

**Assemblies of Member States of WIPO
Forty-Third (21st Ordinary) Session
September 23 to October 2, 2013
Matters Concerning the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and
Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
Agenda Item 35**

DECISION

Bearing in mind the Development Agenda recommendations and acknowledging the progress made, the WIPO General Assembly agrees that the mandate of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore be renewed as follows:

- (a) The Committee will, during the next budgetary biennium 2014/2015, and without prejudice to the work pursued in other fora, continue to expedite its work with open and full engagement, on text-based negotiations with the objective of reaching an agreement on a text(s) of an international legal instrument(s) which will ensure the effective protection of GRs, TK and TCEs.
- (b) The Committee will follow, as set out in the table below, a clearly defined work program, based on sound working methods, for the 2014/2015 biennium. This work program will make provision for three sessions of the IGC in 2014, including thematic and cross cutting/stocktaking sessions. At the beginning of IGC 26 an Ambassadorial/Senior Capital-Based Officials meeting will be held to share views on key policy issues relating to the negotiations, to further inform/guide the process. The IGC may decide to hold further Ambassadorial/Senior Capital-Based Officials meetings during future IGC meetings.
- (c) The focus of the Committee's work in the 2014/2015 biennium will build on the existing work carried out by the Committee and use all WIPO working documents, including WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/5, WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/6 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/25/7 which are to constitute the basis of the Committee's work on text-based negotiations, as well as any other textual contributions by members.
- (d) The Committee is requested to submit to the 2014 General Assembly the text(s) of an international legal instrument(s) which will ensure the effective protection of GRs, TK and TCEs. With a view to finalising the text(s) within the biennium, the General Assembly in 2014 will take stock of and consider the text(s), progress made and decide on convening a Diplomatic Conference, and will consider the need for additional meetings, taking account of the budgetary process.
- (e) The General Assembly requests the International Bureau to continue to assist the Committee by providing Member States with necessary expertise and funding, in the most efficient manner, of the participation of experts from developing countries and LDCs, taking into account the usual formula.

The General Assembly takes note of the possibility for members of the IGC to request studies or to provide examples to inform the discussion of objectives and principles, and each proposed article, including examples of protectable subject matter and subject matter that is not intended to be protected, and examples of domestic legislation. However, examples and studies are not to delay progress or establish any preconditions to the text-based negotiations.

| Indicative Dates | Activity |
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| February 2014 | <p>IGC 26 GR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassadors/Senior Capital-Based Officials meeting to share views on key policy issues relating to the negotiations on GRTKTCE, to further inform/guide the process. Duration – Half Day. • Undertake text-based negotiations on GR with a focus on considering options for a draft legal text - Duration four and a half days. <p>Duration 5 Days.</p> |
| April 2014 | <p>IGC 27 TK followed by TCE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of Cross Cutting TK/TCE Issues – 1 Day. • TK - Focus on objectives, principles, 4 key Articles viz Subject Matter of Protection, Beneficiaries, Scope of Protection and Limitations and Exceptions - Duration 4 Days. • Consideration of Cross Cutting TK/TCE Issues – 1 Day. • TCE - Focus on objectives, principles, 4 key Articles viz Subject Matter of Protection, Beneficiaries, Scope of Protection and Limitations and Exceptions Duration 4 Days. <p>Duration 10 Days.</p> |
| July 2014 | <p>IGC 28 Cross-cutting session/Stocktaking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Cutting GR/TK/TCE session. • Take stock of progress and make a recommendation to the General Assembly. <p>Duration 3 Days.</p> |
| September 2014 | <p>WIPO General Assembly</p> <p>With a view to finalising the text(s) within the biennium, the General Assembly in 2014 will take stock of and consider the text(s), progress made and decide on convening a Diplomatic Conference, and will consider the need for additional meetings, taking account of the budgetary process.</p> |