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WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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REPORT OF THE SECOND WIPO INTERNET DOMAIN NAME PROCESS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At the meetings of the Assemblies from September 25 to October 3, 2000, the WIPO General Assembly considered the past and continuing work of WIPO in relation to problems arising out of the interface between Internet domain names and intellectual property rights (see document WO/GA/26/3). The General Assembly encouraged the continuation of this work, as proposed in the document before it, and, in particular, endorsed the undertaking by WIPO of a Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process (see document WO/GA/26/10, paragraph 26).
2. The Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process involved the examination of means of dealing with the bad faith and misleading use, within the Internet domain name system, of a number of identifiers other than trademarks, which formed the basis of certain naming systems used in the real or non-virtual world. The identifiers in question were:
 - International Nonproprietary Names (INNs) for pharmaceutical substances;
 - the names and acronyms of international intergovernmental organizations;
 - personal names;
 - geographical identifiers, such as indications of geographical source on goods, geographical indications and geographical terms; and
 - tradenames.
3. Throughout the period since the meetings of the Assemblies in September and October 2000, WIPO has undertaken extensive consultations in conducting the Second WIPO

Internet Domain Name Process. These consultations involved a series of Requests for Comments, which were sent to all Member States, the holding of physical meetings throughout the world and the publication, on April 12, 2001, of an Interim Report, which was also distributed to all Member States.

4. The final Report of the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process (*The Recognition of Rights and the Use of Names in the Internet Domain Name System*) is to be published on September 3, 2001. It will be published on the website that has been used by WIPO for the conduct of the process (<http://wipo2.wipo.int>) and will be distributed in paper form to all Member States. Because of the size of the Report, it is not additionally included with this present document as an Annex, but further copies of the Report are naturally available upon request.

5. *The General Assembly is invited to note the publication and contents of the final Report of the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process and is invited to formulate a position in relation to the recommendations contained in that Report.*

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