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SCIT/SDWG/8/5

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Eighth Session
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REVISION OF ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS (ATRS) (TASK No. 24)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. The Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), at its sixth session, held in September 2005, agreed to create a new Task Force which should clarify the objectives of the Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) and the target users (including industrial property information providers and users). After achieving this, the Task Force should prepare a proposal to revise and update the current recommended contents of the ATRs. (See document SCIT/SDWG/6/11, paragraphs 58 to 62.)
2. As a follow-up to the above-mentioned decision by the SDWG, the International Bureau (IB) issued circular C. SCIT 2618, dated October 25, 2005, inviting those offices and organizations wishing to participate actively in the discussions to nominate a representative to the ATRs Task Force. Twenty-nine representatives agreed to participate in the Task Force, the leader of which would be the IB.

3. The Task Force Leader informed the SDWG, at its seventh session held in May/June 2006, that the work would be undertaken in two phases. In the first phase, the objectives and target users of ATRs would be clarified. In the second phase, the Task Force would prepare a proposal to revise and update the current recommended contents of the ATRs, as well as user guidelines for preparing the ATRs. (See document SCIT/SDWG/7/9, paragraphs 26 to 31.)

ATRs Task Force Activities, Results and Proposals

4. In accordance with the above, the Task Force carried out a Web survey in order to clarify target users and their requirements, as well as the objectives of the ATRs. The survey was also conducted with the aim of improving the current recommended contents of the ATRs. A document containing a summary and analysis of the survey, including conclusions (paragraphs 13 to 16) and proposals (paragraph 17), is reproduced as the Annex to this document, for consideration by the SDWG. An oral report by the Task Force Leader will also be presented at the eighth session of the SDWG.

5. Appendix 1 of the Annex to this document reproduces the questionnaire that was available on the Internet from June 14 to October 4, 2006, used for carrying out the survey. The results of the survey are presented in Appendix 2.

6. Appendices 3, 4 and 5 of the Annex present, for consideration and approval by the SDWG, the proposal by the ATRs Task Force for the revision of the recommended contents of the ATRs on patent, trademark and industrial design information activities, respectively. Proposed changes to the current contents as recommended are highlighted.

7. *The SDWG is invited:*

(a) *to note the oral report by the ATRs Task Force Leader;*

(b) *to consider the summary and analysis of the ATRs survey reproduced in the Annex to this document, as well as Appendices 1 and 2 thereof concerning the questionnaire and the results of the survey;*

(c) *to consider and approve the conclusions by the ATRs Task Force given in paragraphs 13 to 16 of the Annex to this document;*

(d) *to consider and approve the proposals by the ATRs Task Force given in paragraph 17 of the Annex to this document;*

(e) to consider and approve the Recommended Contents of ATRs on Patent Information Activities reproduced in Appendix 3 of the Annex to this document;

(f) to consider and approve the Recommended Contents of ATRs on Trademark Information Activities reproduced in Appendix 4 of the Annex to this document; and

(g) to consider and approve the Recommended Contents of ATRs on Industrial Design Information Activities reproduced in Appendix 5 of the Annex to this document.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF THE ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS SURVEY

Introduction

1. The Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) have been prepared for many years by the industrial property offices (IPOs) for making their information activities available to other offices and the public. At present, the ATRs are prepared within the framework of Task No. 24 of the Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT). The ATRs cover three different modalities; namely the ATRs on patent information activities (ATRs/PI), trademark information activities (ATRs/TM) and industrial design information activities (ATRs/ID). The SDWG ATRs Task Force has carried out a Web survey in order to clarify target users and their requirements, as well as the objectives of the ATRs. The survey was also conducted with the aim of improving the current contents as recommended in the ATRs.

2. The Task Force had previously prepared a draft questionnaire to be used in carrying out the survey; this questionnaire was presented for consideration by members of the Task Force at the meeting of the Task Force that was held during the seventh session of the SDWG in May/June 2006. Subsequently, on the basis of the comments to the draft questionnaire provided by the participants at the said meeting, the Task Force further discussed a revised questionnaire and reached agreement on the final version of the questionnaire that is reproduced as Appendix 1 to this document.

3. The survey was conducted from June 14 to October 4, 2006. During this time the questionnaire for the survey was available on the Internet. In order to inform interested parties of the survey, the International Bureau sent out an e-mail and posted a notice on the survey on the SCIT Web page; following the invitation by the SDWG at its seventh session, some industrial property offices also posted a notice on their Web sites. A summary and analysis of the responses, along with the tentative conclusions and proposals, is presented below. Appendix 2 to this document contains the results of the ATRs survey.

Participants in the ATRs Survey

4. The Web page with the questionnaire had 441 visitors during the time that the questionnaire was available on the Internet (<http://www6.wipo.int:8080/opinio/s?s=519>), and 144 responses coming from 34 member states were submitted. See question 3 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

5. The respondents were asked to choose the group to which they belonged (out of seven categories) and their profession (out of 16 professions). A large majority of the participants (73%) may be grouped in two main categories, namely “industrial property offices” (65 responses, 45%) and “professional IP information users (lawyers, agents, researchers...)” (41 responses, 28%). The two main groups of professions reported by the participants were “industrial property information expert” (48 responses, 33%) and “lawyer/agent” (27 responses, 19%). See questions 1 and 2 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

Interest in the current ATRs and additional requirements

6. Most of the participants in the survey (89%) expressed interest in the current ATRs/PI. Participants' interest in the current ATRs/TM and ATRs/ID was somewhat lower (56% and 49%, respectively), compared to their interest in the ATRs/PI. This shows that a significant number of respondents have interest in more than one modality of ATRs. Only 2% of the respondents to the questionnaire reported no interest in any of the three modalities of the ATRs. See question 4 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

7. In general, respondents thought the current recommended contents for the three modalities of the ATRs are useful. During the last two years, 64% of the respondents visited the ATRs available on the Internet at least once a year, including 25% who visited them over five times a year; it is also to be noted that 36% had never referenced the ATRs. See questions 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

8. In general, respondents expressed satisfaction with regard to the information provided by the current ATRs and to the format in which they are presented. About 48% of the respondents were satisfied with the information contained in the ATRs, compared to 9% who were not; 25% took a neutral position. Thirty-six percent of the respondents were satisfied with the current ATRs format, compared to 15% who were not; 29% took a neutral position. See question 9 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

9. Among the options offered in the questionnaire for respondents to express their interest in having additional information included in the ATRs, the three topics most frequently indicated were "IP law and cases" (55%), "IP information products and services" (48%), and "Business procedures (filing, publication, etc.)" (47%). See question 10 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

10. Many respondents expressed their interest in functions of search support (56%) and e-mail updates (52%). See question 12 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

11. Other individual comments on contents and formats of ATRs expressed by the participants in the survey are reproduced under "Free text" in questions 5, 6, 7, 10 and 12 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

Update cycle of the ATRs

12. On one hand, about 42% of the respondents were satisfied with the current annual update cycle of the ATRs, compared to 10% who were not; 27% took a neutral position. On the other hand, when they were requested to choose between different update cycles (from once every six months to once every three or more years), 56% of the respondents agreed to have the ATRs updated annually and 38% preferred to have them updated every six months. See questions 9 and 11 of Results of the ATRs Survey (Appendix 2).

Conclusions

13. The Task Force considers that the current objectives of the ATRs are still valid and useful to an important number of IPOs and industrial property information users.

14. A large majority of the participants in the survey can be regarded as users or potential users of the ATRs. In particular, the main users are the staff of IPOs and other professional users of industrial property information, including experts in industrial property information, lawyers, agents, policy makers, administrators, industrial property counselors and researchers. The Task Force considers that the target users of the ATRs should not be limited to the group of current users, and that the group of target users should try to be enlarged.

15. In general, respondents are satisfied with the current recommended contents of the ATRs, the information that they contain and their publication cycle. All presently existing sections of the ATRs are of sufficient interest to users of ATRs to justify keeping these sections in the ATRs. It might also be agreed that the ATRs are useful for making IPOs' information activities available to other offices and the public. However, some additions to the recommended contents may improve users' interest in the ATRs.

16. The respondents would like to be able to retrieve additional information from the ATRs, as well as to have additional functions that would facilitate their searching for specific information. Some requests for additional information fit within the ATRs' scope, but others are beyond it since the ATRs are of a technical nature, not legal, and reflect information activities of IPOs.

Proposals

17. The Task Force presents the following proposals for consideration and approval by the SDWG:

(a) The main objective of the ATRs should remain the same, i.e., the main objective of the ATRs is that of making the information activities of the IPOs available to other offices and to the public.

(b) The following should be considered as the group of target users of the ATRs: staff of IPOs; industrial property experts and information users from governmental institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry, and research and development institutions; industrial property information providers; educational institutions; and the general public.

(c) In order to enlarge the group of ATRs users, the SDWG invites IPOs and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that are SCIT members to inform interested parties that the ATRs are available on WIPO's website and to post, on their websites, a notice on the ATRs with a link to the ATRs Web page.

(d) The recommended contents of the three modalities of the ATRs should be revised in accordance with the revisions that are reproduced in Appendices 3, 4 and 5 to this document (the changes with regard to the current recommended contents are highlighted).

(e) The following two functions should be added to the current ATR Management System: search support and e-mail updates to subscribers.

(f) The IPOs should be invited to prepare their ATRs for publication on WIPO's website once a year, as up until now.

[Appendices follow]

APPENDIX 1

SURVEY ON ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS (ATRS)

QUESTIONNAIRE

Introduction

The ATRs have been prepared for many years by the industrial property offices (IPOs) for making their information activities available to other offices and the public. At present, the ATRs cover three different modalities; namely the ATRs on patent information activities (ATRs/PI), trademark information activities (ATRs/TM), and industrial design information activities (ATRs/ID). Information contained in the ATRs is also used for various information purposes, including awareness building, training and teaching. For more information on the current ATRs, please see the relevant documents at <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/index.htm>.

This survey is aimed at finding out who are the users of the ATRs and what kind of information they would like to see in the reports. In order to improve the ATRs, we invite you to complete the following survey. It will take about seven minutes to complete.

The results of the survey will be used to redesign the ATRs to better meet the needs of the industrial property community. If you have any question on this survey, please contact ATRsurvey.mail@wipo.int.

I. USERS OF THE ATRS

1. Which of the following categories best describes the group you belong to?

- Industrial Property (IP) Office
- Governmental Authority or Organization
- Non-Governmental Authority or Organization
- Commercial IP Information Provider
- Professional IP Information User (Lawyer, Agent, Researcher...)
- Educational Institution (Professor, Student...)
- Owner of IP rights (Inventor, Creator...)
- Others (please specify):

2. Which of the following items best describes your current profession?

- Industrial Property (IP) Information Expert
- Examiner in IP office
- Administrator
- Policy Maker / Planner
- Business Analyst
- IP Counselor
- IT Expert
- Commercial IP information provider
- Creator / Owner of IP rights
- Lawyer / Agent
- Researcher
- Professor / Assistant
- Teacher
- Student
- Employee in SME
- General Public
- Others (please specify):

3. In which country do you currently reside?

II. COMMENTS ON THE CURRENT ATRS

4. Which of the following ATRs are you interested in? (Check all that apply)

- Patents
- Trademarks
- Industrial designs
- None of the above

5. Patent information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Patent Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at

http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_pi_content.htm.

- Evolution of patent activities
- Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information
- Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents
- Search file establishment and upkeep
- Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems
- Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public
- Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information
- Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries
- Other relevant matters on Patent Information (please specify below)

6. Trademark information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Trademark Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at

http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_tm_content.htm

- Evolution of registration activities
- Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e., trademark gazettes
- Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep
- Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems
- Administration of trademark services available to the public
- Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information
- Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries
- Other relevant matters on Trademark Information (please specify below)

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7. Industrial design information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Industrial Design Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at

http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_id_content.htm

- Evolution of registration activities
- Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e., official gazettes
- Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification systems applied
- Search file establishment and upkeep
- Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs
- Administration of industrial design services available to the public
- Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information
- Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries
- Other relevant matters on Industrial Design Information (please specify below)

III. IMPROVEMENT OF THE ATRS

8. In the past two years how often have you referenced the ATRs available via WIPO's web site?

- Never before
- Once a year
- 2-5 times a year
- Over 5 times a year

9. Using the scale provided, please indicate your level of satisfaction with each of the following statements
- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Very dissatisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | The information contained in ATRs is useful |
| 2. Somewhat dissatisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | The format of the ATRs meets my needs |
| 3. Neutral | <input type="checkbox"/> | The current annual update cycle is appropriate |
| 4. Somewhat satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 5. Very satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 6. Don't know | | |
10. What other type of information would you like to see in the ATRs? (Check all that apply)
- Administrative information (Budget, Missions, Organigram)
 - Annual report of the IPOs
 - Business procedures (Filing, Publication)
 - IP law and cases
 - IP Information Products and Services
 - IT System Environments / Activities / Open source software
 - List of IP agents in the country
 - List of IP-related magazines/journals in the country
 - List of IP information providers in the country
 - Relevant URLs concerning information activities by IPOs
 - IP-related News
 - Others (please specify):
11. How often would you like to see the reports updated?
- Every 6 months
 - Once a year
 - Every 2 years
 - Every 3 + years

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12. Do you have any suggestions on how we might improve the ATRs? (Check all that apply)

- E-mail updates for subscribers
- Search functions
- Others (please specify below):

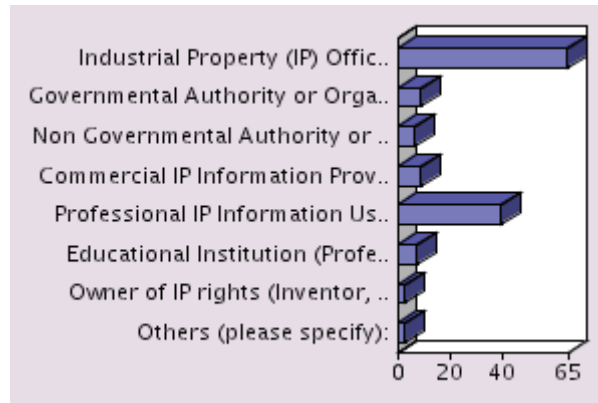
[Appendix 2 follows]

APPENDIX 2

RESULTS OF THE ATRS SURVEY

Start date: June 14, 2006
 Stop date: October 4, 2006
 Completed responses: 144

1. Which of the following categories best describes the group you belong to?



Option	Count	Percent
1. Industrial Property (IP) Office	65	45.1%
2. Governmental Authority or Organization	9	6.3%
3. Non-Governmental Authority or Organization	7	4.9%
4. Commercial IP Information Provider	9	6.3%
5. Professional IP Information User (Lawyer, Agent, Researcher...)	41	28.5%
6. Educational Institution (Professor, Student...)	8	5.6%
7. Owner of IP rights (Inventor, Creator...)	3	2.1%
8. Others (please specify):	2*	1.4%

Total responses: 144

- * Others (please specify):
- Consumer goods industry (1)
 - General public (1)

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2. Which of the following items best describes your current profession?

Option	Count	Percent
1. Industrial Property (IP) Information Expert	48	33.3%
2. Examiner in IP office	9	6.3%
3. Administrator	7	4.9%
4. Policy Maker / Planner	7	4.9%
5. Business Analyst	2	1.4%
6. IP Counselor	6	4.2%
7. IT Expert	6	4.2%
8. Commercial IP information provider	7	4.9%
9. Creator / Owner of IP rights	1	0.7%
10. Lawyer / Agent	27	18.8%
11. Researcher	6	4.2%
12. Professor / Assistant	3	2.1%
13. Teacher	2	1.4%
14. Student	5	3.5%
15. Employee in SME	1	0.7%
16. General Public	5	3.5%
17. Others (please specify):	2*	1.4%

Total responses: 144

- * Others (please specify):
- Employee in big industry (1)
 - Paralegal (1)

3. In which country do you currently reside?

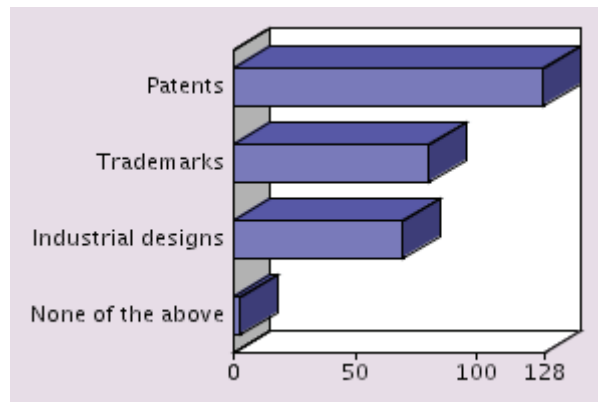
Country	Count	Percent
Angola	1	0.7%
Antigua and Barbuda	1	0.7%
Australia	1	0.7%
Austria	6	4.2%
Belgium	1	0.7%
Brazil	1	0.7%
Burundi	1	0.7%
Canada	8	5.6%
China	3	2.1%
Estonia	2	1.4%
France	4	2.8%
Germany	6	4.2%
India	2	1.4%
Indonesia	1	0.7%
Ireland	1	0.7%
Italy	1	0.7%
Japan	8	5.6%
Kenya	2	1.4%
Lithuania	9	6.3%

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Country	Count	Percent
Luxembourg	1	0.7%
Malaysia	1	0.7%
Mexico	1	0.7%
Netherlands	5	3.5%
Norway	2	1.4%
Republic of Korea	8	5.6%
Romania	4	2.8%
Russian Federation	34	23.6%
Slovakia	1	0.7%
Spain	1	0.7%
Sweden	2	1.4%
Switzerland	4	2.8%
Turkey	1	0.7%
United Kingdom	3	2.1%
United States of America	17	11.8%

Total responses: 144

4. Which of the following atrs are you interested in? (check all that apply)



Option	Count	Percent (over 144)
1. Patents	128	88.9%
2. Trademarks	81	56.3%
3. Industrial designs	70	48.6%
4. None of the above	3	2.1%

Total responses: 144

5. Patent Information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Patent Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at
http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_pi_content.htm.

Option	Count	Percent (over 144)	Percent (over 123)
1. Evolution of patent activities	89	61.8%	72.4%
2. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information	83	57.6%	67.5%
3. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents	76	52.8%	61.8%
4. Search file establishment and upkeep	83	57.6%	67.5%
5. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems	76	52.8%	61.8%
6. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public	66	45.8%	53.7%
7. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information	60	41.7%	48.8%
8. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries	63	43.8%	51.2%
9. Other relevant matters on Patent Information (please specify below)	13	9.0%	10.6%

Total responses: 123

Free text:

- Instead of gathering a separate ATR report, WIPO can collect and publish the annual reports of national offices, a part of which would be in the same format, and contain the same items, as the ATRs.
- Portal site for brief information on the IP offices
- (Link to) a more detailed description of all rights the office is responsible for and a short description of the procedures
- New books, etc.
- Licensing spin-offs
- License statistics, license activities of transfer of technologies
- Incorporation into a web service using a standard XML format ideally adhering to the OPS ops.espacenet.com standard
- Patent statistics
- With whom the offices have search and examination agreements
- Statistics of patent applications, etc., by IPO/country

6. Trademark Information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Trademark Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at
http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_tm_content.htm

Option	Count	Percent (over 144)	Percent (over 78)
1. Evolution of registration activities	53	36.8%	68.0%
2. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e., trademark gazettes	52	36.1%	66.7%
3. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information	48	33.3%	61.5%
4. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep	47	32.6%	60.3%
5. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems	59	41.0%	75.6%
6. Administration of trademark services available to the public	51	35.4%	65.4%
7. Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information	44	30.6%	56.4%
8. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries	37	25.7%	47.4%
9. Other relevant matters on Trademark Information (please specify below)	4	2.8%	5.1%

Total responses: 78

Free text:

- Portal site for brief information on the IP offices
- License statistics, license activities
- I do not need the information given in the ATRs.
- Statistics of TM applications, etc., by IPO/country

7. Industrial Design Information

What information do you think is useful in the current recommended contents of the ATRs on Industrial Design Information Activities? (Check all that apply)

For more information, please see the relevant documents at
http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/atrs/resources/atr_id_content.htm

Option	Count	Percent (over 144)	Percent (over 69)
1. Evolution of registration activities	48	33.3%	69.6%
2. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e., official gazettes	45	31.3%	65.2%
3. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification systems applied	41	28.5%	59.4%

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Option	Count	Percent (over 144)	Percent (over 69)
4. Search file establishment and upkeep	48	33.3%	69.6%
5. Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs	50	34.7%	72.5%
6. Administration of industrial design services available to the public	46	31.9%	66.7%
7. Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information	39	27.1%	56.5%
8. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries	33	22.9%	47.8%
9. Other relevant matters on Industrial Design Information (please specify below)	5	3.5%	7.3%

Total responses: 69

Free text:

- Portal site for brief information on the IP offices
- License statistics, license activities
- Incorporation into a web service using a standard XML format ideally adhering to the *OPS ops.espacenet.com* standard
- More statistics

8. In the past two years how often have you referenced the atrs available via wipo's web site?

Never before	Once a year	2-5 times a year	Over 5 times a year
52 36.1%	28 19.4%	28 19.4%	36 25.0%

Total responses: 144

9. Using the scale provided, please indicate your level of satisfaction with each of the following statements

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know
The information contained in ATRs is useful	8 5.6%	5 3.5%	36 25.0%	47 32.6%	22 15.3%	26 18.1%
The format of the ATRs meets my needs	11 7.6%	10 6.9%	42 29.2%	40 27.8%	12 8.3%	29 20.1%
The current annual update cycle is appropriate	5 3.5%	9 6.3%	39 27.1%	38 26.4%	23 16.0%	30 20.8%

Total responses: 144

10. What other type of information would you like to see in the ATRs? (check all that apply)

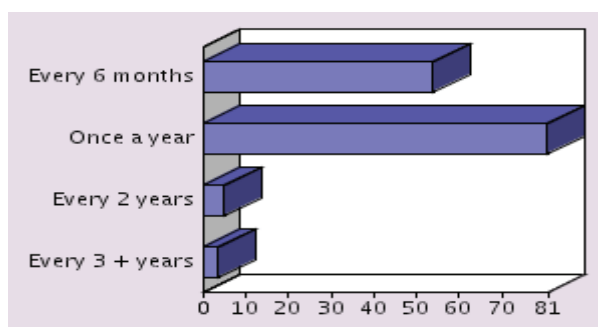
Option	Count	Percent (over 144)
1. Administrative information (Budget, Missions, Organigram)	38	26.4%
2. Annual report of the IPOs	46	31.9%
3. Business procedures (Filing, Publication)	67	46.5%
4. IP law and cases	79	54.9%
5. IP Information Products and Services	69	47.9%
6. IT System Environments / Activities / Open source software	42	29.2%
7. List of IP agents in the country	51	35.4%
8. List of IP-related magazines/journals in the country	58	40.3%
9. List of IP information providers in the country	53	36.8%
10. Relevant URLs concerning information activities by IPOs	63	43.8%
11. IP-related News	63	43.8%
12. Others (please specify)	8*	5.6%

Total responses: 139

* Others (please specify):

- Statistics (charts) for IP rights
- PCT national phase entry, use of IPC 8, examination search file summary, acceptance of other offices' search reports, "information disclosure statement", etc.
- National IP law and cases
- In what fields are the most number of trademark application filings and grants?
- IP for Bio-fuel

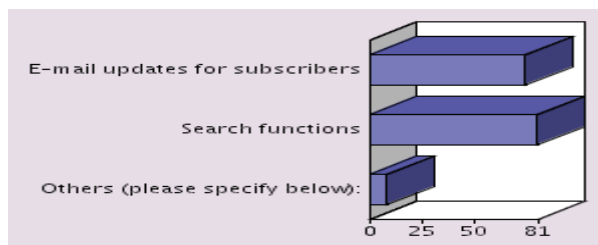
11. How often would you like to see the reports updated?



Option	Count	Percent
1. Every 6 months	54	37.5%
2. Once a year	81	56.3%
3. Every 2 years	5	3.5%
4. Every 3 + years	4	2.8%

Total responses: 144

12. Do you have any suggestions on how we might improve the ATRs? (check all that apply)



Option	Count	Percent (over 144)
1. E-mail updates for subscribers	75	52.1%
2. Search functions	81	56.3%
3. Others (please specify below):	9	6.3%

Total responses: 121

Free text:

- If ATRs would be included in the annual reports of offices, then it should be annual of course; if ATRs are published separately, they can be published every three or more years.
- I would like to skip from one country to the other and keep the respective paragraph of the report; for example: skip directly from statistics AT to statistics DE to statistics. In addition, the system should not only allow to jump from one office's complete report to another office's complete report, but the system should also provide a function whereby the user could search for a particular item for several offices.
- Highlight changes compared to the previous year; for example, include two versions, one without the function "track changes" and one with this function activated so that users can just go to the data that has changed, if that is their interest.
- Translate everything into English, and have French, Spanish Chinese, etc., as options – but make sure everything is available in English.
- Data on: number of trademarks registered per year; in what areas are trademarks being filed or registered; breakdown of costs; how to register a trademark more easily; how to help with the costs of trademarking when starting a small business
- More detailed instructions on how to fill in the information on the ATR form.

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- I know the contents of the ATR of my office. I do not need the kind of information found in the ATRs. Thus, I have never consulted the ATR of any other office. I find the information which I need already in the home pages of WIPO and other offices. I do not need an extra ATR for my purposes (I am in charge of international trade mark affairs in my office). The reports are superfluous. Therefore I do not need any update. I have only selected one option in 8. because I had to.
- If the annual reports published by the IPOs in English could substitute for the WIPO ATRs, then the update routine could be once a year, otherwise every two or three years.

[Appendix 3 follows]

APPENDIX 3

RECOMMENDED CONTENTS OF ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS ON
PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

The Annual Technical Reports on Patent Information Activities should cover the following items:¹

I. Evolution of patent activities

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year;

Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year;

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide statistics related to patents.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information

Publishing, printing, copying (main types of publications of the office in the field of patent information, etc.);

Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of patent information;

Mass storage media used (paper, microforms, optical storage, etc.);

Word processing and office automation;

(New) techniques used for the generation of patent information (printing, recording, photocomposing, etc.);

[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide access to online publication of patent documents and gazettes, and other primary and secondary sources of patent information, including patent publication servers and download of bulk patent data.](#)

III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents

Abstracting, reviewing, translating;

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Patent Classification (IPC), other classification (please indicate whether or not patent documents are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used);

Coordinate indexing (domestic deep indexing systems, keyword indexing);

Hybrid system indexing;

Bibliographic data and full-text processing ~~for search purposes~~.

¹ The term "patent" covers utility models and Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs). Offices which issue design patents should report their design patent information activities in their Annual Technical Reports on Industrial Design Information Activities.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

File building;
Updating;
Storage, including mass storage media;
Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file.

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems

In-house systems (online/offline);
External databases;
Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);
Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used;
Existing online thesauri; their structure, presentation and usefulness for computerized searches.

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library, and [information products and services available to the public \(relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, for assisting clients on searching procedures, for obtaining official publications and registry extracts\)](#)

Planning, administration, automation, security, buildings;
Collecting, acquisitions, preparation;
Collection management, preservation;
Interlibrary lending, resource sharing, networks of patent libraries in the country;
Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and patent information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web);

[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide information on business procedures such as: filing, publication, examination and grant procedures related to patents; opposition and appeal procedures related to patents; etc;](#)

[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide a description of information products and services offered by the Office \(e.g., patent search service\(s\), patent databases, etc.\), as well as information on how to access and utilize them.](#)

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., bibliographic data, abstract and/or full text information;
Medium used for exchange of priority documents;
Medium allowed for filing applications;
Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the Changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents² (please provide a status report on the extent to which your Office has changed over to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents).

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries (please indicate URLs of Web pages of the Office's website wherever appropriate)

Training courses for national and foreign participants, use of audiovisual means;
Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.);
Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);
Studies to identify trends in new technology, e.g., by the use of patent statistics, preparation of monographs, etc.;
Assistance furnished by offices to facilitate the changing over of receiving offices to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents (see also sub-item 4 of item VI, above);
Main patent and industrial property information magazines/journals published in the country or region of the Office.

IX. Other general information related to the Office that is available on the Internet

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that:

- provide information on legislation related to patents;
- contain the Annual Report of the Office;
- if necessary, provide further information related to the topics referred to in the current ATR;
- provide open source codes related to patent information systems;
- contain patent-related news regarding the Office.

~~IXX.~~ Other relevant matters

[Appendix 4 follows]

² See WIPO *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* CD-ROM, part 8.4

APPENDIX 4

RECOMMENDED CONTENTS OF ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS ON
TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

The Annual Technical Reports on Trademark Information Activities should cover the following items:

I. Evolution of registration activities

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and registrations with respect to the previous year;
Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year;
URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide statistics related to trademarks.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e., trademark gazettes

Publishing, printing, copying techniques;
Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of trademark information;
Mass storage media and microforms used;
Word processing and office automation;
Techniques used for the generation of trademark information (printing, recording, photocomposing, etc.);
[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide access to online trademark gazettes and other sources of trademark information, including download of bulk trademark data.](#)

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification systems used, e.g., International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification), other classification (please indicate whether goods and services for the registration of marks and whether the figurative elements of marks are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification(s) is (are) used);
Use of electronic classification systems to check the classification symbols furnished by an applicant and which are contained in the lists of goods and/or services;
Obligation for applicants to use pre-defined terms of the classification applied;
Bibliographic data and processing [for search purposes.](#)

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IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep

File building;
Updating;
Storage, including mass storage media;
Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file.

V. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems

In-house systems (online/offline);
External databases;
Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);
Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used.

VI. Administration of trademark [information products and services available to the public \(relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering trademarks, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts\)](#)

Planning, administration, automation, security;
Collection management, preservation;
Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and trademark information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web).
[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide information on business procedures such as: filing, publication, examination and registration procedures related to trademarks; opposition and appeal procedures related to trademarks; etc;](#)
[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide a description of information products and services offered by the Office \(e.g., trademark search service\(s\), trademark databases, etc.\), as well as information on how to access and utilize them.](#)

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of trademark documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of trademark information, e.g., in the form of official gazettes;
Exchange of machine-readable information.

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VIII. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries (please indicate URLs of Web pages of the Office's website wherever appropriate)

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);

Training courses for national and foreign participants;

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.).

Main trademark and industrial property information magazines/journals published in the country or region of the Office.

IX. Other general information related to the Office that is available on the Internet

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that:

- provide information on legislation related to trademarks;
- that contain the Annual Report of the Office;
- if necessary, provide further information related to the topics referred to in the current ATR;
- provide open source codes related to trademark information systems;
- contain trademark-related news regarding the Office.

IX. Other relevant matters

[Appendix 5 follows]

APPENDIX 5

RECOMMENDED CONTENTS OF ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS ON
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

The Annual Technical Reports on Industrial Design Information Activities should cover the following items:¹

I. Evolution of registration activities

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants (registrations) with respect to the previous year;

Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year.

[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide statistics related to industrial designs.](#)

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e., official gazettes

Publishing, including printing, copying techniques and electronic printing;

Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of industrial design information;

Mass storage media and microforms used;

Databases and office automation.

[URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide access to online industrial design gazettes and other sources of industrial design information, including download of bulk industrial design data.](#)

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification systems applied

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), other classification (please indicate whether industrial designs are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used);

Bibliographic data and processing for ~~search~~ purposes.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

File building;
Updating;
Storage, including mass storage media;
Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file.

V. Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs

In-house systems (online/offline);
External databases;
Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);
Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), data carriers used.

VI. Administration of industrial design information products and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering designs, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts)

Planning, administration, automation, security;
Collection management, preservation;
Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and industrial design information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web).

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide information on business procedures such as: filing, publication, examination and registration procedures related to industrial designs; opposition and appeal procedures related to industrial designs; etc;

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that provide a description of information products and services offered by the Office (e.g., industrial design search service(s), industrial design databases, etc.), as well as information on how to access and utilize them.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of industrial design information, e.g., in the form of official gazettes;
Exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., data contained on CD-ROM or magnetic tape.

VIII. Matters concerning education and training, including technical assistance to developing countries (please indicate URLs of Web pages of the Office's website wherever appropriate)

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);

Training courses for national and foreign participants;

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.).

Main industrial design and industrial property information magazines/journals published in the country or region of the Office.

IX. Other general information related to the Office that is available on the Internet

URLs of Web pages of the Office's website that:

- provide information on legislation related to industrial designs;
- contain the Annual Report of the Office;
- if necessary, provide further information related to the topics referred to in the current ATR;
- provide open source codes related to industrial design information systems;
- contain industrial design-related news regarding the Office.

X. Other relevant matters

[End of Appendix 5 and of document]

¹-The expression "industrial design" covers designs and models.
Offices which issue design patents should report their design patent information activities in this series of Annual Technical Reports.