

## ***Ad Hoc* Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions**

**Geneva, February 26, 2023**

INFORMATION NOTE ON METHODOLOGY AND PROGRAM

*Prepared by the WIPO Secretariat*

1. The overall objective of the *ad hoc* expert group on traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as indicated in the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“IGC”) and the Decisions of the Forty-Fifth Session of the IGC (“IGC 45”), is to address specific legal, policy or technical issues. The results of the work will be reported to and further addressed by the IGC.
2. This Information Note sets out the methodology and program for the *ad hoc* expert group, in accordance with the Decisions taken at IGC 45.
3. A separate Substantive Background Note (document WIPO/IPTK-TCES/GE/23/2) will provide more specific questions and some background information on the list of issues to be addressed, which are:
  - Customary law
  - Formalities
  - National treatment
  - Transboundary cooperation
4. In general, the *ad hoc* expert group will work in a transparent and inclusive way. All experts will participate **in their personal capacities**.

### **Mandate**

5. The IGC plenary is the negotiating and decision-making body, and the *ad hoc* expert group is to support and facilitate the negotiations of the IGC, by providing advice and analysis on the issues to be addressed.

### **Experts**

6. All experts will participate in their personal capacities. The experts nominated to participate in the meeting are listed in the List of Participants for the meeting, document WIPO/IPTK-TCES/GE/23/INF/1.
7. It is proposed that the meeting follow the Chatham House Rule, i.e., “participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers, nor that of any other participant, may be revealed”.
8. All participants are also requested to respect the informality of the *ad hoc* expert group, and not to communicate to the public, whether “live” or at any future time, the content or nature of the discussions taking place in the *ad hoc* expert group, whether in general terms or by way of quoting specific experts.

### **Chair**

9. The IGC Chair, Ms. Lilyclaire Bellamy (Jamaica) has nominated Mr. Anthony Kakooza, Associate Professor of Law, Uganda Christian University, and Ms. Edwina Lewis, Director of Policy and International Affairs, IP Australia, Australia, to chair the *ad hoc* expert group.
10. Mr. Kakooza and Ms. Lewis will chair the *ad hoc* expert group by introducing the issues and facilitating the discussions.

## Reporting to the IGC

11. Mr. Kakooza and Ms. Lewis, in their capacity as the co-chairs of the *ad hoc* expert group on traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, will report to the IGC plenary at IGC 46 on Monday, February 27, 2023, on the outcomes and results of the *ad hoc* expert group's work. The co-chairs' report will be prepared and delivered under their own responsibility and authority.

## Documents

12. The *ad hoc* expert group may refer to and use all WIPO working documents, including WIPO/GRTKF/IC/46/4 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/46/5, as well as any other contributions of Member States and materials produced by the WIPO Secretariat.

## Languages

13. The working languages of the *ad hoc* expert group will be English, French and Spanish.

## Program

14. The table below indicates a proposed program for the *ad hoc* expert group, noting that the process should be flexible. The co-chairs will adjust the program as they believe appropriate.

Time	Activity
9:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Opening by the co-chairs</li><li>- Introductions</li><li>- Customary law</li><li>- Formalities</li></ul>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- National treatment</li><li>- Transboundary cooperation</li><li>- Wrap-up by the co-chairs</li></ul>

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