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World Intellectual Property Organization

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NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WIPO

Dr. Kamil Idris



On the 22nd of September 1997, the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization by acclamation appointed Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General.

Dr. Idris, a national of Sudan, fluent in Arabic, English and French, was appointed to serve a term of office of six years and one month.

He took office on November 1, 1997.

Dr. Idris has had a remarkable career, from being an ambassador of his country to being a member of the United Nations International Law Commission.

As a Deputy Director General of WIPO from 1994 to 1997, Dr. Idris has intimate knowledge of the organization's activities as well as the views of the staff at all levels of the Organization.

The text of Dr. Idris' acceptance speech to the WIPO General Assembly is reproduced below.

Acceptance Speech of Dr. Kamil Idris on the Occasion of his Appointment as Director General of WIPO, September 22, 1997

Madam Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

I have long admired, Madam Chair, the inspiration and determination that you have brought to the difficult challenges of multilateral diplomacy, and I should like to extend my congratulations and appreciation for the leadership you have demonstrated in accepting the Presidency of the WIPO General Assembly.

The Assembly has done me a great honor and bestowed on me a heavy responsibility in appointing

me Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization. I pledge to honor, with all loyalty, discretion and conscience, the trust and confidence placed in me.

I sincerely thank all the member States for this appointment. I wish also to express my profound gratitude to the African Group in Geneva and the Organization of African Unity for presenting my candidature to the post of Director General.

My acceptance of this appointment is inspired by my commitment to the basic mission of WIPO of promoting creativity through the protection of intel-

lectual property. I believe that with political imagination, with goodwill and with collaboration among member States, market-sector interests and the Secretariat, this mission can be advanced.

I should like to pay tribute to the vision, foresight and energy of Dr. Arpad Bogsch, an exceptional thinker and leader. It is he who, through his talent and drive, coupled with his profound knowledge, has given the Organization the shape, vitality and strength that it has today.

Distinguished Delegates,

I am acutely conscious that the Organization of which you have appointed me Director General is unique in having a dual character as both an intergovernmental organization which serves the international community of States, and a global, market-oriented organization which serves the interests and needs of a large, dynamic and growing market of users. These two features of the Organization's character are mutually reinforcing. As an intergovernmental organization, WIPO is, through its member States, responsible for the formulation, at the international level, of the policy framework which best encourages creativity and the generation and valorization of intellectual property. As a market-oriented organization, WIPO is, through its Secretariat, entrusted with the task of providing the various services that form part of the framework that its member States have decided is most conducive to the beneficial protection of intellectual property in an increasingly internationalized marketplace.

This dual character of WIPO requires, in my view, special operational and managerial principles in order to ensure that the Organization can successfully meet the expectations of its constituents.

WIPO generates substantial revenue. While this revenue is produced through the provision of services to the market sector, it is not the private revenue of a private enterprise, but revenue held in trust by an intergovernmental organization for the benefit of Government and the market sector. Accountability is thus, for me, a first and fundamental principle of the Organization. To give expression to this principle, I intend to initiate, in the first program and budget that I shall have the honor to present for the consideration of member States, two measures. The first will involve the establishment of a management and oversight mechanism to oversee the financial operations and investments of the Organization. The second will involve the creation of a contracts review facility with regard to all contractual obligations undertaken by the Organization.

Accountability is credible when the oversight system of the Organization is transparent. Consequently, transparency, in my view, is a second fundamental principle which must be reflected in every aspect of the planning, formulation and implementa-

tion of the Organization's policies and activities. I am thus particularly committed to introducing the most appropriate and effective means by which the structure of the Organization and its program and budget may be made additional tools of communication between the Organization and its member States.

The importance which intellectual property has assumed requires a more effective collaboration, and a mutually responsive relationship, between member States, market-sector interests and the Secretariat to enable the Organization to keep pace with technological, economic, social and cultural changes. Thus, a third basic principle is that this Organization be oriented by its member States with regard to these changes. They are in direct touch with the developments relevant to the Organization's mandate that need to be addressed at the international level.

Distinguished Delegates,

I stressed, at the outset, the unique nature of the Organization of which you have appointed me Director General. I am equally cognizant of the unique time at which you have appointed me to this office. This globe is at the eve of a new century. An era of rapid technological advancement is upon us. At this crossroad, all, in whatever part of the globe, must work together to face the challenges that this awakening dawn brings.

It is a time in which, because of the central importance of intellectual property to public policy, the demands being made on the Organization are becoming greater and greater and, because of the speed of technological change, the time frames within which those demands have to be met are becoming shorter and shorter. The explosion of international economic activity and the consequent need for swift action is a major cause of this development.

The increasing focus on intellectual property and the speed of technological change require, in my view, special attention in a number of ways in the program and budget of the Organization and in its structure. As the international organization responsible for intellectual property, it is indispensable that WIPO keep pace with developments in, and the potential of, information technology, both in its internal operations and in the delivery of the services that it renders. I regard the information technologies project to be of great importance to the enhancement of the capacities of all member States to share equally in its benefits and, thus, in the future of this Organization. In a related vein, I consider the use of the Internet by the Organization as a means of communicating with member States and the private users of the services of WIPO to be crucial. I would like to see the WIPO web-site become the principal global resource for current information on intellectual property.

While electronic networks can vastly improve WIPO's capacity to communicate to the private

users of its services, the pace of technological change requires also that we explore new ways to give a reciprocal expression to the voice of the users. WIPO must have direct access to market-sector perceptions of how the world's technological base is evolving. I intend to propose, in the forthcoming program and budget, the establishment of two high-level commissions: an Industry Advisory Commission and a Policy Advisory Commission, the former to be composed of eminent representatives of industry and the latter to be composed of eminent individuals. It is my hope that these two commissions may play an effective role in the identification of issues that need to be addressed by the Organization and of strategies for tackling those issues. The role of the commissions can never replace that of the member States in the initiation and monitoring of the program of the Organization. Their function will be advisory.

These two Commissions may also be considered to be part, but part only, of an answer to a broader challenge that I consider now confronts the Organization, namely, the challenge of adapting the Organization's program and working methods and procedures to the speed of technological change. One may ask how a program fixed in advance for a two-year period can include sufficient flexibility to accommodate the need for a creative response to unique and imposing opportunities. The possibility for WIPO to contribute to the protection of intellectual property on the Internet through the provision of services for resolving domain name disputes is a case in point. Similarly, one may ask whether the process of multilateral negotiations in successive Committees of Experts leading to the conclusion of a new treaty, together with the long process of subsequent ratifications and accessions before the entry into force of the new treaty, are still the only appropriate methods for the development of new norms in areas of rapid technological change. This is not an easy question and I count on the collaboration of all in seeking effective answers for the benefit of both copyright and industrial property.

I am conscious that the future of the Organization in norm-making is not just a question of how new instruments can best be brought into existence, but also, and more importantly, it depends on their character and on the subject-matter to which those instruments are directed. I consider it essential that the constituents of WIPO, as well as the Secretariat, take a critical look at the methods and direction of the activities of the Organization in this area.

I am also convinced that there are new ways in which the Organization can be of service in securing a more effective protection of intellectual property which may not necessarily involve only the establishment of norms. The best and most comprehensive legislative code is of little value if the means do not exist to enforce the rights established by that code. How the Organization could be of assistance

in handling the question of enforcement, and the plague of counterfeiting and piracy, is a vital issue on which I would welcome views and proposals.

The effective functioning of the intellectual property system also requires facilities extending beyond civil and criminal action in respect of counterfeiting and piracy. A legislative code can be frustrated by long delays and excessive cost in court proceedings for resolving the many disputes that inevitably occur in the course of the exploitation of intellectual property. I am confident that, as a dispute-resolution mechanism, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center can be of great service as an alternative, neutral and cost-effective forum for resolving international intellectual property disputes in an age in which commercial transactions which cross national boundaries are routine.

Two successful areas of the Organization's activities concern the provision of services that enable the owners of intellectual property to obtain, more easily, protection for their rights in an efficient and cost-effective manner in several countries. I refer to the Patent Cooperation Treaty—the PCT—and the Madrid System for the international registration of marks. These two systems are the major source of revenue for the Organization.

It is vital that, in respect of the PCT and the Madrid System, the Organization provide service of the highest quality. It is imperative that we constantly seek means of ensuring the continuing success of both systems. For the Madrid System, there is the additional challenge of attracting a wider range of participating States. This challenge will require, on the part of all, political will to pave the way for global participation in the system. I intend to open a round of consultations with Governments and interested circles to ascertain the obstacles they face and the solutions they could embrace in clearing the way to a wider acceptance of this system, as well as of other treaties administered by WIPO.

The speed of technological change is, for an international organization, not merely a matter of dealing with the challenges that it raises for the most technologically advanced. The speed of change enlarges the gap between the most advanced and the least advanced. I consider it to be the responsibility of an international organization to endeavor, through its program of cooperation for development, to mitigate the disadvantageous effects of rapid change on the developing and least developed countries.

This is not simply a question of awareness-building, but rather one of the necessity for structured design of programs of cooperation for development. Such a structured design should be, in my view, based on two premises. The first is the need to concentrate on institutions that are built to leave a lasting legacy. In this regard, human resource development is crucial. I intend to propose the focussing of the resources available for human resource devel-

opment under a central WIPO Worldwide Academy, which can also be a forum for exposing policy-makers in governments to the role and implications of intellectual property in economic and social systems. The second is the need to orient programs increasingly to the national, and not merely to the regional, level. A national orientation allows for greater focus on individual and particular needs, and for a greater possibility of designing tailor-made programs that respond specifically to those needs. This orientation should also lend support to efforts by groups of countries to pool resources in sub-regional or regional endeavors.

I regard the WIPO program of cooperation for development, and the pursuit of a greater impact of that program, as being essential to the interests of all member States, whether developed or developing. In a world in which commercial and economic relations are increasingly international, the capacity of the developing countries and the countries in transition to a market economy to participate on an equal footing and to provide a hospitable environment for technological and commercial collaboration with their partners in the industrialized countries is an essential condition of a healthy global economy. Improvement in the quality of life in the less advanced will be to the advantage of all in so far as it improves the overall quality of life on our planet.

Distinguished Delegates,

It is apparent to all that we live in an age of increasing interdependence, which affects all the dimensions of our existence, including the Organization's relations with other international organizations. In such an age, I consider, therefore, that the fourth basic principle should be that WIPO should reach out to its partners in the United Nations family of organizations and to the World Trade Organization to ensure that the expertise and knowledge that WIPO possesses is also placed at the service of its sister organizations. This would seem to be particularly necessary as intellectual property assumes increasing importance and thus becomes a factor in a range of fields as diverse as indigenous technology, intangible heritage, folklore, the exchange of

meteorological data and trade relations. I look forward to exploring such global issues and to making available WIPO's expertise, in an open and constructive manner, to other international organizations to provide assistance for the protection of intellectual property in the post-TRIPS era.

It is the responsibility of the Secretariat to give content to the direction established with member States. I consider, therefore, that the fifth basic principle should be that the management of the Organization rests with the Secretariat. It is relevant here to recall the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Director General and the staff as enshrined in the WIPO Convention. I intend to review the internal structure of the Organization and to strive for the widest possible geographical distribution in the deployment and recruitment of staff. The measures taken to this end must also be consistent with ensuring that staff of the highest quality are attracted and retained. I intend, in this latter respect, also to institute a policy of staff development to ensure that the Secretariat is adequately equipped with the latest skills and resources to allow for the appropriate devolution of executive decision-making and responsibility.

I mentioned the expertise and knowledge that WIPO possesses and I should like, here, to pay tribute to the staff of this Organization. My appointment as Director General is itself a tribute to the staff of this Organization and a vote of confidence in them by the member States. I am proud to have been able to work with so many fine colleagues and I am proud to have the opportunity to lead such a talented, efficient and dedicated team in the service of the international community.

Distinguished Delegates,

There is no shortage of ideas or ideals, nor do we lack a suitable forum for their realization. But ideas, ideals and a forum ring empty without commitment on the part of all member States, irrespective of the region or grouping from which they come, and without consensus. Our common mission is to use our commitment to find consensus for the changes which will move the World Intellectual Property Organization into the next millennium.

Governing Bodies of WIPO

Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administered by WIPO

Thirty-first Series of Meetings
(Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 1997)

From September 22 to October 1, 1997, the Governing Bodies of WIPO held their thirty-first series of meetings in Geneva. Delegations from 141 States, 17 intergovernmental organizations and 15 international non-governmental organizations participated in the meetings.¹ The following 21 Governing Bodies met:

- WIPO General Assembly
- WIPO Conference
- WIPO Coordination Committee
- Paris Union Assembly
- Paris Union Conference of Representatives
- Paris Union Executive Committee
- Berne Union Assembly
- Berne Union Conference of Representatives
- Berne Union Executive Committee
- Madrid Union Assembly
- Hague Union Assembly
- Hague Union Conference of Representatives
- Nice Union Assembly
- Nice Union Conference of Representatives
- Lisbon Union Assembly
- Lisbon Union Council
- Locarno Union Assembly
- IPC Union Assembly
- PCT Union Assembly
- Budapest Union Assembly
- Vienna Union Assembly

Appointment of the new Director General.

On the basis of the nomination made by the WIPO Coordination Committee at its meeting held on March 18 and 19, 1997, the WIPO General Assembly appointed, unanimously and by acclamation, Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. The acceptance speech made by Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General Elect is reproduced above. All the 132 delegations which made statements on this subject warmly congratulated Dr. Kamil Idris on his appointment and also paid a special tribute to Dr. Arpad Bogsch for the outstanding role he played at the head of WIPO during the past 24 years.

Activities of WIPO from July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997. Almost all the delegations which made

statements on this subject expressed satisfaction with the scope, quality and variety of the activities undertaken by WIPO in the period under review, particularly in assisting developing countries in crucial areas such as the development of human resources, strengthening of the legal and administrative intellectual property infrastructure, computerization of intellectual property operations, promotion of inventions and innovation, and enforcement of intellectual property rights. It was noted with appreciation that WIPO had continued to give the greatest importance to activities that assisted developing countries in adapting their national legislation to the obligations established under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), and that the volume of the legal technical assistance provided by WIPO under the Agreement between WIPO and the World Trade Organization (WTO) had continued to expand. The implementation of WIPO-funded country projects was mentioned by numerous delegations as an efficient means to meet the specific needs of the developing countries in building effective systems for the protection of intellectual property. Several delegations from developing countries expressed the hope that such projects would soon be implemented also in their countries. The delegations of the recipient countries, noting with satisfaction the increase of financial resources for development cooperation in the 1996-97 biennium, requested that these resources continue to increase in the 1998-99 biennium. A number of delegations of industrialized and other donor countries reiterated their readiness to continue supporting WIPO's development cooperation program, with funds and in kind.

In respect of norm-setting, the majority of delegations commended WIPO for the adoption by the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on Certain Copyright and Neighboring Rights Questions of December 1996, of two new international instruments in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, namely the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT). Several delegations announced that preparations had started in their respective countries for ratification of the said treaties. Many delegations urged the early continuation of work in respect of the rights of

¹ A full list of participants may be obtained on request from the International Bureau.

performers in the audiovisual fixations of their performances, the intellectual property protection of databases and of the protection of folklore.

Several delegations welcomed the establishment of the WIPO Working Group on Information Technologies for Intellectual Property and supported the role of WIPO as the nerve center of a global network on intellectual property offices which would make the best possible use of the new opportunities offered by information technology.

Program and Budget and Contributions for the 1998-99 biennium. The Director General Elect informed the Governing Bodies that he intended to proceed with the preparation of a new draft program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium immediately after the conclusion of the present Governing Bodies, with a view to having an initial draft by the end of November 1997, and initiating consultations with the Regional Groups in Geneva by December 1997. He intended to circulate the draft program and budget to WIPO Member States before the end of January 1998, so that the Budget Committee and the General Assembly could be convened towards the last week of March 1998.

The Governing Bodies decided to fix the contributions for the 1998-99 biennium at the same level as for the 1996-97 biennium.

Matters Concerning the Draft Patent Law Treaty. The WIPO General Assembly requested the International Bureau to present to the General Assembly a further progress report on the proposed draft Patent Law Treaty, possibly accompanied by proposals concerning a preparatory meeting for a diplomatic conference and concerning the diplomatic conference itself, after the fifth session of the Committee of Experts scheduled to take place from December 15 to 19, 1997.

Draft Treaty for the Settlement of Disputes Between States in the Field of Intellectual Property. The General Assembly decided by consensus on the need to continue consultations to determine whether to convene a diplomatic conference at a later date, and that such a need should be reflected in the program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium.

Audiovisual Performances, Databases and Folklore. Regarding audiovisual performances, the General Assembly of WIPO decided that the International Bureau should invite WIPO Member States and the European Community to submit by January 15, 1998, proposals, preferably in treaty language, concerning a protocol to the WPPT on audiovisual performances, and that the said proposals be distributed by the end of February 1998. Following regional consultations meetings on the said draft protocol to be organized by the International Bureau in March-April 1998, the second session of the Committee of Experts on a Protocol Concerning Audiovisual Performances should take place in May-June 1998, but

not later than the week starting on June 8, 1998. For those consultation meetings, WIPO will finance the participation of a certain number of representatives of developing countries as well as of CIS Member States.

With regard to databases, the General Assembly decided that the International Bureau should prepare a document summing up the questions raised during the September 1997 Information Meeting on Intellectual Property in Databases. Member States, the European Community, intergovernmental Organizations and international non-governmental Organizations would be invited to submit by the end of April 1998, information on relevant questions. Such questions would, in turn, be circulated by the International Bureau in June 1998, at the latest. Further, the International Bureau should send to WIPO Member States and the European Community, by the end of September 1998, an analytical document on issues concerning intellectual property in databases.

Concerning the protection of folklore, the General Assembly further agreed that the issue be addressed in the draft program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium.

Information Technologies for Intellectual Property. The General Assembly adopted the recommendations of the Working Group on Information Technologies for Intellectual Property at its meeting in July 1997, to the effect that a draft Chapter on Information Technologies for Intellectual Property should be included in the draft program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium. It also decided that informal consultations on the initial draft thereof should be held by the new Director General early in 1998, and that in carrying out such informal consultations, the new Director General take into account that, for developing countries to comment authoritatively on it, the traditional method of consultations through Geneva-based Permanent Mission representatives should be supplemented with an informal meeting in Geneva inviting experts from the Member States. Further, the new Director General should take into account the reaction and advice gained during his informal consultations in finalizing the said draft Chapter in the draft program and budget for presentation to the General Assembly in 1998.

Matters Concerning the PCT. The PCT Assembly approved the extension of the appointments of the Australian Patent Office, Austrian Patent Office, Chinese Patent Office, European Patent Office, Japanese Patent Office, Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks, Swedish Patent and Registration Office, and United States Patent and Trademark Office as International Searching Authorities and International Preliminary Examining Authorities, and of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office as an International Searching Authority until December 31,

2007. It approved the texts of the Agreements between the said Authorities and the International Bureau, subject to certain modification to the French text thereof. The Assembly unanimously adopted amendments of the Regulations under the PCT in respect of, *inter alia*, PCT minimum documentation, language of the international application, electronic filing of international applications, priority claims and priority documents, deposits of biological materials, the *PCT Gazette* and international preliminary examination. Most of the said amendment rules would enter into force on July 1, 1998. The Assembly also adopted, with effect from July 1, 1998, modified directives relating to the establishment of new equivalent amounts (in currencies other than Swiss francs) of certain fees, replacing those adopted in 1979.

The Assembly approved the text of the Agreement between the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) and the International Bureau, and appointed the latter as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority, with effect from the entry into force of that Agreement, until December 31, 2007. The date of entry into force of that Agreement will be one month after the date in which KIPO notifies the Director General of WIPO that it has in its possession the PCT minimum documentation.

The Assembly unanimously fixed new, lower (of the order of 15%) amounts of the basic and designation fees, applicable from January 1, 1998, and decided that the new amounts would apply only to international applications filed on or after January 1, 1998.

Matters concerning the Madrid Union. The Madrid Assembly adopted amendments to the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol to enter into force on January 1, 1998. The Assembly approved the proposals made by the International Bureau to improve the dissemination of

data concerning the Madrid system and noted that they would be welcomed by the business community.

Matters Concerning the Hague Agreement. The Assembly of the Hague Union adopted amendments to the Regulations under the Hague Agreement to enter into force on October 1, 1997, except for those concerning Rules 8.3(b) and 19.1(a), which would enter into force on January 1, 1998. The Assembly authorized the Director General to proceed with the introduction of electronic publication of international designs.

INTERNET and the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. The General Assembly noted with approval the proposals made by the International Bureau on the envisaged role of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center in the administration of dispute-resolution procedures for disputes involving intellectual property and Internet domain names. The General Assembly approved that, in the months to come, the International Bureau would further develop the computer system necessary to administer on-line the dispute-resolution procedures, and that after the initial investment for preparing those procedures, the Center would become self-financing. Also, it noted that the expected impact of the administration of domain-names dispute-resolution procedures by the said Center would be dealt with in the draft program and budget to be presented by the new Director General for the 1998-99 biennium.

Premises. The General Assembly decided that it be left to the new Director General to put forward proposals concerning premises for later consideration by the General Assembly.

Agreement with the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO). The Coordination Committee approved the Agreement between WIPO and the EAPO. The text of the said Agreement is published by WIPO as an insert of the present review.

Notifications Concerning Treaties Administered by WIPO

Berne Convention

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Accession

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

The Berne Convention as revised will enter into force, with respect to the Dominican Republic on December 24, 1997.

Berne Notification No. 189, of September 24, 1997.

Budapest Treaty

Change of Name

ALL RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC CENTRE OF ANTIBIOTICS (VNIIA)

(Russian Federation)

(formerly known as
"All-Union Scientific Centre of Antibiotics
(VNIIA)")

The Government of the Russian Federation has informed the Director General of WIPO, in a communication dated October 23, 1997, of the new name of the All-Union Scientific Centre of Antibiotics (VNIIA), 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, as amended on September 26, 1980

(see Budapest Notifications No. 63 of July 28, 1987, and No. 108 of September 15, 1992¹).

The new name of the said international depositary authority is "All Russian Scientific Centre of Antibiotics (VNIIA)."

Budapest Communication No. 111 (this Communication is the subject of Budapest Notification No. 159, of November 30, 1997).

¹ See *Industrial Property*, 1987, p. 250 and 1992, p. 276, respectively.

Trademark Law Treaty

AUSTRALIA

Accession

The Government of Australia deposited, on October 21, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Trademark Law Treaty, done at Geneva on October 27, 1994.

The Trademark Law Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Australia, on January 21, 1998.

TLT Notification No. 17, of October 21, 1997.

DENMARK

Ratification

The Government of Denmark deposited, on October 28, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the Trademark Law Treaty, done at Geneva on October 27, 1994. The said instrument contains the declaration that "until later decision, the Treaty will not be applied to the Faroe Islands or to Greenland."

The Trademark Law Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Denmark, on January 28, 1998.

TLT Notification No. 18, of October 28, 1997.

Registration Systems Administered by WIPO

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Training and Promotion Meetings for PCT Users

Indonesia. In August 1997, two government officials were given training in administrative procedures under the PCT in Geneva, following Indonesia's recent ratification of the PCT (it entered

into force, in respect of that country, on September 5, 1997).

Slovenia. In August 1997, a government official was given training in administrative procedures under the PCT in Geneva.

Madrid Union

Training and Promotion Meetings for Users of the Madrid System

International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI). In August 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the Madrid system at the Second Baltic Industrial Property Rights Conference, organized in Tallinn by the Estonian Group of AIPPI in cooperation with the Estonian Patent Office.

Computerization Activities (Madrid System)

Switzerland. In August 1997, two WIPO officials visited the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property in Berne to discuss matters related to future electronic data exchanges within the MECA (*Madrid Electronic Communications*) system between the Institute and WIPO.

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

Draft WIPO Rules for Administrative Challenge Panel Procedures Concerning Internet Domain Names

In August 1997, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center issued a document entitled "Draft WIPO Rules for Administrative Challenge Panel Procedures Concerning Internet Domain Names" (draft WIPO ACP Rules) that it had prepared to facilitate the administrative challenge panel procedures.

Other Activities

American Bar Association (ABA). In August 1997, a WIPO official delivered a paper on international arbitration of intellectual property disputes at a meeting organized by ABA in San Francisco (United States of America).

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Developing Countries

Africa

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO African Regional Seminar for Inventors and Researchers (Lesotho). From August 26 to 28, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Maseru in cooperation with the Government of Lesotho. The Seminar was attended by 25 participants from Botswana, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Thirty local participants also attended. Presentations were made by four WIPO consultants from Argentina, Australia, Nigeria and South Africa, a local speaker and a WIPO official.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Botswana. In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the revised version of the draft industrial property regulations to be issued under the Industrial Property Act 1996. The comments took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Côte d'Ivoire. In August 1997, two government officials from the Copyright Office of Côte d'Ivoire undertook a WIPO-organized practical training to the Copyright Office of Burkina Faso, in Ouagadougou, in the field of collective management of copyright.

Ghana. In August 1997, a government official from the Copyright Office of Ghana attended a WIPO-organized special practical training on licensing at the Nordic Copyright Bureau in Copenhagen and the Swedish Performing Rights Society in Stockholm.

Guinea-Bissau. In August 1997, two WIPO officials undertook a mission to Bissau to review with government leaders and other officials cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and WIPO including, *inter alia*, the adoption of a WIPO country project for the modernization of the industrial property administration, the industrial property legislation enacted in

March 1997 and the possible accession by Guinea-Bissau to the PCT.

Mozambique. In August 1997, four government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of industrial property including the revised draft legislation on industrial property. The discussions took into due account the implications of the TRIPS Agreement.

Senegal. In August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Dakar to discuss with government leaders and other officials cooperation activities between Senegal and WIPO.

Seychelles. In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft model law on copyright and neighboring rights. This draft took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Swaziland. In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and submitted to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the amendments of the Trade Marks Act of 1981 and its Implementing Regulations, taking into account, in particular, obligations under the TRIPS Agreement and the Trademark Law Treaty.

Also in August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft copyright bill of Swaziland. The comments took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Uganda. In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, a draft industrial design act, with a commentary on its main provisions. This draft took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO). In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to ARIPO authorities, at their request, comments on the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs and the Banjul Protocol on Marks and the respective Implementing Regulations thereunder. Those comments took into account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission

to UNDP in New York to discuss cooperation between the two Organizations in African countries.

Arab Countries

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Jordan. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Egypt undertook a mission to the Directorate of Trade Registration and Industrial Property Protection in Amman, to provide advice on the computerization of its procedures.

Also in August 1997, a WIPO official discussed with government officials in Amman the revision of the trademark law of Jordan (including the implications of the TRIPS Agreement) and cooperation in the field of training.

Lebanon. In August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Beirut to discuss with government officials cooperation in training for intellectual property administration.

Saudi Arabia. In August 1997, WIPO officials made a presentation in Geneva on WIPO's develop-

ment cooperation program to 18 government officials from Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Tunisia. In August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to the National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property in Tunis to discuss ongoing activities in the field of development cooperation and training.

Also in August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Tunis to discuss with government officials development cooperation activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, and the setting up of the new "Tunisian Copyright Protection Body."

International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA). In August 1997, Mr. Farag Mousa, President of IFIA, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of training.

Asia and the Pacific

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

WIPO Regional Training Course on Intellectual Property for Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific (Sri Lanka). From August 11 to 22, 1997, WIPO organized that Course in Colombo in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal and International Commerce and Food. The Course was attended by 23 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam. Twenty-one local participants also attended. Presentations were made by seven WIPO consultants from Canada, Germany, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, the United States of America, a local speaker and two WIPO officials. The program of the Course dealt also with the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Roving Workshop on Assessment and Valuation of Inventions and Research Results for Technology Transfer and Commercialization (Philippines). From August 12 to 19, 1997, WIPO organized three sessions of that Workshop in Ba-

calod City, Davao City and Manila, respectively, in cooperation with the Technology Application and Promotion Institute of the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines. Each session was attended by 30 local participants from government institutions, universities and private enterprises. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Singapore and the United States of America, a local speaker and a WIPO official.

WIPO National Colloquium on the Judiciary and the Intellectual Property System (Sri Lanka). On August 16, 1997, WIPO organized that Colloquium in Colombo in cooperation with the Judges' Institute of Sri Lanka. The Colloquium was attended by 19 Sri Lankan participants, all of them judges. Presentations were made by three WIPO consultants from Germany, India and the United States of America, a local speaker and a WIPO official. The program of the Colloquium dealt also with the TRIPS Agreement.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

India. In August 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to the Patent Office in New Delhi to

discuss with government officials the modernization of that Office.

Sri Lanka. In August 1997, two WIPO officials visited the Registry of Patents and Trade Marks in Colombo to discuss with government leaders and other officials plans for the modernization of the Registry and future cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

Viet Nam. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Denmark undertook a mission to Hanoi to review the current forms of support for innovation and commercialization of inventions in Viet Nam, and to recommend related implementation strategies. The mission was funded under the regional UNDP project for the modernization of intellectual property systems.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO National Seminar on the Legal Protection of Appellations of Origin (Peru). On August 26 and 27, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Lima in cooperation with the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection. The Seminar was attended by some 120 participants from commercial, industrial and other interested private circles. Presentations were made by four WIPO consultants from Cuba, Mexico, Spain and the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), 13 local speakers and a WIPO official. The program of the Seminar dealt also with the TRIPS Agreement.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Barbados. In August 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the draft protection against unfair competition bill, the draft geographical indications bill, the draft trade marks (amendment) bill and on the Trade Marks Act. Those comments took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Also in August 1997, a WIPO official had discussions in Bridgetown with government authorities on future cooperation activities in relation to collective management of copyright and neighboring rights.

Colombia. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile and a WIPO official undertook a mission to the Directorate General of Industry and Commerce in Santafe de Bogotá to provide advice in computerization.

Cuba. In August 1997, a government official from the National Center of Copyright (CENDA) attended a one-week training at the Copyright Office of Mexico on conciliation and agreement in the field

of copyright and neighboring rights. This training was part of the WIPO country project for Cuba.

Also in August 1997, two government officials from the Cuban Agency for Administration of Copyright in Musical Works (ACDAM) received training on the collective management of copyright at the Authors' Society of Chile (SCD), of Argentina (SADAIC) and of Uruguay (AGADU). This training was a part of the WIPO country project for Cuba.

Dominican Republic. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile undertook a mission to the Industrial Property and Commercial Registry in Santo Domingo to assist in the computerization of trademark and patent operations. The mission was organized under the WIPO country project for the Dominican Republic.

Also in August 1997, a government official made a study visit to the Intellectual Property Registry in San José, and to the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property in Mexico City. The visit was aimed at receiving information on the computerization of trademark and patent operations and the measures adopted by the national authorities for the implementation of the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Haiti. In August 1997, two WIPO consultants from Switzerland and the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) undertook a mission to Port-au-Prince to discuss with government officials the setting-up of a society for the collective management of copyright. The mission was organized under the WIPO country project for Haiti.

Jamaica. In August 1997, a government official had discussions with a WIPO official in Geneva on future cooperation in the area of copyright and neighboring rights.

Paraguay. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Uruguay undertook a mission to the Directorate of Industrial Property in Asunción to advise on the further computerization of the Directorate. The mission was organized and financed under the UNDP country project.

Saint Lucia. In August 1997, WIPO officials discussed with government officials in Castries future cooperation in the area of collective management of copyright and neighboring rights.

Trinidad and Tobago. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from the United Kingdom un-

dertook a mission to the Intellectual Property Registry in Port of Spain to advise on opposition hearings and communication channels between the Registry and users, and to provide on-the-job training on the international classification of trademarks.

Uruguay. In August 1997, a WIPO consultant from Venezuela undertook a mission to Montevideo to discuss with government officials a draft copyright law prepared by the Government of Uruguay in consultation with WIPO. This draft took into due account the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Development Cooperation (in General)

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO/Sweden Training Course on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Stockholm). From August 18 to 27, 1997, WIPO organized that Course in Stockholm, in cooperation with the Government of Sweden and with the assistance of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Twenty participants from the public and private sectors from China, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Laos, Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand, Uganda, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended

the Course. Papers were presented by eight government officials from Sweden, a professor from the University of Stockholm, a government official from China, two representatives of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) and the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organizations (IFRRO) and three WIPO officials. At the end of the Course the participants visited the headquarters of WIPO where they met with WIPO officials to discuss development cooperation activities in the field of copyright and neighboring rights. Their discussions in Geneva dealt also with the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO Medals

In August 1997, two WIPO medals were awarded at the first National Exhibition of Inventions in Ma-

seru, one to the best inventor and one to an outstanding young inventor.

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

National Activities

Estonia. In August 1997, a WIPO official visited the Estonian Patent Office in Tallinn and had discussions with government officials concerning, in particular, possible accession of the country to certain WIPO-administered treaties and cooperation in the drafting of national industrial property legislation.

Hungary. In August 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Pro-

cedure at the eighth European Congress of Biotechnology, organized in Budapest by the European Federation of Biotechnology, the Hungarian Biochemical Society, the Working Party on Bioengineering of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and the Technical University of Budapest.

Latvia. In August 1997, a WIPO official visited the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia in Riga and had discussions with government officials on the activities of the said Office, recent developments in national industrial property legislation, and possible accession of the country to certain WIPO-administered treaties.

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

United Nations

Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions)(CCAQ/FB). In August 1997, a WIPO official attended the 87th session of CCAQ/FB, held in New York.

Other Organizations

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

Recent WIPO Publications

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

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 (Spanish/French), No. 500.1(S/F), 269 pag-

es, 100 Swiss francs; *Part II: List of Goods and Services in Class Order* (Spanish/French), No. 500.2(S/F), 315 pages, 80 Swiss francs.

WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) (1996) with the agreed statements of the Diplomatic Conference that adopted the Treaty and the provisions of the Berne Convention (1971) referred to in the Treaty (in French), No. 226(F), 58 pages, 10 Swiss francs.

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 (F for French, 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 Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) (1996) with the agreed statements of the Diplomatic Conference that adopted the Treaty and the provisions of the Berne Convention (1971) and of the Rome Convention (1961) referred to in the Treaty (in French), No. 227(F), 30 pages, 10 Swiss francs.

Calendar of Meetings

WIPO Meetings

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

1997

December 15 to 19 (Geneva)

Committee of Experts on the Patent Law Treaty

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

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

1998

- February 2 to 6 (Geneva)** **Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union**
 The Committee will discuss the revision of the current (sixth) edition of the Locarno Classification for industrial designs.
Invitations: As members, the States members of the Locarno Union; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- March 16 to 20 (Geneva)** **Committee of Experts of the IPC Union**
 The Committee will discuss the revision of the current (sixth) edition of the International Patent Classification (IPC).
Invitations: As members, the States members of the IPC Union; as observers, certain organizations.
- March 23 and 24 (Geneva)** **Budget and Premises Committees**
 The two Committees will consider, in a joint session, the draft program and budget of WIPO for the 1998-99 biennium, including matters concerning WIPO's needs for new premises.
Invitations: Governments of States members of the Budget and Premises Committees; as observers, Governments of other States members of WIPO.
- March 25 to 27 (Geneva)** **Extraordinary Session of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (Thirty-second series of meetings)**
 The assemblies of the Member States of WIPO will meet in extraordinary session to decide the program and budget of WIPO for the 1998-99 biennium and to consider other matters concerning WIPO.
Invitations: The Governments of the States members of the concerned assemblies; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- June 8 to 12 (Geneva)** **Committee of Experts on Audiovisual Performances**
 The Committee will discuss proposals to be submitted by States members of WIPO and the European Community concerning a Protocol to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) on Audiovisual Performances.
Invitations: As members, the Governments of the States members of WIPO and the European Community; as observers, certain organizations.
- September 7 to 15* (Geneva)** **Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (Thirty-third series of meetings)**
 Some of the assemblies will meet in extraordinary session, others in ordinary session.
Invitations: As members or observers (depending on the assembly), States members of WIPO; as observers, other States and certain organizations.

UPOV Meetings

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

1998

- April 20 to 22 (Geneva)** **Technical Committee (Thirty-Fourth Session)**
Invitations: Member States of UPOV and, as observers, certain non-member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

* The said meeting will be held in CICG (Centre international de conférences de Genève) in Geneva from September 7 to 11, and will continue in the WIPO main building on September 14 and 15.

April 23 (Geneva)

Administrative and Legal Committee (Thirty-Eighth Session)

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

April 24 (Geneva)

Consultative Committee (Fifty-Fifth Session)

Invitations: Member States of UPOV.

October 26 (Geneva)

Administrative and Legal Committee (Thirty-Ninth Session)

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

October 27 (Geneva)

Consultative Committee (Fifty-Sixth Session)

Invitations: Member States of UPOV.

October 28 (Geneva)

Council (Thirty-Second Ordinary Session)

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

