

Part II: Intellectual Property Systems and Global Issues

89. One important objective of the draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium is to ensure that the demands of Member States are fully satisfied in respect of the filing of international patent applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and registration activities under the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems (for international registration of marks, international deposit of industrial designs, and protection of appellations of origin, respectively). This is a traditional but rapidly-expanding sector that will continue to grow in direct proportion to the increasing use of the intellectual property system in global economic and social development. Consequently, it will demand a significant portion of staff and non-staff resources during the 2002-2003 biennium and beyond.

90. The PCT, Madrid, Hague, and Lisbon Systems, however, are not the only market-driven programs that must be considered. During the past biennium, the growing importance of electronic commerce issues, and the steep rise in international demand for WIPO's on-line administration of Internet domain name disputes have put great pressures on available resources. In addition, these market-led programs have become even more significant, politically speaking, as they concern all Member States and practically the entire array of WIPO's constituents in both the public and private sectors.

91. Apart from the above-mentioned registration activities, the impact of the wider use of the intellectual property system globally is also increasing the demand for sustained development of substantive law, notably in the fields of patents, copyright and related rights, but especially in the newly emerging areas of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore. Moreover, these same developments have rekindled the interest of SMEs in intellectual property as valuable business assets and, along with greater use of intellectual property protection, greater demand for enforcement measures. These developments acting together have heightened the importance of reaching ever-wider audiences and the intensifying demystification of intellectual property concepts and practices in civil society.

92. In view of the foregoing considerations, plus the need for better mechanisms that streamline and reduce the operating costs of WIPO's activities in the above areas, the main programs concerned have been re-structured and grouped together under Part II of the draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. Part II contains the following main programs:

- Program 05 – Development of Industrial Property Law
- Program 06 – Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System
- Program 07 – Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems
- Program 08 – Development of Copyright and Related Rights
- Program 09 – Global Communications
- Program 10 – Global Intellectual Property Issues
- Program 11 – Arbitration and Mediation Center

93. The above program structure consolidates and refocuses the efforts and resources of the International Bureau to provide intellectual property systems and services that are speedy, practical and oriented towards modern business practices, and yet flexible and dynamic such that they can respond to possible shifts in the use of intellectual property in the global marketplace.

94. The grouping together of WIPO's programs as set out above is intended to strengthen the links and complementarity between, on the one hand, WIPO's services for intellectual property registration, dispute resolution, demystification and progressive development of intellectual property law at the international level, and on the other hand, the services of private and public intellectual property organizations of Member States at the national and regional levels. The result of this grouping is effectively a better partnership arrangement on a global scale between WIPO and the intellectual property organizations of Member States, a partnership that is considered a necessary and sufficient requirement for achieving a truly global and harmonious intellectual property system.