

Program and Budget Committee

Nineteenth Session **Geneva, September 10 to 14, 2012**

WIPO INDEPENDENT ADVISORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (IAOC) **MEMBERSHIP ROTATION**

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its September 2010 and 2011 sessions respectively, the WIPO General Assembly approved the rotation and selection process mechanisms for the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC) (formerly known as the WIPO Audit Committee) as contained in documents WO/GA/39/13 (Report of the Working Group on Audit Committee Related Matters) and WO/GA/40/2 (Revision of the Terms of Reference of the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee).

2. With respect to rotation, document WO/GA/39/13¹ states that three members of the new IAOC membership would serve a term of three years non-renewable, to be determined by the drawing of lots, and that an outgoing IAOC member would be replaced by a candidate from the same geographical region:

“28. A **rotation mechanism** for the Audit Committee members will be worked out along the following lines:

- ”(i) No member of the Audit Committee shall serve for more than six years in aggregate;
- ”(ii) Four members of the new Audit Committee starting in February 2011 would serve a term of three years, renewable once and for a final term;

¹ Also stated in document WO/GA/40/2, paragraph 4(iii), (iv) and (vi).

- ”(iii) Three members of the new Audit Committee would serve a term of three years, non-renewable;
- ”(iv) The term of the new members would be determined by drawing of lots at the first meeting of the Audit Committee in 2011;
- ”(v) After the first three-year period, all members of the Audit Committee would continue to serve a term of three years, renewable once. This arrangement would ensure continuity in the work of the Audit Committee, while inducting new members into the Audit Committee at a regular interval of three years after the first three-year period;
- ”(vi) Each member of the Audit Committee would be replaced by a candidate from the same geographical region that he or she belongs to;
- ”(vii) The selection process outlined above would also be applied in case of selecting new members of the Audit Committee;
- ”(viii) The roster/ pool of experts mentioned above may be used in case of resignation or demise of a member of the Audit Committee while serving his or her term.”

3. Document WO/GA/40/2 further states that “If the departing member belongs to a Group that already has another representative, he/she will be replaced by a member originating from the Group(s) not represented in the Committee”.²

4. At the first meeting of the new IAOC membership (March 2011), Messrs. Kjell Larsson (Group B), Ma Fang (China) and Ms. Maria Beatriz Sanz Redrado (Group B)³ were selected on the basis of the drawing of lots as the three IAOC members to serve a non-renewable term of three years. Their mandate will expire on January 31, 2014.⁴

5. To ensure timely selection and approval by the Program and Budget Committee (PBC) of three new IAOC members whose mandate will begin on February 1, 2014, it is proposed that the PBC set up a Selection Panel by requesting the Director General to invite nomination of one individual from each Regional Group to constitute the seven-member Selection Panel. The Secretariat would subsequently launch a selection process, as of 2013, in accordance with the provisions contained in document WO/GA/39/13 and the terms of reference of the IAOC, with a view to the Selection Panel submitting its recommendations at the PBC September 2013 session.

6. *The Program and Budget Committee is invited to:*

(i) set up an IAOC Selection Panel comprising seven representatives of Member States, in line with paragraphs 18 and 19 of document WO/GA/39/13; and,

² Document WO/GA/40/2, paragraph 4(vi).

³ The Central European and Baltic States (CEBS) Group is currently not represented on the IAOC.

⁴ Document WO/GA/39/13, Annex, paragraph 28.

(ii) take note that the Secretariat will subsequently launch an IAOC selection process, as of 2013, in accordance with the provisions contained in document WO/GA/39/13 and the IAOC terms of reference, with a view to the Selection Panel submitting its recommendations at the PBC September 2013 session.

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