



Australian Government
IP Australia

growing innovation



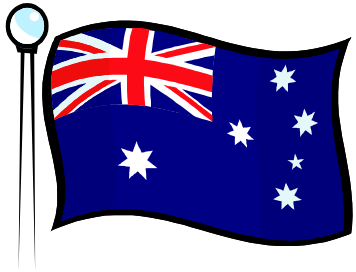
Australia's Perspective
WIPO Intergovernmental Committee
Traditional Knowledge,
Traditional Cultural Expressions, and
Genetic Resources

Scope

- Australia's Interests
- Policy Objectives
- Key Issues
- Moving Forward
- Questions



Australia's Interests



- Diverse, vibrant and living indigenous cultures, rich in Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions.
- Mega diverse continent rich in genetic resources
- Mature Bio-Tech industry
- Mature legal and IP system



Policy Objectives

- Developing efficient, effective and transparent mechanisms to protect TK, TCE and GRs, which:
 - balances the needs of the owners, including traditional owners, and the users of the system;
 - supports access, where appropriate, to these resources, in support of a good society, so they can be used for the benefit of all communities; and
 - ensures benefits are shared fairly and equitably, particularly without detriment to, and to the benefit of indigenous cultures and communities.



Key Issues

- Complex international policy environment with competing interests economic and social.
- Significant practical issues still to be analysed and addressed if international and domestic mechanisms are to be effective and efficient.
- Gaining Broad International Agreement
- Consultation and Engagement with Indigenous Communities



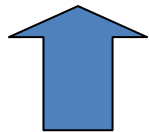
Moving Forward

- Well planned, managed and focused IGC Work Program
- 15th IGC must set the right atmosphere and direction for the future work of the IGC
- IGC Leadership
- Technical Experts Discussions
- Informal Discussions – Regional Workshops
- Acceptance that change is required – making the IP System fit for purpose in the knowledge age



Milestones in IP History

1883 Paris Convention	1891 Madrid Agreement	1925 Hague Agreement	1967 WIPO established	1978 PCT came into force	1994 TRIPS	2000 Patent Law Treaty	2010 What will be next?
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Is the IP system fit for purpose for today's global knowledge economy?

1883	1925 – Hague Agreement	1978 – PCT	2000 – Patent Law Treaty
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Questions

