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**Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

**Fifth Session**

**Geneva, May 29 to June 2, 2017**

REPORT ON TASK NO. 50 BY THE PART 7 TASK FORCE

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

## BACKGROUND

1. The Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) at its reconvened fourth session held in Geneva in March 2016, created Task No. 50 to “ensure the necessary maintenance and update of surveys published in Part 7 of the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation”* and requested the International Bureau to report on the progress at its current session. It also agreed to establish the Part 7 Task Force to carry out this Task. (See document CWS/4BIS/6 and paragraphs 68 to 76 of document CWS/4BIS/16.)

## PROGRESS SINCE March 2016

1. The actions indicated below were carried out under the umbrella of Task No. 50 and in line with the tentative work plan for updating surveys published in Part 7 of the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* (WIPO Handbook) (see Annex II to document CWS/4BIS/6).
2. Following the decision of the CWS, by the Circular C.CWS 72 of June 14, 2016, the International Bureau invited the CWS members, wishing to participate in Task No. 50, to nominate their representatives to the Part 7 Task Force. Eleven industrial property Offices (IP Offices) nominated representatives to the Part 7 Task Force.
3. The Task Force started its work in June 2016 and conducted three discussion rounds to prepare the questionnaire on industrial property protection extensions (IPPEs) and one discussion round to prepare the updated Part 7.2.6 and new Part 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook.

### New Part 7.2.7 and revised Part 7.2.6

1. Following the request by the CWS, the International Bureau conducted the survey “Numbering of applications and priority applications - former practices”. The collected responses are included in the new Part 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook (see document CWS/5/12).
2. Some IP Offices also provided information regarding their current practices of numbering of applications and priority applications, which had not been reflected in Part 7.2.6 of the WIPO Handbook “Numbering of applications and priority applications - current practices”. The International Bureau updated Part 7.2.6 of the WIPO Handbook accordingly.
3. The International Bureau, in consultation with the Part 7 Task Force, also incorporated relevant information from Parts 7.2.1, 7.2.2., and 7.2.3 into updated Part 7.2.6 and new Part 7.2.7 of the WIPO Handbook.

### Questionnaire on IPPEs

1. Part 7 Task Force prepared the draft questionnaire on IPPEs and presented it for consideration and decision by the CWS (see document CWS/5/13).

### Survey on the use of WIPO Standards

1. New Part 7.12 “Survey on the use of WIPO Standards” is presented for consideration and decision by the CWS (see document CWS/5/2).

### Archived Parts 7.5 and 7.8 of the WIPO Handbook

1. The International Bureau removed Part 7.5 “Physical characteristics of patent documents” and Part 7.8 “Survey of filing procedures and filing requirements, as well as of examination methods and publication procedures, relating to industrial designs” from the WIPO Handbook and moved them to the Archive.

### Editorial changes to WIPO Standards ST.16 and ST.10/D

1. As Part 7.5 of the WIPO Handbook was moved to the Archive (see paragraph 10 above), the International Bureau removed the reference to Part 7.5 from WIPO Standard ST.10/D (editorial change).
2. As Part 7.3.3 was incorporated in Part 7.3.2 of the WIPO Handbook during the update of 2015, the International Bureau removed the reference to Part 7.3.3 from WIPO Standard ST.16 (editorial change).
3. Amended WIPO Standards ST.10/D and ST.16 were published in October 2016.

## Further actions

1. Annex I to the present document contains the overview of all surveys published in the WIPO Handbook, along with the proposals and remarks relevant for their future updates.
2. Annex II to the present document contains a tentative work plan for updating Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook. The execution of this plan will depend on the availability of resources and the definition of priorities in line with future decisions of the CWS.
3. In order to clarify and streamline the procedure of updating surveys published in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook, the International Bureau proposes the following approach for consideration and decision by the CWS:
* For a (regular) update of a survey based on the questionnaire approved by the CWS, which is already in the WIPO Handbook, the International Bureau should publish the updated survey and inform the CWS at the session following the publication.
* For new surveys, their publication in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook should be approved by the CWS.
* For a survey update based on a revised questionnaire (effectively a new survey), the publication of the updated survey in Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook should be approved by the CWS.
1. *The CWS is invited to*

 *(a) note the content of the present document and its Annexes;*

 *(b) note the tentative work plan for updating Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook, in particular, the actions to be carried out following the fifth session of the CWS, as provided in Annex II to the present document;*

 *(c) consider and decide on the approach to the publication of new and updated surveys in Part  7 of the WIPO Handbook (as referred to in paragraph 16 above);*

 *(d) request Part 7 Task Force to prepare the questionnaire on numbering of published documents and registered rights and present the proposal at the next session of the CWS;*

 *(e) request the International Bureau to invite IP Offices to update their entries in Part 7.2.4 “Survey on the presentation of priority application numbers”, and subsequently to prepare and publish the updated Part 7.2.4 of the WIPO Handbook;*

 *(f) request the International Bureau to move Part 7.2.1 to the Archive and replace the reference in ST.10/C with Part 7.2.5 (editorial change).*

[Annexes follow]