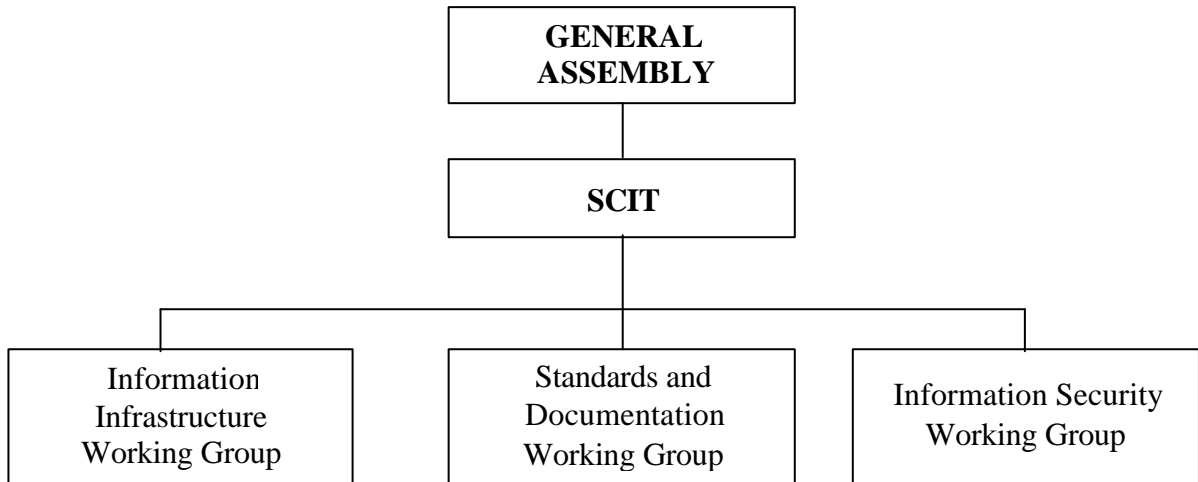


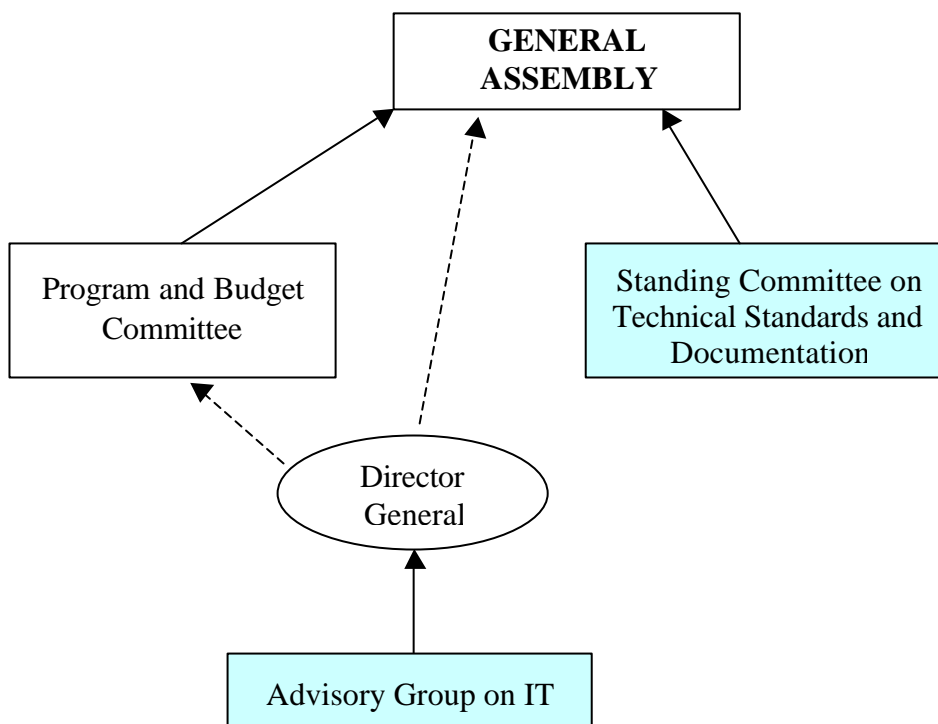
ANNEX

OPTIONS FOR STRUCTURE

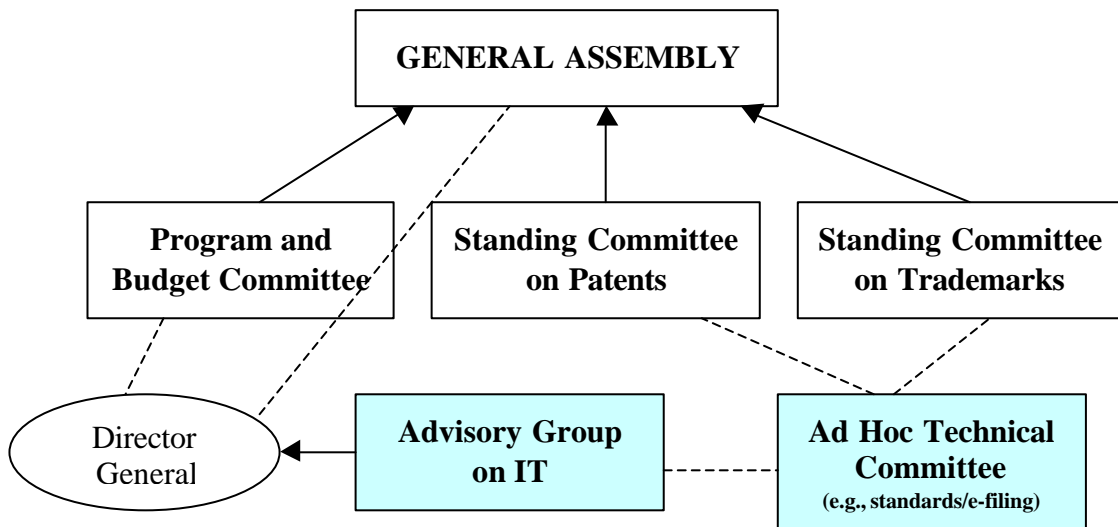
Option I: this option reflects the current committee structure, whereby the three permanent working groups report directly to the SCIT Plenary. In turn, the Plenary may make recommendations to the WIPO General Assembly on matters of information technology, although in practice this has never happened.



Option II: this option was contained in the International Bureau's first draft paper on SCIT restructuring. It replaces the SCIT with an Advisory Group (to the Director General) on Information Technology and a permanent Standing Committee for Standards and Documentation, thus recognizing the clear distinction between the two areas. A benefit of which would be the fact that the agendas of the respective committees could be more clearly focused and targeted to specific levels of Member State representation.



Option III: the main difference between this and Option II is the replacement of a permanent committee on standards and documentation with an ad hoc structure that would have an agenda driven by the Standing Committees on Patents and Trademarks and the Advisory Group on IT. A benefit of this would be that ad hoc technical committees could be convened to handle any information technology-related, cross-cutting issue such as electronic-filing, and would not necessarily be restricted to issues of standards and documentation. However, the question of responsibility for the administration of the ad hoc technical committees within the International Bureau would need to be resolved in advance to prevent duplication of effort and to ensure that financial provision is made in the budget process for the convening of meetings.



Option IV: if this Option were to be adopted, the SCIT would need to agree a formula for the membership of the Advisory Group on IT to prevent it becoming a replica of the SCIT. The relationship between the SCIT and other Member State organs is also unclear and would need further elaboration.

