

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Eleventh Session
Geneva, December 4 to 8, 2023

WORK PROGRAM AND TASK LIST OF THE CWS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. At its tenth session in 2022, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) approved the revised list of Tasks, as presented in Annex IV of document CWS/10/22. No Task was discontinued, two Tasks revised, and a new Task created at the tenth session.
2. At its tenth session, the CWS noted that its activities and WIPO Standards are relevant to the WIPO Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) under Pillar 2:

“Bring people together and partner with stakeholders to shape the future of the global IP ecosystem”, and more specifically under Pillar 2.1: “Development of balanced and effective international normative frameworks for IP”.

3. The CWS also noted the Recommendations of the Report on Evaluation of WIPO Standing Committees, in particular Recommendation 3 relating to the CWS and its closing criteria, which are reproduced below:

Closing criteria

“3d. For CWS to carry out an annual review of the workload of its Task Forces (active and dormant) and determine the priorities for the next year in agreement with Member States and to actively encourage a broader participation of Member States in its Task Forces”

Actions

“Secretary will guide the CWS to invest more time to review workload and agree on priorities for the following year. Secretary will issue a circular and closely work with regional bureaus to encourage Offices to participate in CWS Task Forces.”

(See paragraph 7 of document CWS/10/3.)

4. At the same session, to address Recommendation 3, the CWS discussed the prioritization of its Tasks in light of questions and action points that the Secretariat detailed in paragraphs 11 to 14 of document CWS/10/3. The CWS requested the Secretariat to work with the CWS Task Force Leaders to prepare a survey questionnaire for determining the preferences of Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) in prioritizing Tasks for presentation at the eleventh session of the CWS. (See paragraphs 26 to 28 of document CWS/10/22).

5. At the same session, the CWS agreed that each Task Force identify objectives and relevant actions for the year and measure progress against those objectives at each annual meeting. The CWS requested that the Secretariat provide a common template for Task Force reporting the progress on CWS Tasks that is presented at quarterly meetings of all Task Forces. The Secretariat agreed to work with the Task Force Leaders to prepare the common template and organize the quarterly Task Force update meetings. (See paragraph 30 of document CWS/10/22).

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITES OF CWS WORK PROGRAM

6. Since the tenth session of the Committee, the CWS Task Forces have worked under the framework of the CWS Tasks which form the Work Program, approved at the tenth session of the CWS. There are 24 Tasks defined in the Task List, where 19 Tasks are assigned to a specific Task Force and five Tasks are not.

7. As the CWS requested, all active CWS Task Forces met quarterly to review and update their objectives in March, June and September, where all their members and observers were invited. The participants noted the progress on the Tasks that Task Force Leaders reported using the template that the Secretariat prepared, in consultation with the Task Force Leaders. The template defines:

- Objectives;
- Relevant actions for 2023 and the upcoming year;
- Potential challenges or dependencies; and
- Progress evaluation.

8. In order to support the organization and support of Task Force Members, the Secretariat circulated the “WIPO Standards Related Meetings Calendar for 2023” as Circular C.CWS 165 in early 2023, along with relevant online meeting invitations.

9. At this session, 12 Task Forces provided their report on the activities and progress they made on their assigned Task(s) since the last session of the CWS. Progress on Tasks which no specific Task Force is assigned to are provided in the Annex to the present document.

Current Tasks List

10. The Secretariat has prepared a new revised Task List for consideration by the CWS, as presented in the Annex to the present document. For each Task, the Annex includes the following information:

- Task description;
- Task leader or Task Force leader;
- Scheduled actions to be carried out;
- Remarks; and,
- Where appropriate, proposals for consideration and decision by the CWS.

11. The list of current active Tasks is published on the WIPO website at: <https://www.wipo.int/cws/en/work-program.html>. CWS Task Forces and related documentation are available on the website at: <https://www.wipo.int/cws/en/taskforce/index.html>. This information will be reviewed and updated after the eleventh session to reflect any agreements that the CWS reaches. The International Bureau will publish an updated CWS Work Program Overview on the WIPO website under <https://www.wipo.int/cws/> after the session.

PROPOSALS FOR UPDATING WORK PROGRAM

Merging of XML Standards related Tasks

12. At the tenth session of the CWS, one delegation asked whether Tasks No. 38 and No. 39 could be closed, since Task No. 33 already covers revisions of existing Standards, which would include any necessary revisions to WIPO ST.36 and WIPO ST.66. The Secretariat noted the proposal and suggested that each Task Force review the list of Tasks and recommend any necessary changes to the Work Program at the next session of the CWS.

13. The International Bureau, as the Leader of XML4IP, ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 Task Forces, consulted the members of the four XML Task Forces about how to consolidate XML related standardization activities and streamline efforts to manage the update of WIPO XML Standards ST.36, ST.66, ST.86 and ST.96. It should be noted that while there were no proposed revisions for WIPO Standards ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 for a long time, those Standards are still in use at many IP offices.

14. As the result of the consultation, the International Bureau proposes:

- To transfer the responsibility for the maintenance of WIPO Standards ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 to the XML4IP Task Force;
- In order to reflect this new responsibility for the XML4IP Task Force, to amend the description of Task No. 41: “Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standards ST.36, ST.66, ST.86 and ST.96; and support the implementation of those Standards” (where the newly added text is underlined); and
- To discontinue the CWS Tasks No. 38 (ST.36), No.39 (ST.66) and No.42 (ST.86) and the corresponding three Task Forces: ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 Task Forces.

New Task on the Implementation of WIPO Standard ST.37

15. Since the adoption of WIPO Standard ST.37 at the fifth session of the CWS, 30 Offices have provided their patent authority files to the International Bureau and these are published on the WIPO Authority File portal. The number of participating organizations should be considered in light of the PATENTSCOPE database, which contains patent document collections from 75 Offices.

16. Taking into account the agreements made by the PCT Minimum Documentation Task Force to provide a WIPO ST.37-compliant authority file, in addition to their digitized patent collection, as well as the known benefits of patent authority files in validating these types of collections, the International Bureau proposes the creation of a new Task to encourage IP offices to provide their patent authority file in compliance with WIPO ST.37 to the International Bureau. A detailed proposal for the creation of this new Task is available in document CWS/11/15.

Work arrangement for WIPO Handbook Part 6 Update

17. At its tenth session, the CWS noted the activities and the plan of the International Bureau to the update of WIPO Handbook including the update of Part 6.1 of WIPO Handbook: “*Recommended minimum contents for intellectual property offices’ websites*” (see document CWS/10/ITEM 21 IB). The update of WIPO Handbook Part 6 is currently managed by the Digital Transformation Task Force under the framework of Task No. 62, the description of which reads:

“Review WIPO Standards: ST.6, ST.8, ST.10, ST.11, ST.15, ST.17, ST.18, ST.63 and ST.81, and WIPO Handbook Part 6, in view of electronic publication of IP documentation; and propose revisions of those Standards and materials if needed.”

18. The Public Access to Patent Information (PAPI) Task Force has been working on publicly available patent information which is relevant to Part 6, under Task No. 52, the description of which reads:

“Prepare recommendations for systems for providing access to publicly available patent information of industrial property offices”

19. Since several Tasks are assigned to the Digital Task Force and no concrete activity is undertaken by the PAPI Task Force, the International Bureau, as the Leader of the PAPI Task Force, in consultation with the Leader of the Digital Transformation Task Force, the United State Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), proposes to transfer the responsibility of updating Part 6 of WIPO Handbook to the PAPI Task Force from the Digital Transformation Task Force.

20. The revisions to the descriptions of Task No. 52 and Task No. 62 are proposed in the reports by the respective Task Forces. Further details on these proposals are available in documents CWS/11/12 and CWS/11/11 respectively.

Review of Task No. 24 – Annual Technical Reports

21. At its ninth session, the CWS agreed to use a simplified ATR process for a period of three years and then determine whether or not to discontinue ATR collection (see paragraphs 97 to 105 of document CWS/9/25). IPOs were invited to provide their 2022 ATRs via three Circulars C.CWS 166, 167 and 168 and this is the second year of implementing the simplified ATR process. At its twelfth session, the CWS will consider and decide whether or not ATR collection will be continued.

22. It should be noted that 24 Offices provided their 2022 ATRs while 17 Offices participated in 2021 ATRs during 2022. Further detail regarding specific numbers for each IP Right type is provided in the table below:

ATR Type	2022 activites	2021 activities
Industrial Designs Information	18	15
Patent Information	17	17
Trademark Information	18	15

PROPOSAL FOR TASK PRIORITIZATION SURVY QUESIONNAIR

23. As requested by the CWS at the last session, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the leaders of its Task Forces, has prepared a draft survey questionnaire for determining the preferences of IPOs in how to prioritize Tasks in the CWS work program. The proposed questionnaire is presented for consideration by the CWS as document CWS/11/6.

24. *The CWS is invited to:*

(a) note the content of the present document;

(b) approve the merging of Task No. 38, Task No. 39 and Task No. 42 into Task No. 41; the proposal for update of the description of Task No.41, which will be continually assigned to the XML4IP Task Force; and the discontinuation of the ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 Task Forces as proposed in paragraph 14 above;

(c) consider and approve transferring the responsibility of updating Part 6 of WIPO Handbook from the Digital Transformation Task Force to the PAPI Task Force as proposed in paragraph 19 above;

(d) consider the Task List as presented in the Annex to this document taking into consideration of the recommendation by the Evaluation Report, including the implication of workload of the Task Forces for the coming year for the Member States and WIPO Secretariat, as indicated in paragraph 10 above; and

(e) approve the Secretariat to incorporate the agreements, reached at this session in the CWS Work Program and the CWS Work Program Overview and publish them on WIPO website as described in paragraph 11 above.

[Annex follows]

WORK PROGRAM AND TASK LIST OF THE COMMITTEE ON WIPO STANDARDS (CWS)

TASK NO. 18

1. *Description:*

Identify areas for standardization relevant to the exchange of machine-readable data on the basis of projects envisaged by such bodies as the Five IP Offices (IP5), the Five Trademark Offices (TM5), the Industrial Design 5 Forum (ID5), ISO, IEC and other well-known industry standard-setting bodies.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

(a) The International Bureau should coordinate reporting on developments relating to standardization and/or the presentation of proposals to the CWS as necessary.

(b) The International Bureau has noted the discussion on allowable features in drawings of patent documents among the Five IP Offices (IP5). Further information on the IP5 initiative is available at: https://www.fiveipoffices.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/IP5_Allowable%20Features%20in%20Drawings_20230331_revised.pdf. This discussion seems relevant to the CWS consideration for a possible development of a new standard on drawings in patent documents in line with WIPO Standard ST.67 (figurative elements of trademark) and WIPO Standard ST.88 (representation of industrial designs). Therefore, the International Bureau will participate in the discussion and will report a progress to the CWS in due course.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) Task No. 18 is of an informative nature and a continuing activity (see paragraph 122 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

(b) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, revised the description of Task No. 18 to include two new references, i.e., the Five Trademark Offices (TM5) and the Industrial Design 5 Forum (ID5) (see paragraph 112 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

(c) The CWS, at its fifth session, created a new Task No. 56 regarding machine to machine communications.

(d) The CWS, at its eighth session, adopted WIPO Standard ST.90 on Recommendations for processing and communicating intellectual property data using Web APIs (Application Programming Interfaces).

TASK NO. 24

1. *Description:*

Collect and publish Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) on Patent, Trademark and Industrial Design Information Activities of the CWS Members (ATR/PI, ATR/TM, ATR/ID).

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The International Bureau to collect and publish ATRs for reporting year 2022 using the simplified process approved at CWS/9. The results of 2022 ATRs to be reported to the eleventh session of the CWS.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) Task No. 24 is of an informative nature and a continuing activity (see paragraph 122 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

(b) The CWS, at its first session, approved the revised recommended contents of ATRs on patent, trademark, and industrial design information activities as reproduced in Annexes I, II, and III to document CWS/1/8, respectively. The said revised contents have been used since the year 2014 (i.e., since the ATRs/2013) (see paragraphs 47 to 49 of document CWS/1/10).

(c) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, noted the oral report regarding the ATRs submitted for the year 2014 (see paragraph 110 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

(d) Detailed information on ATRs and copies of the collection of ATRs provided by IPOs in electronic form since 1998 to present are available in the ATR wiki at:
<https://www3.wipo.int/confluence/display/ATR/Annual+Technical+Reports+Home>.

(e) The CWS, at its fifth session, noted a report on the progress of Task No. 24 (see document CWS/5/18).

(f) The CWS, at its sixth session, noted an oral report on the progress of Task No. 24 (see paragraphs 183 and 184 of document CWS/6/34).

(g) At its seventh session, the CWS requested that the International Bureau present a proposal to improve ATRs at the eighth session (see paragraphs 205 to 208 of document CWS/7/29).

(h) At its ninth session, the CWS agreed to use a simplified ATR process for three years and then consider again whether or not to discontinue ATR collection (see paragraphs 97 to 105 of document CWS/9/25).

(i) At its tenth session, the CWS noted a report regarding the number of simplified ATR submissions.

TASK NO. 33

1. *Description:*

Ongoing revision of WIPO Standards.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau: the CWS will further consider the appointment of Task Leaders upon specific requests for the revision of standards.

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The revision of WIPO Standards is considered an ongoing activity.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) Task No. 33 is of an informative nature and a continuing activity (see paragraph 122 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

- (b) The CWS, at its third session, noted that the second paragraph of the revised entry for SPC in the Glossary of terms concerning industrial property information and documentation (the Glossary) published in Part 8.1 of the WIPO Handbook, concerning the extension of a SPC for medicinal products for pediatric use, could be broadened in scope in a future revision of Standard ST.9 if it was considered necessary (see paragraph 28 of document CWS/3/14).
- (c) The CWS, at its third session, on the basis of a proposal regarding Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPC) presented by the German Patent and Trademark Office, adopted a revision of WIPO Standard ST.9 and approved the revision of the entry on SPC in the Glossary (see document CWS/3/3 and paragraphs 23 to 27 of document CWS/3/14).
- (d) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, approved the revision of WIPO Standard ST.60 (see paragraphs 60 to 65 of document CWS/4BIS/16).
- (e) The CWS, at its sixth session, considered a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.60 (see document CWS/6/20); and a report on recommended date formats in various WIPO Standards prepared by the International Bureau (see document CWS/6/21). The proposed revisions to ST.60 were approved by the CWS, and agreed to keep date formats unchanged (see paragraphs 129 to 130 and 133 to 135 of document CWS/6/34). The proposed revisions to ST.60 were approved by the CWS, and agreed to keep date formats unchanged (see paragraphs 129 to 130 and 133 to 135 of document CWS/6/34).
- (f) At its seventh session, the CWS considered a proposal to split INID code 551 of WIPO ST.60 and referred the matter back to the Trademark Standardization Task Force for further consideration (see paragraphs 161 to 162 of document CWS/7/29).
- (g) At its ninth session, the CWS approved making future revisions to ST.37 under Task No. 33 when needed (see paragraph 71 of document CWS/9/25).

TASK NO. 33/3

1. *Description:*

Ongoing revision of WIPO Standard ST.3.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 is considered an ongoing activity.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) Task No. 33/3 is of an informative nature and a continuing activity (see paragraph 122 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

(b) On the basis of the change in the ISO Online Browsing Platform published by the Maintenance Agency for International Standard ISO 3166, the International Bureau changed the country name Cape Verde to Cabo Verde (English name) and Cap-Vert to Cabo Verde (French name) in Annex A to WIPO Standard ST.3; the two-letter code CV and the Spanish name (Cabo Verde) remained unchanged. The International Bureau informed IPOs and CWS Members about the changes on March 5, 2014.

- (c) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, approved the revision of ST.3 in adding the new two-letter code "XX" and noted the revision of ST.3 in adding the new two-letter code "XV" for the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) and changing the name of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) to the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) (see paragraphs 94 to 98 of documents CWS/4BIS/16).
- (d) The CWS, at its sixth session, noted the information regarding the revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 (see document CWS/6/5).
- (e) In 2019, the International Bureau prepared and circulated a draft amendment of WIPO Standard ST.3 in which the two letter code "EU" was incorporated for consultation following the established procedure for revision. The revision was approved by the seventh session of the CWS.
- (f) At its seventh session, the CWS agreed to bring WIPO Standard ST.3 in line with the UN Terminology Database (UNTERM), with a few exceptions based on the established practice by the International Bureau. The CWS also agreed to modify the streamlined procedure for revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 (see paragraphs 13 to 18 of document CWS/7/29).
- (g) In June 2022, the Secretariat issued circular C.CWS 161 informing IPOs of a change of name in ST.3 by the Republic of Türkiye (formerly Republic of Turkey), following an official letter to the United Nations and an update to UNTERM and the revised ST.3 was published.
- (h) At its tenth session, CWS noted the updates to ST.3 to change references to "industrial" to "intellectual as well as the addition of two-letter codes for Marshall Islands and Niue (see paragraph 36-37 of CWS/10/22).
- (i) The International Bureau published a revision of WIPO Standard ST.3 in September 2023 with regard to the changes to the short name of two countries, i.e., the Kingdom of Netherlands and Iceland. The revision was performed by the International Bureau in accordance with the revision procedure provided in Annex III of Standard ST.3. The revision was informed the CWS members and observers through the Circular C.CWS 174.

TASK NO. 38

1. *Description:*

Ensure continuous revision and updating of WIPO Standard ST.36.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task is of a continuous nature but no revision has been made since 2010. No action is scheduled.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) As a means of ensuring a continuous maintenance of WIPO Standard ST.36:

- i. any proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.36 presented to the Secretariat will be forwarded directly to the ST.36 Task Force for consideration and approval;
- ii. the ST.36 Task Force is temporarily authorized to adopt revisions of WIPO Standard ST.36;

- iii. a proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.36 will be forwarded to the CWS for its consideration whenever a proposed revision becomes controversial, i.e., whenever it is not possible to reach consensus among the ST.36 Task Force members; and
 - iv. the ST.36 Task Force Leader will inform the CWS of any revision of WIPO Standard ST.36 adopted by the Task Force at the next meeting of the CWS (see paragraphs 58 and 60 of document SCIT/SDWG/8/14, 52 and 53 of CWS/1/10, and 73 and 74 of CWS/3/14).
- (b) The CWS, at its second session, approved the roadmap for the development of WIPO Standards dealing with XML (see document CWS/2/4, and paragraphs 17 to 19 of CWS/2/14).

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/8 contains a proposal to discontinue Task No. 38 and ST.36 Task Force. It is also proposed that the XML4IP Task Force maintain the revision and other relevant activities of WIPO Standard ST.36.

TASK NO. 39

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.66.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau in collaboration with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task is of a continuous nature but no revision has been made since 2012. No action is scheduled.

4. *Remarks:*

(a) As a means of ensuring continuous maintenance of WIPO Standard ST.66:

- i. any proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.66 presented to the Secretariat will be forwarded directly to the ST.66 Task Force for consideration and approval;
- ii. the ST.66 Task Force is temporarily authorized to adopt revisions of WIPO Standard ST.66;
- iii. a proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.66 will be forwarded to the CWS for its consideration whenever a proposed revision becomes controversial, i.e., whenever it is not possible to reach consensus among the ST.66 Task Force members; and
- iv. the ST.66 Task Force Leader will inform the CWS of any revision of WIPO Standard ST.66 adopted by the Task Force at the next meeting of the CWS. (See paragraph 56 of document SCIT/SDWG/8/14, 52 and 53 of CWS/1/10, and 73 and 74 of CWS/3/14.)

(b) The CWS, at its second session, approved the roadmap for the development of WIPO Standards dealing with XML (see document CWS/2/4, and paragraphs 17 to 19 of CWS/2/14).

(c) The CWS, at its third session, noted the status report, by the Task Force Leader, on the revision of WIPO Standard ST.66 and the discussion on PFR ST.66/2013/001/Rev.1 (see document CWS/3/9 and paragraph 63 of CWS/3/14).

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/8 contains a proposal to discontinue Task No. 39 and ST.66 Task Force. It is also proposed that the XML4IP Task Force maintain the revision and other relevant activities of WIPO Standard ST.66.

TASK NO. 41

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.96.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

- (a) The Task is of a continuous nature (see paragraph 191 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) The International Bureau will organize regular monthly meetings of the XML4IP Task Force on a day and time agreed by the members.
- (c) The XML4IP Task Force will review WIPO ST.96 components by comparing them with the corresponding XML components of the older XML Standards: ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86, to determine which ST.96 elements should be mandatory.
- (d) The XML4IP Task Force will proceed with a pilot project for an online platform for external developers working with IP offices to provide direct feedback on relevant WIPO Standards.
- (e) The International Bureau will work on creating a centralized repository to host Office-specific implementations of WIPO ST.96.
- (f) The XML4IP Task Force Leader will inform the CWS at the eleventh session of any new versions of WIPO ST.96 adopted and published by the Task Force.
- (g) The Task Force will present a draft proposal for copyright orphan work metadata at the eleventh session of the CWS following industry feedback.
- (h) The Task Force will prepare a new version to be published in April 2024.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) As a means of ensuring continuous maintenance of WIPO Standard ST.96:
- (b) any proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.96 presented to the Secretariat will be forwarded directly to the XML4IP Task Force for consideration and approval;
- (c) the XML4IP Task Force is temporarily authorized to adopt revisions of WIPO Standard ST.96 via 'fast track' procedure;
- (d) a proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.96 will be forwarded to the CWS for its consideration whenever a proposed revision becomes controversial, i.e., whenever it is not possible to reach consensus among the XML4IP Task Force members; and
- (e) the XML4IP Task Force Leader will inform the CWS of any revision of WIPO Standard ST.96 adopted by the Task Force at the first available session of the CWS. (See paragraph 24 of document CWS/2/14).

- (f) The CWS, at its second session, approved the roadmap for the development of WIPO Standards dealing with XML (see document CWS/2/3, and paragraphs 17 to 19 of CWS/2/14).
- (g) The CWS, at its second session, adopted the new WIPO Standard ST.96, entitled “Recommendation for the processing of industrial property information using XML (eXtensible Markup Language)”, along with its Annexes I to IV (see paragraphs 20 to 23 of document CWS/2/14).
- (h) The CWS, at its third session, noted the result of the work of the XML4IP Task Force and the report of the Task Force Leader. In particular, the CWS noted that the XML4IP Task Force planned to submit, for consideration and adoption at that session, proposals of Annexes V and VI which would refer to ST.96 XML Schema, version 1.0, which had been adopted at the second session of the CWS. However, considering the ongoing discussions on the revision of the XML Schema with potential major changes, the Task Force agreed to prepare the two Annexes based on the next version of the XML Schema instead of version 1.0. Therefore, the finalization of the Annexes will depend on the progress on the revision of XML Schema, as well as available resources in the Task Force Member Offices and the International Bureau (see paragraph 22 of document CWS/2/14, 3 of CWS/3/5, and 42 of CWS/3/14).
- (i) The CWS, at its third session, agreed that the work for the mapping and development of tools for the bi-directional transformation between WIPO Standards ST.96 and ST.36, ST.66 or ST.86 should continue. The work should be primarily carried out by the XML4IP Task Force along with ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 Task Forces. The tools should be owned and maintained by the International Bureau with the assistance of the XML4IP Task Force, and ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86 Task Forces. The CWS welcomed the offer of the Delegation of the United States of America to assist in the development of the tools for bi-directional transformation. The CWS also agreed that this arrangement for assistance should be revisited at its next session (see paragraph 43 of document CWS/3/14).
- (j) With regard to the statement provided in paragraphs 18 and 19 of document CWS/3/5, the CWS, at its third session, agreed that, for the time being, the Task Forces dealing with XML should not be reorganized (see paragraph 45 of document CWS/3/14).
- (k) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session noted the progress reports presented by the Leader of XML4IP Task Force (see documents CWS/4/6 and CWS/4BIS/4) and adopted new Annexes V and VI. The CWS also approved the modification of Task No. 41 to read “Task No. 41: Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.96”. The CWS assigned the modified Task No. 41 to the XML4IP Task Force (see paragraph 99 to 103 of document CWS/4BIS/16).
- (l) The CWS, at its fifth session noted the progress reports presented by the Leader of XML4IP Task Force (see documents CWS/5/5).
- (m) The CWS, at its sixth session agreed on the fixed release dates of April 1 and/or October 1. The CWS also noted that the Republic of Korea would host the XML4IP Task Force meeting in person in Seoul, Republic of Korea in 2019 (see paragraphs 52 to 54 of document CWS/6/34).
- (n) At its seventh session, the CWS approved the use of a centralized repository for custom ST.96 schemas from IPOS and an external developers forum. The CWS also reassigned Task No. 63 to the Digital Transformation Task Force (see paragraphs 23 to 40 of document CWS/7/29).

- (o) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the inclusion of geographical indication schemas and copyright orphan work schemas in WIPO ST.96 version 4.0, and requested that the XML4IP Task Force present a proposal for an appropriate platform to engage with external developers (see paragraphs 85 to 94 of document CWS/8/24).
- (p) At its ninth session, the CWS noted publication of version 5.0 of ST.96, and invited members to comment on the draft paper for copyright orphan work metadata presented in the Annex to document CWS/9/4, including liaising with their copyright Office for comments (see paragraph 20 to 24 of document CWS/9/25).
- (q) At the tenth session, the CWS noted the publication of version 6.0, which included new alloy composition schemas. Also noted were the first draft of the trademark and design legal status XML components which will be a priority to finalize development of.

5. *Proposal:*

- (a) Document CWS/11/2 reports on status of the work plan of the XML4IP Task Force
- (b) Document CWS/11/8 contains a proposal to update the description of Task No. 41 in order to cover the revisions of WIPO Standards ST.36, ST.66 and ST.86.

TASK NO. 42

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.86.

2. Task Leader / Task Force Leader:

International Bureau

3. Scheduled actions to be carried out:

The Task is of a continuous nature but no revision has been made since 2008. No action is scheduled.

4. Remarks:

- (a) As a means of ensuring continuous maintenance of WIPO Standard ST.86:
 - i. any proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.86 presented to the Secretariat will be forwarded directly to the ST.86 Task Force for consideration and approval;
 - ii. the ST.86 Task Force is temporarily authorized to adopt revisions of WIPO Standard ST.86;
 - iii. a proposal to revise WIPO Standard ST.86 will be forwarded to the CWS for its consideration whenever a proposed revision becomes controversial, i.e., whenever it is not possible to reach consensus among the ST.86 Task Force members; and
 - iv. the ST.86 Task Force Leader will inform the CWS of any revision of WIPO Standard ST.86 adopted by the Task Force at the next meeting of the CWS. (See paragraph 50 of document SCIT/SDWG/9/12, 52 and 53 of CWS/1/10, and 73 and 74 of CWS/3/14.)
- (b) The CWS, at its third session, noted the oral report, by the Task Force Leader, on the revision of WIPO Standard ST.86 and the discussion on the proposal for revision PFR ST.86/2013/001 (see paragraph 64 of document CWS/3/14).

5. Proposal:

Document CWS/11/8xx contains a proposal to discontinue Task No. 42 and ST.86 Task Force. It is also proposed that the XML4IP Task Force maintain the revision and other relevant activities of WIPO Standard ST.86.

TASK NO. 43

1. *Description:*

Prepare guidelines, for implementation by IPOs, regarding paragraph numbering, long paragraphs, and consistent rendering of patent documents.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

Task No. 43 is held in abeyance.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At its ninth session, the SDWG requested the ST.36 Task Force to review the points elaborated by the Citation Practices Task Force in paragraph 12 of document SCIT/SDWG/9/3. At its eleventh session, after considering the review carried out by the ST.36 Task Force regarding the recommendations of the Citation Practices Task Force described in the Annex to document SCIT/SDWG/11/6, the SDWG agreed that there was a need for guidelines to uniquely identify the different parts of a patent document across different publication platforms and agreed to create the Task (see paragraph 35 of document SCIT/SDWG/9/12, and 45 to 47 of SCIT/SDWG/11/14).
- (b) In November 2009, the European Patent Office (EPO), JPO and USPTO presented the proposal PFR ST.36/2009/007 (Corrections and Changes in Patent Documents) for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.36 that is under discussion by the ST.36 Task Force at present. Certain aspects of this new Task are quite similar to some of the issues raised by the ST.36 Task Force during the discussion of PFR ST.36/2009/007 (at the moment of preparing this document, lack of business consensus has halted the discussion, see paragraph 5 of document CWS/1/6). There are also ongoing discussions on paragraph numbering, which includes business issues of amendment processing and the preferred paragraph numbering method within the framework of the PCT (e.g., in the 17th Meeting of the International Authorities under the PCT in February 2010; see documents PCT/MIA/17/9 and 11, and paragraphs 83 to 88 of PCT/MIA/17/12), and of the Trilateral/IP5.
- (c) In view of paragraph 4(b), above, the Secretariat, after consulting the two Offices which had expressed the most interest in the Task, namely the EPO and the USPTO, considered that it would be premature to set up a Task Force to deal with this Task as the discussion on business issues has not progressed enough yet within individual offices. Therefore, it would be convenient to give more time to the IP5 to reach an agreement on harmonizing their business requirements for paragraph amendment and numbering. This task should also wait for further developments on these issues related to paragraphs in patent documents within the PCT framework before getting under way.

- (d) The CWS, at its first session, agreed that Task No. 43 should be held in abeyance, subject to review in the light of progress made by the IP5 in harmonizing business requirements relating to the issues referred to in the Task description and in the light of developments of PCT discussions in this domain (see paragraphs 52 and 53 of document CWS/1/10, and 73 and 74 of CWS/3/14).
- (e) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, agreed to keep Task No. 43 in the CWS Task List for future discussion taking into account the proposal by the Secretariat as to whether to remove Task No. 43 from the CWS Task List or to revive the discussion on Task No. 43 (see paragraphs 116 and 117 of document CWS/4BIS/16).

TASK NO. 44

1. *Description:*

Support the International Bureau by providing users' requirements and feedback on the ST.26 authoring and validation software tool; support the International Bureau in the consequential revision of the PCT Administrative Instructions; and prepare necessary revisions of WIPO Standard ST.26.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

European Patent Office (EPO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

- (a) The International Bureau will continue to support IPOs with their implementation plans for transitioning to WIPO Standard ST.26, including offering training webinars.
- (b) The SEQL Task Force will support development and testing of the WIPO Sequence Suite, and consider further revisions to ST.26 if needed.
- (c) The Task Force is monitoring the evolution of relevant industry standards.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) Task No. 44 was created by the CWS at its first session. The CWS also established a Task Force (the SEQL Task Force) to handle the Task. The CWS requested the Task Force to liaise with the appropriate PCT body with regard to the possible impact of such a standard on Annex C to the Administrative Instructions under the PCT (see paragraphs 27 to 30 of document CWS/1/10).
- (b) The CWS, at its third session, noted the progress report by the Leader of the SEQL Task Force, including a roadmap to prepare the new standard (see paragraphs 47 to 49 of document CWS/3/14).
- (c) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, noted progress report on this Task and approved the new WIPO Standard ST.26 (see documents CWS/4/7 and CWS/4/7 ADD. and paragraphs 49 to 53 of document CWS/4BIS/16). The CWS also noted further progress report on this Task and revised the Task's description and requested the SEQL Task Force to present a proposal for the transition provisions from ST.25 to ST.26 (see paragraphs 82 to 84 of document CWS/4BIS/16).
- (d) The CWS, at its fifth session, approved the revised Standard ST.26 and agreed on the transition provision from Standard ST.25 to ST.26 (see paragraphs 39 to 45 of document CWS/5/22).

- (e) The CWS, at its sixth session, approved the revised Standard ST.26 (see paragraph 111 of document CWS/6/34).
- (f) At its seventh session, the CWS noted the classification of free-text qualifiers into language-dependent and language-independent categories and approved the revision to WIPO ST.26 (see paragraphs 130 to 133 of document CWS/7/29).
- (g) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the necessary further revisions to ST.26 and were encouraged by the IB to provide their ST.26 implementation plans.
- (h) At its ninth session, the CWS noted that the ST.26 implementation date was changed to July 1, 2022 by agreement of the PCT at the General Assembly in October 2021. The CWS approved final revisions to ST.26 in advance of the implementation date, and noted the International Bureau's plans to finalize development of WIPO Sequence Suite (see paragraph 58 to 65 of document CWS/9/25).
- (i) At its tenth session, the CWS requested IPO support in continuing to support the development of the WIPO Sequence Suite. The CWS also approved new version 1.6 of WIPO ST.26 with an entry into force date of July 1, 2023.

5. *Proposal:*

- (a) Document CWS/11/7 reports on status of the work plan of the Sequence Listings Task Force and requests support from IPOs on the continuing development of WIPO Sequence Suite.
- (b) Document CWS/11/3 proposes revisions to ST.26 to provide some editorial changes to improve clarity and add new examples to Annex VI. This document also proposes an update to the Task description after the entry into force of WIPO ST.26.

TASK NO. 47

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standards ST.27, ST.87, and ST.61; prepare supporting materials to assist the use of those Standards in the IP community; and support the XML4IP Task Force to develop XML components for legal status event data.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

- (a) The Legal Status Task Force will prepare a proposal for any needed revisions to the detailed events or the guidance document for patent legal status data in ST.27, ST.87, or ST.61.
- (b) The Legal Status Task Force will work on a proposal for possibly adapting "event indicators" to ST.61 and ST.87. The International Bureau will publish any updated WIPO Standard ST.61 mapping tables from IPOs.
- (c) The Task Force is supporting the XML4IP Task Force to develop relevant XML components for trademark and design legal Activity Level of Task.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) Task No. 47 was created by the CWS at its third session. The CWS also established a Task Force (the Legal Status Task Force) to handle the Task (see paragraphs 52 and 54 of document CWS/3/14).

- (b) At its third session, the CWS also agreed that the development of the recommendations should initially be prepared by a platform-independent task force, as the recommendations should be independent of the format to be used. Then, on the basis of the outcome of that initial discussion, the existing Task Forces dealing with XML should be invited to implement the said result in XML (see paragraphs 50 to 54 of document CWS/3/14).
- (c) The CWS, at its reconvened fourth session, noted status report on this Task presented by the Legal Status Task Force (see paragraphs 54 to 59 of document CWS/4BIS/16).
- (d) The CWS, at its fifth session, noted status report on this Task and adopted the new Standard ST.27 (see paragraphs 49 to 57 of document CWS/5/22).
- (e) The CWS, at its sixth session noted a progress report on this Task (see document CWS/6/11). The CWS also approved the revised WIPO Standard ST.27 and a new WIPO Standard ST.87 on industrial design legal status data (see paragraphs 73 to 86 and 93 to 103 of document CWS/6/34).
- (f) In 2019 the Secretariat issued a circular inviting IPOs to assess their business practices and IT systems and review the provisional detailed events of WIPO Standard ST.87.
- (g) At its seventh session, the CWS adopted a new guidance document for ST.27; requested that the Legal Status Task Force begin work with priority on a standard for trademark legal status data; approved clarifying revisions to ST.27; and approved publication of ST.87 mapping tables (see paragraphs 105 to 122 of document CWS/7/29).
- (h) At its eighth session, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.61 for trademark legal status data, requested the Secretariat to invite IPOs to assess their business practices and IT systems with regard to WIPO ST.61, approved a revision to ST.27 for changes to supplementary data for alignment with ST.96, requested the Task Force to analyze the potential of merging the three legal status standards, and requested the Task Force to present a proposal for use of reserved characters in WIPO ST.27 at the next session of the CWS (see paragraphs 26 to 30 and 51 to 56 and 114 to 118 of document CWS/8/24).
- (i) At its ninth session, the CWS approved the proposed revisions to ST.27 for "event indicators". The CWS requested the task force to study whether to adapt event indicators for ST.61 and ST.87, and whether to update the description of Task No. 47. (see paragraphs 46 to 56 of document CWS/9/25).
- (j) At its tenth session, the CWS approved revisions to ST.87 and the update to the new description for Task No.47 by discontinuing the work on a potential merger of the three legal status Standards (see paragraphs 73 to 76 of document CWS/10/22). The CWS also noted that IPOs needs more time to analyze the benefit and impact of adding 'event indicators' adopted for Standard ST.27 to Standards ST.61 and ST.87 (see paragraph 3 of document CWS/10/11).

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/9 proposes a revision to Annex II of ST.61.

TASK NO. 50

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary maintenance and update of surveys published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

- (a) The International Bureau will update Part 7 of the Handbook with the revisions agreed at the ninth session of the CWS.
- (b) At its tenth session, the CWS approved to conduct in 2023 two surveys for updating both WIPO Handbook Part 7.9 on citation practices and Part 7.6 on bibliographic information in patent gazettes. The Task Force is working on the survey questionnaires on citation practice.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) Task No. 50 was created by the CWS at its reconvened fourth session. The CWS also established a Task Force (the Part 7 Task Force) to handle the Task (see paragraph 73 of document CWS/4BIS/16).
- (b) The CWS, at its fifth session, noted the progress report and the tentative plan for maintenance and update of the surveys published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook, in particular, the actions to be carried out following the fifth session of the CWS, as indicated in Annex II to document CWS/5/11.
- (c) At its sixth session, the CWS approved a questionnaire on SPCs and PTEs and requested the Secretariat to issue a circular inviting IPOs to participate in the survey. The CWS also requested the Part 7 Task Force to prepare a proposal for a questionnaire on numbering of published documents and registered rights for the eighth session. (See paragraphs 153 to 158 of document CWS/6/34).
- (d) At its seventh session, the CWS approved publication of the survey results on Supplementary Protection Certificates and Patent Term Extensions; requested the Secretariat to invite IPOs to participate in the survey on IPO numbering systems; requested the Secretariat to invite IPOs to update their information in Part 7.3 of the WIPO Handbook; requested the Part 7 Task Force to prepare a questionnaire to update Part 7.1 of the WIPO Handbook; and agreed to hold in abeyance the proposal to prepare a questionnaire for updating Part 7.6 of the WIPO Handbook pending the progress report of the Digital Transformation Task Force at the next session of the CWS (see paragraphs 179 to 195 of document CWS/7/29).
- (e) At its eighth session, the CWS approved publication of the survey results on numbering systems used by IPOs for published documents and registered rights (see paragraphs 65 to 69 of document CWS/7/29).
- (f) At its ninth session, the CWS approved the revised work plan for updating Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook, and requested the task force to schedule an update to Part 7.9 on citation practices (see paragraphs 110 to 114 of document CWS/9/25).
- (g) At its tenth session, a revised workplan was approved including the distribution of two surveys regarding updates to Part 7.6 and 7.9 of the Handbook.

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/xx contains a revised schedule for future surveys to update WIPO Handbook Part 7, which includes a proposal for a survey questionnaire citation practices to update Part 7.6.

TASK NO. 52

1. *Description:*

Prepare recommendations for systems for providing access to publicly available patent information of IPOs.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The PAPI Task Force will prepare recommendations for systems providing access to publicly available patent information from IPOs.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At its fifth session, the CWS agreed to create the new Task No. 52 and to establish the Public Access to Patent Information Task Force (see paragraphs 96 and 100 of document CWS/5/22).
- (b) At its sixth session, the CWS considered a draft questionnaire presented by the PAPI Task Force and referred the questionnaire to the Task Force for update (see paragraphs 162 to 163 of document CWS/6/34).
- (c) At its seventh session, the CWS approved Part 1 of the questionnaire and requested the Secretariat to invite IPOs to participate in the survey. The questionnaire for Part 2 of the survey was referred back to the Task Force for further consideration (see paragraphs 196 to 201 of document CWS/7/29).
- (d) At its eighth session, the CWS approved publishing the results of Part 1 of the survey, approved the questionnaire for Part 2 of the survey, and requested the Secretariat to invite IPOs to participate in the survey Part 2. (see paragraphs 70 to 72 and 122 to 125 of document CWS/8/24).
- (e) At its ninth session, the CWS noted the results of part 2 of the survey on access to publicly available patent information (see paragraph 85 to 88 of document CWS/9/25).

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/8 proposes to transfer the responsibility of updating Part 7 of WIPO Handbook, and consequently document CWS/11/12 proposes to update the description of Task No. 52.

TASK NO. 55

1. *Description:*

Envisaging developing a WIPO standard assisting IPOs in providing better "quality at source" in relation to applicant names, prepare a proposal for future actions aimed at the standardization of applicant names in IP documents and present it for consideration by the CWS.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task Force will propose recommendations on quality of applicant data to support name standardization at the tenth session of the CWS.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At its fifth session, the CWS agreed to create the new Task No. 55 and to establish the new Name Standardization Task Force to handle the Task (see paragraphs 85 and 86 of document CWS/5/22).
- (b) At its sixth session, the CWS approved a questionnaire on use of identifiers. The International Bureau surveyed IPOs and reported the results to the seventh session of the CWS. A WIPO Workshop on Name Standardization was also approved and held on May 2-3, 2019 at WIPO headquarters (see paragraphs 164 to 170 of document CWS/6/34).
- (c) At its seventh session, the CWS approved publication of the results of the survey on use of identifiers and requested the Name Standardization Task Force to present a proposal for future actions at its eighth session (see paragraphs 73 to 84 of document CWS/7/29).
- (d) At its eighth session, the CWS requested the Task Force to propose recommendations for quality of applicant data to support name standardization.
- (e) At its ninth session, the CWS noted the revised work plan of the Task Force (see paragraphs 117 to 118 of document CWS/9/25).
- (f) At its tenth session, the CWS noted the draft recommendations provided on name standardization (see document CWS/10/17).
- (g) The CWS considered the proposal for establishing an international database to standardize applicant names. The CWS requested the International Bureau to collaborate with some interested Offices on the global (digital) identifier pilot and report the results at its next session (see paragraphs 65 to 70 of document CWS/10/22).

5. *Proposal:*

- (a) Document CWS/11/22 presents a proposal for recommendations on data cleaning for name standardization for consideration by the CWS.
- (b) Document CWS/11/17 presents activities and possible collaboration in relation to the Global Identifier pilot.

TASK NO. 56

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.90; support the International Bureau in developing a unified catalog of APIs that are made available by Offices; and support the International Bureau in promoting and implementing WIPO Standard ST.90.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

- (a) The Task Force to revise WIPO ST.90 as needed by closely monitoring relevant technologies and implementation of ST.90 by IPOs and IP industry.
- (b) The API Task Force to promote use of WIPO ST.90 at their organizations.
- (c) The Task Force to actively participate in the WIPO API Day 2023.
- (d) The International Bureau to develop a unified API catalog which lists APIs made available externally by IPOs and the Task Force to participate in the development project.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) The CWS, at its fifth session, agreed to create the new Task No. 56 and assigned it to the XML4IP Task Force (see paragraphs 92 and 93 of document CWS/5/22).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS assigned this Task to newly created API Task Force and requested that a final proposal for a new Standard be presented at the eighth session (see paragraphs 50 to 54 of document CWS/7/29).
- (c) At its eighth session, the CWS adopted new WIPO Standard ST.90 on Web APIs for IP data (see document CWS/8/24 paragraph 15). The Task description for Task No. 56 was also updated to ensure the ongoing improvement of this Standard.
- (d) At its tenth session, the UK IPO stepped down from its co-leadership of the Task Force and the EUIPO was approved as a replacement.

5. *Proposal:*

The International Bureau will report a progress on the unified API catalog development for consideration by the CWS.

TASK NO. 57

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.88.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

IP Australia and International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task Force will review and propose any necessary revisions and updates to WIPO Standard ST.88.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At its fifth session, the CWS agreed to create the new Task No. 57 and to establish the Design Representation Task Force (see paragraphs 103 and 104 of document CWS/5/22).
- (b) At its sixth session, the CWS noted the work plan of the Task Force and approved the draft questionnaire on electronic visual representation of industrial designs proposed by the Task Force. The CWS requested the International Bureau to conduct a survey of IPOs and report the outcome at the seventh session of the CWS (see paragraphs 173 and 180 of document CWS/6/34).

- (c) At its seventh session, the CWS approved publication of the results of the survey on electronic visual representation of industrial designs, and (see paragraphs 173 to 178 of document CWS/7/29).
- (d) At its eighth session, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.88 on electronic representation of industrial designs, and requested the Task Force to prepare a proposal for treatment of SVG format in ST.88 (see paragraphs 31 to 41 of document CWS/8/24).
- (e) At its ninth session, the CWS revised ST.88 for treatment of SVG image format (see paragraphs 80 to 83 of document CWS/9/25).

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/5 presents a proposal for a revision of WIPO Standard ST.88 and document CWS/11/4 proposes to discontinue Task No. 57 and the Design Representation Task Force.

TASK NO. 58

1. *Description:*

Prepare a proposal for a roadmap of future development and enhancement of WIPO Standards, including policy recommendations, in view of more effective production, sharing, and utilization of data by IPOs and other interested parties, taking the following activities:

- (a) to review the Recommendations in Group 1 indicated in the Annex of document CWS/6/3, in collaboration with other relevant CWS Task Forces;
- (b) to review the Recommendations in Group 2 and Group 3 indicated in the Annex of document CWS/6/3;
- (c) to prioritize Recommendations and suggest a timeline; and
- (d) to explore the impact of disruptive technologies on IP administration and IP data in view of harmonization and collaboration. Collect information about the requirements from IPOs and customers; and prepare recommendations for electronic visual representations of designs.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The ICT Strategy Task Force will prepare a proposal for an ICT strategic roadmap

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS created new Task No. 58 to carry out activities related to ICT strategy. The CWS requested that the new Task Force coordinate with existing Task Forces on the priority of work, with any differences of opinion between Task Forces raised to the CWS for resolution. The CWS requested the new Task Force to prepare a report for its eighth session on the new Task, including a prioritization of the work items in relation to the 40 Recommendations listed in the Annex of document CWS/6/3 (see paragraphs 18 to 27 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS noted the progress of the Task Force and noted their plan to present a strategic roadmap at the eighth session of the CWS (see paragraphs 19 to 21 of document CWS/7/29).

- (c) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the progress of the Task and the work plan of the ICT Strategy for Standards Task Force (see document CWS/8/13). Taking into account the suggestion and support by delegations, the CWS requested the International Bureau to invite all Offices to respond to the survey on priority of 40 Recommendations and to report the results of survey at its ninth session (see paragraphs 80 -84 of document CWS/8/24).
- (d) Also at its eighth session, the CWS noted the results of the survey of of Task Force to prioritize the 40 Recommendations.
- (e) At its ninth session, the CWS noted the results of the survey of IPOs to prioritize the 40 Recommendations. The CWS requested the ICT Strategy Task Force to take into account the results of the survey when it prepares the planned ICT strategic roadmap and its work plan for 2022. (see paragraphs 14 to 18 of document CWS/9/25).
- (f) At its tenth session, the CWS noted the progress report provided by the Task Force (see paragraphs 117 to 120 of document CWS/10/22).

5. *Proposal:*

- (a) Document CWS/11/21 contains a proposal to amend the description of Task No. 58 and the name of the corresponding Task Force.
- (b) Document CWS/11/18 presents a proposal for recommendations on ICT and IP administration.

TASK NO. 59

1. *Description:*

Explore the possibility of using blockchain technology in the processes of providing IP rights protection, processing information about IP objects and their use; Collect information about IPO developments in use of and experience with blockchain, assess current Industry Standards on blockchain and consider merit and applicability to IPOs; Develop reference models of using blockchain technology in the IP field, including guiding principles, common practice and use of terminology as a framework supporting collaboration, joint projects and proofs of concept; and Prepare a proposal for a new WIPO Standard supporting the potential application of blockchain technology within the IP ecosystem.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

Rospatent

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The International Bureau plans to conduct at least Phase 1 of the Global Identifier Project and report the results at the eleventh session.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS created new Task No. 59 to carry out activities related to blockchain for IP business. A new Blockchain Task Force was created to work on this task. The CWS noted that the Task Force will explore whether good use cases exist for using blockchain before the grant of IP rights (see paragraphs 28 to 35 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) The International Bureau organized a workshop on blockchain in April 2019, inviting CWS Members and any interested parties to explore use cases related to IP.

- (c) The Blockchain Task Force held a meeting in person immediately following the workshop.
- (d) At its seventh session, the CWS noted the progress of the Task Force and revised the description of Task No. 59 slightly to improve clarity (see paragraphs 61 to 67 of document CWS/7/29).
- (e) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the progress of the Task (see document CWS/8/15).
- (f) At its ninth session, the CWS noted the progress of the Task Force and the forthcoming whitepaper from the International Bureau (see paragraphs 35 to 44 of document CWS/9/25).
- (g) At its tenth session, Rospatent became the only leader of the Task Force after IP Australia stepped down.

TASK NO. 60

1. *Description:*

Prepare a proposal for the numbering of INID codes regarding word marks and figurative marks, on splitting INID code (551), and a potential INID code for combined marks.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

International Bureau

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

After a resolution in the Madrid Working Group, the Task Force will prepare a recommendation on whether to maintain or split INID code 551 for collective, certification, and guarantee marks in WIPO Standard ST.60 for a future session of the CWS.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS created new Task No. 59 to provide recommendations on several trademark proposals for INID codes. A proposal by the EUIPO to introduce new INID codes for certain types of marks was adopted by the CWS, with the issue of which code numbers to assign referred to the Task Force. The other proposals in Task 60 were raised during the plenary (see paragraphs 128 to 133 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS discussed a proposal to discontinue Task No. 60, but continued the Task so the Trademark Standardization Task Force can continue to discuss the proposal to split INID code 551 (see paragraphs 161 to 162 of document CWS/7/29).
- (c) At its ninth session, the CWS noted that further work on the proposal to split INID codes is pending the outcome of discussions in the Madrid Working Group (see paragraphs 119 to 120 of document CWS/9/25).

TASK NO. 61

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.91, including methods of search for 3D models and 3D images.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

Rospatent

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task Force will prepare a proposal to revise Standard ST.91 on 3D models and 3D images, including methods of search.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS considered a proposal by the Russian Federation to address technical and regulatory limitations that currently prevent submission of 3D models to IPOs. The CWS created new Task No. 61 to address issues with 3D models and images. A new 3D Task Force was created to work on this task (see paragraphs 138 to 144 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS approved a questionnaire for IPOs on use of 3D models and 3D images and requested the International Bureau to invite IPOs to take the survey (see paragraphs 90 to 101 of document CWS/7/29).
- (c) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the results of the survey and preliminary text for a draft standard from the Task Force (see paragraphs 73 to 75 and 103 to 108 of document CWS/8/24).
- (d) At its ninth session, the CWS adopted Standard ST.91 on 3D models and 3D images (see paragraphs 28 to 33 of document CWS/9/25).

TASK NO. 62

1. *Description:*

Review WIPO Standards: ST.6, ST.8, ST.10, ST.11, ST.15, ST.17, ST.18, ST.63 and ST.81, and WIPO Handbook Part 6, in view of electronic publication of IP documentation; and propose revisions of those Standards and materials if needed.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

Digital Transformation Task Force;
United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Task Force to focus on the development of DOCX converter technical specifications.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS created new Task No. 62 to review and update WIPO Standards for the needs of digital publication. The task was assigned to the new Digital Transformation Task Force (see paragraphs 149 to 152 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS noted the progress report by the Task Force (see paragraphs 102 to 104 of document CWS/7/29).
- (c) At its eighth session, the CWS noted the progress report by the Task Force (see paragraphs 109 to 113 of document CWS/8/24).
- (d) At its ninth session, the CWS approved a questionnaire to survey IPOs on their practices for digital transformation (see paragraphs 90 to 95 of document CWS/9/25).
- (e) At its tenth session, the CWS noted the digital transformation survey results and approved the publication of the results (see paragraphs 107 to 109 of document CWS/10/22).

5. *Proposal:*

- (a) Document CWS/11/8 proposes to transfer the responsibility of updating WIPO Handbook 6 to the PAPI Task Force.
- (b) Document CWS/11/11 includes a proposal to amend the description of Task No. 62.

TASK NO. 63

1. *Description:*

Develop visual representation(s) of XML data, based on WIPO XML Standards, for electronic publication.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

No actions are scheduled.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the sixth session, the CWS created new Task No. 63 to work on visual representation of XML data. The Task was assigned to the XML4IP Task Force (see paragraphs 145 to 148 and 153 of document CWS/6/34).
- (b) At its seventh session, the CWS reassigned Task No. 63 to the Digital Transformation Task Force (see paragraphs 39 to 40 of document CWS/7/29).

TASK NO. 64

1. *Description:*

Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.97.

2. *Task Leader / Task Force Leader:*

API Task Force;

European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The API Task Force to discuss a need of a JSON native version of ST.97 and compatibility of ST.97 with new versions of XML Standard ST.96.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At its seventh session, the CWS created Task No 64. The CWS requested the XML4IP Task Force to present a proposal for a new WIPO standard on JSON at its eighth session (see paragraphs 55 to 60 of document CWS/7/29).
- (b) At the eighth session, the CWS noted the progress made in developing JSON schemas (see paragraph 91 of document CWS/8/24).
- (c) At the ninth session, the CWS noted the XML4IP Task Force intention to present a final proposal for a JSON standard at the tenth session of the CWS (see paragraphs 19 to 20 of document CWS/9/25).

- (d) At the tenth session, the CWS adopted the new WIPO Standard ST.97, and approved the updated Task description, the use of the 'fast track procedure' for the revision of ST.97 and its assignment to the API Task Force (see paragraphs 43 to 44 of document CWS/10/22).

TASK NO. 65

1. *Description:*

To prepare a proposal for recommendations on the data package format for the electronic exchange of priority documents and certified copies for patents, marks and industrial designs.

2. *Task Leader/Task Force Leader:*

Digital Transformation Task Force; United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

3. *Scheduled actions to be carried out:*

The Digital Transformation Task Force will present a proposal for a new WIPO standard at the eleventh session of the CWS.

4. *Remarks:*

- (a) At the tenth session of the CWS, new Task No. 65 was created in response to a request from the PCT Working Group so that a new priority document package could be standardized for data exchange. The CWS assigned this Task to the Digital Transformation Task Force. (See paragraphs 22 to 25 of document CWS/10/22.)
- (b) The Secretariat issued C.CWS Circular 170 inviting Offices to nominate experts to join the Digital Transformation Task Force.

5. *Proposal:*

Document CWS/11/20 presents a proposal for a new Standard which provides recommendations on data package format for the electronic exchange of priority documents and certified copies.

[End of Annex and of document]