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Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2025 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 29th 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.

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)
CONTRIBUTION IN 2025 TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF
THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS)

October 30, 2025

Executive Summary

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 2025. WIPO, together with a range of stakeholders, 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. This includes through initiatives and activities that contribute to:

- Action Line C3 "Access to information and knowledge"
- Action Line C5: "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs"
- Action Line C6 "Enabling environment"
- Action Line C7 "ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life"
- Action Line C8 "Cultural Diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content"

Brief Overview

At WIPO our data confirms that digital technologies play an increasingly important role in every aspect of our world. One-third of the over three million patents filed each year now relate to digital technologies, such as AI, quantum computing, cybersecurity, IoT and others, with investment pouring into software and data faster than any other intangible assets.

As countries and enterprises invest in innovation, creativity and digitization, the value of intangible assets like intellectual property (IP), data, know-how and others are becoming increasingly important.

From leading discussions on AI and IP, to providing digital IP tools, WIPO continues to work with all stakeholders and partners to ensure that everyone, everywhere, can benefit from a human-centered IP ecosystem and from the ongoing digital revolution.

WSIS ACTION LINE ACTIVITIES IN 2024

Action Line C3 "Access to information and knowledge"

Access to technological information contained in patents to support science, technology and innovation:

WIPO continued to facilitate access to scientific and engineering publications as well as high quality patent information and search systems through two public-private programs: Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) (<http://www.wipo.int/ardi/en/>), which provides access to scientific and technical journals and Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) (<http://www.wipo.int/aspi>), 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 (<http://www.research4life.org>) 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 (ILO). The Research4Life programs provide online access to over 232,000 peer-reviewed international scientific journals, books, and databases,

from nearly 200 unique publishers to over 12,000 institutions in 125 developing and least developed countries. The ARDI program itself offers access to nearly 32,000 publications.

The ASPI program is provided in partnership with nine of the world's leading commercial patent database providers from around the world. The ASPI registration rate has been steady in recent years, with around 89 institutions now registered to access the ASPI program.

WIPO's Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) provide researchers, inventors, and entrepreneurs with a wide array of IP services, including access to and support in using patent and scientific and technical information. Combining expert skills with state-of-the-art tools enabled TISCs to transform information into insights and insights into impact. Over 1,680 TISCs have been established in 94 countries as of October 2025, handling approximately 2.25 million service requests annually. WIPO supports the development of TISCs by providing them with training, specialized resources, and opportunities for sharing experiences and lessons learned.

In addition, WIPO published the Patent Landscape Report on Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), which examines global patenting activity related to technologies that protect workers' health and safety. The report provides insights into three key innovation areas, accident prediction, detection, and protection technologies, offering policymakers and innovators valuable data to strengthen workplace safety systems. It highlights how patent information can support the development of safer working environments across industries and geographies. (<https://www.wipo.int/web-publications/patent-landscape-report-occupational-health-and-safety-ohs/en/index.html>)

In early 2025, WIPO released WIPO Technology Trends 2025: The Future of Transportation, which explores how technological innovation is reshaping mobility across land, sea, air and space. The report identifies sustainability and digitalization as the two defining megatrends in transportation innovation and provides patent-based evidence of emerging technologies driving cleaner, safer and more connected mobility systems worldwide (<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/technology-trends/future-of-transportation>).

The WIPO (INSPIRE platform (<https://inspire.wipo.int>) is an entry point for information and knowledge on specialized themes in IP, including patent analytics and technology transfer, and on specialized IP tools, notably patent databases and patent registers as sources of patent information and legal status data. It aims to help researchers, inventors, entrepreneurs, and IP professionals develop their knowledge and skills in patent analytics and technology transfer through guides and reference materials and help them select appropriate IP tools for their specific needs, and to use these tools effectively. WIPO INSPIRE also allows IP professionals in countries with developing, emerging and developed markets to interact and share knowledge with each other through the integrated eTISC social media platform. WIPO INSPIRE was accessed by over 56,000 users in the first 10 months of 2025.

Online access to information concerning IP laws, treaties and judgments:

WIPO Lex, the Organization's portal to a global collection of IP laws, treaties and judgments, continues to provide the most comprehensive, authoritative and reliable source of IP legal information available on the web. WIPO Lex currently contains over 20,000 legal entries on IP, covering legislation from 200 States and entities, treaties and judgments.

The Judgments collection, which was launched in September 2020, enhances the offering of WIPO Lex by providing free access to leading judicial decisions related to IP. It now contains some 2,000 indexed decisions from 45 Member States and 4 regional jurisdictions, as well as information on the judicial structures for IP disputes in participating profiles.

WIPO Lex features public interfaces in the six official languages of the UN (English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish) and expands global access to the legal information through availability of automatic machine translation tools, including WIPO Translate.

Availability of books in accessible formats:

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. ABC's goal is to increase the number of books in accessible formats and to distribute these to people around the world who are blind, have low vision, are dyslexic or have mobility impairments that impact their ability to read the printed word ("people who are print disabled"). ABC supports the objectives of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh VIP Treaty) at a practical level.

ABC has achieved the following milestones:

- ABC and its partners celebrated the 200th anniversary of the invention of braille through social media campaigns highlighting its importance for people who are blind or visually impaired. ABC recognizes the role of braille as an important driver of educational and economic success and supports the teaching of braille and the production of embossed and electronic braille. While it is important that people who are blind or visually impaired remain up to date with the latest technological developments, this should not come at the expense of braille literacy.
- The ABC Global Book Service, a library catalogue of over one million accessible format copies of works available for cross-border exchange under the framework of the Marrakesh VIP Treaty, contains over 100,000 braille titles, as well as 17,000 braille music scores.
- ABC hit an important milestone, with a cumulative total of 1.1 million accessible format copies delivered to people with print disabilities through participating ABC Authorized Entities, from ABC's launch in June 2014 until December 31, 2024.
- Through a collaboration with Dolphin Computer Access, a UK-based developer of accessibility software, the ABC Global Book Service catalogue is now included in the Dolphin EasyReader application. EasyReader makes accessible format copies of works available on the preferred devices of people who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled. EasyReader offers a seamless searching, downloading and reading experience from the ABC catalogue within a highly accessible interface. The ABC catalogue in EasyReader is now available through Authorized Entities (AEs) in countries that have joined the Marrakesh VIP Treaty and implemented the provisions of the treaty into national law, provided the Authorized Entity has agreed to ABC's Terms and Conditions.

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

Building Respect for Intellectual Property in ICT:

A number of publications and other resources developed or commissioned by the WIPO Building Respect for IP (BRIP) Division illustrate how technological advancements contribute to both the problem and the solution of online copyright infringement. Most recently, in February 2025, a commissioned "Study on the Effectiveness and the Legal and Technical Means of Implementing Website-Blocking Orders" (document WIPO/ACE/17/13) was published under the aegis of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE). The study examines the effectiveness, and legal and technical bases of website-blocking orders as used

in more than 50 countries, as well as related fundamental rights and practical future approaches, providing a rich overview of site blocking as a dynamic and useful tool for copyright protection.

Recognizing the potential of ICT tools to serve public-private collaborations, the BRIP Division launched WIPO ALERT in 2019 – a secure online platform to which authorized national authorities can upload lists of websites or apps that have been determined to be copyright-infringing under the applicable national legal framework. Authorized users representing the advertising industry can use these aggregated lists to avoid the placement of legitimate advertisements on copyright infringing websites or apps, thereby cutting off a source of financing for pirate operators, while protecting brand reputation and consumer safety. Currently, WIPO ALERT counts 16 Member States as Authorized Contributors; 36 advertisers as Authorized Users; and contains over 26,200 flagged websites. Of these, more than 11,500 are determined to still be “active”, so that they continue to pose a threat to right holders and consumer.

Action Line C6 “Enabling environment”

Forum on Frontier Technologies and IP Policies:

At WIPO, the IP and Frontier Technologies Division facilitates discussion and knowledge building among Member States and other stakeholders on the impact of frontier technologies on IP to support well-informed policy choices. The WIPO Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies is the main strand to that engagement.

The WIPO Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies provides an open, inclusive forum to engage with and facilitate discussion and knowledge building among the widest possible set of stakeholders on the impact on IP of frontier technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI). WIPO generally holds two sessions of the Conversation each year in a format that allows the widest possible global audience to participate. Topics of the Conversation include the uses and applications of frontier technologies to assist IP Offices and IP owners as well as more conceptual policy-based discussions. WIPO Conversation on AI has grown to be a truly global, multilateral and diverse forum bringing together more than 14,000 attendees from over 174 countries.

The Eleventh session of the WIPO Conversation took place on April 23 and April 24, 2025. It explored copyright infrastructure, the unseen system that ensures that creators are compensated and that underlies the workings of the creative industries, and its importance and challenges driven by AI.

The Twelfth session of the WIPO Conversation took place on October 28 and 29, 2025. It explored the legal and policy dimensions of synthetic media, including existing IP approaches, the challenges posed by digitization and AI, recent legislative initiatives, and possible future solutions. This session built on earlier WIPO Conversations on AI training data, AI-generated outputs, and AI and copyright infrastructure.

WIPO AIIL, the AI Infrastructure Interchange, will be launched soon and provide a space for exploring the technical and operational dimensions of copyright infrastructure in the context of AI.

WIPO also provides practical tools and guidance to help navigate IP questions in the new digital world and runs diverse projects in support of inclusive IP and innovation ecosystem. Among others, in 2024 WIPO published the “WIPO Guide to Generative AI and Intellectual Property”, a document that offers practical guidelines to ensure that organizations can take advantage of generative AI while safeguarding their organizations in the long run.

Action Line C7 “ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life”

Supporting ICT applications in IP Institutions:

WIPO carries out technical assistance to help IP Institutions (e.g. national and regional IP offices) (IPIs) participate effectively in the global IP system, enhance the efficiency of their IP registration and adopt their own digital transformation strategies.

Through relevant Programs, the Organization aims at enabling the IPIs to deliver better services to their stakeholders through online services, including search, registry and filing systems, efficient and standardized business process for IP administration and the integration into regional and international IP systems to enable digital exchange of data and documents. It adopts an integrated approach to support the IP office business operations transformation giving an equal emphasis to the technical tools and services it offers but also to the legal and business dimensions at stake in modern IT technologies such as cloud computing, big data analytics and artificial intelligence.

The assistance includes technical advice and guidance; needs assessment; mapping of business processes; establishment of online services for filing and search of IP rights; provision of IP administration software packages customized to specific national requirements (the WIPO IP Office Suite); 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.

By mid-2025, 95 IPIs are actively using one or more of the modules included in the WIPO IP Office Suite: the Industrial Property Administration System IPAS, WIPO File, WIPO Publish. These may be used either together or integrated with other systems. Of these 95 offices, 20 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 impact of the program is measured through IP institution service level indicators covering infrastructure and management, IP administration system usage including electronic main business processes, electronic document management and online services. Knowledge transfer is measured through satisfaction surveys.

With the increasing adoption of Artificial Intelligence by many governments, IP application registration and examination practices and information sharing are rapidly evolving. This is being integrated into WIPO's technical assistance's program.

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

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

WIPO continued to extend technical assistance and information in the relevant field to countries, Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, and cultural institutions.

The WIPO Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program on Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (WEP), continued in 2025. The WEP Program supports women and community entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity related to traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions by strengthening their capacity to make strategic and effective use of IP tools in support of their communities' entrepreneurial activities.

The third global cycle of the WEP Program started in 2023 benefitting 21 Indigenous and local communities' women and their communities. It continued in 2024 and was complemented by additional training in 2025. A regional WEP cycle benefitting 16 Indigenous and local community women entrepreneurs and their communities from eight Pacific Island countries (Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu) was initiated in 2025 with the support of the Australian Government and the WIPO-Australia Funds-In-Trust. Another regional WEP cycle for 20 beneficiaries from Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama, is scheduled to take place in 2025, in cooperation with the Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI). Those three activities benefitted from the cooperation of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the International Trademark Association (INTA).

In the context of the WIPO Community Enterprises Program, assistance for community enterprises from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru wishing to use IP tools strategically was provided in 2024 and continued in 2025 with the support of the WIPO FIT/Japan Industrial Property Global.

The Training, Mentoring and Match-Making Program on Intellectual Property and Traditional Medical Knowledge, aiming at establishing and supporting an innovation ecosystem related to and based on, traditional medical knowledge, initiated in 2023, provided support to traditional healers and other stakeholders from Nigeria and Uganda in 2025, and is scheduled to extend assistance to traditional healers from Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Samoa and The Federated States of Micronesia in 2025.

Traditional healers and practitioners from Sao Tome and Principe benefitted from Training on the Intellectual Property Protection of Traditional Medical Knowledge.

A project aimed to assist and support seven Oma villages in Lao People's Democratic Republic in developing and registering a collective mark for tradition-based products was initiated in 2025 within the framework of the WIPO's Build Back Fund.

An International Symposium on Intellectual Property and Traditional Cultural Expressions – co-organized by WIPO and the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) is scheduled to take place in China in 2025.

On the normative side, negotiations continued on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in the framework of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property, and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the IGC).

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