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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 24th 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 2020 TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF
THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS)

December 11, 2020

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 2020. 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 2020

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. As of December 2020, the Treaty has 76 contracting parties[1], covering 102 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.

The Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) was launched in 2014 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 2020, ABC has achieved the following milestones:

- More than 640,000 accessible titles in 80 languages 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.
- 381,000 titles have been loaned to print disabled individuals through participating organizations worldwide.
- 13,300 accessible educational titles have been produced in national languages by way of the ABC's Capacity Building initiative in the past six 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 2019/20, the SCCR continued to discuss limitations and exceptions to copyright, in particular with regard to libraries and archives, educational and research institutions, and people with disabilities other than those covered in the Marrakesh Treaty, in order to facilitate access to information and preservation of cultural works. To this end, three regional meetings on limitations and exceptions for libraries, archives, museums, and educational and research institutions were held in Singapore, Nairobi, and Santo Domingo, and a conference was held in Geneva, and a report on these activities was presented to the SCCR in November 2020.[2]

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

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[1] See https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/treaties/ShowResults?search_what=N&treaty_id=843
[2] https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=50425;
https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=56053 [redid first link because it went to different page when tested]

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 offers access to legal journals and is administered by the International Labour Organization. The Research4Life programs provide online access to over 119,000 peer-reviewed international scientific journals, books, and databases from nearly 200 unique publishers to over 10,000 institutions in developing and least developed countries. The ARDI program itself offers access to nearly 50,000 publications to over 2,300 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 2019, a total of 30 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 now available as a distance learning course offered by the WIPO Academy in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Chinese. Moreover, the eTISC knowledge management platform, which encourages the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices among TISCs nationally and internationally, has been completely redesigned.

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 nearly 250 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.

The WIPO Technology Trends report[10] is a new flagship publication addressed to industry, academia and policymakers, as well as general readers interested in innovation. Based on patent and non-patent data, it shows trends in different technologies, contextualizing them with case studies, insights and perspectives from leading experts, and policy considerations. The first WIPO Technology Trends report was dedicated to artificial intelligence and

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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/
[10] See https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_1055.pdf

published in January 2019. It was downloaded over 100,000 times in the first year following its publication. The taxonomy and related patent search methodology developed for the report have been adopted by industry leaders, academia and national IP Offices, and the report's AI glossary is a helpful resource for non-specialists.

The WIPO Index of Specialized Patent Information Reports (INSPIRE) platform[11] was launched in 2020. It aims to provide up-to-date and targeted information on patent resources to national patent offices, Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs), as well as to the wider patent information user community, to make informed choices on which patent databases to access and use for patent search, examination and other services. WIPO INSPIRE includes detailed reports on patent databases, a coverage map illustrating the jurisdictions whose patent collections are included in various patent databases, and a comparison tool to allow side-by-side review of patent database content, functionalities and related services.

The Patent Register Portal[12] is a gateway to online patent registers and gazettes and to legal status-related information from over 200 jurisdictions and patent information collections. Information on the Portal can be accessed on a searchable map and table, help files with detailed legal status-related information, and search tips. It is available on the WIPO website where a short video on how to use the portal can be also viewed. During 2019, which was the first full year after its launch, the Portal registered over 42,000 page views and 90,000 downloads of the help files containing detailed legal status-related information and search tips for all available jurisdictions.

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 was completed with the guides published and used in training.

Another project within WIPO's Development Agenda is nearing completion this 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 and training carried out. The manual and toolkit are now being finalized for publication.

In addition, WIPO provides a free of charge database for patents called PATENTSCOPE[13] which allows users to do the following:
- identify if a solution is part of the prior art so as not to waste time and money in developing a product that already exists and is protected by IP rights;
- gather information about the latest technology trends;
- identify potential partners;
- follow competitors' activities; and
- find opportunities for licensing.

PATENTSCOPE includes not only published PCT applications but also patent data from participating national and regional offices. In 2020, the database includes 60 national and regional collections and all published PCT applications for a total number of documents amounting to over 91 million documents. The PATENTSCOPE database also offers unique search features such as the cross-lingual search developed in-house that will not only find

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[11] See https://inspire.wipo.int
[12] See https://www.wipo.int/patent_register_portal/en/index.html
[13] See https://patentscope.wipo.int

synonyms of the search terms but also translate those into 13 languages. In PATENTSCOPE, users can also perform free of charge chemical searches. A translation tool called WIPO Translate was also developed in-house and trained exclusively on patent data using AI. It is available to translate the patent information in many different languages. Searches can be performed in all the languages of the collections available in PATENTSCOPE with unlimited keywords.

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).

In September 2020, the Organization launched WIPO Lex-Judgments, a companion database to WIPO-Lex. WIPO Lex-Judgments, a free database of judicial decisions on IP, contributes to a greater overall understanding of how courts are handling IP issues, by making available judgments - selectively curated by the relevant authorities in participating Member States - that establish precedent or offer a persuasive interpretation of IP law in their jurisdiction. It provides searchable bibliographic details for all indexed decisions, machine translation, dynamic cross-referencing to relevant national and international legal instruments contained in WIPO Lex, and information on the judicial structures for IP disputes.

On-line distance learning courses:

The WIPO e-Learning platform for IP courses offers pedagogically designed courses both at basic and advanced levels in over seven languages, through a state-of-the-art online environment. [14] WIPO's rich portfolio of courses on IP, and related entrepreneurial activities for innovation led economic sectors caters to different target audiences: inventors and creators, SMEs, 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 have become blended, combining traditional face-to-face and DL methodologies, allowing mentoring and coaching to develop skills and to stimulate on the job, and in real time business and innovation projects that participants have identified. 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 creativity and IP for the benefit of school teachers and adoption of national curricula by the ministries of education under IP4Youth&Teachers. The Academy also tailors its courses to particular target groups and national practices with a view to put national trainers in the driver's seat for their local target audience. For instance, the Academy offers courses on IP for judges in 4 languages, and a DL course on Software Licensing, including Open Source (DL-511)[15] for business managers, legal practitioners and policy makers leveling the training that is required for each target group.

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[14] See the complete WIPO Academy Catalogue for 2020 at: h
https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_467_2020.pdf
[15] See https://welc.wipo.int/acc/index.jsf?lang=en

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 this course has been elevated through audiovisual enhancements, live lectures by WIPO experts, interactive displays, memory aids, micro-learning and mobile-accessible content.

The WIPO Academy, in line with the Marrakesh Treaty and the Accessible Books Consortium, has also taken the initiative to offer the DL-101 in accessible format for the visually impaired and print disabled community 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.[16]

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 over 50,000 domain name-related disputes (covering over 91,500 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 review of rights protection mechanisms applicable at the top and second levels in new generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs), including the planned review of 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, in 2020 expanding its services to include dispute resolution policies for the .AC, .CN (and .中国), .IO, .SH, and .UA (including .COM.UA) domains,[2] with electronic, paperless case administration also added in the .CH, .LI, and .MX domains.

The WIPO ALERT database is a secure online platform, hosted by WIPO, through which authorities and government-approved entities can share lists of websites which deliberately infringe copyright. Such illegal websites are largely financed by legitimate advertising, which may have been placed without awareness of the illegal nature of the sites concerned. Advertised brands may suffer damage to brand value by appearing in an illegal context. Consumers may also be misled as to the legal status of sites which show advertisements for reputable brands, but which may harbor malware and unsuitable content. The users of WIPO ALERT are firms operating in the online advertising supply chain, in particular those using programmatic advertising systems to place advertisements online. Through WIPO ALERT, firms can, at the pre-bid stage, automatically check whether the website offering advertising space is listed as deliberately infringing copyright. If it is, the transaction can be halted and the flow of money to illegal operators reduced.

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

IP registration related issues and e-government services:

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[16] 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/

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 2020, 87 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 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 2020 WIPO continued the implementation of the project in the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property aimed at enhancing the use of intellectual property in the software industry. The project focuses on mobile application developers and their needs in terms of using different IP tools for generating income from their creations. During this year 2 tools were developed – on alternative dispute resolution in mobile disputes and on IP issues in mobile app contracts. App developers in three beneficiary countries - Philippines, Kenya and Trinidad and Tobago received training, 2 additional tools are being finalized. Building partnerships and facilitating contacts between developers in the beneficiary countries and developed economies remains an important objective of the project. The project seeks to expand the level of knowledge on intellectual property, but also upgrade practical skills where needed and appropriate.

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

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. In particular, WIPO in 2020 contributed to the IGF Best Practice Forum on Local Content – Local and Indigenous Content in the Digital Space: Protection, Preservation and Sustainability of Creative Work and Traditional Knowledge, by providing inputs for the final BPF output report on that topic and participating in a related panel.

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

In 2020, 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, working mostly in a virtual mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Two webinars in English and Spanish were organized on e-commerce and intellectual property for indigenous peoples and local community entrepreneurs, as well as one webinar on intellectual property opportunities for women entrepreneurs in Africa, a Virtual Workshop benefitting officials from the Kingdom of Eswatini, and an on-line course in Chinese on intellectual property and Genetic Resources, TK and TCEs. Legislative and Policy advice was extended to several countries and one regional organization. Those events and assistance 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 completed the implementation of 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 CDIP launched a similar project on "Strengthening and Development of the Music Sector in Burkina Faso and in Certain African Countries" that will be developed over the next years. In parallel, 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 also undertakes the Development Agenda *Pilot Project on Copyright and the Distribution of Content in the Digital Environment* focusing on the Latin American audiovisual sector. The project provides information and awareness about the audiovisual digital market, the stakeholders, recent trends, and the practical application of copyright rules. While providing a general view of the whole region, the study focuses on six countries: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay. The pilot project also provides a clear picture about the status of audiovisual works in public domain in Latin America, noting the possible interest and challenges in exploring such content online.

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