6) 398 3187
e-mail: CECT auv.es

Budapest Communication No. 110 (this Communication is the subject of Budapest Notification No. 158, of July 31, 1997).

⁸ See *Industrial Property*, 1992, p. 163 (*Editor's note*).

Trademark Law Treaty

INDONESIA

Ratification

The Government of Indonesia deposited, on June 5, 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 Indonesia, on September 5, 1997.

TLT Notification No. 16, of June 5, 1997.

WIPO Copyright Treaty

INDONESIA

Ratification

The Government of Indonesia deposited, on June 5, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the WIPO Copyright Treaty, adopted at Geneva on December 20, 1996.

The date of entry into force of the said Treaty will be notified when the required number of ratifications or accessions is reached in accordance with Article 20 of the said Treaty.

WCT Notification No. 1, of June 5, 1997.

Notifications Concerning the UPOV Convention

International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

ARGENTINA

Modification of the Number of Units of Contribution Applicable to Argentina

The Government of Argentina has addressed to the Secretary-General of UPOV a declaration under Article 26(3)(c) of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as revised in Geneva on November 10, 1972, and on October 23, 1978, to the effect that the number of contribution units applicable to Argentina is increased, as from January 1, 1998, from one-fifth (0.2) to one-half (0.5).

UPOV Notification No. 57, of June 18, 1997.

ECUADOR

Accession

The Government of Ecuador deposited, on July 8, 1997, its instrument of accession to the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as revised at Geneva on November 10, 1972, and on October 23, 1978.

Ecuador has not heretofore been a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, founded by the said International Convention.

The said International Convention will enter into force, with respect to Ecuador, on August 8, 1997. On that date Ecuador will become a member of UPOV.

For the purpose of determining its share in the total amount of the annual contributions to the budget of UPOV, one-fifth (0.2) of one contribution unit is applicable to Ecuador.

UPOV Notification No. 58, of July 8, 1997.

MEXICO

Ratification

The Government of Mexico deposited, on July 9, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as revised at Geneva on November 10, 1972, and on October 23, 1978.

Mexico has not heretofore been a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, founded by the said International Convention.

The said International Convention will enter into force, with respect to Mexico, on August 9, 1997. On that date, Mexico will become a member of UPOV.

For the purpose of determining its share in the total amount of the annual contributions to the budget of UPOV, three-quarters (0.75) of one contribution unit is applicable to Mexico.

UPOV Notification No. 59, of July 9, 1997.

Normative Activities of WIPO

WIPO International Forum on the Exercise and Management of Copyright and Neighboring Rights in the Face of the Challenges of Digital Technology

(Sevilla, Spain, May 14 to 16, 1997)

From May 14 to 16, 1997, WIPO organized that Forum in Sevilla, Spain, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain and with the assistance of the General Authors' and Publishers' Society (SGAE) of Spain.

The Forum was attended by some 450 participants from about 50 countries.

Nine panel discussions were held on the following topics: the impact of digital technology on the protection and exercise of copyright and neighboring rights; the role of the State concerning the exercise and management of copyright and neighboring rights; exercise of rights in respect of "multimedia productions"; technology means of protection and rights management information; new alternatives for centralized management: "one-stop shops" (that is, agency-type collective management organizations with individualized tariffs and licensing conditions); "traditional" collective management in the face of digital technology; overview of the present situation of centralized management of rights ("traditional" collective management, "one-stop shops"); review of the principles concerning the establishment and operation of centralized management of copyright and neighboring rights; collective management in developing countries.

The discussions were moderated by experts from Chile, France, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America and by two WIPO officials. Among the panelists, there were experts from a number of non-governmental organizations representing authors, performers, publishers, producers of phonograms, producers of audiovisual works, software producers, broadcasting organizations, cable distributors and Internet service providers.

There was agreement among the participants that the principles included in the study on *Collective Administration of Copyright and Neighboring Rights* published by WIPO in 1990 (publication

No. 688(E)(F)(S)) continued to be valid and applicable also under the new conditions of the exercise and management of rights. It was generally held, however, that the principles, in certain aspects, should be adapted and completed to reflect the new alternatives for the exercise and management of rights (such as "one-stop shops" and the broader options for owners of rights to exercise their rights on an individual basis); that there were new fields where centralized management of rights might be useful (such as licensing of "multimedia productions"); and that, in a digital environment, technological measures of protection and electronic rights management information systems had a decisive role.

The participants—among them also representatives of a number of governments of countries from various regions of the world—requested WIPO to publish the material of the Forum, as soon as possible, and to make it available to both governments and the interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

It was found that the Forum had been useful and successful, *inter alia*, due to the fact that it had offered an opportunity for the representatives of different groups interested in the protection, exercise and management of copyright and neighboring rights to come together, to identify their common interests, to exchange information and to outline the areas where cooperation and joint action were needed. The participants requested WIPO to consider convening the participants of the various interested groups to consultation meetings also in the future with the same objective; such meetings would be particularly necessary in view of the increased need for harmonized and joint actions in the face of the challenges of digital technology and particularly of the Internet.

Three topics were also identified as those on which participants would find the convocation of WIPO international forums or symposiums

useful, namely, the licensing and legal status of "multimedia productions," the operation of technological measures of protection and rights management information systems, and the pri-

vate international law (choice-of-law) aspects of the protection of copyright and neighboring rights in global information infrastructures, like the Internet.

Consultative Meeting on Trademarks and Internet Domain Names

First Session
(Geneva, May 26 to 30, 1997)

The following 53 States members of WIPO and/or the Paris Union were represented at the session: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America. Representatives of the Benelux Trademark Office (BBM), the European Commission, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) took part in the session,

as well as representatives of 23 non-governmental organizations and seven individual participants.

The Meeting considered a number of issues related to trademarks and Internet domain names, including trademark databases, trademark directories, pre-screening of domain name applications, *sui generis* intellectual property rights in domain names, generic terms as domain names, registration of domain names as trademarks, harmonization of policies and rules for all top-level domain names, harmonization of rules on use and infringement of trademarks on the Internet, related forms of intellectual property and new methods for international harmonization, and related to dispute resolution in the context of Internet domain names. In summarizing the discussions, the Chairman announced that a second session of the Consultative Meeting would be scheduled for September 1 and 2, 1997.

Committee of Experts on the Patent Law Treaty

Fourth Session
(Geneva, June 23 to 27, 1997)

The following 58 States members of WIPO and/or the Paris Union were represented at the session: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan,

Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Viet Nam. In addition,

the following two States members of the United Nations and/or Specialized Agencies were represented by observers: Belize, Kuwait.

Representatives of the European Communities (EC), the European Patent Office (EPO), the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as 21 non-governmental organizations took part in the session in an observer capacity.

The Committee of Experts considered the latest draft prepared by the International Bureau of the Patent Law Treaty and the draft Regulations, accompanied by Notes explaining each provision contained in the said drafts.

The draft Treaty contained 16 Articles and the draft Regulations, 17 Rules. These Articles and Rules were the combined result of the provisions discussed in the second and the third sessions of the Committee of Experts, held in June and November 1996, respectively. A number of new provisions dealing with the following matters were submitted to the fourth session: Special Features of Certain Types of Applications and Certain Types of Patents, National Security, Request for Recordal of a Licensing Agreement or Security Interest, Extension of a Time Limit Established by National Legislation or Regional Treaty.

All delegations expressed their support for the efforts to harmonize the existing patent laws and stressed the importance of the work of the Committee of Experts for concluding the Treaty in the

near future. Several delegations also expressed their continued support for the need of a harmonization in the substantive area of patent law to provide simple procedures and an effective patent protection overall.

While the Committee of Experts was, in general, in favor of the proposed draft Treaty, a number of suggestions for amendment or further study were made. In particular, the Committee of Experts expressed the necessity of a closer alignment between the future Patent Law Treaty and the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and it was agreed that the results of the ongoing discussions to amend the PCT Regulations would be taken into account for the next draft of the Treaty and the Regulations.

As regards further work, taking into account the conclusions of the Committee of Experts, the International Bureau will prepare revised drafts for the fifth session of the Committee which is tentatively scheduled to take place from December 15 to 19, 1997. Proposals for decisions on the date and agenda of the diplomatic conference for the adoption of the Patent Law Treaty and on the convening of a preparatory meeting dealing with procedural aspects of the diplomatic conference would be submitted to the General Assembly of WIPO in early 1998, on the basis of the results of the fifth session and taking into account the possible need for a sixth session of the Committee of Experts.

International Classification and Standardization Activities of WIPO

Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information (PCIPI)

PCIPI Working Group on General Information (PCIPI/GI)

Eighteenth Session
(Geneva, April 7 to 11, 1997)

The following 21 members of the PCIPI/GI were represented at the session: Canada, Denmark,

Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, EPO. The Patent Documentation Group (PDG) was represented by observers.

The PCIPI/GI completed the revision of WIPO Standards ST.2 (Standard Manner for

Designating Calendar Dates by Using the Gregorian Calendar), ST.9 (Recommendation Concerning Bibliographic Data on and Relating to Patents and Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs)) and ST.34 (Recommendation Concerning the Recording of Application Numbers in Electronic Form for the Exchange of Bibliographic Data). The revision of Standards ST.2 and ST.34 was carried out in order to meet any problems arising from the designation of the year 2000 in industrial property documents and to facilitate the electronic exchange, among patent offices, of selected bibliographic data.

Furthermore, the PCIPI/GI agreed to amend WIPO Standards ST.9 and ST.16 (Recommended Standard Code for the Identification of Different Kinds of Patent Documents) in order to provide for INID codes under Standard ST.9 and numerical codes associated with the kind-of-document code under Standard ST.16, for announcing the publication of corrected patent documents.

Finally, the PCIPI/GI considered actions to be taken, and agreed on a timetable for the development of a WIPO standard concerning the making of patent documents available on mixed-mode CD-ROM.

PCIPI Executive Coordination Committee (PCIPI/EXEC)

Twentieth Session
(Geneva, May 26 to 30, 1997)

The following 31 members of the Committee were represented at the session: Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, EPO. Chile, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) and the journal *World Patent Information* were represented by observers.

The Delegations of Japan, Poland, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America made presentations on their experience in the automation of industrial property information processing and on their activities on the Internet.

The Committee adopted the revision of the following WIPO Standards: ST.2 (Standard Manner for Designating Calendar Dates by Using the Gregorian Calendar), ST.34 (Recommendation Concerning the Recording of Application Numbers in Electronic Form for the Exchange of Bibliographic Data), ST.9 (Recommendation Concerning Bibliographic Data on and Relating to Patents and SPCs), ST.16 (Recommended Standard Code for the Identification of Different Kinds of Patent Documents).

The Committee noted that a PCIPI area had been successfully implemented on the WIPO Web site (<http://www.wipo.int>) and brought into operation at the beginning of April 1997. Considering that the experience of offices accessing the PCIPI area had been successful, the Committee approved the proposal to discontinue the sending of documentation via e-mail in favor of posting it on the site, and to progressively reduce the amount of paper documents to be mailed.

The Committee further noted that over 30 industrial property offices had created their own Web site and envisaged to use the Internet as a vehicle to disseminate industrial property information. The survey and study conducted by the International Bureau in respect of the industrial property offices Web sites (project file P 16 Rev.4, issued in January 1997) was considered useful for industrial property offices to improve and modify the presentation and contents of their Web sites. Finally, the Delegation of the United States of America made a presentation on its Internet 2 project which was expected to improve the current Internet by the development of advanced applications such as interactive network-based applications and large scale computation.

The Committee adopted the report on the PCIPI activities between July 1, 1995, and July 4, 1997. It was noted that the PCIPI overall policy would be discussed in the second half of this year, taking into consideration any decision made by the WIPO Working Group on Information Technologies for Intellectual Property in July, and by the Governing Bodies in September-October.

PCIPI ad hoc Working Group on the Management of Industrial Property Information (PCIPI/MI)

Twentieth Session
(Geneva, May 26 to 30, 1997)

The following 31 members of the PCIPI/MI were represented at the session: Austria, Brazil,

Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, the EPO. Chile, Lebanon, Pakistan, the EAPO and the journal *World Patent Information* were represented by observers.

The Working Group received progress reports from the EPO on the EASY (Electronic Application SYstem) project relating to the filing of patent applications in

electronic form, and on the development and application of the mixed-mode CD-ROM software (MIMOSA).

The Delegation of the United States of America gave a presentation which featured a videotape on the subject of digital signatures and a demonstration of a prototype Internet filing software for PCT applications developed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The Delegation also informed the meeting on the progress made in enacting legislation relating to the proposed introduction of Pre-Grant Publications (PGPubs).

Nice Union

Preparatory Working Group of the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union

Seventeenth Session
(Geneva, April 28 to May 2, 1997)

The following 13 members of the Preparatory Working Group were represented at the session: Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America. China, Croatia, the Czech Republic,

Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, the BBM and the Commission of the European Communities (CEC) were represented by observers.

The Preparatory Working Group approved a number of changes in the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification). Those changes will be forwarded to the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union for adoption at its next session, to be held in 2001.

Registration Systems Administered by WIPO

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

PCT Committee for Technical Cooperation (PCT/CTC)

Nineteenth Session
(Geneva, May 26 to 30, 1997)

The following 31 members of the Committee were represented: Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, EPO. The EAPO was represented as a special observer. Chile, Lebanon and the journal *World Patent Information* were represented as observers.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the Assembly of the PCT Union that it appoint the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT. The appointment will take effect, provided the Assembly of the PCT Union adopts the recommendation by the PCT/CTC at its September-October 1997 session, at the time of entry into force of the agreement between KIPO and the International Bureau of WIPO in respect of KIPO's functioning as an ISA and IPEA.

Further, the Committee approved amendments to the PCT List of Periodicals established under Rule 34.1(b)(iii) of the PCT. The amended PCT list contains, at present, 134 periodicals and technical journals which need to be consulted by the respective authorities for search and examination. The PCT/CTC agreed that the amended PCT list would come into effect as of January 1, 1998. The said list is planned to be published in a special issue of Section IV of the *PCT Gazette* and in the next updated issue of the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation*.

Training and Promotion Meetings for PCT Users

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Proposed Amendments of the PCT Regulations. From April 14 to 18, 1997, an Ad Hoc Advisory Group, comprising representatives of 12 PCT receiving Offices and International Authorities and seven non-governmental organizations, met at WIPO's headquarters to advise the International Bureau on possible amendments to the PCT Regulations related to the following topics, among others: language of international application, bilingual *PCT Gazette*, priority claims and priority documents, fees, nucleotide and amino acid sequence listings, and electronic filing of international applications.

Bosnia and Herzegovina. In May 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-related matters as well as on future cooperation.

France. In April 1997, a WIPO official conducted a PCT seminar for about 40 participants in the annual course on industrial property organized by the Centre Paul Roubier in Ecully.

In May 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the PCT at a meeting on the PCT organized by the National Association of Industrial Property Agents (CNCPI) in Paris. There were 23 participants who were mostly members of that Association.

Germany. In April 1997, two WIPO officials gave presentations on the PCT at two basic PCT seminars organized in Munich by a private conference organizer. The seminars were attended by 19 patent attorneys and 31 patent administrators, respectively, coming from corporations and law firms.

Also in April 1997, the same WIPO officials had discussions with officials of the German Patent Office in Munich on PCT-related questions.

Turkmenistan. In April 1997, a WIPO official conducted a seminar on the PCT and related matters, organized by the Patent Office of Turkmenistan in Ashgabat. The seminar was attended by 40 participants who were patent agents, specialists from industry and officials of the same Office.

United States of America. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from the United States of America conducted a basic PCT seminar in Concord (New Hampshire). The seminar was organized by the Franklin Pierce Law Center and was attended by some 120 participants who were students of the Center, practicing patent attorneys and legal assistants.

Also in April 1997, two WIPO officials and the same WIPO consultant conducted a basic PCT seminar and an advanced PCT seminar at Hilton Head Island (South Carolina). The seminars were attended by 51 and 48 participants, respectively, mainly patent attorneys from pharmaceutical corporations and law firms. One of the WIPO officials also delivered a paper on Euro/PCT filing at a course on European patent practice, held in parallel with the advanced PCT seminar and attended by 35 participants. The three events were organized by the same private enterprise.

In May 1997, a WIPO consultant from the United States of America gave a presentation on the PCT to 40 legal assistants attending a training program organized by a private enterprise in Washington, D.C.

Yugoslavia. In May 1997, two WIPO officials conducted a national seminar on the PCT, organized in Belgrade by the Federal Intellectual Property Office as a follow-up to the entry into force of the PCT in respect of that country on February 1, 1997. The seminar was attended by about 200 participants from law firms, corporations, research institutions, universities and the said Office.

Also in May 1997, the same WIPO officials had discussions with officials of the above-mentioned Office in Belgrade on PCT matters.

Centre for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI). In April 1997, a WIPO official

conducted a PCT seminar for 18 patent attorneys of the Copenhagen Group of CEIPI. The seminar was organized by a private law firm in Copenhagen.

European Patent Office (EPO). In April 1997, three WIPO officials represented the Organization at the EPO stand at the Hannover Fair (Germany). One of them conducted a seminar on the PCT for some EPO staff members.

Computerization Activities

United Kingdom. In late April and early May 1997, three officials of the Patent Office visited WIPO's headquarters to acquaint themselves with the PCT Sector, and more particularly the receiving Office of the International Bureau. During the visit, they were given demonstrations of the computerized systems used in the PCT Operations.

Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO). In May 1997, an EAPO official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva computerization matters and was given a tour of the technical infrastructure of the PCT.

European Patent Office (EPO). In April 1997, eight WIPO officials participated in a meeting on electronic information exchange and electronic filing, held in The Hague, along with delegations from the EPO, the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Among PCT-related questions, discussions at the meeting dealt with the computerization of the PCT administration and cooperation in the development of the EASY project.

WIPO/USPTO Joint Technical Meeting. In April 1997, eight officials of the USPTO participated in a meeting convened at WIPO's headquarters to discuss items related to the computerization of the PCT system, particularly the exchange of priority documents and electronic filing of PCT applications.

Madrid Union

Workshop on Refusal of Protection of International Registrations under the Madrid Agreement

Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agree-

ment. On April 24 and 25, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Geneva. It was attended by 44 participants from 32 offices of the following Contracting Parties to the Madrid Agreement and/or Protocol: Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Kazakstan, Latvia, Monaco, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Viet Nam. During the Workshop, presentations on the provisions of the Agreement and Protocol and of the Common Regulations which bear on refusals were made by WIPO officials, and practical questions related to these refusals were discussed in detail.

Switzerland. In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a seminar on the Madrid Protocol and the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, organized by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property in Zurich on the occasion of the ratification by Switzerland of the Madrid Protocol (it entered into force, in respect of that country, on May 1, 1997).

United Kingdom. In April 1997, two WIPO officials and a WIPO consultant from the United Kingdom participated in a seminar on the Madrid Protocol, organized by the Patent Office in Newport and attended by 150 participants from law firms and industrial companies. They gave presentations on the Madrid system, with particular reference to its use in the United Kingdom, and on the projected link with the Community trade mark system.

Training and Promotion Meetings for Users of the Madrid System

Greece. In May 1997, a WIPO official discussed with government officials in Athens the possible accession of Greece to the Madrid Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.

International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT). In May 1997, a representative of the Institute was briefed by WIPO officials in Geneva on WIPO's international registration activities under the Madrid system and visited the International Trademark Registry.

Hague Union

Training and Promotion Meetings for Users of the Hague System

Greece. In May 1997, two WIPO officials conducted a training seminar on the administrative procedures under the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs,

organized by the Industrial Property Organisation (OBI) in Athens. The seminar was attended by 12 officials of the Organisation.

Also in May 1997, one of the WIPO officials discussed with OBI officials in Athens possible cooperation in automation matters in the framework of the Hague Agreement.

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

Internet Domain Name Disputes

From April 29 to May 1, 1997, an Information Session and Meeting of Signatories and Potential Signatories to the Internet Domain Names and Generic Top Level Domains Memorandum of Understanding (gTLD-MoU) was held in Geneva. It was attended by 126 participants. At the signing ceremony, on May 1, the gTLD-MoU was signed by 56 entities and deposited with the ITU. The Director General signed the following statement: "The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) hereby declares that the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center is available for administering procedures for the settlement of disputes concerning second level domains registered in the gTLDs covered by the gTLD-MoU."

American Bar Association (ABA). In April 1997, a WIPO official participated as a member of a moot international arbitration at a National Institute on the Arbitration of International Commercial Disputes organized by ABA in Chicago (United States of America).

Internet Society (ISOC). In April 1997, a WIPO official participated, in Washington, D.C., and New York, in a series of meetings with government officials and representatives of industry to explain the planned Internet domain name system under the proposed memorandum of understanding (the gTLD-MoU, mentioned above), which would implement the Final Report of ISOC's International Ad Hoc Committee (IAHC).

Also in April 1997, two WIPO officials spoke on dispute resolution concerning Internet domain names at an ISOC information meeting held at WIPO's headquarters in Geneva.

Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA). In April 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on WIPO arbitration and mediation of licensing disputes at the Annual Conference of that Association, held in Kuala Lumpur.

University of Tübingen (Germany). In April 1997, a WIPO official spoke on the role of the

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center at a Seminar on Extrajudicial Dispute Resolution through Negotiation and Mediation, organized by that University in Tübingen in cooperation with the German Lawyers Association.

WIPO Training Programs on Mediation in Intellectual Property Disputes

(Geneva, May 13 and 14 and
May 15 and 16, 1997)

On May 13 and 14 and May 15 and 16, 1997, WIPO organized two introductory training programs on mediation techniques. The first program was attended by 12 participants from Canada, France, Germany, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, and the second by eight participants from Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Singapore, Spain and Switzerland. They were attorneys, patent and trademark agents, academics or persons working in industry. The programs, which were based on simulated mediation exercises in the intellectual property area, were taught by Professors Robert H. Mnookin of Harvard University and Gary J. Friedman of the Center for Mediation in Law, from the United States of America.

WIPO Advanced Mediation Workshop

(Geneva, May 29 and 30, 1997)

On May 29 and 30, 1997, WIPO organized an advanced mediation workshop. It was attended by 14 participants from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Most of them were attorneys who had already participated in one of the WIPO introductory mediation training programs. The workshop was conducted by Professor Stephen B. Goldberg and Mrs. Margaret L. Shaw, from the United States of America.

Other Activities

Italy. In May 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the WIPO Arbitration and Media-

tion Center at a Symposium on Alternative Dispute Resolution of Intellectual Property Disputes, organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Treviso.

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Developing Countries

Africa

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

African Regional Colloquium on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (Benin). From April 22 to 24, 1997, WIPO organized that Colloquium in Cotonou in cooperation with the Government of Benin. The Colloquium was attended by 43 government officials from Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, the Niger, Senegal and Togo, an official from the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and 13 local participants. The Colloquium was officially opened by a Deputy Director General of WIPO. Presentations were made by WIPO consultants from France, Switzerland, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the WTO, and by two WIPO officials. A panel comprising four participant-experts from Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo and the OAPI also contributed to the discussion.

WIPO Regional Workshop on Intellectual Property for Magistrates of Member States of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) (Cameroon). From May 19 to 24, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Yaoundé in cooperation with OAPI and the Government of Cameroon. The Workshop was attended by two magistrates from each of nine OAPI Member

States (Benin, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, the Niger, Senegal and Togo) and some 25 local participants, of whom five were magistrates. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants from France, three OAPI officials, two local participants and two WIPO officials. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar for Magistrates, Attorneys and Paralegals on Recent International Development of Copyright and Neighboring Rights Protection (Togo). From April 7 to 9, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Lomé in cooperation with the Government of Togo. The Seminar was attended by over 160 participants who were members of the judiciary, magistrates, attorneys, paralegals and customs and police officers. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from Switzerland, two speakers from France, a local speaker and a WIPO official.

WIPO National Seminar on Industrial Property (Chad). From April 28 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in N'djamena in cooperation with the Government of Chad. The Seminar was attended by some 60 participants from government and legal circles, industry and research institutions. Presentations were made by a WIPO consultant from France and two WIPO officials. The subjects covered during the Seminar included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Botswana). On May 5 and 6, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Gaborone in cooperation with the Government of Botswana. The Seminar was attended by over 80 participants from government ministries, the University of Botswana, the legal profession and by rights holders. Papers were presented by three WIPO consultants from Malawi, Mauritius and Switzerland, a local speaker and two WIPO officials. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Police and Customs Officials (Nigeria). On May 21 and 22, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Lagos in cooperation with the Government of Nigeria. The Seminar was attended by over 60 participants who were police and customs officers from most States in the country. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), five local speakers and two WIPO officials. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Law Enforcement Agencies (Ghana). On May 26 and 27, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Accra in cooperation with the Government of Ghana. The Seminar was attended by over 150 participants including judges, police and customs officers, private legal practitioners and rights holders. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from the United Kingdom, two local speakers and two WIPO officials. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Workshop for Patent Lawyers (Ethiopia). From May 26 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Addis Ababa in cooperation with the Government of Ethiopia. The Workshop was attended by some 60 participants from legal and engineering circles. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants, two from the United Kingdom and one from South Africa, and a WIPO official. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Regional. In May 1997, two WIPO officials attended, in Accra, a meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on

Industrialization of Africa. One of the WIPO officials also attended a meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry which followed. Both meetings were organized jointly by the OAU, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Angola. In April 1997, Mrs. Anacleta Maria Pederneira Pereira, Director, Angolan Institute of Industrial Property, met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

Benin. In April 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation and training.

Also in April 1997, two WIPO officials met with government leaders and officials in Cotonou to discuss matters of cooperation.

Still in April 1997, three WIPO officials met with government leaders and officials in Cotonou to discuss matters of cooperation in the copyright field.

Botswana. In April 1997, a WIPO official held discussions with government officials in Gaborone on industrial property legislation in Botswana that included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

In May 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Gaborone to discuss with government officials the modernization of the national industrial property system under a proposed project to be executed by WIPO and funded jointly with the Government.

Ethiopia. In April 1997, two WIPO officials had discussions with government officials in Addis Ababa on matters of cooperation in the field of industrial property.

In May 1997, a WIPO official had discussions with government officials in Addis Ababa on strengthening the national patent office.

Guinea-Bissau. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft industrial property law. The draft law takes account of the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Lesotho. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a study on the industrial property legislation of Lesotho and its compatibility with the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Malawi undertook a mission to Maseru to advise the Government in the setting up of a collecting management society and in the preparation of draft implementing regulations under the Copyright Law of Lesotho.

Liberia. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, an updated draft industrial property law, with a commentary, that takes into account recent developments at the international level, including the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement, in the field of industrial property.

Madagascar. In May 1997, three WIPO officials undertook a mission to Antananarivo and held discussions with the Prime Minister and other government leaders and officials on the modernization of the national industrial property office and the possible accession of Madagascar to certain WIPO-administered treaties.

Mozambique. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft industrial property law. The draft law takes account of the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Namibia. In May 1997, a WIPO official had discussions with government officials in Windhoek on the modernization of the national industrial property system under a proposed WIPO country project.

Niger. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Switzerland undertook a mission to Niamey to

assist the newly established Copyright Office of Niger to begin its operations.

Also in April 1997, two government officials undertook a WIPO-organized training program at the Copyright Office of Burkina Faso, in Ouagadougou, on practical aspects of the collective management of copyright.

In May 1997, two government officials undertook practical training in the field of collective management of copyright, respectively at the copyright offices of Benin in Cotonou (BUBEDRA) and Mali in Bamako (BUMDA).

Seychelles. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft industrial property act, with a commentary, covering patents, industrial designs, trademarks and acts of unfair competition and the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Sierra Leone. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft patent and industrial designs act and a draft act on marks, collective marks, trade names and acts of unfair competition. Each draft act had a commentary on its main provisions which took into account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the OAPI, at its request, a draft revision of the Bangui Agreement and draft annexes thereto, on the protection of patents and utility models, industrial designs, marks and trade names, geographical indications, integrated circuits and unfair competition.

Organization of African Unity (OAU). In April 1997, two WIPO officials had discussions with Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary General of the OAU, in Addis Ababa on cooperation between the two Organizations.

Arab Countries

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Algeria. In April 1997, a government official of the Ministry of Justice discussed with WIPO

officials in Geneva possible assistance in training and computerization.

Bahrain. In May 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request,

a draft industrial property law with a commentary on its main provisions, including the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Egypt. In April 1997, an official of the Regional Information Technology and Software Engineering Center (RITSEC) discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva cooperation in the use of information technology.

Jordan. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the 1996 Amendments to the 1992 Copyright Law of Jordan. The comments included, *inter alia*, the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

In May 1997, Mr. Mohammad A.A.R. Khreisat, Director of Trade Registration and Industrial Property Protection, and another government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of training, computerization as well as the current status of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-funded and WIPO-executed regional project for strengthening and mobilizing the intellectual property system for promoting technological, industrial and cultural development.

Lebanon. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft copyright law of Lebanon. The comments included, *inter alia*, the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

In May 1997, Mrs. Salwa Rahhal Faour, Head, Intellectual Property Protection Office, and two other government officials held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on various matters of cooperation and training, in particular the plan of activities to be carried out under the WIPO country project for Lebanon.

Libya. In April 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva certain activities to be implemented within the framework of the UNDP-financed country project for strengthening the industrial property system and promotion of inventive capacity. The said project is executed by WIPO.

In May 1997, two government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the next activities under the UNDP-funded country project

for the strengthening of the industrial property system. The project is being executed by WIPO.

Oman. In April 1997, Mr. Maqbool bin Ali Sultan, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and two other government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva further assistance in the areas of legislation revision and computerization training, as well as plans for two seminars to be organized in the country in 1997.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Egypt undertook a mission to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Muscat to provide advice on the computerization of the national trademark registry.

Still in April 1997, a WIPO official and a WIPO consultant from Canada undertook a mission to Muscat to discuss with government officials the new copyright legislation and its compatibility with the TRIPS Agreement. On that occasion, they also discussed the comments sent by the International Bureau to the government authorities, at their request, on the new Copyright Law of Oman.

In May 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft patent and industrial designs law and a draft law on the protection of layouts-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits.

Qatar. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a note on the conditions and advantages for Qatar of accession to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.

Saudi Arabia. In April 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva future WIPO assistance, in particular the revision of the country's intellectual property legislation to conform with TRIPS obligations, training and the organization of a national seminar on the TRIPS Agreement.

In May 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the legislative and administrative changes envisaged to comply with obligations under the TRIPS Agreement.

Also in May 1997, a government official held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on possible WIPO assistance to Saudi Arabia in respect of revising its industrial property legislation to comply with the TRIPS Agreement, on the

creation of a technological information network for universities and research centers, as well as training.

Sudan. In May 1997, Mrs. Amal Hassan Eltinay, Commercial Registrar General, Attorney General's Chambers, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the activities under the WIPO country project for Sudan as well as the planning of a WIPO mission to Khartoum in the field of computerization.

Syria. In April 1997, the President of the Association of Syrian Inventors discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva possible future assistance.

In May 1997, Mr. Muhammad Al-Bertawi, Director of Commercial and Industrial Property, Directorate of Commercial and Industrial Property, and another government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the plan of activities under the WIPO country project for Syria as well as the planning of a WIPO mission to Damascus in the field of computerization.

Tunisia. In April 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on a draft industrial property law. The

comments included, *inter alia*, the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

In May 1997, WIPO prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft law on the protection of layouts-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits.

Yemen. In May 1997, two government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters of development cooperation and training and, in particular, the plan of activities to be implemented in 1997 under the WIPO country project for Yemen.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In May 1997, a UNDP official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the implementation of activities planned for 1997 under the regional project for strengthening and mobilizing the intellectual property system for promoting technological, industrial and cultural development.

Also in May 1997, WIPO organized a study visit to the International Bureau in Geneva, the Swedish Patent and Registration Office in Stockholm, and the Egyptian Patent Office in Cairo for 11 government officials from Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the Sudan, Syria and Yemen. The study visit was funded by the said UNDP-financed regional project.

Asia and the Pacific

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Regional Round Table on the Protection and Collective Management of Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Asian Countries (Indonesia). From May 5 to 7, 1997, WIPO organized that Round Table in Jakarta in cooperation with the Government of Indonesia. The Round Table was attended by 25 participants from Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, India, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand, who were government officials dealing with copyright and officials of copyright collective management societies. There were also some 40 local participants from the Indonesian artistic, literary and music circles. Papers were presented by five WIPO consultants from Australia, Japan, the United States of America, the Asia and the Pacific Office of the International Confederation

of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) and the Asia-Pacific Committee of the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organizations (IFRRO), as well as by two local experts and two WIPO officials. The presentations included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO International Forum on the Implications of the TRIPS Agreement for Intellectual Property Systems (Republic of Korea). On May 7 and 8, 1997, WIPO organized that Forum in Daeduk in cooperation with the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) and the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) and with the assistance of UNDP. The Forum, which was held in conjunction with a ceremony to mark the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the IIPTI, was attended by 43 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China,

Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam. The Forum was officially opened by a Deputy Director General of WIPO. Some 60 local participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions and three WIPO officials also attended. Presentations were made by WIPO consultants from Australia, Finland and the United States of America, four government officials from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, three local speakers and a WIPO official.

WIPO-Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Sub-Regional Round Table on the Implications of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) on the Intellectual Property System (Indonesia). On May 9 and 10, 1997, WIPO organized that Round Table in Jakarta in cooperation with ASEAN. The Round Table was opened by the Director General along with Dato' Ajit Singh, Secretary General of ASEAN, and Mr. Sumarjato Kayatmo, Director General of Copyrights, Patents and Trademarks of Indonesia. The Round Table was attended by 24 participants from six ASEAN countries (Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam) and three prospective ASEAN member countries (Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar), as well as by some 40 local participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions. Panelists comprised three WIPO consultants from Canada, Malaysia and the European Commission, an official from the ASEAN Geneva Committee as well as two officials from the ASEAN Secretariat, a nominee from each of the ASEAN member States and a WIPO official. Two other WIPO officials also attended the Round Table. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on the Implications of the TRIPS Agreement (Bangladesh). On April 8 and 9, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Dhaka in cooperation with the Ministry of Industries of Bangladesh. The Seminar was attended by 70 participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Australia, three local experts and two WIPO officials.

WIPO National Roving Workshop on Patents (India). From April 21 to 28, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Pune, Bangalore and Hyderabad in cooperation with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of the Government of India. The Workshop was attended by a total of 357 participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession and research institutions. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Germany and the United States of America, a local speaker and a WIPO official.

WIPO National Seminar on the TRIPS Agreement and the Promotion of Inventive and Innovative Activity (Sri Lanka). From April 23 to 25, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Colombo in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal and External Trade, Commerce and Food. The Seminar was attended by 46 participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants from Australia, Germany and the Philippines. A WIPO official also participated.

Asia Pacific Centre for Technology Transfer (APCTT) (Islamic Republic of Iran). In May 1997, a WIPO official attended a Consultative Meeting for Evolving a Technology Management Curriculum and Training Program for Developing Countries in the ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) Region, organized in Tehran by the Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology and APCTT.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Bangladesh. In April 1997, two WIPO officials had discussions with senior government officials in Dhaka concerning future cooperation with WIPO, including the possible accession of the country to the Berne Convention and the PCT and the proposed WIPO country project for the modernization of the Trade Mark Registry of Bangladesh.

Also in April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a note on the Berne Convention in view of the possible accession of the country to that Convention.

Bhutan. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities

ties, at their request, comments on a revised draft industrial property law and the accompanying regulations, as well as the forms under those regulations.

In May 1997, a WIPO consultant from India undertook a mission to Thimphu to assist in implementing the trademark administration procedures and to train staff of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The consultant also provided training for industrial property attorneys on the new national industrial property rules and regulations.

Also in May 1997, another WIPO consultant from India undertook a mission to the same Ministry to assist in preparing technical specifications for a computerized system of industrial property administrative procedures. The above activities were undertaken under the WIPO country project for Bhutan.

Brunei Darussalam. In May 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft emergency (patents) order, 1997, in particular its compatibility with the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the PCT, the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, and the TRIPS Agreement.

China. In April 1997, a delegation of seven government officials from the Province of Yunnan, headed by the Deputy Director General of the Yunnan Provincial Commission for Science and Technology, undertook a study visit to the International Bureau in Geneva. Presentations were made by WIPO officials on WIPO's development cooperation program, the PCT and the Madrid international trademark registration.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In April 1997, seven government officials visiting Geneva were given a briefing at WIPO's headquarters on WIPO's activities.

India. In April 1997, two government officials met with a Deputy Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

In May 1997, two WIPO officials met with government officials in New Delhi to discuss matters of cooperation.

Indonesia. In May 1997, the Director General, accompanied by two other WIPO officials, under-

took an official visit to Indonesia at the invitation of the Government. He was received, in Jakarta, by President Suharto with whom he discussed the current situation of intellectual property rights in the country. The President presented the Director General with the *Bintang Jasa Utama* (the Supreme Merit Star) for his leadership and achievements in the field of intellectual property and for his service to developing countries, in particular Indonesia.

The Director General was presented with copies of the decrees recently signed by the President relating to the accession of Indonesia to the Berne Convention and the PCT, the ratification of the Trademark Law Treaty and the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the withdrawal of the reservation on Articles 1-12 of the Paris Convention, as well as with copies of new legislation amending the Indonesian laws on patents, trademarks and copyright to bring them into compliance with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement. During his visit, the Director General also had discussions with other government leaders and officials on matters of cooperation, including a WIPO-funded project for the modernization of the intellectual property system of the country.

Iran (Islamic Republic of). In May 1997, a WIPO official participated in the signing ceremony, in Tehran, of a new UNDP-financed project for the Islamic Republic of Iran on the development of the administrative protection and effective use of intellectual property, to be executed by WIPO.

Also in May 1997, a WIPO official met with government officials in Tehran to discuss matters of cooperation, including arrangements for the implementation of the above-mentioned project.

Malaysia. In May 1997, a WIPO official and a WIPO consultant from the United Kingdom undertook a mission to the Intellectual Property Division of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, in Kuala Lumpur, to advise on the strengthening of the protection of industrial designs in the country.

Mongolia. In April 1997, the Rector of the National University of Mongolia visited WIPO's headquarters and conferred on the Director General an Honorary Doctorate from that University. The Rector discussed with the Director General and other WIPO officials matters of cooperation.

Nepal. In May 1997, a WIPO consultant from India undertook a mission to Kathmandu to advise the authorities on the automation of the industrial property section of the Department of Industries.

Pakistan. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a note explaining the Paris Act (1971) of the Berne Convention.

In May 1997, two WIPO officials undertook a mission to Islamabad to discuss development cooperation activities in Pakistan, in particular the proposed UNDP-financed project for the modernization of the intellectual property system in the country, to be executed by WIPO. They also met with government officials to discuss Pakistan's obligations under the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement and the country's possible accession to, *inter alia*, the Paris Convention, the Madrid Agreement and the PCT. During their visit, the two WIPO officials held discussions on development issues with staff from research institutions, members of the business community and intellectual property lawyers.

Also in May 1997, two government officials met, separately, with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters related to the above proposed UNDP project, as well as action to be taken to ensure the country's timely compliance with the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Philippines. In May 1997, a WIPO official met with government officials in Manila to discuss matters of cooperation in the field of computerization, focusing on the production of a prototype CD-ROM of trademark data from four ASEAN countries and the installation of a database management system for figurative marks.

Republic of Korea. In May 1997, three WIPO officials met with government officials in Seoul to discuss matters of cooperation, including the possibility of the Republic of Korea's becoming an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examination Authority under the PCT.

Singapore. In May 1997, the Director General, accompanied by two other WIPO officials,

undertook an official visit to Singapore at the invitation of the Government. He had discussions with government leaders and officials on strengthening bilateral cooperation, particularly in the computerization of the new patent administration system, the preparation of intellectual property legislation, the organization of the first training course for developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region, under the Singapore-WIPO Joint Training Program in the Field of Industrial Property, as well as the holding of a seminar on Internet and the protection of intellectual property rights.

Sri Lanka. In April 1997, a WIPO official had discussions with UNDP officials in Colombo concerning the forthcoming WIPO Regional Training Course on Intellectual Property for Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific to be held in Colombo in August 1997.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Australia undertook a mission to the Registry of Patents and Trade Marks in Colombo to assess its computerization needs for trademark administration and the setting up of a patent information system for the Registry.

Viet Nam. In April 1997, a senior official of the National Office of Industrial Property met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

Japan. In April 1997, three WIPO officials met with senior officials of the JPO in Tokyo to evaluate the development cooperation activities in the field of industrial property for developing countries in Asia and the Pacific that had taken place under the funds-in-trust (FIT) arrangement between WIPO and the Government of Japan for the period April 1996 to March 1997, and to consider the draft work plan for activities for the period April 1997 to March 1998.

The WIPO officials also had discussions with officials of the new Asia-Pacific Industrial Property Center and the Japan Patent Information Organization.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Regional Seminar on Reprography for Latin American and Caribbean Countries (Colombia). On April 22 and 23, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Santa Fe de Bogotá in cooperation with IFRRO, the National Copyright Office and the Regional Center for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), and with the assistance of the Colombian Copyright Chamber (CCL) and the Colombian Copyright Center (CECOLDA). The Seminar was attended by 23 government officials from Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, and by 80 local participants, including some publishers from Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Uruguay and a number of observers from the University of Los Andes of Venezuela. Presentations were made by four WIPO consultants from Argentina, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America, a representative of IFRRO, three representatives of the Canadian Copyright Organization (CANCOPY), the Norwegian Organization for Reprographic Rights (KOPINOR) and the Reproduction Rights Organization of Brazil, respectively, a representative each of CCL and CERLAC, a local speaker and two WIPO officials. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO Regional Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Journalists from Latin American Countries (Colombia). On April 24 and 25, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Santa Fe de Bogotá in cooperation with CERLALC, the National Copyright Office and the Santillana Foundation for Latin America and with the assistance of the CCL and CECOLDA. The Seminar was attended by 17 journalists from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, and by 50 local participants. Presentations were made by four WIPO consultants from Argentina, Spain,

Switzerland and the United States of America, a local expert and two WIPO officials. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO Regional Symposium on Intellectual Property for Judges (Cuba). From April 28 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Symposium in Havana in cooperation with the Cuban Industrial Property Office and the National Copyright Center. The Symposium was attended by around 70 participants who were judges and public prosecutors from Havana and other provinces of the country. Presentations were made by five speakers from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Germany and Mexico, four local experts and two WIPO officials. The presentations included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO Meeting of Government Experts of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) on Industrial Designs (Paraguay). On April 1 and 2, 1997, WIPO organized that Meeting in Asunción in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Paraguay. The Meeting was attended by around 20 government officials. Two WIPO officials also attended the Meeting.

WIPO National Course on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Customs and Police Officers (Venezuela). On April 14 and 15, 1997, WIPO organized that Course in Caracas in cooperation with the National Copyright Office and the University Institute of Scientific Police. Over 50 police and customs officers attended the Course. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Argentina and Colombia, a representative each of CISAC for Latin America, the Latin American Federation of Producers of Phonograms and Videograms (FLAPF) and the Venezuelan Society of Authors (SACVEN), four local experts, a government official and a WIPO official. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Peruvian Judges and Public Prosecutors (Peru). From April 16 to 18, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Arequipa in cooperation with the National Institute for the

Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (INDECOPI) and the Judicial Power and Judicial Academy of Peru. The Seminar was attended by 100 judges and public prosecutors. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants from Chile, Spain and Switzerland, six local experts and a WIPO official. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Venezuelan Judges and Public Prosecutors (Venezuela). From April 16 to 18, 1997, WIPO organized that Course in Caracas in cooperation with the National Copyright Office and the Judiciary School of the Judges Council of Venezuela. The Seminar was attended by some 100 judges and public prosecutors. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants from Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador, a representative each of CISAC, FLAPF and SACVEN, six local speakers and a WIPO official. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Workshop on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Cuba). From April 28 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Havana. The Workshop was attended by 50 participants. Presentations were made by five WIPO consultants from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Germany and Mexico, two local experts and two WIPO officials. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Workshop on Industrial Property for Customs and Police Officers (Cuba). From April 28 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Havana. The Workshop was attended by 50 participants. Presentations were made by five WIPO consultants from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Germany and Mexico, two local experts and two WIPO officials. The presentations dealt with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on the International Legal Framework for the Protection of Industrial Property: The Paris Convention and the TRIPS Agreement (Nicaragua). On April 29 and 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Managua in cooperation with the Government of Nicaragua. The Seminar was attended by around 50 participants, including intellectual property lawyers,

government officials and private entrepreneurs. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Colombia and Mexico, two local experts and two WIPO officials.

WIPO National Seminar on Industrial Property (El Salvador). On May 19 and 20, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in San Salvador in cooperation with the National Center of Registries. The Seminar was attended by around 80 participants, including government officials, industrial property attorneys, judges and prosecutors. Papers were presented by three WIPO consultants from Chile, Germany and Mexico, two local experts and a WIPO official. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Industrial Property (Costa Rica). On May 22 and 23, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in San Jose in cooperation with the Intellectual Property Registry. The Seminar was attended by 150 participants who were intellectual property attorneys, judges, government officials, university professors and law students. Papers were presented by three WIPO consultants from Chile, Germany and Mexico, two local experts and a WIPO official. Discussions included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Argentina. In April 1997, the Director General and three other WIPO officials visited Buenos Aires at the invitation of the Argentine Government. The purpose of the visit was to participate in the official inauguration of the new premises of the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of Argentina. At the inaugural ceremony, the Director General spoke and awarded a WIPO gold medal (see below). During his visit, the Director General was received by the President of the Republic and other government leaders and officials.

During the same visit, a WIPO official chaired a roundtable on the TRIPS Agreement, attended by a WTO official and the heads of the industrial property offices of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. On the same occasion, another WIPO official made a presentation on the PCT. Both events were attended by some local government officials and industrial property lawyers.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO consultant from the EPO completed a mission to INPI in Buenos Aires to provide assistance in the examination of patent applications in the field of pharmaceuticals. The mission was funded by the EPO.

In May 1997, a WIPO consultant from the EPO undertook a mission to INPI in Buenos Aires to provide advice on the examination of patent applications in the field of electronics. The mission was funded by the EPO.

Barbados. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile undertook a mission to Bridgetown to advise the staff in the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office in the computerization of its trademark and patent operations.

Brazil. In April 1997, two WIPO officials and two WIPO consultants from Chile and Venezuela undertook a mission to the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) in Rio de Janeiro to discuss the drafting of a technical cooperation project for the modernization of the Institute.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO consultant from the EPO undertook a mission to INPI in Rio de Janeiro to provide assistance in the examination of patent applications in the field of pharmaceuticals. The mission was funded by the EPO.

In May 1997, the Director General met with government officials in Geneva to sign a five-year agreement covering the upgrading of the computer system as well as the training and institutional strengthening of INPI. At the same time, the two sides also signed the renewal of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Brazil and WIPO which provides for the organization of annual courses on industrial property at INPI in Rio de Janeiro.

Chile. In April 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Santiago to discuss with government officials and officials of the Chilean Authors' Society future cooperation between Chile and WIPO, including training. The WIPO official gave a lecture to students at the Faculty of Law of the University of Chile.

In May 1997, two government officials met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss cooperation activities in the field of industrial property.

Costa Rica. In May 1997, two WIPO consultants from Chile and Venezuela undertook a mission to the Intellectual Property Registry in San Jose to discuss

assistance in the field of computerization. The mission was funded under the country project for the modernization of the said Registry.

Also in May 1997, a WIPO official met with senior government officials in San Jose to discuss cooperation activities, in particular the above-mentioned project which is funded by the Government and executed by WIPO.

Cuba. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from the EPO undertook a mission to the Cuban Industrial Property Office to assist in the further computerization of its patent information services and in the upgrading of the local office electronic network.

El Salvador. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Uruguay undertook a mission to the National Center of Registries in San Salvador to provide assistance in the use of the International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification).

In May 1997, a government official had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on matters of cooperation and on the PCT.

Also in May 1997, two government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva development cooperation activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights.

Guatemala. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Uruguay undertook a mission to the Registry of Industrial Property in Guatemala City to give advice on the use of the Vienna Classification.

Nicaragua. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Uruguay undertook a mission to the Industrial Property Registry in Managua to advise on the use of the Vienna Classification.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to the said Registry in Managua to discuss with government officials and a representative of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency a possible project for the modernization of the Registry.

Panama. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from Uruguay undertook a mission to the Directorate General of the Industrial Property Registry in Panama City to provide assistance in the use of the Vienna Classification.

Also in April 1997, Mrs. Luz Celeste Ríos de Davis, Director General, Directorate General of

the Industrial Property Registry, visited the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property in Mexico City to observe the computerization system for the processing of trademark and patent applications established by the Institute. The visit was funded by WIPO.

Paraguay. In April 1997, two WIPO consultants from Chile and Uruguay undertook a mission to the Directorate of Industrial Property in Asunción to provide assistance to it in the computerization of its industrial property operations. This mission was funded by the UNDP-financed country project for the modernization of the intellectual property system.

In May 1997, a government official discussed with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

Peru. In April 1997, a WIPO official and two WIPO consultants from Spain and Switzerland participated in two roundtables on copyright in a free market economy in Lima organized by the University of Lima and the Sacred Heart Women's University, respectively. They also participated in a third roundtable organized by INDECOPI on the collective administration of copyright and neighboring rights.

Trinidad and Tobago. In May 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to the Intellectual Property Registry in Port of Spain to discuss cooperation within the framework of the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks and to give training to staff of the Registry on the use of that Classification.

Uruguay. In April 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to the National Directorate of Industrial Property in Montevideo to discuss cooperation with Uruguay in the field of industrial property and training.

Venezuela. In April 1997, a WIPO consultant from the EPO undertook a mission to the Industrial Property Registry in Caracas to provide assistance in the examination of patent applications in the field of pharmaceuticals. The mission was funded by the EPO.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Mérida to discuss with the University of Los Andes WIPO's long-term fellowships program for graduate students.

In May 1997, Mr. Rolando J. Vega Méndez, Director General Sectorial, Industrial Property Registry (SARPI), and Mrs. Magdaly Sánchez Aranguren, Director General, National Department of Copyright, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva cooperation matters in the fields of industrial property and copyright and neighboring rights, in light of the coming merger of SARPI with the copyright office in early 1998.

Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). In April 1997, two WIPO officials attended in Guatemala City a Meeting of the Heads of the Industrial Property Offices of the Central American Isthmus organized by SIECA. The meeting was attended by the heads of the industrial property offices of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The meeting agreed on the final draft of the Central American Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (Inventions and Industrial Designs).

Development Cooperation (in General)

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO/BBM Specialized Training Course on the Legal and Administrative Aspects of Trademarks (The Hague, Geneva). In April 1997, 15 government officials attended that Course organ-

ized by WIPO and the BBM in The Hague and Geneva. The participants came from Algeria, Angola, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, Colombia, Cuba, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco and Viet Nam. Presentations were made by BBM officials and

WIPO officials. The subjects covered during the Course included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO/EPO/Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property Training Course on the Use of CD-ROM Technology for Patent Searching and Examination (Vienna, Berne, Geneva). In April 1997, 16 government officials attended that

Course organized by WIPO in cooperation with the EPO and the above-mentioned Swiss Federal Institute. The participants came from Argentina, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Libya, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Singapore, Syria, Viet Nam and the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO). Presentations were made by EPO officials, officials of the Swiss Federal Institute and WIPO officials.

WIPO Medals

In April 1997, on the occasion of the official inauguration of the new premises of INPI in Buenos Aires, the Director General awarded a WIPO medal to the winner of the First National Competition for Women Inventors, organized by INPI and the Argentine Association of Inventors, with the support of the International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA).

Also in April 1997, two WIPO medals were awarded by a WIPO official at the 25th Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions and New Techniques, one to an inventor from Morocco for the best invention from a developing country and the other to a woman inventor from South Africa.

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

Regional Activities

WIPO Regional Seminar on the Valuation of Industrial Property Assets (Republic of Moldova). On May 13 and 14, 1997, that Seminar was organized in Kishinev by the State Agency on Industrial Property Protection (AGEPI) in cooperation with WIPO. The Seminar was attended by about 170 participants from Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. They were mainly government officials and industrial property attorneys. Papers were presented by two invited speakers from Switzerland and the United Kingdom, a

government official from the Republic of Moldova and a WIPO official. Another WIPO official also attended the Seminar.

WIPO Seminar for Central Asian Countries on Computer Technology and Intellectual Property (Uzbekistan). From May 28 to 30, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Tashkent in cooperation with the State Patent Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Seminar was attended by 11 participants from Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and some 90 local participants who were from government circles as well as lawyers, patent attorneys and researchers. Presentations were made

by six government officials from Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (two), two WIPO experts from the United Kingdom and the United States of America, respectively, and three WIPO officials. Presentations included, *inter alia*, the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

National Activities

Kyrgyzstan. In April 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, an opinion concerning the compatibility of the copyright legislation of Kyrgyzstan with the Berne Convention and the Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations.

Latvia. In April 1997, Mr. Zigrids Aumeisters, Director, Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia, visited WIPO's headquarters and met with the Director General and other WIPO officials. During the visit, questions relating to the cooperation between Latvia and WIPO were discussed, in particular the organizing of a Baltic seminar for judges, in Riga, in November 1997.

Republic of Moldova. In May 1997, two WIPO officials had discussions with government and UNDP officials in Kishinev on a possible UNDP-financed country project strengthening the industrial property system in the country. The project would be executed by WIPO.

Also in May 1997, Mr. Eugen M. Stashkov, Director General of AGEPI, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters relating to the cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and WIPO in the field of intellectual property.

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

National Contacts

Andorra. In April 1997, two WIPO officials visited the recently established Trademarks Office of the Principality of Andorra, in Andorra. They were received by the Head of Government, who expressed his gratitude to WIPO for its assistance in the drafting of Andorra's new trademark legislation and the setting up of the Office, and had discussions with other government officials and members of the judiciary concerning the said legislation.

In May 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the draft patent law of Andorra.

Malta. In May 1997, a government official had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on possible assistance and cooperation in the field of

industrial property, in particular regarding legislative advice and training.

Switzerland. In May 1997, the Director General and another WIPO official attended a ceremony organized in Geneva by the *République et Canton de Genève* to dedicate this year's vintage of the Canton's vineyards to WIPO.

Also in May 1997, a WIPO official gave a lecture on WIPO's activities and international patent law to the participants in a postgraduate program on intellectual property, organized in Zurich by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

United States of America. In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a Forum on Technology-Based Intellectual Property Management entitled "Electronic Commerce for Content II," sponsored

by the U.S. Copyright Office and four co-sponsors, held in Washington, D.C.

United Nations

Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended the meetings of the first regular session of the ACC, in Geneva.

Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (Organizational Committee) (ACC(OC)). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended in Geneva meetings of the Organizational Committee of the ACC, which preceded and followed the first regular (spring) session of the ACC.

Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions (ACPAQ). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of ACPAQ, held in New York.

United Nations. In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development, held in New York.

In May 1997, two WIPO officials attended a session of the High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC), held in New York.

Also in May 1997, a WIPO official attended, in New York, a meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Information Activities for the 19th Special Session of the General Assembly.

Intergovernmental Organizations

Council of Europe (CE). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the Council of Europe's Copyright Experts Group, held in Paris.

European Patent Office (EPO). In April 1997, two WIPO officials attended a meeting of the EPO Working Party on Technical Information, held in The Hague.

In May 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the EPO Working Party on Statistics, held in Munich.

Also in May 1997, two WIPO officials participated in the PATLIB '97 meeting organized by the

EPO in Monaco, where they presented some WIPO CD-ROM products.

World Trade Organization (WTO). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the General Council of the WTO, held in Geneva.

In May 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the Council for TRIPS of the WTO, held in Geneva.

Other Organizations

All-China Women's Federation. In May 1997, 32 Chinese women officials of that Federation visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on WIPO's activities and intellectual property in general.

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

Centre for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI). In May 1997, the Director General participated in a meeting of the Administrative Board of CEIPI, held in Paris.

Commonwealth Secretariat. In April 1997, an official of the Commonwealth Secretariat visited WIPO and had discussions with WIPO officials on possible cooperation between WIPO and his organization in the field of intellectual property for developing countries in the South Pacific and Caribbean regions.

Danube University of Krems (Austria). In May 1997, 14 students from Austria, Belgium, Croatia and Slovenia, enrolled in the postgraduate European studies program of that University, visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on WIPO's activities and intellectual property in general.

Employers Federation of Belgium. In May 1997, the Secretary General of the said Federation and five directors of the major affiliated employers organizations of Belgium visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on WIPO's activities, in particular those of direct interest for enterprises.

European Broadcasting Union (EBU). In May 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the Administrative Council of EBU, held in Geneva.

European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC). In May 1997, the Director General made an opening address at a conference on the theme "Patents: Key to Innovation," organized by CEFIC at WIPO's headquarters to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Council. Several other WIPO officials participated in the conference, one of them as a speaker.

Fordham University. In April 1997, two WIPO officials participated as speakers in the Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy, organized by the School of Law of that University in New York.

French Standards Association (AFNOR). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a Seminar on Identification of Works in Digital Networks, organized in Paris by AFNOR in cooperation with the French Ministry of Culture and the Council of Europe.

German Association for Industrial Property and Copyright (DVGR). In May 1997, a WIPO official attended the annual meeting of DVGR, held in Berlin.

International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI). In April 1997, the Director General accompanied by another WIPO official attended a meeting of the AIPPI Executive Committee in Vienna. He delivered two speeches at the Centennial celebration of that Association, organized in Vienna and Budapest, respectively. Another WIPO official also attended the Austrian part of that celebration.

Also in April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting and a ceremony organized in Brussels by the Belgian Group of AIPPI to commemorate the 100th anniversary of AIPPI.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). In April 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting of the ICC's Commission on Intellectual and In-

dustrial Property, held in Shanghai (China), in conjunction with the ICC's triennial Congress, as well as a Workshop on Intellectual Property organized within the framework of that Congress.

International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC). In May 1997, two WIPO officials attended the annual meeting of the Legal and Legislation Committee of CISAC, held in Sevilla.

International Copyright Society (INTERGU). In May 1997, a WIPO official attended the 13th INTERGU Congress on Protection of Culture and Intellectual Property in the Information Society, held in Vienna.

International Literary and Artistic Association (ALAI). In April 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) at a meeting organized by ALAI in Montreal.

International Trademark Association (INTA). In May 1997, two WIPO officials attended the annual meeting of INTA, held in San Antonio (United States of America). At the opening ceremony, an INTA official made a presentation on the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Arpad Bogsch, and paid tribute to his achievements, in particular in respect of international cooperation in the field of trademarks.

Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Patent, Copyright and Competition Law (MPI). In April 1997, the Director General attended a meeting of the Kuratorium of the Institute, held in Munich.

University of Geneva. In May 1997, 40 law students of that University visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on WIPO's activities.

University of Ljubljana. In April 1997, 50 students from that University visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on the activities of the Organization and intellectual property in general.

Activities of UPOV

Annual Report of the Secretary-General for 1996

(Twenty-eighth year)

Composition of the Union

Members and Future Members

1. On August 13, 1996, Colombia deposited its instrument of accession to the 1978 Act of the Convention. That Act entered into force with respect to Colombia on September 13, 1996.

2. As of December 31, 1996, the Union comprised 31 member States: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay.

3. Under Article 32(3) of the 1978 Act, "any State which is not a member of the Union and which has not signed this Act shall, before depositing its instrument of accession, ask the Council to advise it in respect of the conformity of its laws with the provisions of this Act." A similar provision is contained in Article 34(3) of the 1991 Act.

4. In 1996, five requests were made, by the following States:

(a) Brazil, by letter of January 31, on the basis of the 1978 Act;

(b) Kenya, by letter of September 20, on the basis of the 1978 Act;

(c) Panama, by letter of September 30, on the basis of the 1978 Act;

(d) Bulgaria, by letter of October 1, on the basis of both Acts;

(e) Trinidad and Tobago, by letter of November 18, on the basis of the 1978 Act.

5. At its thirteenth extraordinary session, held on April 18 in Rome, the Council examined the draft

law of Brazil and the legislation of Ecuador for which examination had been requested by a letter of October 1, 1995, received by the Office of the Union on October 19, 1995, after the twenty-ninth ordinary session of the Council. The Council took a qualified decision in respect of the request by Brazil and a positive decision with regard to the request from Ecuador, noting that the legislation of the latter country was also in conformity with the 1991 Act.

6. At its thirtieth ordinary session, held on October 23, the Council examined the laws of Kenya and of Bulgaria and a draft law of Panama. It took a qualified decision with regard to the request from Kenya and a positive decision with regard to the requests from Bulgaria and Panama.

7. A draft law of Trinidad and Tobago was examined by the expedited procedure and the Council gave a positive advice on its conformity with the 1978 Act.

Situation in Relation to the Various Acts of the Convention

8. All member States are bound by the 1978 Act, with the exception of Belgium and Spain that are bound by the 1961 Act, as amended by the Additional Act of 1972.

9. According to its Article 37(1), the 1991 Act "shall enter into force one month after five States have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as the case may be, provided that at least three of the said instruments have been deposited by States party to the Act of 1961/1972 or the Act of 1978."

10. In 1996, three States deposited their instruments of ratification or acceptance of the 1991 Act of the Convention:

(a) Denmark, on April 26;

(b) Israel, on June 3;

(c) Netherlands, on October 14.

11. Under Article 30(2) of the 1991 Act, each State or intergovernmental organization must be in a position, under its laws, to give effect to the provisions of the 1991 Act at the time of depositing its instrument.

12. In 1996, according to the information of the Office of the Union, South Africa and Poland (as also Israel and the Netherlands) passed laws to adapt their system of protection to the 1991 Act. Several other States adopted amendments in line with that Act or drew up draft laws. It was determined that, at the close of the year, protection that complied with the 1991 Act was available in (or, on the basis of the European Community's regional system, for) 26 States.

13. A table (not reproduced here) annexed to this report summarizes the situation of the States with regard to the various Acts of the Convention as at December 31, 1996.

Territorial Application of the Convention

14. On November 27, following a procedure initiated at the beginning of the year, the Netherlands deposited a notification withdrawing a preceding notification that had extended the 1978 Act of the Convention to Aruba.

Sessions of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies

Council

15. The Council held its thirteenth extraordinary session on April 18 in Rome, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bill Whitmore (New Zealand), in response to requests for advice submitted by Brazil and Ecuador under Article 32(3) of the 1978 Act.

16. The Council held its thirtieth ordinary session on October 23, also under the chairmanship of Mr. Bill Whitmore. The session was attended by observers from 16 non-member States¹ and eight international organizations.²

¹ Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Egypt, Greece, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Panama, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Thailand, Tunisia, Venezuela.

² World Trade Organization (WTO), European Community (EC), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

17. At that session, it took the following main decisions:

(a) It pronounced on the conformity of the laws in force or proposed in Bulgaria, Kenya and Panama with the UPOV Convention and agreed on an expedited procedure for examining any laws submitted in the period between two sessions.

(b) On a recommendation by the Consultative Committee, it took a stance on the proposal to include the UPOV Convention as a source treaty in the field of application of the draft (WIPO) treaty on the settlement of intellectual property disputes between States.

(c) It approved the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Union in 1995 and noted the report on activities during the first nine months of 1996.

(d) It approved the report of the Secretary-General on his management during the 1994-95 biennium and noted the auditor's report on the accounts of UPOV concerning that biennium.

(e) It approved the progress reports on the work of its various subsidiary bodies and either drew up or approved their work plans for the coming year.

(f) It unanimously elected:

(i) Mr. Aubrey Bould (United Kingdom) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops;

(ii) Mr. John Law (United Kingdom) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs;

(iii) Mr. Chris Barnaby (New Zealand) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Food Crops;

(iv) Mr. Joost Barendrecht (Netherlands) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees;

(v) Mr. Baruch Bar Tel (Israel) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables.

It further extended the term of office of Mr. Joël Guiard (France) for a further year as Chairman of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA Profiling in Particular.

(OECD), International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), International Association of Plant Breeders for the Protection of Plant Varieties (ASSINSEL), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Association of Plant Breeders of the European Economic Community (COMASSO), International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Tree Varieties (CIOPORA).

Consultative Committee

18. The Consultative Committee held its fifty-first session on April 18 in Rome, Italy, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bill Whitmore. The Committee heard reports by the representatives of the member States on developments with respect to application of the 1991 Act and examined the following matters: the proposed UPOV central CD-ROM database on plant variety protection, the system of UPOV contributions, the TRIPS Agreement and plant variety protection, as also biodiversity, plant genetic resources and plant variety protection.

19. The Consultative Committee held its fifty-second session on October 22, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bill Whitmore. It mainly prepared for the thirtieth ordinary session of the Council and took a new look at the matters examined at the preceding session and at the issue of the closing of the 1978 Act with the entry into force of the 1991 Act.

Administrative and Legal Committee

20. The Administrative and Legal Committee held its thirty-sixth session on October 21 under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Dieter Hoinkes (United States of America). The session was attended by observers from seven non-member States³ and from the European Community.

21. The Committee examined various matters concerning relations between the TRIPS Agreement and plant variety protection and various questions put by the Technical Committee with regard to the definition of varieties from both the theoretical and practical points of view; it also looked at the matter of settlement of disputes that was subsequently dealt with by the Consultative Committee and the Council.

Technical Committee

22. The Technical Committee held its thirty-third session from October 16 to 18, under the chairmanship of Mr. Joël Guiard (France). The session

was attended by observers from five non-member States⁴ and four international organizations.⁵

23. The Committee adopted test guidelines for the following eight taxa on the basis of the preparatory work done by the Technical Working Parties: beetroot (revised); firelily; ginger; leaf chicory (wild); pumpkin; rape seed (revised); *Serruria*; spinach (revised). It further adopted corrections and modifications to the documents on barley and African violet.

24. The Committee considered the progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties and broadly defined the future work of those Working Parties. It also considered questions raised by the Working Parties in the light of experience gained by member States in the conduct of distinctness, uniformity and stability testing of new plant varieties.

Technical Working Parties

25. The Technical Working Parties held sessions outside Geneva as follows:

(a) the *Technical Working Party for Agriculture Crops (TWA)* held its twenty-fifth session from June 11 to 14 in Thessaloniki, Greece, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Ghijzen (Netherlands).

(b) the *Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)* held its fourteenth session from June 4 to 6 in Hanover, Germany, under the chairmanship of Mr. S. Grégoire (France).

(c) the *Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)* held its twenty-seventh session from April 22 to 26 in Tel Aviv, under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. Buitendag (South Africa).

(d) the *Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)* held its twenty-ninth session from April 15 to 19 in Tel Aviv, under the chairmanship of Mrs. U. Löscher (Germany).

(e) the *Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)* held its thirtieth session from July 8 to 12 in Brno, Czech Republic, under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. Kristof (Hungary).

⁴ Greece, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Romania, Venezuela.

⁵ United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), EC, ISTA, ASSINSEL.

³ Belarus, Brazil, Greece, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania.

26. The basic task of four of these Working Parties is to draw up test guidelines. In addition to the drafts submitted to the Technical Committee for adoption, they drew up further drafts for the following taxa, to be submitted to the professional organizations for comments: Japanese apricot, loquat, walnut (revision) (TWF); *Bouvardia* (TWO); cornsalad (revision), garlic, onion (revision) and shallot, rhubarb (revision), Welsh onion/bunching onion (TWV).

27. A subcommittee of the *Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops*, set up to examine the revision of the test guidelines for vine, met on February 12 and 13 in Conegliano, Italy. Representatives of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) and the International Vine and Wine Office (OIV) also attended.

Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA Profiling in Particular

28. This Working Group did not meet in 1996.

Seminars

29. At the close of February and the beginning of March, UPOV held two national seminars in America on the nature of and rationale for plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention, as follows:

(a) on February 27 and 28, in Havana, Cuba, in cooperation with the National Office of Inventions, Technical Information and Marks of Cuba (ONIITEM);

(b) on March 4 and 5, in Panama City, Panama, in cooperation with the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Panama and the Agro-economic Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP).

The Spanish Government lent its assistance to the above events by providing a speaker.

30. On April 19, an information meeting on plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention was held in Rome, Italy, in connection with the sessions of the Consultative Committee and the Council of UPOV and the second extraordinary session of the (FAO) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Italian Government lent its assistance to the above event

by making available the facilities of the Experimental Institute for Plant Pathology.

31. At the close of May and the beginning of June, UPOV organized three national seminars on the nature of and rationale for plant variety protection under the UPOV Convention in Central Asia, as follows:

(a) on May 28, in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in cooperation with the State Agency of Intellectual Property of the Kyrgyz Republic;

(b) on May 30, in Almaty, Kazakstan, in cooperation with the National Patent Office of Kazakstan;

(c) on June 3, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in cooperation with the State Patent Office of Uzbekistan.

The German Government lent its assistance to the above events by providing a speaker.

32. From July 24 to 26, a regional seminar was held in Quito, Ecuador, for Andean countries, on the protection of plant varieties, organized by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the Ecuadorian Association of Breeders (ASOVEC), in cooperation with UPOV and the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA-PROCIANDINO). The Governments of Argentina, France, the Netherlands and Spain lent assistance to the event by providing one speaker each. The seminar touched on all the main aspects of protection and dealt with matters of technical examination of varieties in greater depth. Representatives of the following States attended the Seminar: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela.

33. In September, UPOV organized, with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, the following three national seminars on the nature of and rationale for the protection of plant varieties under the UPOV Convention:

(a) on September 12, in New Delhi, India, in cooperation with the Indian Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) on September 16, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in cooperation with the Bangladeshi Ministry of Agriculture;

(c) on September 19 and 20, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in cooperation with the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Japanese Government provided a speaker as did the United Kingdom Government. Representatives of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand also attended the Seminar in Hanoi.

34. On November 13 and 14, an international seminar was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on the nature of and rationale for the protection of plant varieties under the UPOV Convention. The Seminar was organized by UPOV in cooperation with the State Agency of Intellectual Property of the Kyrgyz Republic and the financial assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan. The Japanese Government provided a speaker as did the Irish Government. Representatives of the following States attended the Seminar: Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine.

Relations with Member States⁶

35. On March 27, the Office of the Union received the visit of Mr. Hiroki Tanaka, Assistant Director of the Seed and Seedlings Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, and Mr. Masashi Hatae, official of that Division, and discussed with them the 1991 Act with a view to producing an official translation in Japanese and the revision of the Japanese Seeds and Seedlings Law.

36. On April 26, the Secretary-General received from the hands of the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Denmark in Geneva, Mr. Jakob Esper Larsen, Denmark's instrument of ratification of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

37. On June 4, the Secretary-General received the instrument of ratification by Israel of the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

38. On August 13, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Colombia in Geneva, Mr. Gustavo Castro Guerrero, deposited with the Secretary-General the instrument of accession of Colombia to the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention.

39. On October 14, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Jaap R.T. Frederiks, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands in Geneva, who deposited the instrument of accession of the Netherlands to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

Relations with Non-Member States

States of North Africa and Western Asia

40. On May 14, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Mohammed A. Khalil, Counsellor in the Office of the Commercial Attaché to the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia in Geneva, who sought information on UPOV.

41. On December 13, the Vice Secretary-General received the visits of Mr. Mohammad A.A.R. Khreisat, Director of Trade Registration and Industrial Property Protection of Jordan, and of Mr. Abdel Hafic Al-Ajlonni, of the same Office, to whom he passed information on plant variety protection.

States of Subsaharan Africa⁷

42. On November 26, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mrs. Elisabeth Owiredu-Gyampoh, Acting Registrar General, Ministry of Justice of Ghana, giving information on the UPOV Convention.

43. On December 6, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. José C.A. Pacheco, Vice Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries of Mozambique, with information on the UPOV Convention.

44. On December 12, the Vice Secretary-General received visits from Mr. Paul Omondi-Mbago, Registrar-General of Kenya, and Mr. Stephen Dominic Mtetewaunga, Principal Assistant Registrar of Patents and Trademarks of the United

⁶ See also paragraphs 29 (Spain), 30 (Italy), 31 (Germany), 32 (Argentina, France, the Netherlands and Spain), 33 (Japan and the United Kingdom), 34 (Ireland, Japan and Ukraine), 47 and 48 (Spain), 68 to 70 (Japan and the United Kingdom), 78 and 79 (Germany), 83 (Ireland and Japan), 114 (Community Plant Variety Office), 121 (Switzerland), 122 (France), 124 (Austria).

⁷ See also paragraphs 4, 6 and 16 (Kenya), 109 and 119 (OAPI).

Republic of Tanzania. He discussed with them UPOV's proposal to organize national seminars in their countries.

45. On December 20, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Ablassé Ouedraogo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso, and Mr. Jean-Baptiste Ilboudo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Burkina Faso in Bonn, who expressed interest in plant variety protection and invited a representative of UPOV to visit their country.

*States of Latin America and the Caribbean*⁸

46. On February 20, the Vice Secretary-General sent a letter to Mr. Carlos Alberto Pfingst, Acting Director of the Seeds Directorate of Paraguay, providing supporting information in connection with the proceedings in the National Congress of Paraguay concerning accession by that country to the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention.

47. On February 27 and March 1, in the context of the national seminar, an official of the Union and Mr. Ricardo López de Haro y Wood, Technical Director for Certification and Variety Registration, National Institute of Seeds and Nursery Plants (INSPV), Spain, had discussions in Havana with Mrs. América N. Santos Riveras, Director of the ONIITEM of Cuba and with other officials of that Office.

48. From March 6 to 8, an official of the Union and Mr. Ricardo López de Haro y Wood had discussions in Quito, Ecuador, with officials of the National Directorate of Industrial Property of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Integration and Fisheries, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the National Institute of Agricultural Research and with representatives of other circles interested in plant variety protection.

49. The meeting of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) held from March 13 to 15 in Buenos Aires provided the Vice Secretary-General with an opportunity to meet representatives of

Bolivia and to clarify a certain number of issues with regard to a text that would align national legislation on the 1991 Act of the Convention.

50. On May 10, the Office of the Union wrote to Mrs. Lucia Gaxiola Rivera, Technical Secretary to the Director General of Legal Affairs in the Ministry of Agriculture, Stock-Farming and Rural Development of Mexico, commenting on the draft law for the protection of plant varieties which was then before the Mexican Congress.

51. On May 15, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Dr. Maria José Amstalden Sampaio, Technical Assistant at the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA/CENARGEN), with suggestions concerning amendments to the Brazilian draft law that were necessary to bring it into conformity with the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention.

52. On May 15, an official of the Union received the visit of Mrs. Lilia H. Carrera, Deputy Permanent Representative of Panama to WTO and Economic Counsellor, and replied to a number of questions put with a view to the drafting by the Panamanian authorities of a plant variety protection law.

53. On September 5, the Vice Secretary-General received a visit from Dr. Deborah Lazard, Counsellor to the Director General of the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), and Mrs. Patricia Gaytán, Head of the Biotechnology Area of the Patent Department of IMPI, to discuss patent protection for transgenic plants and the differentiation of plant varieties.

54. On September 19, an official of the Union received the visit of Ambassador Carlos E. González R., Representative of Panama to WTO, and of Mrs. Lilia H. Carrera. Contacts have been maintained with Mrs. Carrera with respect to the draft law that was presented to the thirtieth session of the Council.

55. On October 9, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Eduardo Benítez Paulín, Director of the National Seed Control and Certification Service of Mexico, to congratulate him on the adoption by the Mexican Congress of the plant variety protection law.

⁸ See also paragraphs 4, 5 and 15 (Brazil), 4, 6 and 16 (Panama), 4 and 7 (Trinidad and Tobago), 5 and 15 (Ecuador), 29 (Cuba and Panama), 32 (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela), 99 (ALADI), 108 (Cartagena Agreement), 115 (ALADI and Pan-American Seed Seminar).

56. The XVth Pan-American Seed Seminar, held from October 28 to 30, provided opportunities for discussions with Dr. Maria José Amstalden Sampaio on the draft law of Brazil for the protection of cultivars, which was then before the Brazilian Congress, with Mr. José Rosales King, Director of the National Seed Office of Bolivia, who confirmed that a decree implementing the suggestions of the UPOV Council had been incorporated in the Implementing Regulations to Decision No. 345 of the Commission of the Cartagena Agreement, and with Dr. Fausto Miranda, Director of the National Seed Service of Venezuela, concerning the implementation of the above decision in his country.

57. From October 31 to November 2, the Vice Secretary-General visited Paraguay where he was received by Mr. Gerardo López Zárate, Vice Minister for Agriculture, and Mr. Marcial Bobadilla Guillén, Director of the Department for International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also met the Chairman of the National Agriculture Association and gave a lecture to individuals from agricultural circles. Finally, he visited the Seed Directorate (DISE) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, together with its Director, Mr. Carlos A. Pfingst, and the research station of the National Agronomic Institute in Caacupe.

58. On November 8, the Office of the Union received from the Permanent Mission of Mexico a copy of the Federal Plant Variety Law of Mexico which had entered into force on October 26.

59. On November 27, the Vice Secretary-General discussed with Ms. Mazina Kadir, Deputy Registrar General of Trinidad and Tobago, the parliamentary procedure for her country's plant variety protection Bill. The next day, the Office of the Union distributed to the members of the Council a document examining conformity of the draft law with the UPOV Convention and setting in motion the expedited procedure.

*States of Asia and the Pacific*⁹

60. From January 15 to 18, the Vice Secretary-General participated in a technical consultation on

an implementation framework for farmers' rights in Madras, India, organized by the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation with support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, the FAO and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

61. The consultation provided an opportunity for discussions with Mr. G. Balakrishnan, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, and other senior officials of the Indian Government on possible proposals to legislate in India on the subject of plant variety protection.

62. On February 16, the Vice Secretary-General met Mr. Srinivasan Narayanan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to WTO, and Mr. Thjindir Khanna, Secretary, Ministry of Industry, to discuss plant variety protection issues.

63. On February 16, the Secretary-General wrote to Mrs. Marinela R. Castillo, Under Secretary for Policy and Planning of the Philippines, with respect to the conformity of three proposed laws, concerning genetic resources and the rights of indigenous communities and peoples, with the UPOV Convention and the TRIPS Agreement.

64. On March 5, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Clive S.K. Lau, Agricultural Officer in the Agriculture and Fisheries Department of the Government of Hong Kong, who handed him a draft of a plant variety protection Bill proposed by Hong Kong in order to meet its obligations under the TRIPS Agreement.

65. On May 14, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Ian G. Hunter of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries of Hong Kong with the comments of the Office of the Union on the draft law for the protection of plant varieties in Hong Kong.

66. On May 17, the Secretary-General and an official of the Union met Mr. Srinivasan Narayanan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to WTO, and Mr. Asoke Mukerji, Counsellor (WTO), to discuss an issue of conformity of the legislation on plant variety protection with the TRIPS Agreement.

67. In July, the Office of the Union corresponded with Mr. Sarath Amarasiri, Director General for Agriculture in the Department of Agriculture of

⁹ See also paragraph 33 (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam), 112 and 113 (APSA).

Sri Lanka, and accepted the principle of holding a national seminar in 1997.

68. On September 13, the Vice Secretary-General, together with an official of the Union, and with Mr. David Boreham, Controller of the Plant Variety Rights Office of the United Kingdom, and Mr. Ryusuke Yoshimura, Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and Vice-President of the UPOV Council (“the UPOV Seminar team”), met, in New Delhi, with Mr. A. Benjamin, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture of India, to discuss plant variety protection.

69. On September 17, the Vice Secretary-General and the UPOV Seminar team met Dr. Sawkat Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture of Bangladesh, and other senior officials of the Ministry in Dhaka. They also visited the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council and met its Executive Chairman, Mr. Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury.

70. On September 18, the Vice Secretary-General and the UPOV Seminar team had discussions with Professor Dr. Nguyen Quang Ha, Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam. On September 21, the UPOV Seminar team visited a testing station of the National Center for Variety Evaluation and Seed Certification near Hanoi.

71. On October 8, the Office of the Union wrote to Dr. Jeminiano R. Escaño, Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Research of the Philippines, with its comments on House Bill No. 7591 which would, if adopted, introduce plant variety protection in the Philippines.

72. On October 21, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Ki-Ho Suh, Director General of the Office of Seed Protection and Distribution of the Republic of Korea, which will administer the Korean plant variety protection system. They discussed the timetable for seeking the advice of the UPOV Council on the conformity of the Korean Law with the 1991 Act of the Convention.

73. On November 4, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Stephen Preston of the Pacific Regional Agriculture Program, Fiji, concerning regional activities in relation to plant variety protection. The States participating in that program are:

Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

States of Europe and Central Asia

States in transition to market economy¹⁰

74. On January 23, the Office of the Union received the visit of Mr. Ruben M. Kalashian, principal expert, Armenian Patent Office, who was given documentation on UPOV.

75. On April 2, the Vice Secretary-General received a visit from Mr. Akil A. Azimov, Director of the State Patent Office, and Mr. T.T. Riskiev, Deputy Director of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Science and Technology, who discussed the national seminar that was to be organized in Tashkent on June 3 and 4.

76. On May 1, the Vice Secretary-General received the visits of Mrs. Raushan T. Alshymbaeva, Deputy Chairman, National Patent Office of Kazakstan, and of Mr. Roman Omorov, Director of the State Agency of Intellectual Property of the Kyrgyz Republic. They discussed arrangements for forthcoming national seminars in their countries.

77. On May 13, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Nikolay Kolev, Head of the Legal Department of the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria, giving the comments of the Office of the Union on the draft plant variety protection law which was shortly to be submitted to the Bulgarian Parliament.

78. On May 29, the Vice Secretary-General and Dr. Hans Walter Rutz, *Regierungsdirektor*, Federal Plant Variety Office of Germany, held discussions in Bishkek with officials of the State Agency of Intellectual Property of the Kyrgyz Republic on the draft law for the protection of plant varieties in that country. They also met officials of the Office of the President.

79. On May 31, the Vice Secretary-General and Dr. Hans Walter Rutz met with Dr. Gani Alimovich Kaliev, President of the Kazak Academy of Agri-

¹⁰ See also paragraphs 4, 6 and 16 (Bulgaria), 31 (Kazakstan, Kyrgystan and Uzbekistan), 34 (Belarus, Russian Federation, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan).

cultural Sciences in Almaty, and with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the National Patent Office of Kazakstan, in order to discuss proposals to legislate on the subject of plant variety protection.

80. On June 4, the Vice Secretary-General visited the State Patent Office of Uzbekistan in Tashkent for discussions with its Director, Mr. Akil A. Azimov, and staff of the Office on proposals for legislation.

81. On October 2, the Vice Secretary-General received the courtesy visit of Mrs. Radoslavka Kazandjieva, President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria.

82. On October 11, the Vice Secretary-General received the visit of Mr. Rekovski Lashev, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Bulgaria in Geneva, with whom he discussed obtaining the advice of the Council on the conformity of Bulgarian law with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention.

83. On November 11, in the context of the international seminar organized by UPOV in Kyrgyzstan, the Vice Secretary-General, Mr. Ryusuke Yoshimura (Japan), Vice-President of the Council of UPOV and Mr. John Carvill, Controller of Plant Breeders Rights of Ireland, were received by the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Apas Jumagulov.

84. On November 20, the Office of the Union wrote to Mrs. Adriana Paraschiv, Head of the Examination Department, State Office for Inventions and Trademarks of Romania, with comments on a draft of a plant variety protection law.

85. On November 21, the Office of the Union received a visit from Mr. David Dzamukashvili, Deputy Chairman of the Georgian Patent Office, who announced the imminent finalization of the Georgian plant variety protection law.

86. On December 6, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Vitali Alexashov, Chairman of the State Commission of the Russian Federation for the Testing and Protection of Selection Achievements, to Mr. Valery I. Kudashov, Chairman of the State Patent Committee of Belarus, and to Mr. Victor Volkodav, Chairman of the State Committee of Ukraine for Plant Variety Testing and Protection,

concerning the convening of a working group to study the translation of the 1991 Act into the Russian language.

87. On December 10, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Akil A. Azimov (Uzbekistan) congratulating him on the enactment of the Uzbek law on the protection of selection achievements.

Other States¹¹

88. On February 5 and 6, the Vice Secretary-General had contacts with Mr. Aleksandar Heina, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Croatia in Geneva, who provided a copy of a draft law of Croatia on plant variety protection and asked for the comments of the Office of the Union as a matter of urgency.

89. On June 11, the Office of the Union wrote to Mr. Jan Kisgeci, Director of the Federal Administration for Plant Protection and Veterinary Medicine in the Federal Ministry for the Economy of Yugoslavia, with comments on a draft law for the protection of new plant varieties.

90. On July 26, the Secretary-General received the visit of Professor Umek, Minister for Science and Technology, Professor Joze Osterc, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Mrs. Alenka Urbancic, State Secretary in the Ministry for Agriculture, Food and Forestry, and Dr. Bojan Pretnar, Director of the Slovenian Intellectual Property Office, and discussed amongst other things the proposals of Slovenia to legislate on plant variety protection.

91. On September 16, an official of the Union received the visit of Mr. Romas Svedas, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Lithuania, and gave him general information on UPOV.

92. On November 5, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Bahattin Bozkurt, Director of the Seed Registration and Certification Center of Turkey, to express the willingness of the Office of the Union to organize an international seminar in Turkey in cooperation with the Turkish Government.

¹¹ See also paragraph 117 (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

93. On November 22, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Professor Joze Osterc (Slovenia) concerning his country's plant variety protection legislation.

94. On December 11, the Office of the Union wrote to Mr. Thorstein Tomasson, Director, Agricultural Research Institute of Iceland, with its comments on the draft law of Iceland for the protection of new plant varieties.

Relations with International Organizations

95. On February 14 and 15, the Vice Secretary-General and an official of the Union participated in parts of a meeting of the Genetic Resources Policy Committee of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), which was held in Rolle, Switzerland.

96. On February 22, an official of the Union attended, as an observer, a session of the Council for TRIPS at WTO.

97. On March 6, the Vice Secretary-General received the courtesy visit of Mr. David Vermerris, President of the International Federation of the Seed Trade (FIS).

98. On March 9, the Vice Secretary-General attended, as an observer, a session of the Council for TRIPS at WTO.

99. From March 13 to 15, the Vice Secretary-General and an official of the Union attended the sixth meeting of the Seed Committee of ALADI in Buenos Aires in an observer capacity. The business of the Committee included the studying of a draft agreement for harmonization, following the principles of the 1978 and 1991 Acts, of the norms and policies applied by certain ALADI members with respect to plant breeders' rights.

100. On March 18, the Vice Secretary-General presented a paper on various aspects of intellectual property at a workshop, held by the OECD in Buenos Aires, devoted to trade in transgenic varieties.

101. From March 18 to 20, the Vice Secretary-General and an official of the Union attended, in an observer capacity, the annual meeting in Buenos Aires of the representatives of the national

designated authorities under the OECD schemes for the varietal certification of seed moving in international trade.

102. On March 25, an official of the Union participated in Paris in a session of the Vine Breeding Group of the OIV.

103. On April 15, the Vice Secretary-General had a meeting with Mr. Adrian Otten, Director of the Intellectual Property and Investment Division of WTO, and officials of WIPO to discuss the matter of notification of plant variety protection laws under the TRIPS Agreement and of relations between UPOV, WIPO and WTO.

104. On April 19, the Vice Secretary-General gave a dinner in Rome for Dr. Geoffrey Hawtin, Director General of the IPGRI, and officials of that Institute together with Mr. Bill Whitmore, President of the UPOV Council, and Mr. Joël Guiard, Chairman of the Technical Committee of UPOV, at which the potential for cooperation between IPGRI and UPOV was discussed.

105. From April 23 to 25, the Vice Secretary-General attended, in an observer capacity, the second extraordinary session of the (FAO) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Rome.

106. From May 20 to 24, the Vice Secretary-General attended the Congresses of FIS and of ASSINSEL, which were held in Amsterdam (Netherlands).

107. From June 17 to 23, the Fourth International Technical Conference of FAO on Plant Genetic Resources was held at Leipzig, Germany. UPOV was represented at that Conference by the Vice Secretary-General and an official of the Union. It also had a stand in the associated exhibition.

108. On July 22 and 23, two officials of the Union participated in Quito in a meeting of the Sub-Regional Committee for the Protection of Plant Varieties of the countries party to the Cartagena Agreement.

109. On August 8, the Vice Secretary-General and an official of the Union discussed with officials of WIPO proposals to amend the Bangui Agreement

(establishing the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)), which include provisions for the creation of a plant variety protection system in the OAPI member States.

110. On September 2 and 3, the Office of the Union discussed and exchanged the texts of possible letters of agreement to be exchanged between UPOV and WTO establishing a basis for future cooperation between the two organizations.

111. On September 18, an official of the Office attended, as an observer, a session of the Council for TRIPS at WTO.

112. On September 23 and 24, the Vice Secretary-General participated in a workshop on plant breeders' rights issues in Asia, organized by the Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), with support from FAO. Government representatives from Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines and Thailand participated in the workshop together with representatives of interested circles both within and outside the region.

113. On September 25 and 26, the Vice Secretary-General participated in "Asian Seed '96", the annual conference of APSA, at which he gave a brief address conveying the greetings of UPOV to some 500 participants at the conference.

114. On October 18, the Vice Secretary-General wrote to Mr. Bart Kiewiet, President of the Community Plant Variety Office, concerning the future relationship between the Community Office and UPOV, welcoming the willingness of the Administrative Council of the Community Office to invite a representative of UPOV to attend its meetings as an observer.

115. From October 28 to 30, the Vice Secretary-General participated in the XVth Pan-American Seed Seminar held in Gramado, Brazil, in the course of which he lectured on international developments in plant variety protection. He also attended, as an observer, the seventh meeting of the Seed Committee of ALADI.

116. On November 1, an official of the Union attended, as an observer, a session of the Council for TRIPS at WTO.

117. On November 29, the Office of the Union received the visit of Mrs. Mona S. Chaya, an FAO consultant involved in a project to reconstruct the seed sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project document drawn up subsequently refers in its legislative chapter to the protection of new plant varieties.

118. From December 9 to 13, an official of the Union participated in the third extraordinary session of the (FAO) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

119. On December 10, the Vice Secretary-General participated in a meeting with officials of WIPO to discuss the possible revision of the Bangui Agreement (establishing OAPI).

Other External Relations

120. On February 3, the Vice Secretary-General participated in a seminar on current issues before the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment organized by the Quaker Office to the United Nations in Geneva. He gave a presentation on UPOV and plant variety protection.

121. On February 16, an official of the Union presented a paper at a colloquium held in Weinfelden, Switzerland, by OBTECTA A.G., a Swiss commercial organization offering services to plant breeders.

122. On March 22, an official of the Union participated in an information meeting held in Paris by the French trade associations AMSOL and SEPROMA to discuss the essential derivation concept, and presented a paper.

123. On November 22, the Office of the Union received the visits of Mr. Tim Stocker, Director of Governmental Affairs for Europe, and Mr. Jean Donnenthir, Legal Advisor, of the Pioneer Overseas Corporation.

124. From November 26 to 28, an official of the Union attended the annual meeting of the Austrian Plant Breeders' Association in Gumpenstein, Austria, and gave two lectures.

Publications

125. The Office of the Union published:

(a) updated editions, when there was an event affecting the composition of the Union, of the information leaflet on UPOV and plant variety protection in English, French, German and Spanish;

(b) two issues of the periodical *Plant Variety Protection*;

(c) one supplement to Part I of the Collection of Important Texts and Documents in English, French, German and Spanish, and one trilingual supplement to Part II (Test Guidelines);

(d) the first three discs in the series constituting the UPOV central database *UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database*;

(e) the report, in English, on the Seminar on the nature of and rationale for the protection of plant varieties under the UPOV Convention which was held in Pretoria, South Africa, from May 3 to 5, 1995.

Recent WIPO Publications

The following new publications¹ were issued by WIPO in April and May 1997:

Contracting Parties or Signatories of Treaties Administered by WIPO—Members of the WIPO Governing Bodies and Committees (Status on May 1, 1997), No. 423(E)(F), 29 pages, free.

International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), seventh edition

(Dutch/French/English), No. 500(D/F/E), 381 pages, 100 Swiss francs.

International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), seventh edition—Part I: List of Goods and Services in Alphabetical Order (in Danish and Norwegian), No. 500.1(DK)(N), 168 pages (DK) and 175 pages (N), 100 Swiss francs; *Part II: List of Goods and Services in Class Order* (in Danish and Norwegian), No. 500.2(DK)(N), 145 pages (DK) and 148 pages (N), 80 Swiss francs.

Model Provisions on Protection Against Unfair Competition (in Chinese), No. 832(C), 68 pages, 15 Swiss francs.

Regional WIPO-EPO Seminar on Licensing, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, May 2 and 3, 1996 (in English and Russian), No. 752(E/R), 126 pages, 22 Swiss francs.

WIPO Catalogue of Publications 1997 (in English), 46 pages, free.

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) 338 9111).

Orders should indicate: (a) the number or letter code of the publication desired, the language (A for Arabic, C for Chinese, D for Dutch, DK for Danish, E for English, F for French, G for German, N for Norwegian, P for Portuguese, R for Russian, 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.

WIPO General Information brochure (1997 edition) (in Chinese, French, German and Spanish), No. 400(C)(F)(G)(S), 107 pages (C), 124 pages (F), 113 pages (G) and 114 pages (S), free.

No. 400(A)(P)(R), 124 pages (A), 102 pages (P) and 111 pages (R), free.

WIPO General Information brochure (1997 edition) (in Arabic, Portuguese and Russian),

WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries (in Arabic), No. 705(A), 61 pages, free.

Calendar of Meetings

WIPO Meetings

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

1997

September 1 and 2 (Geneva)

Consultative Meeting on Trademarks and Internet Domain Names

This meeting (the second session) will continue to discuss Internet domain name issues that bear on trademarks.

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

September 9 to 12 (Geneva)

WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation Related to Copyright and Neighboring Rights

This Committee meeting (the twelfth session) will review and evaluate the activities carried out under the program of the Permanent Committee on Copyright and Neighboring Rights and make recommendations on the future orientation of the said program. A seminar on the new WIPO copyright and neighboring rights treaties will also be held.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of the Committee and, as observers, other States members of the United Nations and certain 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 16 to October 1 (Geneva)¹** **PCT Union Assembly**
 The said Assembly will discuss and decide on amendments to the PCT Regulations, reduction of fees, the renewal of the appointment of and the corresponding agreements with the present International Searching Authorities (ISAs) and International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs), and the appointment of and approval of the agreement with the Korean Industrial Property Office as an ISA and IPEA. This session (the twenty-fourth session) of the Assembly will start on September 16 and end on the same day (October 1) as the sessions of the other Governing Bodies of WIPO (see below).
Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of the PCT Union; as observers, the Governments of the Member States of the Paris Union not members of the PCT Union and certain 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*, appoint the new Director General, review and evaluate WIPO's activities and consider various other matters concerning WIPO and the Unions administered by WIPO.
Invitations: The Governments of the States members of these Governing Bodies; other States; certain organizations.
- October 20 to 23 (Geneva)** **Committee of Experts on Well-Known Marks**
 This (the third) session of the Committee of Experts will continue to study questions concerning the application of Article *6bis* 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 well-known marks.
Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of the Paris Union and/or WIPO; the European Community; as observers, certain organizations.
- October 24 and 25 (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: The Governments of the Member States of the Paris Union and/or WIPO; certain intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations; any member of the public (against payment of a registration fee).

¹ The PCT Union Assembly will meet in Room 16 of the Palais des Nations from September 16 to 19, 1997, and continue its session in WIPO headquarters from September 22 to October 1, 1997.

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.

