



WO/GA/51/4
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: JUNE 28, 2019

WIPO General Assembly

**Fifty-First (24th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 30 to October 9, 2019**

OPENING OF NEW WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES DURING THE 2018/19 BIENNIUM

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its Fiftieth (27th Extraordinary) Session (September 24 to October 2, 2018), the WIPO General Assembly decided with respect to the issue of Opening of New WIPO External Offices as follows: (refer to document WO/GA/50/15, paragraph 77).

“The WIPO General Assembly decided to request the Chair of the WIPO General Assembly to continue consultations with a view to making a recommendation to the 2019 General Assembly on opening up to four WIPO External Offices in the 2018/2019 biennium, including in Colombia.”

2. Pursuant to the procedure laid down in the ‘Guiding Principles regarding WIPO External Offices’ (refer to document A/55/13, General Report adopted by the Assemblies of WIPO), nine Member States submitted proposals to open an External Office during the 2018/2019 biennium, namely, Azerbaijan, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Oman, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates (in alphabetical order in English). These proposals can be found on the WIPO website under the Twenty-Sixth Session of the WIPO Program and Budget Committee at the following link: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=42294. The WIPO Secretariat’s separate, factual and technical report on these proposals is contained in document WO/PBC/26/7.

3. Furthermore, the WIPO General Assembly decided that the proposal to open a WIPO External Office in Colombia should also be considered for the 2018/2019 biennium. The proposal from Colombia, submitted pursuant to the procedure laid down in the 'Guiding Principles regarding WIPO External Offices' for the 2016/2017 biennium, can be found on the WIPO website under the Twenty-Fifth Session of the WIPO Program and Budget Committee at the following link: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=39942. The WIPO Secretariat's separate, factual and technical report on this proposal is contained in document WO/PBC/25/12.

4. Consequently, the proposals from the following 10 Member States are subject to the consideration of the Fifty-First (24th Ordinary) Session of the WIPO General Assembly with respect to opening up to four WIPO External Offices in the 2018/2019 biennium (in alphabetical order in English):

1. Azerbaijan
2. Colombia
3. India
4. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
5. Oman
6. Republic of Korea
7. Romania
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Turkey
10. United Arab Emirates

5. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to consider opening up to four WIPO External Offices in the 2018/2019 biennium.

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