

# WIPO



AB/XXIV/7

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

## GOVERNING BODIES OF WIPO AND THE UNIONS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO

Twenty-Fourth Series of Meetings  
Geneva, September 20 to 29, 1993

OBSERVATIONS OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
ON THE REPORT OF  
THE WIPO BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RE: DOCUMENT AB/XXIV/5

Memorandum of the Director General

1. As concerns the proposed unitary contribution system for the six Contribution-financed Unions and alignment of the contributions of the non-Union States (contained in document AB/XXIV/5), the report of the WIPO Budget Committee (document AB/XXIV/6) reflects the summing up of the Chairman of the Budget Committee which is reproduced in paragraph 2, below, as well as pronouncements made by one or more members of the Budget Committee. The present document contains observations as to the said summing up whereas in respect of the said pronouncements, the information and explanations requested were furnished in the meeting of the Budget Committee.

2. At the conclusion of the discussion, "the Chairman observed that there was very substantial (though not unanimous) support for the far-reaching

and innovative proposal for the unitary contribution system, with a limited number of delegations expressing concerns or objections. He said that it was likely that there would be broad support for the proposal at the Governing Bodies meetings, including from a number of countries having a high level of contributions, and hoped that the delegations that had expressed objections would then be in a position to join in the consensus required to adopt the proposal" (document AB/XXIV/6, paragraph 68).

3. The introduction of the unitary contribution system and the alignment of the contributions of non-Union States with that system would simplify and streamline the contribution system, would make it more equitable for the majority of the developing countries and--most important of all--would facilitate and encourage adherence by States to the treaties administered by WIPO. It is recognized that the WIPO and other Conventions would eventually have to be amended to provide for the unitary contribution system; nevertheless, it is clear that the Governing Bodies concerned (namely, the Conference of WIPO, the Assemblies of the Paris, Berne, IPC, Nice, Locarno and Vienna Unions, and the Conferences of Representatives of the Paris, Berne and Nice Unions) are competent to decide by consensus--on a provisional basis, to be confirmed in due course by corresponding amendments of the Conventions concerned--to introduce the unitary contribution system and to align the contributions of non-Union States with that system.

4. The Director General therefore hopes that, in light of the fact that the proposals would be of benefit to all States, all States will join in the consensus required to adopt the proposals.

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