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WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Twenty-Fifth Session
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RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE WIPO TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE,
TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND GENETIC RESOURCES WEBSITE

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1.   At its Twentieth Session, held from February 14 to 22, 2012, the Intergovernmental
Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
("the IGC") invited the Secretariat to produce an information document briefly describing the
resources available on the WIPO Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and
Genetic Resources website ("the WIPO TK website"), as a means to support and enhance the
participation of observers in its work.[1] This decision was among several decisions taken
following discussion of a "Draft Study on the Participation of Observers in the Work of the
Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional
Knowledge and Folklore: Executive Summary" (see document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/7).

2.   Pursuant to that decision, a brief description of the available resources is attached as an
Annex. Such description is intended to assist IGC participants, particularly observers and
newcomers, to make better use of already available materials on the WIPO TK website.

3.   At its Twentieth Session, the IGC also "requested the Secretariat to improve the
accessibility of the WIPO website devoted to traditional knowledge, genetic resources and
traditional cultural expressions." Accordingly, the WIPO TK website has been re-structured with
a view to improving its accessibility, as well as part of a general revision of the WIPO website.
The description of the available resources as referred to in paragraph 2 here above reflects the
changes made in the WIPO TK website.

4.   In addition, the IGC, at its Twentieth Session, took note that a distinct WIPO webpage on
the WIPO TK website is dedicated to comments, proposals, submissions and papers from

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[1] See draft report of the Twentieth Session (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/10), paragraph 801 (f).

observers, including drafting proposals on IGC negotiating texts and other working documents for consideration by Member States. The IGC requested the Secretariat to encourage observers to contribute to this observers' comments webpage and to draw the attention of Member States to these comments before each session of the IGC.[2] The Secretariat is accordingly, through several means, encouraging observers to contribute comments and other materials to the webpage (submissions may be sent by accredited observers to the Secretariat at grtkf@wipo.int) and hereby draws to the attention of the Member States that the page is available at http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/ngo/index.html.

> 5.   The IGC is invited to take note of this document and the Annex to it.

[Annex follows]

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[2] See draft report of the Twentieth Session (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/10), paragraph 801 (f).

RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE WIPO TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE,
TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND GENETIC RESOURCES WEBSITE
AND

The present Annex presents the resources available on the WIPO TK website[1]. It reflects the
changes that have been introduced as an effect of its most recent restructuration.

The major change concerns the structure of the landing page of the WIPO TK website. Instead
of having numerous links in the landing page, six main entries have been created to lead to
six different subject matters: "Traditional Knowledge", "Genetic Resources", "Traditional
Cultural Expressions", "Intergovernmental Committee (IGC)", "Resources and Capacity
Building" and "Indigenous Portal". Another major change restructures the "Resources" page
(see further below) to regroup all materials into three catalogues: "Technical Assistance and
Capacity Building", "Databases" and "Publications, Studies and Documents". The main purpose
of all these changes is to make the information as easily accessible as possible.

The resources that are available on the WIPO TK website (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/) cover the
IGC, an indigenous portal, background resources, as well as news.

The IGC

A distinct "IGC webpage" (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/index.html) constitutes the most
important gate of detailed information for IGC participants, including observers. A specific
section "IGC News and Documents" are created to keep IGC participants updated.

It offers direct links to:

- The negotiating mandate of the IGC for 2012-2013:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/igc_mandate_1213.pdf;

- The IGC work program for 2013 as decided by the Assemblies of Member States of
  WIPO:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/igc_workprogram_2013_gadecision_en.pdf;

- The most recent IGC schedule of dates for 2013:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/igc_schedule_2013.pdf;

- A background brief on the IGC:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/resources/pdf/tk_brief2.pdf.

All IGC-related documentation can be retrieved from the IGC webpage:

The "negotiating texts":

- on TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=226474;

- on TK: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=238182;

- on GRs: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=230222;

The complete lists of available documents related to the Twenty-Fifth Session of the IGC:
http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=29683;

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[1] The reader will find a list of acronyms at the end of the present Annex.

The complete lists of the IGC documents since the establishment of the IGC in
October 2000: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=110;

The complete lists of documents relating to the three Intersessional Working Group
Sessions that took place in 2010 and 2011:

- on TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=20443;

- on TK: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=19982;

- on GRs: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=19982;

The negotiations within the IGC have been preceded by a consultation process regarding
Draft provisions for the protection of TCEs and TK against misappropriation and misuse that
was commissioned by the IGC at its sixth Session in March 2004. The history of this process is
archived on: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/draft_provisions.html#consultations.

Other selected IGC documents and resources of particular and continuing importance in the
IGC work are also available:

- List of key issues relating to the protection of TCEs and relating to the protection
  of TK:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/issues.html;

- Gap analyses on the protection of TCEs and the protection of TK:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/gap-analyses.html;

- Glossary on Key Terms Related to IP and GRs, TK and TCEs:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/glossary.html.

A specific web page relating to the **observers' participation** is available on:

http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/participation.html.

It includes links to the following:

- The accreditation process and the list of the accredited organizations;

- The WIPO Voluntary Fund that facilitates the participation of indigenous and local
  communities in the work of the IGC;

- The panels of representatives of indigenous and local communities, comprising
  presentations made by the members of the Panels:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/panels.html;

- A distinct webpage devoted to proposals, submissions and papers of observers:
  http://www.wipo.int/t/en/igc/ngo/index.html;

- Studies and decisions regarding the observers' participation since IGC 20:

  - the draft study on observer participation in the work of the IGC
    (document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/20/7):
    http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=196197;

- Decisions taken by the IGC in this regard are available at
http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/tk/en/wipo_grtkf_ic_20/wipo_grtkf_ic_20_ref_decisions.pdf and
http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/tk/en/wipo_grtkf_ic_21/wipo_grtkf_ic_21_ref_decisions.pdf;

- Information document regarding six suggestions made by the WIPO Indigenous Caucus (information document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/22/INF/10):
http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/tk/en/wipo_grtkf_ic_22/wipo_grtkf_ic_22_inf_10.pdf.

Practical information

- Practical guide for observers, including available facilities for accredited organizations representing indigenous and local communities representatives:
http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/observers_practical_guide.pdf;

- Guidelines relating to interventions during the IGC:
http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/igc/pdf/intervention.pdf.

Indigenous portal

A distinct "Indigenous Portal" has been created at: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/indigenous/. This is part of the WIPO Secretariat's effort to improve access to available information for and relating specifically to indigenous peoples and local communities. It offers links to relevant WIPO resources, information on accreditation to, and participation in, the IGC process and provides access to external links of interest to indigenous peoples and local communities.

Resources

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found on
http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/faqs.html.

A glossary of key terms related to IP and GRs, TK and TCEs is available on
http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/glossary.html.

More detailed background resources regarding TK, TCEs and GRs, are all gathered on
http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/. They relate to:

- technical assistance and capacity building documentation, including:

  o the WIPO Cultural Documentation and IP Management Training Program
(http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/training.html);

  o IP management guides for different fields;

  o TK Documentation (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/tkdocumentation.html);

- databases:

  o laws and legislative measures on TK, TCEs and GRs
(http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/legal_texts/);

  o biodiversity-related ABS agreements

(http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/databases/contracts/);

- o codes, guidelines and practices relating to the recording, digitization and dissemination of TCEs (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/databases/creative_heritage/);

- o list of online databases/registries of TK and GRs (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/db_registry.html);

- publications and studies

Publications and studies are directly retrievable from http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/publications.html. They include general information, background briefs, documentation relating to the protection of TK and TCEs, ABS and disclosure requirements, IP management and customary law.

Here are some publications that cover TK, TCEs and GRs:

- WIPO Report on Fact-Finding Missions on IP and TK (1998-1999): http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/tk/768/wipo_pub_768.pdf.

- An Overview on IP and GRs, TK and TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/freepublications/en/tk/933/wipo_pub_933.pdf.

- Background Brief on IP and TK: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/resources/pdf/tk_brief1.pdf.

- Customary Law and IP: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/indigenous/customary_law/index.html.

Some of the publications or web pages are specific to one of the three items. The following is a small selection thereof:

TCEs protection issues:

- Concise description of the issues involved: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/folklore/.

- Minding Culture: Case Studies on IP and TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/tk/781/wipo_pub_781.pdf.

- Consolidated Analysis of the Legal Protection of TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/tk/785/wipo_pub_785.pdf.

- Legislative texts relevant to TCEs: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/legal_texts/index_ef.jsp.

- Cultural Documentation Database of existing codes, guidelines and practices: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/databases/creative_heritage/index.html.

TK protection issues:

- Concise description of the issues involved: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/tk/.

- WIPO TK Documentation Toolkit: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/resources/tkdocumentation.html.

- Technical Study on Disclosure Requirements in Patent Systems related to GRs and TK:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/tk/786/wipo_pub_786.pdf.

- Legislative texts relevant to TK:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/legal_texts/index.jsp

Relevant issues in relation to GRs:

- Concise description of the issues involved: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/genetic/.

- Technical Study on Disclosure Requirements in Patent Systems related to GRs and TK:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/tk/786/wipo_pub_786.pdf.

- Draft Intellectual Property Guidelines for Access to Genetic Resources and Equitable Sharing of the Benefit arising from their Utilization:
  http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/tk/en/resources/pdf/draft_guidelines_feb_2013.pdf.

- Legislative texts relevant to GRs:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/legal_texts/index_gr.jsp.

- Database of biodiversity-related access and benefit-sharing agreements:
  http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/databases/contracts/index.html.

News

Users of the WIPO TK website can retrieve relevant news through its homepage: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/, including archives (http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/news/).

Any interested person can subscribe to e-newsletters and updates to receive general information concerning TK-related developments and events, by sending an email to grtkf@wipo.int.

Acronyms used in this document:

ABS:	Access and Benefit Sharing
GRs:	Genetic Resources
IGC:	Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions
IGC 1, 2…:	First Session of the IGC, Second Session of the IGC
IP:	Intellectual Property
TCEs:	Traditional Cultural Expressions
TK:	Traditional Knowledge
WIPO TK website:	WIPO Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions, and Genetic Resources website

[End of Annex and of document]