

March 25, 2020

Notice of Briefing by Public Broadcast

To: Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva and
to the World Trade Organization,
Heads of IP Offices and Copyright Offices,
Accredited International Governmental Organizations,
Accredited Non-Governmental Organizations,
Interested Stakeholders and Members of the Public
WIPO Staff

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates and Representatives,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Colleagues,

Each year towards the end of March the World Intellectual Property (WIPO) releases its results for the preceding year in a series of meetings at which I also take the opportunity to address some of the major plans and challenges for the current year.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the regulatory responses to contain it mean that the usual physical briefings and meetings are not an option. It is important, however, that, while respecting the primacy of health, safety and welfare in the current crisis, we continue to communicate about the Organization and how it is faring in the current circumstances.

Accordingly, this year, I intend to broadcast the traditional briefing. The transmission will occur on April 7, 2020 at 2 p.m. The recording of the transmission will remain available on the WIPO website for later viewing. The supporting audiovisual materials that will be used during the transmission will also be available on the WIPO website.

In the broadcast, I intend to cover

- the results of WIPO in 2019;
- program highlights and challenges for 2020;
- our management of the COVID-19 crisis and the impact of the crisis on our services and programs.

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I have decided to open the broadcast to any member of the interested public this year since many stakeholders, in addition to the Member States, have been enquiring about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations and services of the Organization and I shall provide an update on this in the transmission.

The transmission will be in English, but simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish, which will also be available for later viewing.

The broadcast will be available on the WIPO website at www.wipo.int

Yours faithfully,

Francis Gurry
Director General