COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)

Twenty-third session
Geneva, 23 to 27 March 2020

Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2019 to implement the outcomes of the WSIS

Submission by

World Intellectual Property Organization

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 23rd session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)
CONTRIBUTION IN 2019 TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF
THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS)

October 31, 2019

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This report has been prepared by the Secretariat of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to provide an update of WIPO's contribution to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) for 2019. WIPO continues to contribute to the development of an inclusive and development-oriented Information Society as set out in the WSIS objectives and the Geneva Plan of Action.

WSIS ACTION LINE ACTIVITIES IN 2019

Action Line C3 "Access to information and knowledge"

The Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled ("Marrakesh VIP Treaty" adopted in June 2013) entered into force on September 30, 2016, and has already 58 contracting parties, covering 85 Member States, since the European Union ratified the Treaty as one bloc. WIPO has continued to work to promote the Treaty and to raise awareness of its provisions targeted at allowing access to information by persons with print disabilities.

In 2014, the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) was launched by WIPO and a group of key partners. It is a multi-stakeholder alliance comprised of organizations that represent people with print disabilities, such as the World Blind Union; libraries for the blind, publishers, authors, and collective management organizations. Its mission is to help implement the objectives of the Marrakesh Treaty.

As of September 2019, ABC has achieved the following milestones:

- More than 540,000 accessible titles are available through the ABC's Global Book Service, a fast growing database of accessible catalogues that are shared across national borders by libraries for the blind.
- 293,000 titles have been loaned to print disabled individuals through participating organizations worldwide.
- 9,300 accessible educational titles have been produced in national languages by way of the ABC's Capacity Building initiative in the past five years, through which ABC provides training and technical assistance in the production and distribution of books in accessible formats in developing countries.

WIPO's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) monitors and reviews developments in international copyright law, and where appropriate, develops new approaches to important issues raised by market and technology developments. In 2018/19, the SCCR continued to discuss limitations and exceptions to copyright, in particular with regard to libraries and archives, educational institutions, and people with disabilities, in order to facilitate access to information and preservation of cultural works. To this end, several studies and information papers have been prepared to guide the discussion and inform the general public.[1]

WIPO organized an International Conference for Least-Developed and Developing Countries on Copyright and the Management of Public Sector Information.[2] This International Conference had the objectives of raising awareness on topics related to public sector information and copyright and providing a forum for discussion and sharing of existing policies implemented by Member States.

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[1] https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=50425
[2] https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/2019/ldcs_nairobi.html

WIPO FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

On-line access to technological information contained in patents to support science, technology and innovation:

WIPO facilitates access to scientific and technical journals and to commercial patent databases through two public-private programs: the Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI)[3] program, which provides access to scientific and technical journals, and the Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI)[4] program, which allows access to commercial patent databases comprising more sophisticated search and analysis tools for retrieving and assessing relevant technology. The ARDI program is also part of the Research4Life[5] partnership, which comprises the following specialized programs from UN partner agencies: the HINARI program of biomedical and health literature from the World Health Organization; the AGORA program of food and agriculture journals from the Food and Agriculture Organization; the OARE program of environmental science journals from the United Nations Environment Programme; and the GOALI program, which was launched last year, with access to legal journals administered by the International Labour Organization. The Research4Life programs provide online access to over 100,000 peer-reviewed international scientific journals, books, and databases from nearly 200 unique publishers to over 9,000 institutions in developing and least developed countries. The ARDI program itself offers access to nearly 39,000 publications to over 1,800 registered institutions. The ASPI program is provided in partnership with seven of the world's leading commercial patent database providers from around the world. The number of institutions registered to access the ASPI program is growing steadily and has increased to over 60 institutions.

Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs)[6] provide the local research and business community with expert assistance in accessing and effectively retrieving technological information from the many online resources such as patent, scientific and technical journal databases and are supported by WIPO through training and awareness raising events. In 2018, a total of 24 national and 3 regional training workshops were carried out in developing countries where the TISC project is being implemented. An interactive e-tutorial on using and exploiting patent information is available both online and on CD-ROM in English, French, Spanish, Russian, while a Chinese version is currently being prepared. Moreover, an eTISC knowledge management platform encourages the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices among TISCs nationally and internationally and has nearly 2,600 members. The eTISC also includes a growing number of specially targeted e-learning modules and webinars.

WIPO continues to improve access of patent information for more informed decision-making through the use of patent landscape reports[7] which describe the patenting and innovation activity in different areas of technology and by providing a unique searchable database including more than 200 publicly available patent landscape reports from various technology areas. Moreover, publications describing tools and improving the skills of users in patent information include: Guidelines for Preparing Patent Landscape Reports[8], a Manual on Free and Open Source Tools for Patent Analytics[9] describing open source tools for patent analytics purposes, as well as a Handbook on Patent Analytics further exploring open source tools, including text mining and machine learning tools.

WIPO also launched a new "Technology Trends" series, which tracks the development of technologies through the analysis of data on innovation activities. The first report examines

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[3] See http://www.wipo.int/ardi/en/
[4] See http://www.wipo.int/aspi
[5] See http://www.research4life.org
[6] See http://www.wipo.int/tisc
[7] For further information see at http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/programs/patent_landscapes/index.html
[8] See http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_946.pdf
[9] See https://wipo-analytics.github.io/

global patenting trends in the area of artificial intelligence and compares patenting activity with scientific publications, identifies top players from industry and academia across different technologies and application fields, highlights the geographical distribution of artificial intelligence (AI) patent protection, and examines existing AI policies and future prospects. The analysis, which is based on patent and scientific data, is complemented by business information as well as contributions from leading AI experts.

The project within the framework of WIPO's Development Agenda, which aims to provide practical support to inventors, researchers and entrepreneurs in identifying and using inventions in the public domain so as to generate new research outputs and products continued in 2018 with the final drafts of the guides produced and training using the guides initiated.

A new project within WIPO's Development Agenda was started last year on technology transfer training by providing a training needs assessment manual and toolkit to be used for key role players, such as funders, developers, managers and users of intellectual property rights, identified during the mapping of a national innovation value chain in four pilot countries. On the basis of this assessment, a report and training programs were produced for each pilot country, where the training is currently being implemented.

In 2018, the WIPO Academy collaborated with TISC authorities by offering its distance learning (DL) courses on patents, patent search and drafting, and IP management to 669 participants from TISCs representing 32 developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

On-line access to information concerning IP laws, regulations and treaties:

The Organization's online intellectual property laws and treaties database, WIPO Lex, was launched in 2010 and continues to provide the most comprehensive, authoritative and reliable source of IP legal information available on the web. The WIPO Lex database contains over 15,250 legal records, covering national IP and IP-related legislation of 199 States and entities, and 784 international treaties on IP matters. WIPO Lex features public interfaces in the six official languages of the UN (English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish).

On-line distance learning courses:

The WIPO e-Learning platform for IP courses at basic and advanced levels offers DL education in over seven languages, through a state-of-the-art online environment. [10] WIPO's rich portfolio of courses on IP caters to different target audiences: inventors and creators, business managers and IP professionals, judges, ministries of education, policy makers and government officials of IP institutions, users of WIPO international registration systems, diplomats, women in science, students and teachers of IP, and civil society.

Courses increasingly combine traditional face-to-face and DL methodologies, through blended learning, to explain how to stimulate innovation, creativity and development. The Academy's blended learning courses include trainings for women in science with the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Programme,* and trainings on teaching IP for the benefit of school teachers and ministries of education under IP4Youth&Teachers. The Academy also tailors its courses to particular target groups. For instance, the Academy offers DL courses

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[10] See the complete WIPO Academy Catalogue for 2016 at:
   http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_467_2016.pdf

on IP for judges in 4 languages, and a DL course on Software Licensing, Including Open Source (DL-511)[11] for legal practitioners and policy makers.

Additionally, the flagship General Distance Learning Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101) was launched in an audio-visually enhanced format in 2019. In an effort to strengthen its competitive advantage in relation to technological transformation that is evident in the IP education landscape, the instructional interface of the DL-101 has been elevated through audiovisual enhancements, live lectures by WIPO experts, interactive displays, memory aids and mobile-accessible content.

The WIPO Academy, in line with the Marrakesh Treaty, has also taken the initiative to offer the DL-101 in accessible format for the visually impaired in all the United Nations languages plus Portuguese. The advanced DL courses will be made available in accessible format in the near future as well.[12]

Action Line C5 "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs"

One of the activities of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (WIPO Center) is to promote a balanced legal framework for the protection of IP in the Internet Domain Name System (DNS). The WIPO Center provides leadership in the development of dispute prevention and settlement, and options to address tensions arising from the unauthorized use of IP, in particular trademarks, in the DNS.[1] Building on its two decades of experience covering some 45,000 domain name-related disputes (covering over 83,000 domain names), the WIPO Center continues to liaise with DNS stakeholders, including trademark owners and representatives, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), and registration authorities. This includes close monitoring of ICANN's planned review of rights protection mechanisms applicable at the top and second levels in new generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs), including the WIPO-created Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). In 2019, the WIPO Center continued to work with administrators of country-code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs) around the globe, expanding its services to include dispute resolution policies for the ".CN" and ".中国" (China) and ".UA" (Ukraine) domains,[2] with electronic, paperless case administration also added in the ".MX" (Mexico) domain.

Action Line C7 "ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life" paragraph 15: E-Government"

IP registration related issues and e-government services:

In order to enhance the efficiency of IP registration related activities and improve e-services provided by IP institutions (e.g. national and regional IP offices) to their stakeholders, WIPO carried out technical assistance to IP Institutions to help them participate effectively in the global IP system. In 2018, 84 IP Offices are receiving such technical and capacity building assistance. Of these, 17 are in LDC countries and two are regional IP institutions, namely the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) and African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) with a total of 36 member states.

The Program's assistance includes technical advice and guidance; needs assessment; mapping of business processes; establishment of online services (online filing and search of IP rights); provision of IP administration software packages customized to specific national requirements; establishment of national and regional IP databases; training of IP institutions

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[11] See https://welc.wipo.int/acc/index.jsf?lang=en
[12] See https://welc.wipo.int/index_en.php
[1] See http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/
[2] See http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/cctld/

staff and knowledge transfer; and integration with global IP systems for patents, trademarks and designs.

Enhancing the use of IP in the software industry in developing countries

In 2019 WIPO launched a new project in the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property aimed at enhancing the use of intellectual property in the software industry. The project seeks to enable developers of mobile applications with knowledge and tools on the use of the various types of intellectual property protection, so that they can protect their creations and generate various sources of income from that. The project will roll out during 3 years and will seek to deliver concrete results in the beneficiary countries. It is meant to produce various tools which could be used in other developing countries and intends to build relationships among mobile app developers in the participating countries.

Action Line C8 "Cultural Diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content"

The WIPO Academy considers the linguistic diversity of its offerings as an important means of making access to IP education and training easier. The DL courses are available in 16 languages, and 13 Member States customized course content to their national contexts.

WIPO has been actively engaged in the WSIS Forum and the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), contributing to the discussions on cultural production, changes in the market and new roles played by users. At the Paris IGF, in December 2018, WIPO contributed to the agenda on Local Content, looking at how a balanced and effective copyright system and media regulation represents a powerful tool to boost the creation and distribution of local content.

Support the IP management of intangible cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs):

In 2019, the WIPO Secretariat continued to extend technical assistance and information in the relevant field to developing countries, countries in transition as well as indigenous peoples and local communities' members. Workshops and/or seminars have been organized among others in Canada, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Myanmar, Samoa, Uganda, Ukraine, Sweden, as well as in Geneva. Those events aimed to provide practical and technical information on key concepts, international, regional and national experiences, policy options, legal mechanisms and tools available or under consideration for the IP protection of TK and TCEs.

Action Line C9: Media

WIPO continued its efforts in 2017 and 2018 to implement the Development Agenda Project on *Strengthening and Development of the Audiovisual Sector in Burkina Faso and certain African Countries.* The Project sought to enhance the understanding and strategic use of the IP system as a key tool to foster production, marketing and distribution in the African audiovisual sector. In addition, the WIPO SCCR continued its discussions on a future treaty to protect broadcast signals against piracy. Radio and TV broadcasters play a critical role in developing and sustaining informed, inclusive and interconnected societies. They are instrumental to the creation and dissemination of a variety of materials, including informational, educational and entertainment content.

WIPO is also supporting an initiative focused on the digital aspects of the audiovisual sector in Latin America. The Development Agenda *Pilot Project on Copyright and the Distribution of Content in the Digital Environment* will provide a clear picture of the extremely dynamic digital audiovisual market in the region. While providing a general view of the whole region, the study focuses on six countries: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and

Uruguay. The study will also provide an analysis of the current public domain of audiovisual works in Latin America, noting the possible interest and challenges in exploring such content online.

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