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Geneva
June 1998

A Message from Dr. Kamil Idris,
Director General of WIPO



*Welcome to the first issue of the new
WIPO Magazine.*

*As you know, we have created this new
publication to replace the former Industrial
Property and Copyright monthly
review. Instead of simply listing WIPO activities,
this new Magazine will feature in-depth
information about selected initiatives,
policies, meetings, and other activities that
have an impact on our work and the work of
the intellectual property community worldwide.*

*I hope that you will look forward to receiving
this growing, dynamic publication each month,
and learning more about WIPO. We, in turn,
will look forward to receiving your comments
and suggestions.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'K' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

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Audiovisual Performance Rights Examined

Committee of Experts Meets for Second Time

From June 8-12, the Committee of Experts on a Protocol Concerning Audiovisual Performances met for its second session at WIPO headquarters, to examine proposals from several States.

Discussions centered around the presumption of the transfer of performers' rights in the audiovisual field (cinema, television, and the sale of videocassettes) toward producers in the absence of a specific clause in any contract. A similar presumption is contained in the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in the case of authors of cinematograph works. The Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations still provides that performers automatically lose their rights when they consent to the inclusion of their performances in a film.

Audiovisual protection was excluded when the international norms for the protection of performers were harmonized and updated by the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) at a Diplomatic Conference in December 1996. The Conference did, however, decide that preparatory work would continue with a view to extending the application of the WPPT by the adoption of a protocol on the audiovisual aspects of performances.

Discussions are scheduled to continue in November 1998 at the first session of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, which could lead to a Diplomatic Conference at the close of 1999.

Prior to the June session of the Committee of Experts, three regional consultations had been held to examine the issues, and to coordinate and develop common approaches among regional groups. These regional meetings considered proposals from Argentina, Colombia, the Euro-

pean Communities, Ghana, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America.



NGO representatives also attended

The meetings were held for:

- Africa, (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) with delegates from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, and Zambia;
- Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador) with delegates from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela;
- Asia and the Pacific (New Delhi, India) with delegates from Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and United Arab Emirates.

In all three sessions, written proposals for the Protocol that had been submitted by the deadline of January 15, 1998, were discussed and analyzed with the assistance of WIPO officials. ■



Photo: Paula Coupe

Audiovisual performance rights were among the international issues that were examined at the second session of this Committee of Experts.

New IP Training Program for the Gulf Region

First Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced IP Studies



Photo: José Graça Aranha

Dubai

Dubai is the site of the first Postgraduate Diploma Training Program in Advanced Studies in Intellectual Property, sponsored by WIPO in cooperation with the Gulf Institute of International Law (GIIL). The course, which is running from June 13 to September 3, 1998, features leading intellectual property scholars and professionals from Arab countries, as well as WIPO officials. The program is aimed at government officials who oversee the implementation of intellectual property laws, but is also open to members of the private sector. It has two objectives:

- to help participants acquire a more detailed knowledge of intellectual property to help them strengthen their national intellectual property systems, and

- to enable them to implement the legislative and administrative adjustments required to fulfill the obligations set out in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) by the deadline of January 1, 2000.

The course, which is being conducted in Arabic, comprises three training modules:

- Patents and industrial designs;
- Marks, geographical indications and protection against unfair competition; and
- Copyright and neighboring rights.

Each module can accommodate approximately 20 participants, who attend two lectures per day, and after completing all three modules and a research paper, are awarded the Diploma of Advanced Studies in Intellectual Property.

GIIL is a new center for law studies and training in Dubai, and the first of its kind in the Gulf region. Previously, GIIL has prepared short training programs, including an intellectual property program, in English, with the Franklin Pierce Law Center, and several seminars with WIPO. This new WIPO/GIIL Diploma Program is part of the Organization's commitment to promoting the development of durable national intellectual property systems worldwide.

For further information about the WIPO/GIIL Postgraduate Diploma Program, contact:

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Photo: José Graça Aranha

Participants at the trademarks module

Visits



Protection of Arab-African Heritage Discussed on Tunis Visit

During an official visit to Tunisia in early June, Dr. Idris had talks with the country's Prime Minister, Mr. Hamed Karoui, the Minister for Culture, Mr. Abdelbaki Hermassi, and the Minister for Industry, Mr. Moncef Ben Abdallah.

The protection of the cultural heritage of the region was a central topic of discussion and the Director General unveiled WIPO's plans to open a regional center for the protection of Arab-African cultural heritage and folklore in Tunisia. A WIPO expert mission was planned for the beginning of July for preliminary talks on the setting up of the center.

The richness of the region's cultural heritage was in evidence during Dr. Idris's visit to the Center for Arab and Mediterranean Music in Sidi Bousaïd. This vast cultural complex, devoted to music in all its forms, illustrated what the Director General saw as Tunisia's "catalytic role" in stimulating intellectual and cultural exchange within the region.

Dr. Idris toured the new Tunisian Office for the Protection of Authors' Rights (OTPDA), set up in 1997. In talks with officials, he emphasized the need for on-going

staff training and the great value that should be attached to human resources.

In addition to cultural issues, Dr. Idris discussed the social and economic aspects of industrial property issues during his visit to the National Institute of Standardization and Industrial Property (INNORPI), stressing the importance of encouraging young inventors and of establishing relations

between INNORPI and various research and teaching departments.

The considerable progress in WIPO's activities in the field of development cooperation was underscored by the Director General during his visit and he pledged the Organization's support with regard to the technical and legal assistance required for improved protection of intellectual property in the country. ■

Director General Visits Kenya

At the invitation of the Government of Kenya, WIPO's Director General, paid his first official visit to Nairobi at the end of May. The Director General was warmly welcomed by Mr. Daniel Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya, and by members of the Kenyan Government. During the talks in Nairobi, Dr. Idris presented the challenges facing WIPO over the next two years and emphasized that these would be met in a transparent, responsible manner in which problem-solving would focus on the search for consensus. He continued by highlight-

ing the considerable progress made by WIPO's activities in cooperation for development and stated his willingness to provide the necessary support for further improvement to the protection of intellectual property in Kenya.

From Nairobi, Dr. Idris traveled to Mombasa to address the sixth session of the Council of Ministers of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) that was welcoming, for the first time, the head of another international organization. The Director General encouraged ARIPO to

rise to the challenges of tomorrow, such as globalization and adaptation, and further stressed the importance of intellectual property for developing countries.

The Director General expressed his particular pleasure at the warm welcome extended to him both by the authorities of Kenya and by ARIPO during his visits to Nairobi and Mombasa. It was agreed that cooperation between WIPO, Kenya, and ARIPO, of which Kenya is a member, would continue intensively. ■

Director General Visits Brazil

Dr. Idris made his first official visit to Brazil and to Latin America since taking office in November. The May 24-25 visit occurred in connection with the Opening Ceremony of the XXXVII World Congress of the International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI) in Rio de Janeiro, in which the Director General participated. The visit allowed Dr. Idris to identify areas of common interest and joint activities, while paving the way for a stronger and more fruitful relationship between Brazil and WIPO.

Brazil and WIPO have enjoyed a long-standing and strong relationship. Brazil is currently a member of nine WIPO-administered treaties and an active participant in WIPO meetings. A member of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and an active participant in the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) initiative, Brazil has taken important steps to

modernize its intellectual property system in the last few years. Between 1996 and 1998, its National Congress adopted four new laws concerning industrial property, copyright, computer software, and new plant varieties. In 1997, Brazil, with the cooperation of WIPO, initiated a five-year project to upgrade and reorganize the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI). With a budget of US\$ 10 million, the project is the largest technical cooperation project administered by WIPO and should enable INPI to fulfill the growing demand for its services.

During his visit, Dr. Idris who was accompanied by Dr. Américo Puppin, President of INPI, met with government officials and private sector representatives in both Rio de Janeiro and Brazilia. These meetings included discussions with officials from the four Ministries that are responsible for intellectual property issues: The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism (industrial property), the Ministry of Culture (copyright), the Ministry for External Relations (international negotiations), and the Ministry for Agriculture (plant varieties).

In meeting with the Minister for Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Ambassador José Botafogo Gonçalves, in Rio de Janeiro, and with the Ministry's Executive Secretary at the headquarters in Brazilia, Dr. Idris discussed the ongoing project for INPI, electronic trade, and promotion and innovation. Dr. Idris learned during the course of his discussion with Minister Botafogo that the Ministry has set up a special unit to deal with questions relating to electronic trade, and intends to play an active role in the future work of WIPO on intellectual property and electronic commerce.

Ministry of Culture officials discussed the preparatory steps for accession to the WCT and the WPPT, and requested WIPO support for two seminars planned for later this year, as well as assistance in carrying out a program against copyright piracy in Brazil. Dr. Idris agreed to support all of the requests.

The visit allowed Dr. Idris to identify areas of common interest and joint activities

During the time spent with officials from the Ministry of External Relations, Dr. Idris discussed various topics, including the success of the Seminar on Industrial Property for officials from Portuguese-speaking countries of Africa (PALOPS), which was jointly organized by WIPO and INPI the week before the Director General's visit.

The Ministry of Agriculture meeting included a tour of the First Exhibition of Agricultural Technology, which displayed new products and techniques developed by Brazilian research centers and enterprises. Ministry officials also indicated that accession to the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) would take place later this year. ■

Cooperation for development

WIPO ASEAN Sub-Regional Colloquium for Judges

National differences in the court procedures used for the enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPRs) was the central issue addressed in the WIPO ASEAN Sub-Regional Colloquium for Judges held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, from June 8-10, 1998.

The Guest of Honor at the opening ceremony was Mr. Pengiran Haji Bahrin (Attorney General and Minister of Law). An address was also given by a WIPO official on behalf of the Director General.

The themes of the Colloquium were:

- the main international treaties

for the protection of intellectual property and current international trends

- enforcement of IPRs under the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement)
- actions and remedies for the infringements of IPRs: experience under civil law and under common law
- overview of the intellectual property system and its enforcement in ASEAN countries
- procedure in intellectual property cases with particular reference to the role of technical experts: practice under civil law and under common law
- strengthening the judicial infrastructure for effective protection and enforcement of IPRs in ASEAN
- experience of ASEAN prosecutors/attorneys on enforcement of IPRs

The Colloquium was followed by a workshop on possible cooperation on enforcement of IPRs, held under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Low Hop Bing of the High Court, Malaysia. During the workshop ongoing cooperation within ASEAN in various sectors and the need to increase cooperation in the field of intellectual property was emphasized.

The need to comply with obligations under the TRIPS Agreement was also touched upon and details were provided of the types of assistance available from WIPO and the activities that have already been carried out with regard to the organization of courses on industrial property for legislative draftsmen.

The Colloquium, from observations made by participants and invited speakers, met its objectives of providing a forum for the exchange of experiences and information with regard to enforcement of intellectual property rights. The participants stated that the information provided by the speakers regarding the practice in common law systems and in civil law systems had been extremely valuable. ■

Photo: Mohammad Mochtar



Some of the participants and experts at the Colloquium

National Symposium for the Thai Judiciary

Judges from around the world discussed their practical and procedural experiences in dealing with intellectual property cases at a recent WIPO symposium. The National Symposium on Intellectual Property Laws for the Thai Judiciary was held in The Pavilion Rim Kwai Thani, Kanchanaburi, Thailand, from June 19-21, 1998.

The Symposium was opened by the Hon. Justice Akarawit Sumawong, Chief Justice, Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court; Mr. Piphat Intarasupht, Director General of the Department of Intellectual Property of the Ministry of Commerce; and a senior WIPO official on behalf of the Director General.

The discussions were split into seven sessions, each with a moderator, a presenter, and a respondent. This formula for discussion was adopted to facilitate the exchange between speakers and participants. The sessions covered the following topics:

- Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Law
- Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Law in Thailand
- Procedure in Intellectual Property Cases
- Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement: Procedural Measures under Common Law
- Current Problems in Copyright Litigation
- Current Problems in Industrial Property Litigation with Emphasis on Trademarks
- Remedies Against Infringement of Intellectual Property Rights

Some 55 participants attended the Symposium, mostly judges and associate judges, as well as senior government officials.

From the views expressed by the Chief Justice and the participants, the Symposium provided valuable information on international obligations in the field of intellectual property and a good occasion for a useful exchange of views and experience on the enforcement of intellectual property rights. ■

Seminar Explores IP Rights Enforcement

Piracy and counterfeiting are two of the greatest challenges that intellectual property rights owners and enforcers face today. These two issues were the subject of the WIPO Asian Regional Symposium on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights under the TRIPS Agreement. The Symposium was co-sponsored by the Intellectual Property Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China, and was held from June 1-3 in Hong Kong.

The Symposium attracted a great deal of media attention because of its subject matter, and the participation of Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa, the territory's highest ranking official, who opened the seminar. In his remarks, he vowed to step up efforts to combat piracy and counterfeiting in Hong Kong. "We are an international telecommunication centre and the leading centre for film and television production. The demand for cheap pirated optical discs is considerable. This provides the incentive for piracy and counterfeiting," he said.

Some 150 participants from 29 countries (WIPO sponsored 32 participants from 16 countries) were joined by WIPO officials and the Secretary of Trade and Industry, Mr. Chau Tak-Hai, and the Director of the Intellectual Property Department, Mr. Stephen Selby. The seminar featured panel discussions on nine topics over the course of three days:

- The challenge of piracy and counterfeiting

- Policy and practical implications of the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement
- General obligations concerning enforcement under the TRIPS Agreement; civil and administrative procedures and remedies



Mr. Tung Chee-hwa, Chief Executive of Hong Kong (SAR) China, second from the left

- Special requirements related to border measures; criminal procedures
- Legal, administrative and judicial implications for developing countries in establishing an appropriate infrastructure for the enforcement of IPRs
- Litigation and alternative dispute resolution for effective enforcement
- Dimension and scope of technical assistance needs of Asia and the Pacific countries
- Issues and mechanism concerning enforcement from the point of view of the private sector
- Effective enforcement of IPRs; cooperation and coordination at the international regional and national levels.

The discussions were lively and informative, with a high level of audience participation. During the final discussion, Mr. Selby noted that the task of preparing for compliance with the TRIPS Agreement was complex, and that assistance from WIPO would be indispensable. ■

Global Intellectual Property Issues

South Pacific Mission Yields Insights into Traditional Knowledge

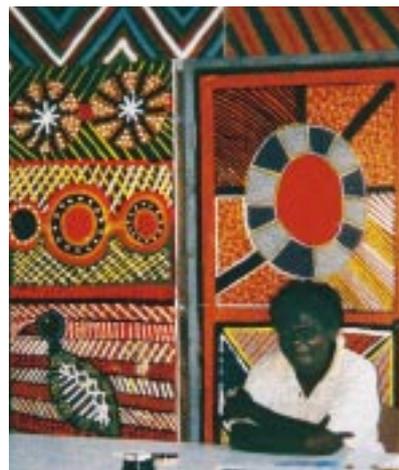
To further WIPO's work relating to the protection of traditional knowledge, innovation, and culture, a fact-finding mission to explore the difficulties faced by indigenous persons in protecting their intellectual property was carried out in the South Pacific at the end of June.

The mission met with indigenous people and other holders of traditional knowledge, Government representatives, non-governmental organizations and other experts in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea.

The first stop was Darwin, Australia, where WIPO hosted a roundtable to which representatives from indigenous and local communities had been invited.

Work continued at the Art Center of the Munupi Arts and Crafts Association that houses Tiwi artists' work. The Tiwi are an Australian Aboriginal clan and the artists at the Center draw their inspiration from Tiwi cultural heritage to create internationally renowned paintings, prints, pottery, carvings and fabrics. The mission heard of the artists' concerns and desires to protect their arts and crafts, traditional ceremonies, genetic resources, and the name "Tiwi". The artists at the Center have been invited to exhibit their work at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland in September 1998.

Still in Darwin, the mission moved on to the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory that holds a significant collection of Aboriginal art. The Museum is currently investigating the feasibility of scanning Aboriginal artworks and placing them on-line in a secure Intranet environment. The objective of this exercise is to document the art-



The Munupi Arts and Crafts Association Art Center houses Tiwi artists' work

works and facilitate their repatriation to the Aboriginal communities that they came from, as well as to other Aboriginal communities.

In Sydney, the mission met with a host of experts, academics, Government representatives, and private practitioners. The mission was impressed by a variety of multi-media "copyright detective products" developed by Dr. Vivien Johnson, Associate Professor of Sociology, Macquarie University, New South Wales to detect whether original Aboriginal art has been pirated. They also took the occasion to meet with Terri Janke, a prominent lawyer, and discuss her important study on the cultural and intellectual property of the Aboriginal people of Australia.

New Zealand was the mission's next destination, where they met with interested parties to review issues of concern to Maori and the Government regarding the protection and promotion of traditional knowledge and culture, and, in particular, the claim brought by Maori against the New Zealand Government under the Treaty of Waitangi for ownership of their knowledge and culture. They also had the opportunity to meet with



Members of the WIPO fact-finding mission with artists at the Munupi Arts Center

[Continued on page 12, col. 2]

Premises

New Plot Purchased

The purchase of a new plot of land, for the sum of 13.5 million Swiss francs, opposite the main WIPO building, was approved by the WIPO Budget and Premises Committees on June 4, 1998.

The decision is an important one for the Organization, and confirms the confidence member States have in the Organization's future development.

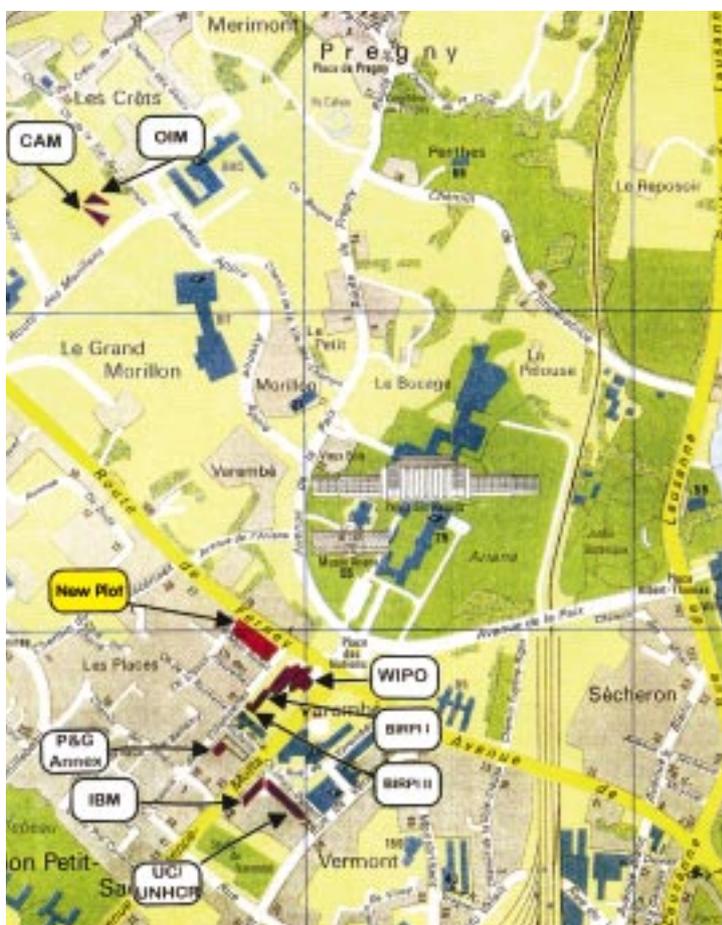
The need for additional premises arises from increased staffing levels. The Secretariat has grown considerably over the past few years particularly in the area of global registration systems and services because of increased demand from the private sector for international registration. WIPO's global registration systems include the Patent Cooperation Treaty in the field of patents, the Madrid Agreement and Protocol in the field of trademarks, and the Hague Agreement in the field of industrial designs. To date, extra workspace has been

rented to meet the increased demand and this has resulted in a Secretariat spread over eight different sites in the Geneva area.

The pace of growth in the demand for global registration systems and services is predicted to increase further. In addition, there has been a call from member States for help in the area of cooperation for development as well as a growing demand for the services of the WIPO Worldwide Academy. This is to meet the large and growing demand from countries for help to enable them to meet their legislative, institutional and human capacity requirements necessary under various international agreements.

Significant growth is also expected in the WIPO Arbitration Center that provides rapid dispute resolution services between private sector entities and has most recently been involved with the resolution of disputes arising from electronic commerce.

Some staff members need not wait for completion of the new building, however, but will be able to move closer to the main WIPO building as early as 2001. This is the predicted date for completion of the renovation and extension of the present headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization that WIPO has already purchased. Proposals regarding the next steps to be taken on developing the new lot will be submitted to a joint meeting of the Budget and Premises Committees which should be held just prior to the September 7 to 15, 1998, sessions of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. ■



The present situation of buildings

Global Information Services for IP

WIPO_{NET} Given the Green Light

WIPO's Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) has endorsed measures to establish the WIPO Global Information Network (known as the WIPO_{NET}). The Standing Committee, which met from June 22-26, 1998, comprises the member States of WIPO and certain international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The next step will be to put together a task force of technical experts which will, during the second half of 1998, assist WIPO in defining the technical requirements for this major project. An international tender for suitable contractors will be issued in December 1998.

WIPO_{NET} will provide network services to intellectual property offices worldwide and will facilitate the rapid exchange of data between these offices. In the long run, it is envisaged that it will also serve as a framework by which intellectual property offices across the globe will be able to discuss and implement innovative ideas for the effective use of information technology to promote the protection of intellectual property.

The decision to set up this project was taken by the Assemblies of the member States of WIPO in March 1998 and has been allocated a budget of some 22 million Swiss francs for 1998-99. WIPO_{NET} will be an invaluable communications tool designed to satisfy the growing demand for both general and specialized information services by

the global intellectual property community and the public by the end of 1999.

In the course of its development and deployment, WIPO_{NET} will be constantly upgraded to offer a full range of relevant and useful services to members of the intellectual property community worldwide. Moreover, it will become a tool through which the intellectual property community can launch a series of new initiatives using modern information technologies. Full deployment of the network, in terms of connectivity with the intellectual property offices of member States, will begin in April 1999. ■

WIPO's Prototype IPDL Up and Running

The prototype for the WIPO Intellectual Property Digital Library (IPDL) is now operational. This initiative is an important first step in establishing the WIPO Global Information Network (See *WIPO_{NET} Given the Green Light* in this issue).

The prototype WIPO IPDL has a comprehensive search facility enabling users to access selected data relating to international applications published under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). Users are able to search, retrieve, and display important information on international patent applications including:

- bibliographic data, such as the name of an applicant or the name of an inventor;
- application filings by the date and the country in which the application was made; and

In its initial phase, WIPO_{NET} will provide three key services:

- Access to data via the Intellectual Property Digital Libraries (IPDL) (See *WIPO's Prototype IPDL Up and Running* in this issue);
- Electronic filing of international patent applications filed under the PCT. This facility will provide for the secure transmission of confidential text and image data contained in international patent applications; and
- Distance learning facilities offered under the WIPO global training program (known as the WIPO Worldwide Academy) for intellectual property offices and the intellectual property community. This is an Internet-based communications network incorporating new distance learning, collaborative development, and video-conferencing technologies.

These services will be particularly useful in distributing information and services to developing countries.

- abstracts and drawings of international patent applications.

The WIPO IPDL may be accessed by consulting the following web addresses: <http://www.wipo.int> and <http://pctgazette.wipo.int>.

In future, WIPO intends to expand its IPDL database to include information on international applications for trademarks and industrial designs. A number of user-friendly search functions, including technology-specific dictionaries and automatic translation of technical terms, will also be incorporated, at a later date, to assist users in their research activities.

The WIPO IPDL is one of a number of similar digital libraries already established and operated

***A series of links
will be established
between all IPDLs
to form the
WIPO-coordinated
Global Information
Network***

independently by the intellectual property offices of various member States. Those member States which do not yet operate an IPDL will receive assistance from WIPO in the development of this important information tool. It is envisaged that a series of links will be established between all IPDLs to form the WIPO-coordinated Global Information Network. ■

Geneva Missions Receive Computer Help and Hardware

WIPO has established a new partnership with the Geneva diplomatic community to improve the use and access to electronic communications and the Internet. When missions from developing countries express the need for computer assistance, WIPO will provide, free of charge, a full computer workstation, consisting of a PC, a printer, and a modem. Each PC will be totally revised, cleaned, and reconfigured and will have the basic software, DOS and Windows 3.x, installed.

WIPO will also contribute Swiss francs 20,000 to the training program carried out by the United Nations Office of Geneva and the International Telecommunications Union and will also make its computer training room, teaching aids, and staff available to the diplomatic staff of missions from developing countries to provide hands-on training on the Internet.

This new partnership extends the initiatives launched in 1997 by the diplomatic missions of developing countries and Organizations of the United Nations System in Geneva, as well as the Swiss authorities, to respond to the information technology needs of the diplomatic community. ■

[Continued from page 9]

Maori leaders at the national museum Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington.

While in New Zealand they also participated in a Maori Writer's Workshop in Rotorua concerning publication of a two volume book in the Maori language that aims to promote and preserve Maori language and culture.

In Fiji, a diverse group of interested parties met with the mission to consider an issue of particular concern to the Fijians, namely the protection of access to plant and other genetic resources, particularly the kava plant, which has well-established medicinal and nutritional properties. They also discussed a new bill, "The Sustainable Development Bill", that includes a section on access to genetic resources.

Before leaving Fiji the mission met with an impressive group of tradi-

tional women healers, Wainamati, that is engaged in many training and awareness-raising activities, including in respect of IPRs.

The mission ended in Papua New Guinea and meetings with experts from the field of intellectual property, where once again, high on the agenda was the appropriation and commercial use of genetic resources and in particular a recent high-profile case in respect of the Hagahai people.

The mission returned with a wealth of first-hand accounts of the issues, processes and difficulties involved in the protection of traditional knowledge, innovation, and culture. They also returned with clearer ideas for the kind of useful and technical assistance that WIPO can offer.

Five further fact-finding missions are planned to different regions. ■

Industrial Property Law

First Meeting of SCP Discusses PLT

The Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) held its first meeting since it was established by the Assemblies of member States in March 1998. The SCP will be a forum for discussion, coordination, and guidance concerning the progressive international development and the harmonization of patent laws and procedures.

During this first meeting, some administrative and procedural matters were completed, and the Rules of Procedure were adopted. The Committee also approved the establishment of the SCP Electronic Forum, which will use the Internet to distribute draft and

working documents and receive and distribute comments on the work being done.

Approval given for the establishment of the SCP Electronic Forum, which will use the Internet to distribute draft and working documents and receive and distribute comments on the work being done

The SCP also discussed what issues it would consider, including

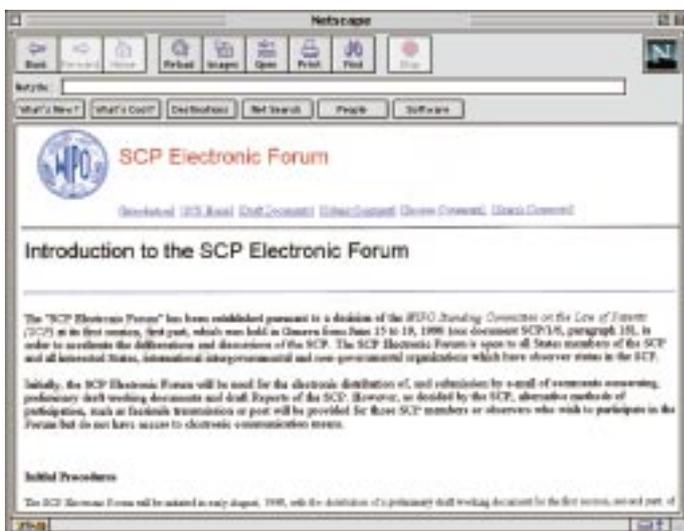
- patent formality harmonization,
- central recording of changes in patents and patent applications,

- disclosure of technical information on the Internet and its impact on patentability, and
- biotechnological inventions.

Two other issues were also suggested—substantive harmonization of patent laws and enforcement—which will be discussed at the next session. The Standing Committee also agreed that the WIPO Secretariat would gather information about fee reduction in national patent offices.

Major discussions centered on the draft Patent Law Treaty, which pertains to matters concerning the filing of patent applications and recordings by the Patent Offices, and related matters, such as conditions for obtaining a filing date, representation, conditions for extension of time limits, and restoration of rights. Substantial progress was made on the details of the proposed treaty, especially in the areas relating to extension of time limits, restoration of rights, and priority claims. Patent Law Treaty discussions will continue at an additional meeting of this first session, preferably in November 1998.

The Standing Committee agreed that it would set dates for a Diplomatic Conference at one of the meetings in 1999. ■



The SCP Electronic Forum: <http://wipo2.wipo.int/scp/>

Calendar of Meetings

- July 2 and 3 (Geneva)** **WIPO Coordination Committee Working Group on Policies and Practices for Nomination and Appointment of Directors General**
The Working Group will continue to review and make recommendations on standard policies and practices for future appointments to the post of Director General.
Invitations: As members, the States members of the WIPO Coordination Committee; as observers, States members of WIPO and not members of the WIPO Coordination Committee.
- July 6 and 7 (Geneva)** **Extraordinary Session of the WIPO Coordination Committee**
The Committee will consider the appointment of two Deputy Directors General and advise on certain appointments to Director post.
Invitations: As members, the States members of the WIPO Coordination Committee; as observers, States members of WIPO and not members of the WIPO Coordination Committee.
- July 13 to 17 (Geneva)** **Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (First Session)**
The Committee will consider draft provisions on well-known marks and trademark licenses, and issues relating to trademarks and the Internet, Trademarks and International Non-proprietary Names for Pharmaceutical Substances and Geographical Indications.
Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO and other delegations that the Committee may admit as members; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- July 23 and 24 (Geneva)** **Roundtable on Indigenous Intellectual Property**
The Roundtable will facilitate an exchange of information and views among representatives of indigenous groups and local communities, States members of WIPO and other interested parties on the intellectual property needs and expectations of the holders of traditional knowledge, innovations and culture.
Invitations: the States members of WIPO, representatives of indigenous groups and local communities, intergovernmental organizations, other interested organizations and specially invited experts.
- 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), the States members of WIPO; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- October 5 to 9 (Geneva)** **Preparatory Meeting for the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the Hague Agreement**
This meeting will deal with procedural aspects of the Diplomatic Conference, such as its date and venue, its draft agenda and its draft Rules of Procedure.
Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO; as observers, certain intergovernmental organizations.
- November 2 to 10 (Geneva)** **Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (First Session)**
The Committee will discuss issues concerning the development of copyright and related rights, particularly the implementation of the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, the protection of audiovisual performances, the protection of databases and the protection of the rights of broadcasting organizations.
Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO and other delegations that the Committee may admit as members; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- November 9 (Geneva)** **Panel Discussion on Intellectual Property and Aspects of Economic, Social and Cultural Development**
The Panel Discussion, organized in coordination with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will discuss issues concerning intellectual property rights and aspects of economic, social and cultural development.
Invitations: The States members of WIPO, intergovernmental organizations and certain interested organizations and specially invited experts.
- December 7 to 11 (Geneva)** **Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT) (Second Plenary Session)**
The Committee will discuss policy matters and recommendations made by its Working Groups concerning the establishment of a global information network and its applications, including Intellectual Property Digital Libraries.
Invitations: As members, the States members of WIPO and certain organizations; as observers, other States and certain organizations.
- December 14 and 15 (Geneva)** **Advisory Committee on Management of Copyright and Related Rights in Global Information Networks (First Session)**
The Advisory Committee will review the operation of those electronic copyright management systems (ECMS) and electronic identification systems which exist or are under development.
Invitations: Interested organizations and specially invited experts.

Publications

The following new publications were issued by WIPO in June 1998:

Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, Protocol and Regulations (as in force on January 1, 1998) (English, French), No. 204 (E/F), 15 Swiss francs.

Patent Cooperation Treaty and Regulations (as in force from July 1, 1998) (English, French), No. 274 (E/F), 18 Swiss francs.

The Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs: Objectives, Main Features, Advantages (English), No. 419 (E), Free.

Intellectual Property Reading Material (1998 ed.) (English), No. 476 (E), 50 Swiss francs.

International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks in Swedish (English, Swedish), No. 500.1 (SE), 100 Swiss francs.

International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks in Swedish (English, Swedish), No. 500.2 (SE), 80 Swiss francs.

WIPO International Forum on the Exercise and Management of Copyright and Neighboring Rights in the Face of the Challenges of Digital Technology, Sevilla, May 14 to 16, 1997 (English), No. 756 (E), 30 Swiss francs.

Biennial Conference of the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI) on the Institutional Response to Changing Needs of Users, Geneva, Oct. 24, 1997 (English), No. 759 (E), 20 Swiss francs.

WIPO publications may be obtained from the Information Products Section:

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phone: 41 22 338 91 11
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Orders should indicate: (a) the number or letter code of the publication desired, the language (E for English, F for French, and SE for Swedish), 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.

Notice to readers

WIPO's monthly periodical, *Industrial Property and Copyright*, has undergone the following changes:

- *Industrial Property and Copyright* has been replaced by this, our new monthly publication, *WIPO Magazine*, which covers the main activities of the Organization and provides in-depth articles on areas of interest and concern to the intellectual property community.
- The legislative inserts (*Industrial Property Laws and Treaties and Copyright and Neighboring Rights Laws and Treaties*) which were previously included in *Industrial Property and Copyright*, will be published in a new monthly publication, *Intellectual Property Laws and Treaties*, together with notifications under the treaties administered by WIPO, the list of membership in the said treaties, and advertisements.
- Subscribers to *Industrial Property and Copyright* will receive both of these new publications.

Questions or comments about these changes may be directed to the Office of Global Communications and Public Diplomacy, WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes, P.O. Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20 (Fax: 0041 22 740 1812, e-mail: wipo.mail@wipo.int).