

## **Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

**Tenth Session**  
**Geneva, November 21 to 25, 2022**

REPORT BY THE XML4IP TASK FORCE

*Document prepared by the International Bureau*

### SUMMARY

1. The XML4IP Task Force works under the framework of Tasks No. 41, No. 47 and No. 64. The Task Force meets monthly to discuss proposals for revision to the ST.96 schemas and to develop a new WIPO standard on capturing IP data using JavaScript Object Notation (JSON). A final draft of the new JSON Standard has been prepared for consideration at this session of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS). The version 6.0 of WIPO Standard ST.96 is planned for release on October 3, 2022.

### BACKGROUND

2. At the ninth session of the CWS, held in 2021, the Committee noted a progress report on the activities of the XML4IP Task Force conducting the following CWS Tasks (see document CWS/9/3):

- Task No. 41: “Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.96”; and
- Task No. 64: “Prepare a proposal for recommendations for JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) resources compatible with WIPO Standard ST.96 to be used for filing, processing, publication and/or exchange of intellectual property information”.

3. The XML4IP Task Force also collaborates with the Legal Status Task Force on Task No. 47:

*“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 IP community; analyze the potential of merging the three standards ST.27, ST.87, and ST.61; and support the XML4IP Task Force to develop XML components for legal status event data”*

No progress report was provided by the XML4IP Task Force on this topic during the ninth session.

4. The XML4IP Task Force met virtually once a month, with a few exceptions, to discuss future improvements to WIPO Standard ST.96. During early discussions, the Task Force confirmed the following development priorities for the calendar year of 2022:

- (a) JSON Standard;
- (b) Trademark/Design legal status schemas;
- (c) Patent Record/Patent Transaction schemas; and
- (d) Alloy composition schemas

#### REVISION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF WIPO ST.96 (TASK NO. 41)

5. Under the framework of Task No. 41, the XML4IP Task Force prepared and published a new major release, version 6.0, which is planned for release on October 3, 2022. The CWS allows only a maximum of two official releases of ST.96 per year: one in April and one in October (see paragraph 53 of document CWS/6/34). Further details of this official release are provided below.

#### Annex I

6. Annex I of WIPO ST.96 details the XML Design Rules and Conventions (DRCs) for the creation and use of WIPO ST.96-compliant XML schemas. The CWS should note the following changes which are introduced to version 6.0:

- Update of the instance design rule [ID-10] to now reference WIPO ST.26, not yet in force, replacing the reference to WIPO ST.25; and
- Update of XML snippets which are based on version 4\_0 to version 6\_0.

#### Annex II

7. Annex II of WIPO ST.96 is the IP data dictionary which lists all of the elements, attributes and enumerations. It is updated with every major release.

#### Annexes III-IV

8. Annexes III and IV of WIPO ST.96 provide a full list of the IP XML schemas and the XML Schema Technical Specification respectively. These Annexes are revised as a result of the update of ST.96 XML schema components in response to proposed revisions by the XML4IP Task Force. Version 6.0 includes a series of new alloy composition schemas to capture patent and Non-Patent Literature (NPL) alloy composition data and revised existing components in relation to copyright and geographical indications.

### Annex V

9. Annex V of WIPO ST.96 provides implementation rules and guidelines for the production of WIPO ST.96 XML compliant, conformant or interoperable schema. The following changes were included in version 6.0:

- Update of all of the examples included there from being based on version 4\_0 to version 6\_0; and
- Replacement of all references to ST96\_Common\_V6\_0 with Common\_V6\_0.xsd, as it is referenced in ST.96 as part of the flattened schemas in Annex III.

### Annex VI

10. Annex VI of WIPO ST.96 provides transformation rules and guidelines for transforming from WIPO ST.36, ST.66 or ST.86 to WIPO ST.96. The appendices to Annex VI are updated with every major release.

### Annex VII

11. Annex VII is a series of example instances for document-level components. No updates were required to the other three example instances provided. The following new example is included in version 6.0:

- `GIApplication`: a document-level component which provides details of a geographical indication application.

12. Further details on the version 6.0 release, with, in particular changes to the Annexes II, III and IV, detailed in the release notes, will be published on the WIPO website at:

[https://www.wipo.int/standards/XMLSchema/ST96/V6\\_0/ReleaseNotes.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/standards/XMLSchema/ST96/V6_0/ReleaseNotes.pdf). All Annexes of the WIPO ST.96 version 6.0 release are available online at the following location:  
<https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/st96/v6-0/>.

### COPYRIGHT METADATA MANAGEMENT (TASK NO. 41)

13. At the sixth session of the CWS, the CWS agreed to extend ST.96 to include XML schemas which capture copyright orphan work data (see paragraph 68 of document CWS/6/34). The XML4IP Task Force worked on developing these schemas which were incorporated into version 4.0 (see the release notes for version 4.0 at:

[https://www.wipo.int/standards/XMLSchema/ST96/V4\\_0/ReleaseNotes.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/standards/XMLSchema/ST96/V4_0/ReleaseNotes.pdf)).

14. The International Bureau presented a working draft paper regarding copyright metadata management at the ninth session of the CWS. The main purpose of the draft paper was to improve the alignment of WIPO ST.96 with other international data standards developed or used by cultural industries, public institutions or collective management organizations working in the area of copyright and related rights. The main proposal was to provide two current WIPO ST.96 copyright components as structured components with standard values:

`cpy:RightsHolderCategory` and `cpy:OrphanWorkKindCode`.

15. Following the ninth session of the CWS, based on the feedback received, the International Bureau improved these proposals for the standard values. The improved proposals were then published on a public CWS wiki space (<https://www3.wipo.int/confluence/x/C4DFRg>) and Member States and Observers of WIPO were invited to provide their feedback through circular [C.CWS 156](#). The deadline for feedback was June 2022.

16. The International Bureau further improved the proposals taking into account the feedback provided and the further improved proposals are provided in document CWS/10/7 for consideration by the CWS.

## PROPOSAL FOR A JSON STANDARD (TASK NO. 64)

17. At the seventh session of the CWS, Task No. 64 was added to the CWS Work Plan in recognition of the increased uptake in the use of JSON by IPOs, in particular for use as the response payload of a web service. Also at its seventh session, the CWS noted the working draft of the JSON specification which was presented for its consideration and requested that the XML4IP Task Force continue to work on developing the new Standard on JSON. (See paragraphs 58 to 60 of document CWS/7/29.) There were no updates reported on the progress of development of the draft JSON standard at the eighth session of the CWS.

18. The XML4IP Task Force has been working since the last session to improve the draft JSON standard, including providing the transformation rules which transform WIPO ST.96 XML schemas to equivalent JSON schemas and the provision of three JSON instances. There were three rounds of discussion on the Task Force wiki on this topic since the last session.

19. A proposal for the new WIPO standard on JSON is presented in document CWS/10/6 for consideration at the tenth session of the CWS.

## DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL STATUS SCHEMAS

20. The XML4IP Task Force is responsible for developing XML in collaboration with the Legal Status Task Force schemas to capture legal status data. In version 4.0, patent legal status schemas were included for the first time. In version 5.0, `pat:StageCode`, `pat:PreviousStageCode`, `pat:CurrentStageCode`, `pat:StateCodeType` and `pat:StageCodeType` were moved to the Common namespace so that they could be reused for future development of trademark and design legal status schemas.

21. Although it was considered at the ninth session of the CWS that the three legal status schemas be merged into a single Standard, due to the similarities between them, the Task Force agreed to develop trademark and design legal status data separately as the Legal Status Task Force decided that the three Standards, i.e., ST.27, ST.61 and ST.87 should be maintained separately. As such, work commenced on developing the trademark and design legal status schemas.

22. There was one round of discussion on the Task Force wiki this year, at which time a first draft of both trademark legal status and design legal status schemas were presented to the Task Force for comment. The XML4IP Task Force will collaborate with the Legal Status Task Force to complete the development in particular XML schemas related to supplementary data which is defined in Annex II of ST.61 and ST.87.

## FUTURE WORK PLAN

23. The XML4IP Task Force will continue to work on developing new XML schemas and improve the existing XML schemas but in particular would like to note the following for development in the period before the eleventh session of the CWS:

- Trademark/design legal status schemas: the Task Force, alongside support from the Legal Status Task Force, will continue to develop the trademark and design legal status schemas and plans to have these finalized for the next version of ST.96;
- Copyright components: as indicated above in paragraph 14, proposals for copyright metadata management, in particular components of `cpy:RightsHolderCategory` and `cpy:OrphanWorkKindCode` will be continuously improved. The Task Force plans to revise the two ST.96 components once the proposals are approved by the CWS; and

- Patent record/transaction schemas: work on the patent record and patent transaction schemas was frozen as other priorities of the Task Force took precedence during 2022. The Task Force plans to continue these works and have these components finalized for inclusion in the next version of ST.96 as they are already quite mature in their development.

24. *The CWS is invited to:*

*(a) note the content of the present document;*

*(b) note the release of ST.96 versions 6.0, as indicated in paragraphs 5 to 12 above; and*

*(c) note the work plan of the XML4IP Task Force, as indicated in paragraph 23 above.*

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