

# **COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

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## **Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS during the past 20 years**

### **Submission by**

World Intellectual Property Organization

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the CSTD secretariat that will inform the substantive discussion at the CSTD on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS during the past 20 years during its 28<sup>th</sup> annual session in April 2025, in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution E/RES/2023/3, to the CSTD to conduct such substantive discussions and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly.

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**United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development**  
**Twenty years in the implementation of outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)**

Name of organization: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

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**I. What is your organisation's formal role and responsibilities concerning WSIS implementation?**

a. Mandates of your organization relevant to the WSIS implementation

WIPO is an intergovernmental organization and specialized agency of the United Nations, established by the WIPO Convention signed on 14 July 1967, whose mission is to serve the world's innovators and creators, ensuring that their ideas travel safely to the market and improve lives everywhere.

WIPO does so by providing services that enable creators, innovators and entrepreneurs to protect and promote their IP across borders and acting as a forum for addressing cutting-edge IP issues, including on digital technologies, AI and data.

WIPO's IP data and information guide decisionmakers the world over. WIPO impact-driven projects and technical assistance ensure IP benefits everyone, everywhere.

b. Brief History of your organization's contribution to the World Summit on the information Society (WSIS)

IP plays a critical role in a vibrant information society, acting not just as an incentive for new technologies and solutions that can improve our world, but also as a catalyst for new technology jobs, investments and business growth.

From leading discussion on the impact on AI and IP, to providing AI powered IP tools, WIPO worked and will continue to work with all stakeholders to ensure that future advances are to be truly transformative and that they reach and support everyone, everywhere.

WIPO also actively engaged with past World Summits, most recently the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024, as well as other relevant forums and events, such as the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Internet Governance Forum. The organization has also periodically reported on all its relevant activities that contribute to WSIS.

**II. What have been your organization's main contributions to the direct implementation of the WSIS outcomes and related areas of digital development since the Summit, particularly since 2015?**

a. WSIS Action Lines (as lead, co-facilitator or supporting participant) and WSIS-related projects

WIPO, since 2015, in cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders, continued 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, among others, 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”

A detail overview of these initiatives and activities is provided below.

#### Action Line C3 “Access to information and knowledge”

*Online access to technological information contained in patents to support science, technology and innovation:*

Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in developing countries, least developed countries and transition countries play a key role in enabling local innovators to reach their innovation potential. Typically located in patent offices, universities, research centers, and science and technology parks, TISCs enable researchers and inventors to get local support in accessing and using technological information from more than 150 million published patent documents and scores of scientific and technical publications. In recent years, many TISCs have started developing additional innovation support services in patent analytics, technology transfer, IP management and commercialization to adapt to the needs of innovators.

Since the TISC program was launched in 2009, 93 countries have established national TISC networks. There are also four regional TISC networks for member states of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), countries in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CATI-CARD) and certain countries in the Arab region.

Access to scientific and technical journals and to commercial patent databases are facilitated by WIPO through two public-private programs: the Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) (<http://www.wipo.int/ardi/en/>) program which provides access to scientific and technical journals; and the Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) (<http://www.wipo.int/aspi>) 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 (<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).

WIPO continues to improve access of patent information for more informed decision-making through the use of patent landscape reports (<https://www.wipo.int/web/patent-analytics/index>) which describe the patenting and innovation activity in different areas of technology, and by providing an online repository of over 260 publicly available patent landscape reports from

different organizations across various technology areas ([https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/programs/patent\\_landscapes/plrdb.html](https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/programs/patent_landscapes/plrdb.html)). Moreover, publications describing tools and improving the skills of users in patent information include: Guidelines for Preparing Patent Landscape Reports ([http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo\\_pub\\_946.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_946.pdf)), a Manual on Free and Open Source Tools for Patent Analytics (<https://wipo-analytics.github.io/manual/>) describing open source tools for patent analytics purposes, as well as a Handbook on Patent Analytics (<https://wipo-analytics.github.io/handbook/>) further exploring open source tools, including text mining and machine learning tools. The Manual and Handbook were both updated in 2022.

The WIPO Technology Trends series (<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/technology-trends>) is a WIPO 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 published in January 2019 and focused on AI. The second report in the series focused on Assistive Technology to support persons with functional limitations in participating in all aspects of life was published in March 2021. Work is currently ongoing in 2024 in the drafting of a third report in this series on the Future of Transportation.

WIPO has also recently launched newly redesigned and improved patent analytics webpages (<https://www.wipo.int/web/patent-analytics/index>), which include the ability to now publish interactive visualizations as part of the WIPO webpages. WIPO is committed to adapting to the evolving ways people engage with information and data. Static reports no longer suffice in today's data-driven world, and so WIPO's new patent analytics webpages and latest reports include a number of interactive visualizations. These dynamic tools allow readers to delve deeper into the data, discover hidden trends, and gain unique insights. This approach not only promotes transparency but also empowers individuals and organizations to make informed decisions through improved access to the patent information.

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 use these tools effectively. WIPO INSPIRE also allows emerging and established IP professionals to interact and share knowledge with each other through the integrated eTISC social media platform.

The Patent Register Portal (<https://inspire.wipo.int/patent-register-portal>) 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.

WIPO offers numerous guides, handbooks, reference materials, and training materials to support the effective use of IP by researchers, inventors, and entrepreneurs. These resources include the WIPO Guide to Using Patent Information, Identifying Inventions in the Public Domain: A Guide for Inventors and Entrepreneurs, and Using Inventions in the Public Domain: A Guide for Inventors and Entrepreneurs as well as an interactive e-tutorial on using patent information offered as a

distance learning course through the WIPO Academy. The e-tutorial covers the foundations of patent documentation, patent search strategies, and patent analysis and its numerous uses and includes tutorials, scenarios, and exercises to allow learners to expand and test their knowledge.

An interactive e-tutorial on using and exploiting patent information is available as a distance learning course offered by the WIPO Academy in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Chinese. The eTISC knowledge management platform encourages the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices, as well as access to course resources and discussions among TISCs nationally and internationally, has over 1,000 registered users.

*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 19,000 legal entries on IP, covering legislation from 200 States and entities, treaties and judgments.

The Judgments collection, which 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 1,500 indexed decisions from 41 Member States and 4 regional jurisdictions, as well as information on the judicial structures for IP disputes in participating States.

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.

*Access to accessible format books:*

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").

As of August 2024, ABC has achieved the following milestones:

- More than one million titles in 80 languages are available for cross-border exchange, free of clearance formalities under the terms of the Marrakesh Treaty in ABC's Global Book Service, a fast-growing database of accessible catalogues shared across national borders by libraries for the blind.
- The Service, which counted 11 participating Authorized Entities (AEs) in 2014, has now grown to 138 members. More than half of the members are located in developing or least developed countries.
- Participating AEs delivered over 164,000 accessible digital files from the ABC catalogue to persons with print disabilities in 2023.

- In April 2021, ABC launched a new application for beneficiaries, which gives the participating AEs' beneficiary patrons the ability to query and immediately download accessible format copies of titles contained in the ABC catalogue. To date, 43 AEs have agreed to join this initiative. Through this application, more than 425,000 accessible digital files are now available for immediate download by beneficiaries.
- More than 20,000 accessible educational titles have been produced in national languages by way of ABC's training and technical assistance initiatives in the past nine years, through which ABC provided training and technical assistance in the production and distribution of books in accessible formats in over 40 developing or least developed countries.
- the [ABC Online Course on Accessible Publishing Concepts](#), developed together with the DAISY Consortium, was released by ABC in 2022 in four languages (Arabic, English, French and Spanish) as an open, free, self-study course intended for those who want to gain a high-level understanding of critical concepts in accessible publishing.

*CLIP (Creators Learn Intellectual Property // [goclip.org](http://goclip.org)):*

The flagship initiative of the WIPO for Creators consortium, CLIP, short for "Creators Learn Intellectual Property", launched in November 2023. CLIP is dedicated to empowering creators with a deeper understanding of how the creative industries work, what their creators' rights are, and how they can leverage their rights to make informed decisions in their careers. Currently focused on the music sector, CLIP will expand to other creative sectors in the coming years.

Some of CLIP's key accomplishments in its first year, 2024, include:

- Launching CLIP in seven languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.
- Engaging in a creator-to-creator grassroots awareness raising with the CLIP Champions pilot program, through which professional creators have started to promote creators' rights and CLIP in their own countries and regions, in their own languages, and to their own communities.
- Building cross-industry collaboration, as all sides of the music industry are represented in CLIP's Advisory Board, which works together to promote creators' rights through CLIP.

*Supporting Women in STEM:*

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), a project has been initiated in 2021, which aimed at empowering women in STEM careers in the region through effective IP management. The project "*IP Management for Women in STEM Careers in Latin America*" has included 4 editions with a total of 145 participants with biotechnology and ICT backgrounds. The project has been implemented in 9 countries<sup>1</sup> thus far.

The methodology of the Project has included a practical and hands on approach which has included: (i) training on thematic IP areas with a focus on commercialization of inventions and technology; (ii) Speed mentoring and (iii) Individual mentoring of selected participants.

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<sup>1</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay.

A few of the results of the Project<sup>2</sup> have included the conclusion of 21 agreements (incubation, licensing, collaboration), the formulation of 30 IP strategies and business model strategies to support commercialization of technologies, and submission of 11 IP applications by the participants.

In addition, a number of projects<sup>3</sup> which support women entrepreneurs to use IP have included training modules on e-commerce and navigating the digital marketplace and online sales techniques.

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

*Building Respect for Intellectual Property in ICT:*

In 2019, WIPO launched the WIPO ALERT database, a secure, free of charge platform that enables government entities to share lists of copyright-infringing websites (i.e., “pirate websites”) with advertising industry stakeholders. These lists are typically generated from website blocking actions initiated under national law. WIPO ALERT embodies a “follow-the-money” strategy with the objective of combatting digital piracy by defunding the operators of pirate websites through collaboration between the private and public sectors.

The misplacement of legitimate advertising on pirate websites represents a significant source of revenue for operators of such pirate websites, and thereby helps to enable their continued criminal activity. Pirate website operators are attracted by the significant revenue generated by digital advertising. At the same time, the rise of programmatic advertising has made it increasingly difficult to prevent the inadvertent placement of advertising on pirate sites, as advertising decisions are automated without awareness of the illegal nature of the destination sites. As a result, brands advertised on these sites may suffer damage to their value and reputation by association with criminal activity. Consumers are also at risk, as they may be misled by pirate websites displaying advertisements for reputable brands, which could contain malware or inappropriate content, posing risks to users' security and privacy.

By sharing data on infringing websites with advertising industry actors and allowing these firms to automatically incorporate this data in their ad placement process, WIPO ALERT serves as a significant tool in preventing these transactions from occurring. Further, the global public-private partnership overcomes the territorial limitations of traditional legal tools, as enforcement of copyright is generally confined to national borders, making cross-border enforcement challenging, and enhances information-sharing, dialogue and cooperation.

A number of publications and other resources developed or commissioned by the Building Respect for Intellectual Property (BRIP) Division illustrate how technological advancements contribute to both the problem and the solution of online copyright infringement, leading to initiatives such as WIPO ALERT:

1. In September 2019, the WIPO ALERT initiative was presented to WIPO Member States at the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) with the document entitled “The Building Respect for Intellectual Property Database Project” (document WIPO/ACE/14/9)<sup>4</sup> jointly with another document “Initiatives to prevent paid-

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<sup>2</sup> All projects are developed with integrated KPIs which measure indicators such as knowledge gained, and collaboration agreements signed.

<sup>3</sup> Bangladesh in the Asia Pacific region and Egypt in Arab region.

<sup>4</sup> See [www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo\\_ace\\_14/wipo\\_ace\\_14\\_9.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo_ace_14/wipo_ace_14_9.pdf)

advertising on copyright infringing websites” (document WIPO/ACE/14/10/REV.)<sup>5</sup> which outlines the “follow-the-money” approach adopted at the national level by two WIPO Member States (Italy and the Republic of Korea) and at institutional or regional level by the European Union with the primary scope of preventing copyright-infringing websites from earning revenue through legitimate paid advertising.

2. In August 2022 “The Role of the Domain Name System and its Operators in Online Copyright Enforcement” was commissioned within the framework of the WIPO Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) (document WIPO/ACE/15/7)<sup>6</sup>. The study explores the role of the domain name system in enforcing online copyright.
3. Most recently, in January 2024, two additional studies were published under the aegis of the ACE. The first, “The Localization of Intellectual Property Infringements in the Online Environment – From Web 2.0 to Web 3.0 and the Metaverse” (document WIPO/ACE/16/10)<sup>7</sup>, examines the legal challenges posed by the internet’s borderless nature versus the territorial limitations of legal rights. The second study, “Technical, Legal and Judicial Aspects of the Illegal Retransmission of Live Broadcasts Through Internet Streaming” (document WIPO/ACE/16/13)<sup>8</sup>, addresses the threat of illegal streaming to the economic sustainability of the broadcasting and entertainment industries and the rights of content creators. These documents provide a rich overview of the current landscape and challenges in online copyright enforcement.

#### 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 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. Over the last 5 years, almost 9,000 people have participated in the WIPO Conversation, from 172 countries.

In April 2024 the Ninth Session of the WIPO Conversation took place which provided a platform for deep exploration, aiming to understand the multifaceted relationship between training data and IP. By evaluating current practices, proposing practical solutions, and envisioning future

<sup>5</sup> See [www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo\\_ace\\_14/wipo\\_ace\\_14\\_10\\_rev.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo_ace_14/wipo_ace_14_10_rev.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> See [www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/mdocs/en/wipo\\_ace\\_15/wipo\\_ace\\_15\\_7.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/mdocs/en/wipo_ace_15/wipo_ace_15_7.pdf). The study was made possible by Funds-in-Trust provided by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea.

<sup>7</sup> See [www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo\\_ace\\_16/wipo\\_ace\\_16\\_10.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo_ace_16/wipo_ace_16_10.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> See [www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo\\_ace\\_16/wipo\\_ace\\_16\\_13.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/enforcement/en/wipo_ace_16/wipo_ace_16_13.pdf)



directions, this session fostered a holistic understanding of the impact of training data on the IP landscape.

The Tenth session of the WIPO Conversation will take place on November 5 and 6, 2024. The topic of the session is AI Output: To protect, or not to protect – that is the IP question. The event will explore the current copyright landscape and ask where does AI fit in.

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 AI.

The assistance includes technical advice and guidance; needs assessment; mapping of business processes; establishment of on line 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-2024, 91 IPIs are actively using the 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 91 offices, 18 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 AI by many governments, IP application registration and examination practices and information sharing is rapidly evolving. This must be 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 has extended technical assistance and information in the relevant field to countries, Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, and cultural institutions.

Of significant importance, the WIPO Community Enterprises Program, comprising the WIPO Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program on Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (WEP) established in 2019, has assisted women entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities to make effective use of IP tools in support of their communities’ entrepreneurial activities. Over 100 entrepreneurs from 63 countries have benefited from the program so far.

On the normative side, as a result of negotiations that formally started in 2009, a WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge was adopted by all WIPO Member States on May 24, 2024.

In addition to a patent disclosure requirement, the Treaty suggests the establishment of information systems (such as databases) of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, subject to certain conditions. One or more technical working groups on information systems may be established to address any relevant matters, after the Treaty comes into force.

As a significant component of its activities in the relevant field, the WIPO Secretariat issued an online survey on information systems, registers and databases of genetic resources (GRs), traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs). The Secretariat also organized virtual technical meetings on information systems, registers and databases of GRs, TK and TCEs, whose objectives were to analyze and discuss the technical and practical issues relating to such information systems.

Negotiations will continue on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.

b. Indicators used to measure the impact of ICT in the achievement of the SDGs in your organization’s area of work

As indicated in WIPO’s Program of Work and Budget, each Sector of the organization contributes to a number of the SDGs, and the nature of development work cuts across all of the Strategic Pillars.

The contribution and impact of WIPO’s work in the achievement of the SDGs is measured through substantive performance indicators which aim to measure the outcome of the initiatives, services or projects. In so far as ICT is a key enabler for many areas of WIPOs work, it is not an outcome as such. As a result, the impact of ICT in the achievements of the SDGs is not measured as a stand-alone. The invaluable contribution of ICT is subsumed within the substantive performance indicator.

Implementation of the SDGs by WIPO is reviewed by WIPO Member States through the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP).

c. What assessment has your organization made of its engagement in WSIS-related work and digital development in its areas of responsibility?

WIPO worked and will continue to work with all stakeholders to advance digital developments and WSIS-related ambitions. Ranging from leading discussions on AI and IP, to providing AI powered IP tools or supporting digital entrepreneurs on the ground, the Organization delivered a range of impactful initiatives and activities.

**III. What does your organization see as the main achievements, problems and emerging issues arising from WSIS and from digital development in its areas of responsibility since the Summit, particularly since 2015?**

Recognizing the transformative power of digital technologies, WIPO has played a significant role in shaping the digital landscape, particularly in its mandate of IP. WIPO's work has contributed to building an inclusive and development-oriented information society, bridging digital divides, and supporting the attainment of the SDGs. Among others, WIPO has facilitated a global conversation on the intersection of AI and IP, enabling the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and policy perspectives among diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, innovators, and experts.

a. What have been the main achievements of WSIS and digital development?

WIPO has successfully fostered global awareness and dialogue on the implications of AI for IP through the WIPO Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies. The WIPO Conversation started in 2019 and has emerged as a leading platform for discussing AI and IP, engaging over 10,000 participants from 172 countries. This initiative has grown into a leading forum, attracting a wide range of participants from diverse countries and backgrounds to discuss critical topics such as AI inventorship, copyright implications of AI-generated outputs, and the role of data in AI development.

WIPO has developed practical tools and guides to assist policymakers and innovators in navigating the evolving landscape of AI and IP. These resources include the AI Policy Toolkit, which provides a framework for understanding the state of play for AI and patents, and the practical guide on Generative AI, which offers guidance on mitigating IP issues and risks associated with this technology. The widespread access and use of these tools demonstrate their value in supporting informed decision-making and fostering responsible AI innovation.

WIPO has implemented targeted projects to support AI development and bridge digital divides in developing countries. These projects, such as the "Intellectual Property (IP) and Artificial Intelligence (AI): Empowering AI Innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean" and the "AI and IP Management Clinics in the Arab Region," provide training, mentoring, and capacity-building opportunities to empower local communities and entrepreneurs to harness the potential of AI. These initiatives align with the WSIS goal of using ICTs for inclusive and sustainable development.

b. What problems, obstacles and constraints have been encountered?

WIPO acknowledges the complexities and challenges inherent in promoting digital development, especially in the context of rapidly evolving frontier technologies like AI. These challenges call for continuous adaptation and innovation to ensure that the IP system effectively supports innovation, creativity, and inclusivity in the digital age. The organization works closely

with its member states and other stakeholders to address these challenges and harness the transformative potential of digital technologies for the benefit of all.

While the digital revolution has opened new possibilities, keeping pace with the rapid evolution of AI and other frontier technologies poses a significant challenge. The speed at which these technologies develop makes it difficult to adapt existing IP frameworks to address their unique characteristics. WIPO's work in this area involves ongoing monitoring and analysis of emerging trends, as well as proactive engagement with member states and stakeholders to develop responsive solutions.

The rise of generative AI has created new challenges for copyright law. Determining the ownership and protection of AI-generated outputs is a complex issue with implications for incentivizing both human creativity and AI innovation. WIPO's ongoing Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies, particularly the sessions focused on generative AI, provides a platform for discussing these issues and exploring potential solutions.

Bridging the digital divide remains a critical obstacle to ensuring equitable access to the benefits of AI. Many developing countries lack the necessary infrastructure, resources, and expertise to fully participate in the AI revolution. Ensuring equitable access to the benefits of AI technology and preventing its concentration in the hands of a few is a crucial challenge. WIPO acknowledges the need to address these concerns, especially as AI activity is concentrated in the world's largest economies. WIPO's projects aimed at empowering AI innovation in developing regions, such as the Latin America and Caribbean initiative, are crucial steps towards addressing this challenge.

c. What new opportunities and challenges have emerged over the years since WSIS which need to be addressed?

Looking ahead, WIPO will continue to identify key opportunities to leverage digital technologies to shape a more inclusive and innovative future. The organization's work will continue to focus on fostering a balanced and effective IP ecosystem that promotes both human creativity and AI innovation, bridges digital divides, and contributes to the attainment of the SDGs.

WIPO's role in shaping the future of digital development is increasingly important, especially in the context of emerging technologies.

Integrating AI into IP administration presents both opportunities for efficiency gains and challenges in ensuring equitable access for all IP offices. WIPO needs to continue supporting the development and deployment of AI-based tools for IP offices while addressing the risk of a new digital divide between resource-rich and resource-constrained offices.

The evolving landscape of generative AI necessitates ongoing exploration of IP implications and the development of appropriate legal frameworks. WIPO should continue facilitating discussions on the protection of AI-generated outputs, the role of training data, and the balance between protecting human creators and innovators and fostering AI innovation.

As AI technology becomes increasingly integrated into various sectors, ensuring its ethical and responsible use is paramount. WIPO will continue to promote the development of international guidelines and best practices to protect of human innovation and creation and promote traditional knowledge.

#### **IV. Lessons learned in the implementation of the Summit outcomes in your organisation's specific areas of responsibility**

Among the lessons learned, especially in relation to AI and frontier technologies in the IP field, the following takeaways could be mentioned:

- It is key to engage a broad range of stakeholders. The success of the WIPO Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies highlights the importance of collaboration and knowledge sharing between the public and private sector and between law and the tech industry. The diverse participation in this forum has enabled a comprehensive exploration of complex issues related to AI and IP, fostering a collective understanding and contributing to the development of informed policy recommendations.
- WIPO's development of practical tools and guides, like the AI Policy Toolkit and the guide on Generative AI, has proven to be highly effective in supporting policymakers and innovators. These resources, accessed over 30,000 times, demonstrate the demand for clear and actionable guidance on navigating the complexities of AI and IP. This suggests that bridging the knowledge gap through accessible resources is a critical component of fostering responsible AI innovation.
- The evolving nature of technology necessitates continuous adaptation. The rapid evolution of AI and frontier technologies requires WIPO to remain agile and responsive. The organization's proactive approach, which includes ongoing monitoring, research, and engagement with stakeholders, is essential for adapting existing IP frameworks and developing new tools and resources to address emerging challenges and opportunities.

#### **V. Observations or recommendations concerning the future of WSIS and digital development, taking into account the outcomes of the Summit of the Future in September 2024**

The power of human invention, innovation and creativity will be essential in building a more resilient, prosperous and sustainable future. This will require transforming what IP means to the world.

While in the past, IP was viewed as only relevant to the largest corporations in industrialized countries, this is changing. 70% of global IP filings now come from Asia, Africa, and Latin America. At the same time, when more countries use digitalization, entrepreneurship, research and technology to drive growth, IP is shifting from a technical area of interest only to experts to an increasingly important cornerstone of economic and trade policy, and a catalyst for growth and development.

IP is not just about technical IP laws, but also a catalyst for progress, opportunity, and sustainability. WIPO will continue to work with everyone to harness the power of innovation and creativity to support the aims of the Summit of the Future and WSIS.

#### **VI. Please identify publications, reports and other documents by your organisation which you consider can contribute to the work of the review.**

Getting the Innovation Ecosystem Ready for AI An IP policy toolkit:

<https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo-pub-2003-en-getting-the-innovation-ecosystem-ready-for-ai.pdf>

WIPO IP and Frontier Technologies Factsheet

[https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/about-ip/en/frontier\\_technologies/pdf/frontier-tech-6th-factsheet.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/about-ip/en/frontier_technologies/pdf/frontier-tech-6th-factsheet.pdf)

AI Inventions Factsheet

<https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo-pub-rn2023-11-en-ai-inventions.pdf>

Metaverse Factsheet

<https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo-pub-rn2023-31-en-metaverse.pdf>

WIPO Conversations on Frontier Technologies

[https://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/frontier\\_technologies/frontier\\_conversation.html](https://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/frontier_technologies/frontier_conversation.html)

Recommendations on ICT and IP Administration

[https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/cws/en/cws\\_12/cws\\_12\\_22.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/cws/en/cws_12/cws_12_22.pdf)

Patent Landscape Report - Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)

[https://www.wipo.int/web-publications/patent-landscape-report-generative-artificial-intelligence-genai/assets/62504/Generative%20AI%20-%20PLR%20EN\\_WEB2.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/web-publications/patent-landscape-report-generative-artificial-intelligence-genai/assets/62504/Generative%20AI%20-%20PLR%20EN_WEB2.pdf)