

# WIPO



**WIPO/GRTKF/IC/9/9**  
**ORIGINAL:** English  
**DATE:** January 9, 2006

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

**E**

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE**

**Ninth Session**  
**Geneva, April 24 to 28, 2006**

### **GENETIC RESOURCES**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. At its thirty-second session, the WIPO General Assembly extended the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore ('the Committee') over the 2006-2007 budgetary biennium "to continue its work on traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions/folklore and genetic resources." This document provides a brief update on issues relevant to genetic resources.
2. Document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/8/9, prepared for the eighth session of the Committee, provided an overview of past work on genetic resources and (as Annex II) a summary of proposals made to the Committee under this agenda item by various members and observers. In addition, at the eighth session, the European Community and its Member States submitted under this agenda item a proposal entitled "Disclosure of Origin or Source of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in Patent Applications" (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/8/11). The Committee did not take a decision on this agenda item at its eighth session.
3. At its sixth session, the Committee considered an invitation from the Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) concerning issues regarding the interrelation of access to genetic resources and disclosure requirements in intellectual property rights applications. The Committee agreed to refer this invitation to the WIPO General Assembly for its decision. The General Assembly established a specific process

(distinct from the Committee) to develop a response to the CBD COP invitation, based on inputs by WIPO Member States and subsequent review, including by observers. This resulted in the consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session of an examination of these issues (WO/GA/32/8). The General Assembly approved the transmittal of this document to the CBD COP, and it has been transmitted accordingly for consideration of the COP at its seventh session in March 2006.

*4. The Committee is invited: (i) to note the contents of this update; and (ii) to provide its directions concerning any future work under this agenda item.*

[End of document]