

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF MARKS
(MADRID UNION)**

ASSEMBLY

**Thirty-First (13th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 20 to 29, 1999**

ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICIAL TEXTS OF THE MADRID AGREEMENT IN THE
ENGLISH, ARABIC, CHINESE, GERMAN, ITALIAN, PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN AND
SPANISH LANGUAGES

Memorandum of the Secretariat

1. Article 17(1) of the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (Stockholm (1967) Act) provides as follows:

“(1)(a) This Act shall be signed in a single copy in the French language and shall be deposited with the Government of Sweden.

“(b) Official texts shall be established by the Director General, after consultation with the interested Governments, in such other languages as the Assembly may designate.”

2. While unofficial texts of the Madrid Agreement exist in the English, Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish languages, these languages have never been designated by the Assembly of the Madrid Union as languages in which official texts of the Madrid Agreement shall be established, whereas the Madrid Protocol Relating to the Madrid

Agreement has been signed in English, French and Spanish and specifies the other above-mentioned languages, as well as Japanese, as languages in which official texts of the Madrid Protocol shall be established (Article 16(1) of the Madrid Protocol). The Director General of WIPO proposes, if the Assembly of the Madrid Union agrees, to establish, in consultation with the interested Governments, official texts of the Madrid Agreement in the English, Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish languages using the existing unofficial texts as a basis.

3. The Assembly of the Madrid Union is invited to designate, for the purposes of Article 17(1)(b) of the Madrid Agreement, English, Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish as languages in which official texts of the Madrid Agreement shall be established.

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