

# WIPO



A/35/13

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: September 22, 2000

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
GENEVA

## ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

### Thirty-Fifth Series of Meetings Geneva, September 25 to October 3, 2000

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW  
JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2000

*Report by the Director General*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. During the first six months of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), as entrusted by its Member States, has continued playing a leading role in fostering the conditions necessary to encourage creative and innovative activity and to promote the protection of intellectual property throughout the world, providing strong leadership in developing the intellectual property system with a view to underpinning the global conditions where creative potential can be released and channeled into tangible, sustainable development.
2. This Program Implementation Overview gives an account of these efforts as an information document to Member States and intends to provide a sense of the overall direction of WIPO's activities during the first six months of 2000. It also aims at highlighting particular activities or accomplishments that may be of interest to WIPO Member States and other interested parties. However, it is neither intended to provide a detailed report on program performance nor an exhaustive list of activities.
3. This Overview stands separately from the report "Program Performance in the 1998-1999 Biennium" (document A/35/2 of August 7, 2000), prepared in the context of the World Intellectual Property Organization's results-based programming and budgeting, which will assess the program objectives attained, as established at the beginning of that biennium,

based on an analysis of the main results achieved. The relevant program performance report covering all the year 2000 will be prepared in the course of 2001, for submission to the next session of the WIPO Assemblies.

4. For each Main Program of the Program and Budget 2000-2001 (A/34/2 of March 12, 1999), this Overview provides a general assessment of its implementation and, where applicable, a mention of any particularly influential factors. Sections specific to each Sub-program of individual Main Programs illustrate the activities undertaken or accomplished within the reporting period, and where applicable, reference is made to supporting efforts from other Sub-programs, Main Programs or partners outside the Organization. The general assessments, and the relevant Sub-program sections refer by example to a representative number of significant activities or accomplishments that illustrate the nature of program implementation.

5. This Overview also provides Member States with information on the implementation of the projects financed from the Special Reserve Funds. These major projects include Information Technology items such as WIPONET and IMPACT for PCT Automation, the renovation of the former World Meteorological Organization (WMO) building, as well as the necessary tenders and competitions with regard to the future construction of the WIPO Headquarters premises extension.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 01**

### **Constituent Organs of the Member States and Office of the Director General**

#### **General Assessment**

6. WIPO's membership had increased by July 2000 to 175 Member States, with accession to the WIPO Convention, during the reporting period, of Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominican Republic, and Seychelles. The Director General continued to enhance systems and functions in WIPO, and further strengthened and solidified collaboration with governments, particularly on policy, the Program and Budget, new and topical intellectual property issues, the implementation of WIPO-administered treaties, and transparency and accountability. The Director General also continued to move towards closer cooperation with international and regional organizations, including the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations system.

#### **Sub-program 01.1 - Organs of the Member States**

7. Several important meetings of the Organs of the Member States took place during the period under review, supported under this Sub-program. These included an Extraordinary Session of the Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) Assembly from March 13 to 17; the WIPO General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform, which met from March 22 to 24; an Extraordinary session of the WIPO General Assembly, which was convened on April 13, following the special fourth session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights and the Preparatory Committee for the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances, held in Geneva during the same week. The General Assembly was fully briefed on, and approved the convening of a Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances, from December 7 to 20, 2000.

#### **Sub-program 01.2 - The Director General**

8. The Director General provides overall executive direction, management, policy guidance and leadership in the implementation of all of WIPO's program of work. Close and efficient contact was maintained with Member States both in Geneva and abroad. During the first six months of 2000, the Director General undertook 11 foreign missions and received more than 100 visits of representatives from the Member States, including heads of state or government, ministers, ambassadors, and heads of international and national organizations, with the aim of consolidating and improving international relationships as well as achieving consensual progress on international intellectual property issues.

9. Important support to the Director General was provided in the form of preparation of correspondence with Member States, other international and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals, speeches, briefing material and statements, organization and follow-up to the Policy Development Group meetings and decisions, as well as ensuring the smooth functioning in all aspects of protocol, liaison and

representation functions. Supervision of the WIPO Coordination Office in New York was also dealt with under this Sub-program, close contacts and exchanges of information being maintained and administrative functions executed.

### **Sub-program 01.3 - Advisory Commissions**

10. The Industry Advisory Commission (IAC) and the Policy Advisory Commission (PAC) continued to hold in-depth discussions on a wide range of intellectual property-related issues and to provide useful advice to the Director General on possible actions for WIPO. The IAC held its third meeting at the WIPO Headquarters in Geneva on May 4 and 5. Fourteen members attended the meeting. A meeting of the Task Force of the PAC took place in Washington, D.C., on March 1. The second meeting of the PAC took place at WIPO Headquarters on June 15. Seventeen members attended the meeting, as well as two representatives of members. The PAC was able, at its second meeting, to reach agreement on the text of a document which it proposed could be used in the Director General's efforts to demystify and depoliticize intellectual property issues, namely a World Intellectual Property Declaration (WIPD).

11. Administrative support for all meetings was provided under this Sub-program, and the WIPD, as well as the Reports of the proceedings of the plenary meetings, were prepared and submitted for approval before the respective Commissions, prior to being brought before the Assemblies of Member States at their forthcoming meetings, in September 2000.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 02**

### **Strategic Planning and Policy Development**

#### **General assessment**

12. During this reporting period, WIPO continued to implement and improve new systems and functions that the Director General introduced in the 1998–1999 biennium; WIPO has further strengthened its strategic planning and policy development by promoting collaboration and reinforcing dialogue with governments, international or regional organizations, UPOV, WTO and the United Nations system. The Director General has been fully assisted in fulfilling his oversight responsibilities, in creating and refining strategic planning and overall coordination between different program activities, having taken into account the conceptual framework of WIPO's Vision and Strategic Direction (see document A/34/3) as endorsed by Member States.

#### **Sub-program 02.1 - Program Coordination**

13. Policy development and coordination functions have been further strengthened for the identification of mutually supporting activities and complementarities between WIPO's various programs, reviewing the program performance of the 1998-1999 biennium as well as annual work plans for the year 2000, and streamlining management structure. For instance, a Senior Management Team (SMT), composed of the senior executives, has been created. Three meetings of the SMT and some 20 weekly professional information meetings (PRIM) have effectively facilitated the sharing of important information, including yearly reports, the coordination of program activities, discussion and decision on policies within the Secretariat. The briefing, research and analysis function for the Director General has been further strengthened by introducing a new format for mission briefings and by the analysis of emerging issues, producing some 10 issue papers for the Director General and senior management. The Secretariat has created and tested a prototype of a Web-based statistical data collection covering more than 30 elements relevant to selected program activities, as a new instrument that has successfully facilitated the Director General's modern management.

14. Forging stronger cooperation between WIPO and WTO has continued on all levels of the two Secretariats. The Directors General of WIPO and WTO met on two occasions to discuss further enhancement on cooperation. At the second meeting, the Heads of the International Trade Center (ITC) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) were also present. These meetings of the Directors General were followed by two cabinet level meetings of the four institutions. WIPO also participated in various WTO meetings: three General Council, two TRIPS Council, two Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), one Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) and two Sub-Committee on LDCs. WIPO also continued to provide resource persons to WTO training courses and seminars.

15. WIPO has increased its close coordination with UPOV. Greater demands by the Member States on issues of plant variety protection, as well as on the related areas of biotechnology and traditional knowledge, necessitated further coordination and cooperation as to the implementation of the relevant programs of the two Organizations. In addition, WIPO

assisted and sponsored several UPOV training courses and seminars, including various technical assistance activities.

### **Sub-program 02.2 - External Relations and Cooperation with the United Nations Headquarters**

16. Aiming to assure better knowledge, among WIPO program managers, of the implications and the relation between the work of legislative bodies and that of other organs of the UN to WIPO's activities, some 2,400 official documents were received, analyzed, sorted and redistributed as appropriate to other departments within WIPO. Approximately 200 items of direct correspondence were received from the UN and its agencies, and replies were furnished where necessary. WIPO continued to improve its communications and relations with the UN, participating, *inter alia*, in the XIII International AIDS Conference, the World Summit on Social Development, the Commission on Human Rights and the spring meeting of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), at which WIPO played an important brainstorming role on the question of information technology and globalization, and in the reform of the ACC. WIPO also organized a panel of experts focusing on information technology issues in preparation for the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) High-Level Segment. WIPO gave its full cooperation to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) throughout the period.

### **Sub-program 02.3 - Performance Evaluation**

17. Further progress was made in the development of the program performance evaluation system of WIPO.

18. The Internal Audit and Oversight Division (which, in May, replaced the Oversight and Program Evaluation Division) prepared and completed the report on "Program Performance in the 1998-1999 Biennium" (document A/35/2) for submission to the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO in September. The preparation process for that report further familiarized program managers with the use of indicators as essential management tools for the measurement of performance and progress made towards the achievement of the objectives set out in the WIPO Program and Budget. Performance indicators were introduced along with the new format, founded on the results-based programming and budgeting approach adopted by WIPO since 1998, and as applied in the first mid-biennium report on program performance for 1998 (document A/33/2).

19. An evaluation study was started with an objective of assessing current and future staffing requirements of the Office of the PCT in light of appropriate productivity standards, suitable quality standards, technological support and methods of work, as well as related issues.

20. Preliminary work was done in order to undertake, in the second part of 2000, WIPO's first in-depth evaluation of selected activities carried out within the framework of the Cooperation for Development program.

## **Sub-program 02.4 - Strategic Research and Analysis**

21. In its efforts to broaden the client base of WIPO and to interact with economists, sociologists and other experts working in the field of intellectual property rights and its impact on social, cultural and economic issues, seven missions were undertaken, during the first six months of 2000, to participate in and contribute to conferences or other fora where such discussions were being held. Through the process of continuing interaction via the Internet, a mutually beneficial relationship was established with those professionals or experts working in the related aspects of intellectual property rights, who are new to the work of WIPO and to whom the new agenda of WIPO on the social, cultural and economic impact of intellectual property rights was of great interest.

22. An increased interest in the work of the Secretariat on these issues has also been manifested by governments, researchers and other organizations and entities. During the first six months of 2000, 18 new proposals for research have been considered. Of five projects commissioned in the preceding year, preliminary drafts for four have been received by the Secretariat, while one continues to be implemented. Three new projects were commissioned during this period, which includes one involving a team of nine researchers.

23. In its function to create and disseminate awareness, the Secretariat organized the first of a series of workshops on the Business and Contractual Dimensions of Acquisition and Transfer of Intellectual Property. Further, a monograph on the Socio-Economic Benefits of Intellectual Property Protection in Developing Countries has been published.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 03**

### **Legal and Organization Affairs**

#### **General Assessment**

24. In the first half of 2000, the Office of Legal and Organization Affairs continued to advance the interests of the Organization on several fronts. These included the efficient performance of depositary functions, the enhancement of transparency and accountability, the administration and management of the creative and highly-regarded domain name dispute resolution policy and the continued examination of the evolving relationship between electronic commerce and intellectual property.

#### **Sub-program 03.1 - Legal and Constitutional Affairs**

25. In respect of Legal and Constitutional Affairs, the Organization's activities represented a significant advance in the areas of constitutional reform and provision of services for diplomatic conferences. The WIPO General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform, established in September 1999, met for the first time from March 22 to 24, 2000. The result of that meeting, supplemented by a second meeting of the Working Group in early July, was a significant set of recommendations, submitted to the Assemblies of Member States (see document A/35/3). If the Assemblies accept those recommendations, they would constitute the most far-reaching constitutional and structural reforms since the creation of the Organization.

26. During the period under review, the Secretariat received and processed some 45 instruments of ratification or accession to treaties administered by WIPO and issued several other notifications on treaty-related actions.

#### **Sub-program 03.2 - Non-Governmental and Enterprise Affairs**

27. This Sub-program provided legal advice and support to the Organization's major projects, as well as on a wide range of operational activities and other contractual needs of the Organization, including support toward harmonizing practices of the Organization with legal implications. In doing so, it reviewed and provided legal advice with respect to over 50 contracts, valued in excess of 14.3 million Swiss francs, submitted by 20 units within the Organization.

28. Highlights from the period under review include the legal advice and support given to the IMPACT project for the automation of the PCT, leading to the negotiation and successful conclusion of two new contracts with the responsible consortium. This Sub-program also supported the WIPONET project during its bidding process and in the negotiation stage, after the designation of a preferred bidder. In support of another major project of the Organization, this Sub-program also supported the international architectural competition process, which led to the selection of an architectural design for the extension to the headquarters of WIPO.



### **Sub-program 03.3 - WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center**

29. As the first dispute-resolution provider, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center took up the administration of cases under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). Modeled on recommendations made by WIPO, the UDRP provides holders of trademark rights with an administrative mechanism for the efficient resolution of disputes arising out of the bad-faith registration and use by third parties of Internet domain names. The rapid international acceptance of the Center's domain name dispute services turned this into a prime activity for staff members of the Office of Legal and Organization Affairs during the first six months of 2000.

30. From January through June 2000, the Arbitration and Mediation Center received 716 UDRP cases, more than did any other provider. These cases, which concerned over 2,000 domain names, involved parties from 56 countries on every continent. WIPO panels rendered decisions in 256 cases, on average within 45 days, and another 78 cases were settled between the parties. Representing a new, highly effective mechanism, often involving famous marks and names, these activities received widespread attention.

31. At the end of June, following a request by 20 of WIPO's Member States, preparatory work was started on the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process and on the establishment of a working relationship with the country top-level domains (ccTLD) with a view to achieving enhanced intellectual property protection in their domains.

32. Under this Sub-program, special services were established to support the increased caseload of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. In particular, Supplemental Rules were adopted to regulate such aspects as the fees payable to the Center and the neutrals. Also, the Center developed a special roster of neutrals from which it selects the panel for each particular case, and has published extensive biographical information on 150 neutrals, all independent trademark and Internet specialists from 35 different jurisdictions in all regions.

33. The Center also established an efficient online infrastructure for the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center's domain name dispute resolution services. Traffic to the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center's continually updated website nearly quadrupled, reaching a total of almost two million "hits" in the first half of 2000.

34. In addition to services in relation to the .com, .net and .org domains covered by the UDRP, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center also commenced the provision of dispute-resolution services at the request of certain ccTLD registrars. It also collaborated with the Application Service Provider Industry Consortium (ASPIC), made up of leading technology companies, to develop a dispute settlement mechanism for the application service provider (ASP) industry.

### **Sub-program 03.4 - Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property**

35. Between January and the end of June 2000, this Sub-program organized three regional meetings on electronic commerce and intellectual property (in Kingston, Jamaica from May 15 to 17; in San Paulo, Brazil, from August 2 to 4; and, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on August 3 and 4). It also convened two sessions of the WIPO Workshop for Mediators in Intellectual Property Disputes (in San Francisco, USA, between May 15 and 19) and published a Primer on Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property Issues in May 2000.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 04**

### **Program Planning, Budgeting, Financial Control and Audit**

#### **General Assessment**

36. The main focus for this Program during the first half of 2000 was to take advantage of the momentum generated during the 1998-1999 biennium and to consolidate and expand on its achievements. Specifically, it conducted further consultations on the proposals to adjust the budget process and review current policies on budget surpluses, reserve funds and working capital funds, and continued its efforts to support activity-based management through a double front: by introducing further activity-based control and by enhancing annual workplans as a management tool.

#### **Sub-program 04.1 - Program Planning and Budgeting**

37. During the first six months of 2000, two areas received emphasis in this Sub-program. The first area was the reviewing of current policies on budget process, budget surpluses and reserve funds, and the second area was that of enhancing the management function through the development of costed annual workplans, by Main Program.

38. Concerning the adjustment of the budget process and the review of arrangements on budget surpluses, reserve funds and working capital funds, the Secretariat continued the process of consultations with Member States on draft proposals. Eventually, this process would culminate in the second half of 2000 with the preparation of a proposal by the Secretariat for Member States to discuss in the Program and Budget Committee and in the Assemblies of Member States in September 2000.

39. To enhance the management function, an exercise on preparing, reviewing and approving workplans for the year 2000 was conducted. Firstly, annual budget allotment advice was provided to program managers; subsequently, a description of the activities to be implemented together with preliminary cost estimates were provided by program managers. A review of those proposals, both in program and budget terms, was conducted by the Office of the Controller in close coordination with the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development. Finally, program managers were advised about priorities on implementation. This initial review will be followed by periodic reports during the second half of 2000 on implementation of annual workplans.

#### **Sub-program 04.2 - Financial Control and Monitoring**

40. During the first half of 2000, the exercise of financial control continued, primarily through the certification of financial commitments. This important task involved review of approximately 5,000 requests for certification, in addition to maintaining close involvement with program managers concerning the implementation of their annual workplans.

41. Development of the Financial Control function was pursued through the implementation of activity-based control. This initiative was started in the second half of 1999, and involved the creation, for the first time in WIPO, of an inventory of program activities. This inventory

is consistent with the approved Program and Budget (document A/34/2), and is used to record, at the activity level, financial information according to annual workplans as proposed by program managers. The deployment of this system required a significant effort from various sectors within the Secretariat, in addition to the Office of the Controller, the Finance Division and the Information Technology Division, to ensure that specific difficulties that surfaced during the implementation stage would not de-rail the project.

### **Sub-program 04.3 - Audit**

42. The full-time audit function was formalized in May 2000, with the designation of a Senior Internal Auditor, supervising the newly established Internal Audit and Oversight Division (IAOD), reporting directly to the Director General and responsible for Internal Audit, as well as for Program Evaluation and Monitoring. In performing the Audit function, the Internal Auditor will work in close cooperation with the Finance Division, the Office of the Controller and the External Auditors.

43. During the period under review, preliminary work was done on the formulation of a WIPO Charter of Internal Auditing and in the development of an audit plan. In support of these actions, staff of the Secretariat attended the 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Representatives of Internal Audit Services (RIAS) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Investigators of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, consecutively held in Rome, Italy, from June 5 to 9.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 05**

### **Global Communications and Public Diplomacy**

#### **General Assessment**

44. To pursue the goal of demystifying intellectual property, resources for Main Program 05 were concentrated on updating the WIPO website, creating new information products (particularly audio-visual ones) and expanding solid links with media, NGOs and private sector groups. WIPO's innovative, dynamic image as a future-oriented organization continued to be refined and diffused. At the same time, more materials explaining the nature and contributions of intellectual property were produced. The Office of Global Communications and Public Diplomacy (OGCPD) also made a notable contribution to the Organization's budget with revenue from the sale of WIPO information products.

#### **Sub-program 05.1 - Corporate Communications (Internet/Intranet)**

45. Visits to WIPO's websites nearly tripled, generating about 25 million hits for the first half of 2000 (compared to 8.5 million hits for the first half of 1999). During this period, a new architecture was created for the sites to make information more accessible to both specialized audiences and the general public. The sites were redefined in both look and feel in order to give a cleaner, more attractive and efficient graphic/technical interface. Also, content was developed for new web pages intended for the general public, and the technical implementation of the new design for 60,000 pages of the existing sites was started. (The launching of the redesigned WIPO sites is scheduled for September 2000)

#### **Sub-program 05.2 - Media Relations and Public Affairs**

46. WIPO's contacts with both international and Swiss-based press were expanded and consolidated. In the first half of the year, 55 press releases and updates were produced. Some 730 articles covering issues on or relating to WIPO appeared in the world's press. Approximately 110 press interviews were arranged with officials of the Secretariat, whose involvement in cutting-edge issues, in particular electronic commerce and copyright on the Internet, resulted in significant media interest around the world.

47. A newspaper clippings compilation, called *Intellectual Property in the News*, was started in April. This compilation provides a weekly overview of press reports on intellectual property issues and is distributed to all Permanent Missions accredited to the UN in Geneva. A total of 39 entries on WIPO in various international yearbooks and other such publications were written or updated. Public briefings were made to 34 groups (850 people) of students, business people and government officials, on the history, structure, and activities of the Organization. A comprehensive set of draft guidelines on contacts with the media was prepared, to assist and train members of the Secretariat on interview techniques.

48. During the first half of 2000, the OGCPD organized six exhibitions in the Headquarters building, which were visited by approximately 4,000 people. These included: one exhibition featuring about 130 posters from 41 national intellectual property offices and non-governmental organizations serving intellectual property public awareness campaigns;

WIPO's *Women Invent* exhibition, which was previously displayed in Geneva and subsequently adapted and displayed at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, where it was visited by approximately 32,000 people; the *At Home with Invention* exhibition closed after a one-year period and which received more than 18,000 visitors. A new exhibition at the Information Center, *Music in the Digital Age*, underwent preparations for a September 2000 opening. During the first six months of 2000, the Organization also sponsored and worked on the coordination of two cultural events, the *Festival de la Bâtie* and the *Journées du Cinéma Africain*, which will take place in September 2000.

### **Sub-program 05.3 - General Information Products**

49. Under this Sub-program, the evolving WIPO corporate image was applied to 72 new and revised/updated information products, as well as to another 51 specialized products. These were printed in up to seven languages and produced in a variety of formats, including pamphlets, books, CD-ROMs, banners and binders. Examples of information products issued during the first half of 2000 include: a fully-revised and expanded *General Information Brochure*, the *1999 Annual Report*, the *WIPO Magazine*, the *Catalogue of Products 2000*, and new leaflets such as *What is the PLT?* and *The WIPO Internet Treaties*. A booklet summarizing the exhibition *At Home With Invention* was finalized for publication, and two full-length books were designed and printed on the economic and social benefits of intellectual property, one by a member of the Policy Advisory Commission and the other by a former deputy director general of WIPO.

50. Two cooperation agreements were concluded, firstly with the intellectual property office of a developing country Member State and secondly with the collective management organization of another Member State, to produce a series of useful information materials for teenagers and target groups of artistic creators.

51. Production of new audio-visual materials was undertaken, with the completion of a series of video clips on various WIPO events, which are visible on the WIPO website. Other video clips will be used later to illustrate the subject of copyright and the digital creation, distribution of, and access to music.

52. A total income of 3.2 million Swiss francs was generated during the first six months of 2000 from the sale of WIPO information products and advertisements. WIPO products were displayed at international book fairs in London and Geneva, and in specialized meetings in Denver, Philadelphia, and Geneva. New marketing initiatives, such as the creation of advertisements for individual publications and a new discount policy, were developed with the goal of increasing sales, especially via the electronic bookshop. A new sales agreement for the distribution of WIPO products was finalized and will serve as a basis for better relationships with agents and booksellers worldwide.

### **Sub-program 05.4 - WIPO Library, Archives and Research Services**

53. A new publication entitled *WIPO Guide to Intellectual Property Worldwide* was finalized and printed in July. This reference work, the first of its kind produced by WIPO, contains 176 individual country profiles with essential research information on all aspects of

each national intellectual property system. Revisions began on the printed reference work *Intellectual Property Reading Material* as well as for its release on the Internet.

54. The Library continued to provide research and reference support to both WIPO staff members and outside researchers, including participants in the WIPO Worldwide Academy training programs. Visitors, both on-site, or via e-mail, fax and telephone, received generous assistance from the Library staff. The Library continued to concentrate on expanding its Internet and Intranet sites. The Library's Internet site was translated into French and Spanish, and its Intranet site was completely redesigned to make it more user-friendly and to improve its content and functionality. Numerous electronic products, such as "ProQuest," the "Economist Intelligence Unit," etc., were made available on the Intranet site, through the Library's continued work with the United Nations Systems Consortium.

55. The Library also continued to concentrate on collection development. Several new publications have been added to the Library's collections in all fields of intellectual property. Extra attention has been paid to emerging global issues, such as biotechnology, folklore, traditional knowledge, electronic commerce, domain names, economics, etc.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 06**

### **Cooperation with Developing Countries**

#### **General Assessment**

56. In today's world economy, wealth creation is based on the magnitude of technological knowledge and the availability of well-structured intellectual property systems. Creativity, knowledge and information are the keys to success. In order to trade and grow, it is not simply a question of the need to increase market access but also of the need for capacity-building in institutions and human resources, empowering developing countries and LDCs with information technology, distance learning and access to global information networks.

57. In the period from January to June 2000, solid foundations were laid for fully achieving the objectives of this Program by the end of the biennium. The overriding focus continued to be assisting developing countries in the modernization of their intellectual property systems taking into account relevant international standards and in the fulfillment of their obligations, from January 1, 2000, under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), which is administered by the World Trade Organization (WTO). Although the deadline for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is January 1, 2006, they also continued to receive such assistance.

58. The spreading realization that intellectual property is at the heart of the knowledge-based economy (the "new economy"), coupled with the growing use of Internet in commerce and continuing advances in information technology, has ignited worldwide interest in the value of intellectual property and its protection. Responding to this, WIPO's awareness-building events highlighted the use and practical application of intellectual property, particularly as a strategic tool for enterprises to become more competitive, increase market share, develop special niches and form strategic alliances with each other. Very often, small and medium-sized enterprises were targeted in WIPO's outreach efforts.

59. Besides formal training organized under the aegis of the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA), many regional and national symposia and meetings were held to create a greater awareness of the role of intellectual property among interested circles. In the period under review, WIPO organized a total of 72 meetings in developing countries at the national, sub-regional and regional level. These events brought together government policy-makers and administrators, members of the judiciary, law-enforcement officers, lawyers, researchers, creators, academics and members of the private sector, who listened to experts and had discussions on topical issues relating to intellectual property.

60. In this context, to sustain a constant dialogue between national administrators, policy-makers and international experts, over 200 advisory missions by WIPO staff members and consultants were organized. In addition, 45 study visits for intellectual property administrators took place, permitting the visitors to observe and learn from the experiences of other countries. Over 30 pieces of computer and other equipment were also provided by WIPO.

61. A greater number of activities carried out during the period under review related to Sub-programs 06.1 and 06.3. As regards Sub-programs 06.2 and 06.4, the bulk of the activities are planned to be implemented in the remainder of the biennium.

### **Sub-program 06.1 - Modernization of the Intellectual Property System including Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement**

62. The first priority for developing countries was the preparation and/or implementation of new or modernized laws on the protection of intellectual property in compliance with international obligations, including obligations under the TRIPS Agreement. In the first half of 2000, the Secretariat prepared and submitted, upon request from Member States, 21 draft laws to 16 countries and 25 sets of comments to 12 countries. Legislative advice was provided (in discussions in Geneva or in the countries concerned) on 17 other pieces of legislation for 12 countries and one intergovernmental organization. Also, a Sub-Regional Intellectual Property Workshop for Legislative Draftsmen from African Countries, designed to familiarize legislative draftsmen with intellectual property protection and legislation, was organized by WIPO in Port-Louis, Mauritius, with the attendance of 25 participants from 19 countries.

63. Information on intellectual property legislation continued to be made available by WIPO through the Internet. Over 6,000 pages of legislation were converted into electronic format and over 100 bibliographic items were created for the publication of the Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA) in the period under review. A new version of the WIPO legislative CD-ROM IPLEX was issued in May. Publication of intellectual property legislation also continued in paper form through WIPO periodicals. Legislative information and documentation continued to be provided by WIPO in response to external requests.

64. A principal aim of WIPO's Cooperation for Development program is helping developing countries create and maintain lasting institutions, which would in due course operate independently and effectively, bringing long-term benefits to the respective community. WIPO's approach in this area is through medium-term, country-specific, integrated plans of assistance, the Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), established jointly between individual governments and WIPO. In the period from January to June 2000, there were 69 NFAPs under implementation in 59 developing countries, for a total budget of over seven million Swiss Francs. Four new NFAPs started and four were operationally completed.

65. In the period under review, WIPO continued to design a set of activities aimed at integrating LDCs in the global process of intellectual property development. The main focus was on preparations for the implementations of the TRIPS Agreement, technology transfer, innovation policy and collective management of copyright and related rights. Close attention was also paid to the preparation and enactment of laws, rules and regulations governing intellectual property in LDCs with regard to copyright and related rights, geographical indications and protection of traditional knowledge.

66. In this respect, a Regional Seminar on the Modernization of the Intellectual Property System for LDCs was organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the Government of Nepal, in Katmandu, on May 30 and 31. Similar events are planned to be organized by WIPO in the



biennium in the other developing regions. Also, work started on a new publication on intellectual property profile of LDCs.

### **Sub-program 06.2 - New Global Intellectual Property Challenges**

67. In pursuit of promoting collective thinking in the continued evolution of the relevance of intellectual property, WIPO included, in the agenda of various high-level and high-impact policy fora and meetings, specific topics concerning intellectual property and its impact on wealth creation and social welfare, in consideration of critical policy areas such as trade, investment, technology, culture and heritage, environment, food security, traditional knowledge, e-commerce. These meetings provided an opportunity for bringing together high-level policy and decision-makers in the intellectual property and related fields, and for creating a meeting of the minds towards an IP policy agenda, covering current and emerging policies, strategic issues and future courses of action for governments and institutions.

### **Sub-program 06.3 - Promotion and Development of the Use of the Intellectual Property System**

68. In the area of collective management of copyright and related rights, a Regionally Focused Action Plan (RFAP) for the Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights in the Caribbean was launched in early 2000, with a view to strengthening the ability of Caribbean countries in collective management of copyright and related rights through the development of a regional Caribbean system. WIPO also organised, in Mexico City, a Regional Seminar on Collective Management of Intellectual Property Rights of Visual Creations in Latin America for over 50 participants representing ministries of culture, copyright offices and other relevant institutions.

69. Several national awareness meetings and ad hoc advisory missions on the subject were undertaken to various countries. In addition, the Secretariat prepared related information material and started to work on a special information brochure on collective management of performers and reprographic reproduction rights, as well as on model statutes for collective management of musical works rights and related draft legislation.

70. WIPO continued assisting developing country leaders, policy-makers and managers to foster national creativity and innovation, protect the results of such efforts through intellectual property, and disseminate and use those results for potential wealth creation as well as social and cultural well-being.

71. In this context, activities were undertaken in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Senegal and Tunisia, in the framework of pilot projects for the establishment of national innovation centers and services with a strong emphasis on utilization of intellectual property. Specific encouragement for inventors is also provided under WIPO's Gold Medal Awards scheme for inventors, initiated in 1979. In the period under review, WIPO awarded 22 gold medals for inventors, of whom 15 came from developing countries.

## **Sub-program 06.4 - Cooperation among Developing Countries and with Other Organizations**

72. A WIPO delegation attended the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Bangkok, February 2000). Related events were an ASEAN-UN Summit convened by the Government of Thailand, a high-level round table with heads of United Nations agencies, programs and institutions, and a meeting of ministers of trade of the LDCs. WIPO was also represented in the Inter-Agency meetings held in Geneva and New York in the period under review in preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the LDCs, which will take place in May 2001, in Brussels.

73. In addition to the activities indicated in the Sub-programs mentioned above, the following are some highlights of activities undertaken from January to June 2000:

### **Africa**

74. WIPO/ITC Workshop on the Business and the Contractual Dimensions of Acquisition and Transfer of Industrial Property, Cape Town, South Africa, May 8 to 12; WIPO Sub-Regional Round Table on the Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, Gaborone, Botswana, May 9 to 11; WIPO Regional Seminar on the Benefits of the Intellectual Property System for Universities, University Researchers and R&D Organizations, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, June 20 to 22; upgrading of the African Copyright Management Software (AFRICOS); development of Training Modules on Collective Management.

### **Arab States**

75. WIPO Arab Regional Meeting on the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), Casablanca, Morocco, February 22 and 23; WIPO Arab Regional Conference on the Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights, Cairo, Egypt, April 18 to 20; development by a software company in Cairo of an Intellectual Property Management Automation System (IPMAS) and its installation, as pilot projects, in two countries (Oman and Qatar).

### **Asia and the Pacific**

76. WIPO Asian Regional Forum on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, with Particular Reference to the TRIPS Agreement, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, January 18 to 20; WIPO Asian Regional Symposium on the Benefits of Global Industrial Property Protection Systems for Developing Countries, Singapore, February 18 to 20; WIPO-IP Australia Regional Symposium on Strategic Management of Intellectual Property in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Sydney, Australia, March 6 to 8; WIPO National Seminar on the PCT, Mumbai, India, April 26 to 28; WIPO National Seminar on the International Registration of Marks and Industrial Designs, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, May 29 to 31; WIPO Asian Regional Seminar on the International Protection of Trademarks, Chengdu, China, June 8 to 10; WIPO National Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty, Jakarta, Indonesia, June 26 to 28.

**Latin America and the Caribbean**

77. WIPO Regional Meeting on Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property for Development for Caribbean Countries, Kingston, Jamaica, May 15 to 17; WIPO International Conference on Intellectual Property, Trade, Technological Innovation and Competitiveness, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 19 to 21; Second Meeting of Heads of Copyright Offices of the Latin American Countries, Lima, Peru, June 23 and 24.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 07**

### **Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia**

#### **General Assessment**

78. The implementation of Main Program 07 continued to progress successfully and on schedule. There was an increasing interest displayed by the countries concerned in capacity-building through creating and improving intellectual property institutions, which would bring long-term benefit to their respective economies. Other activities carried out during the reporting period mainly focused, as foreseen in the 2000-2001 Program and Budget, on the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, human resource development and awareness-raising.

#### **Sub-program 07.1 - Modernization of the Intellectual Property System including Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement**

79. The Secretariat had consultations with a number of governments in these regions on intellectual property issues, concerning the ratification of, or accession to WIPO-administered treaties, the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement and the modernization of national intellectual property legislations. Furthermore, WIPO prepared comments on the intellectual property legislations for two countries.

80. The Secretariat continued to give considerable attention to the issue of enforcement of intellectual property rights. Approximately 260 officials from industrial property and copyright administrations, the judiciary, the legal profession, police, customs and other law enforcement agencies were trained in two sub-regional and one national seminars. Increased emphasis was placed on cooperation with specialized non-governmental organizations playing a considerable role in that field. The above events increased the participants' knowledge on how to effectively deal with piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property assets and contributed to strengthening the administrative mechanisms for the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

81. WIPO also cooperated actively with seven governments in the development and implementation of Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), bilateral cooperation programs and country projects aimed at taking action on the authorities' immediate priorities for improving their intellectual property systems and promoting the use thereof. Assistance in this respect focused, among other things, on the strengthening of industrial property and copyright administrations through the introduction of modern management systems, human resource development and the streamlining of administrative procedures, as well as on supporting the national administrations in modernizing and expanding services to the public and providing access to industrial property information.

82. Moreover, three country projects aimed at capacity-building in the area of collective management of copyright and related rights were implemented, ranging from legal advice and training of staff to purchasing of equipment and software development. In addition, study visits for nine officials from three countries were organized in that field.

## **Sub-program 07.2 - Promotion and Development of the Use of the Intellectual Property System**

83. During the reporting period, WIPO held two regional and two national awareness events, which were attended by approximately 550 government officials, entrepreneurs, managers, inventors, researchers, attorneys, academics and representatives of user organizations. The presentations on, and discussions of topical issues, including technology transfer, commercialization, valuation and management of industrial property assets, altogether enabled the participants to recognize the value of intellectual property rights and their importance in key areas of economic activity and competitiveness.

84. Furthermore, WIPO provided assistance in the translation of various WIPO publications and WIPO-administered treaties into the Georgian and Azerbaijani languages.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 08**

### **The WIPO Worldwide Academy and Human Resources Development**

#### **General Assessment**

85. During the period under review, the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA) continued to steadily expand its global outreach. New courses based on demand were launched, and efforts to focus existing courses, so as to ensure relevance and greater impact on the target groups, were made through a systematic evaluation. The programs designed for policy and decision-makers also attained a greater level of appreciation. These programs directly impact on the shaping of policies for better, more efficient intellectual property systems in participating countries. Academy sessions were organized dealing with special issues of concern for developing countries.

86. The first meeting of the newly-created Advisory Board of the WIPO Worldwide Academy was convened on March 10. The Board comprises eleven members representing scholars, legal practitioners and policy-makers in the intellectual property field. The Board members' geographical distribution clearly reflects the "worldwide" scope and WIPO's commitment to cooperation for development. The Board's discussions led to substantive recommendations relating to the vision, focus and target audiences of the WWA, course selection, partnerships with universities, accreditation and the necessity to strengthen WWA human resources.

87. The WWA continued discussing programs of cooperation, or partnerships, with intellectual property offices and universities, to produce the desired "training of trainers." One such development was the agreement concluded between WIPO and the University of Turin, launching a three-month Post-Graduate Specialization Course on Intellectual Property Law. Such cooperation is valuable to the future development of the WWA.

#### **Sub-program 08.1 - Distance Learning**

88. Traditional training courses were supplemented by the Distance Learning Section, enabling the WWA to reach a broader audience. Participants from all over the world, with Internet access, benefit from these Academy course offerings without having to leave their locations. The costs involved are significantly lower compared to traditional face-to-face methods.

89. During this period, two sessions were offered of the course "An introduction to intellectual property - DL 101," the first running from February to March, and the second from June to July 2000. Enrolled students in English were 175 persons from 20 countries in the first session, and 132 persons from 40 countries during the summer session. In French, 37 persons from four countries enrolled for the spring term and 30 persons from seven countries for the summer session. The course in Spanish received a total number of 66 persons from six countries enrolled for the spring term, and, 35 persons from 13 countries for the summer session. This DL-101 course was also given to 20 WIPO Staff members.

## **Sub-program 08.2 - Professional Training**

90. The Professional Training Program grew stronger with new, innovative courses. During the first half of 2000, the Professional Training Section organized four training meetings and one Academy session, for 77 participants from 54 countries and three regional organizations (whose travel and living expenses were covered by WIPO), as follows:

91. WIPO/EPO Training Seminar: Streamlining Search and Examination Procedures, in English, organized by WIPO and the European Patent Office (EPO) from March 9 to 17, for officials from industrial property Offices' patent departments. The Seminar's 20 participants (mostly patent examiners) represented 18 developing countries and two regional organizations;

92. WIPO/CDG Workshop on Innovation Support Services and Their Management, in English, organized by WIPO and the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDG), was held in Germany, from May 15 to 24. The 12 participants represented innovation support services or technology management units of government Offices, R&D institutes or universities, from 12 developing countries;

93. WIPO/CIPO Training Course on Client Service and Quality Management in the Delivery of Patent Services, in English, organised by WIPO and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), for Asia and Pacific region officials. Most were patent examiners of national patent Offices, or officials from ministries of law and justice. The course, held in Hull, Canada from June 5 to 14, had 10 participants from 10 developing countries;

94. WIPO/EPO/OEPM Seminar on Co-ordinated Patent Examination Procedures, in Spanish, organized by WIPO, the EPO, and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM) for Latin American patent examiners. The Seminar, in Madrid from June 19 to 23, in Geneva on June 26 and 27 and in Munich from June 28 to 30, was attended by 16 participants representing 16 developing countries;

95. First session of the Academy on Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for Judges of Continental Law Jurisdiction, in French, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of France and the *École nationale de la magistrature* (ENM). The 19 participating judges, from 18 developing countries and one regional organization, came from all regions of the world. The Paris session took place from June 21 to 27.

## **Sub-program 08.3 - Policy Level Training**

96. Within this Sub-program, the WIPO Worldwide Academy organized three General Academy sessions in Arabic, English, Spanish (with Portuguese interpretation), for senior government officials from around the world. The sessions were attended by a total of 64 participants from 58 countries and two regional inter-governmental organizations. A special session of the WIPO Academy on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in Washington, in cooperation with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, was attended by 13 senior enforcement officials (judges, prosecutors and customs officials) representing 13 developing countries and countries in transition.

97. A Post-graduate Course on Copyright and Related Rights Law for University Professors in Spanish at the University of Los Andes, Venezuela, was attended by nine participating professors from nine Latin America countries. An International Conference on Intellectual Property Education for Business was held in Sofia, in cooperation with the Government of Bulgaria and the University of National and World Economy. The Conference was attended by participants from the host country and 20 participants from 19 other countries.

98. In summary, during the first half of 2000, the Policy-Level Training Section organized six Academy sessions and courses, with participation by 106 participants from 69 countries and two inter-governmental organizations, whose travel and living expenses were covered by WIPO. In addition, some 70 local participants attended the sessions held apart from WIPO Headquarters.

99. From January to June, 2000, the WIPO Worldwide Academy granted a total of six long-term fellowships, at the Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, United States of America, at the University *Externado de Colombia*, in Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia and at the Max-Planck Institute of Munich, Germany.



## **MAIN PROGRAM 09**

### **Development of Industrial Property Law**

#### **General Assessment**

100. The major accomplishment under Main Program 09 was the adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT) at the conclusion of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (Geneva, May 11 to June 2), which creates a major step in the harmonizing of formal procedures with respect to national and regional patent applications and patents.

101. In addition, continued work of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) included, at the conclusion of the Fourth Session of the SCT (Geneva, March 27 to 31), the adoption of draft provisions concerning trademark licenses, to be presented to the WIPO General Assembly and the Paris Union Assembly for adoption as a Joint Recommendation. The work of the Standing Committee also progressed with regard to the draft provisions on the protection of trademarks and other distinctive signs on the Internet and the preparation of a study on the relationship between trademarks and geographical indications. Lastly, the groundwork was laid for convening the First Session of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement of Industrial Property Rights (Geneva, October 19 and 20).

#### **Sub-program 09.1 - Law of Patents**

102. The main activity during the first half of this year under Sub-program 09.1 was the preparation and holding of the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Patent Law Treaty, which was held from May 11 to June 2, and resulted in the successful adoption of the PLT. The preparation of the Conference included the administrative organization of the Conference, the establishment of documents, the holding of presentations and lectures, informal consultations with the Regional Groups and an orientation meeting preceding the Conference. The follow-up work of the Conference included in particular the preparation of the Records of the Conference and of the Explanatory Notes. Out of 65 developing countries and countries in transition invited at WIPO's expense under Sub-program 09.1, 63 countries attended the Diplomatic Conference.

103. Further activities under Sub-program 09.1 were, in particular, the promotion of industrial property treaties (through staff missions, advice on national laws and meeting with national delegates), a close cooperation with related sectors/activities within WIPO (e.g., developments of the PCT system, biotechnology) and outside the Organization (e.g., envisaged revision of the European Patent Convention, work of the Trilateral Offices, inventions made or used in outer space), and the administration of the Budapest Treaty, which included updating the Guide on the Budapest Treaty and its publishing on the WIPO website.

104. Under Sub-program 09.1, 12 staff missions in 10 different countries were completed.

## **Sub-program 09.2 - Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications**

105. The Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) held its fourth session from March 27 to 31. The SCT adopted the draft provisions concerning trademark licences and decided to propose them to the WIPO Assembly and the Paris Assembly for adoption in September 2000 as a Joint Recommendation concerning trademark licences. The SCT also continued its discussions on the draft provisions on the protection of trademarks and other distinctive signs on the Internet. Out of 26 developing countries and countries in transition invited at WIPO's expense under Sub-program 09.2, 24 countries attended the fourth session of the SCT.

106. In addition to the support given to the PLT Diplomatic Conference (drafting of the summary minutes), further activities under Sub-program 09.2 were the promotion of industrial property treaties and international norms (in particular the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) and the Joint Recommendation concerning provisions on the protection of well-known marks), advices on draft national laws, participation in conferences, seminars and meetings with government delegates or representatives of NGO's.

107. In the specific area of Geographical Indications and Special Projects, the activities have consisted in: the preparation of a study on the relationship between trademarks and geographical indications to serve as a working document for the fifth session of the SCT; servicing of the above-mentioned fourth session of the SCT; servicing of the PLT Diplomatic Conference; notifications under Article 6<sup>ter</sup> of the Paris Convention (four notifications); contact with other intergovernmental organizations, such as the International Vine and Wine Office (OIV), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO); support for technical cooperation through four expert missions, including one for the WTO.

108. Eight staff missions in four different countries were completed. In addition, four missions of Trademarks Section Staff in three different countries were completed under Main Program 06, and one under Main Program 07.

## **Sub-program 09.3 - Protection of Industrial Property Rights**

109. Activities concerning Industrial Property implementation have consisted in: cooperation with the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI) on the updating of the WIPO licensing guides; elaboration of a publication for small and medium-sized enterprises on intellectual property; administration of the Budapest Treaty and promotion of accession to it (notifications, communication on IDAs, updating of the Budapest Guide, Seminar and Workshop on the implementation of the Treaty, three missions: in Baku, Azerbaijan; Riga, Latvia; and Brisbane, Australia); legislative advice to Bulgaria, Latvia, Republic of Moldova, Georgia, Slovenia; and, industrial property law enforcement and advice to inventors, researchers and students. Work continued on the following studies: the deposit of DNA sequence listings; the main issues regarding possible revision of the Budapest Treaty; the subject of biological disclosure; and, on various industrial property policy papers.

110. The Industrial Property Law Enforcement Section laid the groundwork toward convening the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement of Industrial Property

Rights (ACE/IP/1), which is to be held in October 2000. The work thus far has involved consultations, administrative organization, legal research, and preparation of committee documents. Under this Sub-program, 26 developing countries and countries in transition are invited to attend the ACE/IP/1 meeting at WIPO's expense.

111. On behalf of the Industrial Property Law Division, the Section participated in the planning and organization of a forum to be held by WIPO concerning certain questions of private international law (jurisdiction and applicable law) in the context of intellectual property law.

112. Under this Sub-program, support was provided to meetings organized by other Sections within the Industrial Property Law Division, namely, the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) and the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT).

113. The Section also supported the Programs of Cooperation for Development and the Worldwide Academy with regard to seminars and programs relating to the enforcement of industrial property rights and provided advice regarding draft national laws.

114. Under Sub-program 09.3, seven staff missions in six different countries were completed.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 10**

### **Development of Copyright and Related Rights**

#### **General Assessment**

115. The ongoing promotion of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT), which falls under Main Program 10 (in collaboration with Main Programs 06 and 07), was justified, in that the number of countries party to those treaties has continued to increase. The advanced stage of implementation in many countries ensures that the treaties will enter into force, and there is good reason to expect that this will happen before the end of the 2000-2001 biennium. These treaties will enter into force after 30 instruments of ratification or accession by States have been deposited with WIPO.

116. The WPPT covers only the aural, and not the audiovisual, aspects of performances. Based on recommendations from the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, the WIPO General Assembly decided in April 2000 to convene a Diplomatic Conference for the Protection of Audiovisual Performances, from December 7 to 20, 2000, preceded by regional consultation meetings to be organized in the period from September to November 2000.

117. The protection of broadcasting organizations and producers of databases is being studied further with a view to continuing discussions on these issues in the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, in 2001.

118. Questions regarding the management and enforcement of copyright and related rights in a digital environment are being further studied and analyzed by the Secretariat with a view to further discussions in the Advisory Committee on Management and Enforcement of Copyright and Related Rights in Global Information Networks, in 2001.

#### **Sub-program 10.1 - Implementation of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)**

119. Under this Sub-program, and in cooperation with Main Program 03, the Secretariat organized one national seminar, and undertook 10 staff missions. From January 1 to June 30, six countries joined the WCT and four countries joined the WPPT, bringing the total number of countries party to those treaties to 18 and 15, respectively.

#### **Sub-program 10.2 - Protection of Audiovisual Performances, Protection of the Rights of Broadcasting Organizations and Protection of Databases**

120. The Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights met once, followed by a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the WIPO Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances and the Twenty-Fifth (11<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary) Session of the WIPO General Assembly, in April 2000.

121. The WIPO General Assembly also decided that a basic proposal should be prepared by the Chair of the fourth session of the Standing Committee with the assistance of the Secretariat, that six regional consultation meetings should be organized during the months of September through November 2000, and that furthermore, the Diplomatic Conference should be preceded by two days of regional consultations. The Secretariat has worked on the implementation of these decisions.

122. In preparation of the Diplomatic Conference and related to the protection of the rights of broadcasting organizations and the protection of databases, six missions have been undertaken by staff of the Secretariat.

### **Sub-program 10.3 - Copyright and Related Rights and Digital Technology**

123. Staff of the Secretariat have undertaken nine missions in order to discuss, study and disseminate information regarding, in particular, management and enforcement of copyright and related rights in global digital networks.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 11**

### **Global Intellectual Property Issues**

#### **General Assessment**

124. The objectives of this Program are to identify, research and consult on emerging intellectual property issues and, ultimately, develop conceptual frameworks and programs within which those issues can be managed and addressed by WIPO's Member States at the national, regional and international levels.

125. The intellectual property issues focused on during the first half of 2000 include: the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and creativity, including "folklore"; the reciprocal relationships established between access to genetic resources, the intellectual property protection of biotechnological inventions, and the preservation, conservation and dissemination of biological diversity. Further studies continued, on the role of intellectual property in economic development, specifically as to healthcare access. The increasingly important relation between intellectual property and competition policy, and the role of intellectual property as to the online exploitation of cultural heritage (with the Electronic Commerce Projects Section) also became developing issues through this period.

126. Participation by this Division in numerous international, regional and national meetings and fora, included the following four prominent sessions: the First Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Seville, Spain, March 27 to 31); the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-5) (Nairobi, Kenya, May 15 to 26); the Second Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Contact Group of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (Rome, Italy, April 3 to 7); and, "Break the Silence": XIII International AIDS Conference (Durban, South Africa, July 9 to 14).

#### **Sub-program 11.1 - Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Creativity**

127. Based on the fact-finding and exploratory work undertaken in 1998 and 1999, the Division's current activities in respect of traditional knowledge (TK), innovations and creativity, including "folklore," comprise an entry into a more technical phase. The development of practical activities is designed to: test current approaches to, and future possibilities for managing the interfaces between intellectual property protection and TK; facilitate dialogue between relevant stakeholders; provide training and information; and, examine other issues identified during 1998 and 1999.

128. The Division launched a Feasibility Study on the Use of Intellectual Property and Practice to Protect Traditional Knowledge, taking place in Australia, and to be the first of three such studies to be undertaken in this biennium. Also a draft Report, the "Report on Intellectual Property Needs and Expectations of Traditional Knowledge Holders: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Draft Report on Fact-finding Missions on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge (1998-1999)" is available for public comment until October 30, 2000, after which it will be finalized and published.

129. Development began for a Training Course curriculum on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge, and, with the WIPO Worldwide Academy, commissioning the writing of training materials based on this chosen curriculum. This Course will be offered to government officials and TK holders through national training workshops commencing in October 2000.

### **Sub-program 11.2 - Biotechnology and Biodiversity**

130. Events within and external to WIPO catalyzed a series of rapid and important developments regarding genetic resources, biotechnological inventions and biological diversity, potentially impacting dramatically also on WIPO's future work on TK. Proposals made at a meeting of the Standing Committee on Patents in September 1999 led to a first-ever WIPO Meeting on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources in April 2000. The vast majority of countries at this meeting called for the establishment within WIPO of an appropriate forum for future work on intellectual property and genetic resources. Consultations following the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (May 11 to June 2) resulted in a proposal to establish a WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (see document WO/GA/26/6). Parallel developments, notably within the TRIPS Council, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), added new intensity and importance to these events within WIPO.

131. Three case studies were published on "The Role of Intellectual Property Rights in the Sharing of Benefits Arising from the Use of Biological Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge." These studies were commissioned jointly with UNEP and form part of a larger Study.

### **Sub-program 11.3 - Protection of Folklore**

132. For the purposes of this Report, the activities under Sub-program 11.3 are included in Sub-program 11.1 (above).

### **Sub-program 11.4 - Intellectual Property and Development (Selected Issues)**

133. WIPO's work on intellectual property and access to healthcare gained in complexity and urgency in the period of review, particularly in light of the global HIV/AIDS crisis. The Division's activities on this issue combined fact-finding and consultation with the exploration of a conceptual framework within which to address this pressing issue from an intellectual property perspective. The establishment of avenues for dialogue and cooperation with other key players was also achieved.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 12**

### **Information Technology and Intellectual Property Information Services**

#### **General Assessment**

134. The Information Technology (IT) foundation across the Organization continued to be improved in a professional and efficient manner, addressing important areas such as project management and development, IT infrastructure and network services, support of mission critical business and administrative systems, office automation services and effective deployment of Internet and Intranet technologies.

135. The existing computer systems were upgraded as a result of the Y2K project and continue to perform efficiently. Several initiatives were undertaken to ensure that the performance and availability of the PCT computer systems were maintained at the highest possible level to help staff cope with the steep increase in PCT applications. During the first six months of 2000, the system availability averaged above 99.9 per cent, due primarily to the introduction of new operational procedures and a dedicated network link to the United Nations International Computing Center (UNICC).

136. The new IMPACT automation project addresses in its first phase a new communication system, primarily to deliver documents and data between WIPO and national Offices. To further develop the requirements for this important phase of the project, the Secretariat has undertaken eight missions to different national Offices in several regions to ensure a proper understanding of their requirements. In addition, a detailed questionnaire was recently sent to all PCT Member States to invite their input and participation.

137. The existing PCT-EASY (Electronic Application System) software continues to be upgraded and improved to reflect the ongoing requirements of the PCT. Work on PCT electronic filing has progressed to the point whereby a final draft of the administrative instructions and the technical standards related to PCT electronic filing have been circulated for further comments. This is a sub-project within the IMPACT project and as such will be technically integrated into the new system.

#### **Sub-program 12.1 - WIPONET**

138. Progress was made both in the WIPONET project and the enhancement of the internal IT capabilities to provide a robust infrastructure to support the Organization's business needs.

139. The WIPONET scope and deployment strategy was developed. The deliverables for the current biennium will include the establishment of the WIPONET central services at the Secretariat and the provision of two PC's and associated equipment for connection to the Internet for one intellectual property (IP) Office in those Member States where there is currently no Internet connectivity in any of its IP Offices. The final selection of the preferred bidder for WIPONET deployment was made and the project is currently in the process of contract negotiations. Deployment in Member States is planned to commence in the second quarter of 2001.



140. Substantial progress was made in some of the internal IT systems and services. The stability and robustness of the network infrastructure and services was significantly improved by upgrading the system components, desktop workstations and minimizing of single-point failures. Existing financial systems were further developed for better accounting and expenditure reporting. A new payroll system was put into production. Planning also began for an Administration Information Management System (AIMS) that will cover all administrative systems, including those for financial and human resource management. Major improvements were also made in the development of new Intranet services and the redesign of the WIPO Internet website. The IT support and training continued to be strengthened.

### **Sub-program 12.2 - Intellectual Property Information Services**

141. Under this Sub-program, progress was made in the relevant activities, including support to the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), ongoing development of WIPO Intellectual Property Digital Libraries (IPDLs), development and promotion of intellectual property standards and revision and publication of international classifications.

142. WIPO IPDLs are currently operational and contain a significant amount of WIPO intellectual property data. This includes PCT data, unpublished Madrid data (Madrid Express), as well as non-patent information from the JOPAL CD-ROM product. Planning has started on establishing the necessary standards to enable the WIPO IPDL systems to efficiently interface with other searchable databases that contain IP data collections.

## MAIN PROGRAM 13

### Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System

#### General Assessment

143. The PCT marked a historic milestone when the filing of the 500,000<sup>th</sup> international application was received in February 2000 (the 250,000<sup>th</sup> international application under the PCT was received in February 1996, 18 years after the start of PCT operations). Thus, it has taken only four years to double the number of international applications, demonstrating the accelerated growth of the PCT system in recent years. Statistically, these first six months of this year 2000 have again confirmed record use of the PCT.

144. During the first six months of 2000, four States (Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize and Mozambique) became bound by the PCT, bringing the total number of PCT Contracting States to 108, of which 54 are developing countries.

145. The Office of the PCT (OPCT) acted as Secretariat for the twenty-eighth session of the PCT Assembly from March 13 to 17, at which measures were adopted to simplify the national phase processing of international applications and to establish an interface between the PCT and the recently adopted Patent Law Treaty (PLT). The Assembly also discussed the electronic filing of international applications.

146. The OPCT worked in close conjunction with the staff under Main Program 12 – Information Technology and Intellectual Property Services – to bring about several different improvements to the PCT and its users. Details are provided within the Program 12 section of this Report on the progress ascribed to the PCT-EASY (Electronic Application System) and IMPACT systems.

#### **Sub-program 13.1 - Operation of the PCT System**

147. The OPCT received 45,448 international applications filed worldwide, which is 9,316 (25.8 per cent) more than in the same period of 1999. The 45,448 international applications had the effect of 2,290,442 national applications and of 129,410 regional applications, which regional applications would have the effect of 1,774,365 applications for patent protection in the member States of the regional patent systems. That creates a notional effect, in total, of 4,064,807 national applications. The number of applications coming from developing countries increased to 1,454 from 710 for the same period in 1999.

148. Of the 45,448 international applications filed, 11,038 (24.3 per cent) were prepared using the PCT-EASY software. As more and more PCT users became aware of the software, and of the benefits of using it, there was an increasing share of filings containing a PCT-EASY request as the year progressed.

149. By the end of June 2000, the International Bureau had received, in its capacity as a receiving Office, 948 international applications, bringing the total number up to almost 10,000 since starting these operations in January 1994.

150. The processing of international applications resulted, *inter alia*, in the publication during the period of 38,494 international applications as well as 5,427 republications and 26 regular issues of the PCT Gazette. The OPCT received 27,024 international preliminary examination reports (IPERs) and 31,693 demands under Chapter II.

### **Sub-program 13.2 - Legal Framework, Informational and Promotional Activities and Cooperation for Development in Relation to the PCT System**

151. During this first six months of 2000, the OPCT continued to carry out its work relating, in particular, to the promotion of and accession to the PCT, the provision of information and advice to PCT users, the development of the legal and procedural framework of the PCT, and the publication of PCT-related information, on paper and on the Internet.

152. The OPCT participated in 50 seminars and presentations on the use and advantages of the PCT and the promotion of accession to it. The participants included IP office officials, inventors, representatives from industries, patent attorneys and government officials. Seminars were held in 17 countries (Canada, Germany, Denmark, France, United Kingdom, Gambia, Indonesia, Israel, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America), and five regional seminars were organized (in Trinidad and Tobago for Caribbean countries, in Morocco for Arab countries, in Mauritania for African French-speaking countries, in China for Asia-Pacific countries, and in Bolivia for Latin American countries). These seminars were given to almost 3,000 users and potential users of the PCT system in Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. Fifty-two documents were prepared for use in those seminars (as well as in other seminars given by officials from other Sectors of WIPO).

153. Specialized presentations was also organized for national IP office officials and parliamentarians from PCT Contracting States and States considering accession to the PCT, either at WIPO headquarters or in the countries concerned, in connection with implementation of the PCT in the national legislation, namely Bangladesh, India, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Zambia.

154. During the first half of 2000, the OPCT published updating sheets (in English and in French) for the January update of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* and prepared the July 2000 update. It also published a special issue of the *PCT Gazette*, Section IV of the weekly *PCT Gazette*, the monthly *PCT Newsletter*, an Information Note (in five languages) concerning the main PCT-related events and results of operations under the PCT in 1999, a revised version of the PCT and Regulations in English, as well as revised versions of PCT forms and documents of general information in various languages.

155. The OPCT also took part in the following important exhibitions: the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Telecom Americas 2000 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, April 10 to 15; the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Knowledge Fair in Paris, France, June 26 to 28; and the Exhibition on Innovation and Inventions for Environment in Casablanca, Morocco, May 25 to 29, where informative and promotional material on the PCT was also distributed.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 14**

### **Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, Hague System for the International Deposit of Industrial Designs, and Lisbon System for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration**

#### **General Assessment**

156. The services entrusted under the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, the Hague Agreement and the Lisbon Agreement to the International Bureau continued to be provided in a swift, reliable and cost effective manner.

#### **Sub-program 14.1 - Operation of the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems**

157. With regard to the Madrid system, there was a remarkable increase in the registration activities during the first six months of 2000 as compared to the same period of 1999. The number of international registrations recorded by the International Bureau (11,167), together with that of renewals (3,562) showed an increase of 13 per cent. Furthermore, the number of subsequent designations (2,892) and that of modifications (21,060) increased by seven and 10 per cent respectively. There was also a sharp increase in the number of refusals recorded (43,591), i.e., 22 per cent more than during the same period of 1999.

158. Within the context of the development of an electronic communications infrastructure, two new countries (Estonia and Japan) started receiving notifications from the International Bureau by electronic means. In addition, a project was launched to revise the standard for the exchange of electronic communications under the Madrid system (MECA) and a technical meeting was held to enable users of that standard to discuss matters of mutual interest. A meeting was also organized for editors of CD-ROMs based on the GTITM platform which is used for the production of ROMARIN.

159. With regard to the Hague system, registration activities also increased during the first six months of 2000 in comparison with the same period of 1999. In particular, the number of international deposits recorded by the International Bureau (2,187), together with the number of renewals (1,465) increased by more than five per cent. Furthermore, the number of modifications (1,594) increased by 61 per cent.

#### **Sub-program 14.2 - Legal Framework, Information and Training Activities and Cooperation for Development in Relation to the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems**

160. Awareness and knowledge of the Madrid system were promoted through several seminars, namely: a two-day seminar on the procedures under the Madrid system, which was attended by 58 participants, mainly coming from the private sector; four one-week study programs held in the International Registrations Department for officials of Antigua and Barbuda, Japan, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom; and, briefings held for

officials from 26 industrial property offices or other government institutions who were received in the International Registrations Department.

161. Missions were undertaken by officials of the International Registrations Department to 20 countries for training and promotional activities as well as participation by officials of the International Registrations Department in five seminars organized by the WIPO Worldwide Academy concerning, *inter alia*, the Madrid system.

162. During the first six months of 2000, two States (Italy and Latvia) that were already party to the Madrid Agreement became bound also by the Madrid Protocol. Furthermore, Japan became bound by the Madrid Protocol and two new States (Bhutan and Greece) deposited their instruments of accession, respectively, to the Madrid Agreement and Protocol and the Madrid Protocol only.

163. Awareness and knowledge of the Hague system were promoted through the briefing of officials of 14 industrial property offices or other government institutions who were received in the International Registrations Department, the organization of missions to 10 countries for training and promotional activities by officials of the International Registrations Department and the participation by such officials in five seminars organized by the WIPO Worldwide Academy concerning, *inter alia*, the Hague system.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 15**

### **Human Resources Management**

#### **General Assessment**

164. The reform process initiated in the last biennium has stabilized, enabling the Human Resources Management Division (HRMD) to focus on improvement of its procedures and the running of its activities. A major accomplishment was achieved with the completion of the first phase launching of the Personnel Management Information System (SIGAGIP) pertaining to payroll purposes, a system which enables WIPO to prepare and carry out independently all payroll-related activities. The SIGAGIP component relating to personnel administration is still under the testing phase. The scope of training activities were further expanded, and major improvements were made with respect to insurance and healthcare, and working conditions of short-term employees.

#### **Sub-program 15.1 - Engagements**

165. Staff recruitment procedures continued to be streamlined. The Engagements Section announced 41 competitions, and recruited and handled contract formalities of 32 staff, 24 of which were at the professional level, 9 consultants, 134 short-term employees and 27 holders of Special Service Agreements (SSA). In addition, 3,100 spontaneous applications were evaluated for both professional and general service (support) posts and over 200 interviews and 69 typing tests were conducted. At the end of June 2000, a total of 374 short-term employees, consultants and SSA holders were employed, representing a total of 75 different nationalities.

#### **Sub-program 15.2 - Benefits and Entitlements**

166. Benefits and entitlements were administered for 768 staff members, as well as for the numerous consultants, short-term employees and holders of SSA; 51 briefings were carried out for the newly-appointed staff members and employees. 400 reports related to contracts were processed, 66 promotions were calculated, and 18 requests for the granting of language allowances were studied on the basis of the relevant job descriptions. Various other administrative procedures involved the calculating and processing of 200 dependency declarations, payment of 50 advances and indemnities related to education grant, payment of 372 rental subsidies, administration of 40 requests for maternity leave, 50 requests for home leave, 20 requests for education grant travel, 17 formalities upon departure, 49 transfers, 400 attestations, 100 UN laissez-passer, 300 new requests and renewals for Swiss legitimation cards, the registration of 16,200 requests for annual, credit and compensatory leave, 5,400 requests for sick leave control and the payment of 20,000 hours of overtime.

#### **Sub-program 15.3 - Social Security and Staff Welfare**

167. Seventy-seven new staff members and employees joined the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), bringing the total number of participants to 1,042. Two hundred and thirty-four new WIPO staff and their families joined the group medical insurance scheme,

bringing the total number of insured to 2,275. In addition, 68 accident declarations, 58 requests for medical insurance repayments for short-term employees, 35 UNJSPF separation settlements or withdrawal settlements and 120 miscellaneous certificates were processed during the first six months of the year. The new optional group life insurance scheme was introduced and 103 have joined so far. Discussions continued with the International Labor Organization (ILO) concerning the day-care center project, and a few places have been secured for WIPO staff at their own cost, with no subsidy from WIPO. The WIPO Insurance Management Committee recommended the freeze of medical, accident and life insurance premiums for the third consecutive year and improved benefits such as dental and optical treatment. Likewise, the Committee recommended terms of medical insurance for short-term employees, and an optional life insurance scheme for the spouses of staff members. The WIPO (closed) Pension Fund considered the 1999 accounts, documents relating to the pension supplements paid to retired staff, and issues relating to the management of the Fund's real estate, namely the preparation of the actuarial study of the Fund as of December 31, 1999.

### **Sub-program 15.4 - Classification and Procedures**

168. Activities relating to formulation of general human resources management policies in keeping with trends and development within the common system of the United Nations continued, and the evaluation and revision of the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules reflected changes in the organizational structure of the International Bureau conforming to the common system. Six amendments to the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules were implemented during the first half of 2000, and several amendments relating to recruitment, placement and promotion were prepared for the approval of the Coordination Committee at its September session. Thirty-four promotions were recommended by the Promotion Advisory Board at its third session in June 2000, and 110 job descriptions were prepared.

### **Sub-program 15.5 - Staff Development**

169. Activities continued concentrating mainly on training in management, information technology, and communication. Following the last biennium's management training, a broad program for all managerial staff was designed to strengthen management capacity in the Organization. In addition, several specialized courses were held, including a change management workshop, stress management seminars for all staff and time management courses (based on a personalized approach). In-house and external training courses on information technology, on standard MS Office applications, the use of the Internet, Internet publishing and specialized technical IT Training were offered, and a total of 411 staff members participated, amounting to 646 training days. As well, 237 staff members attended the annual language courses at the ILO and UN, and special courses in French and English (oral expression and written expression) were offered through a private language school. WIPO sponsored a participant to the annual "French as a Foreign Language" seminar, organized in Paris by the Government of France, and one staff member attended an intensive language course abroad. Three lunchtime learning sessions, two training sessions on presentation skills, and eight induction sessions for newcomers in English and French were held. Other offerings included an on-line course on intellectual property (in cooperation with the WIPO Worldwide Academy), training on protocol, strategic public negotiation and security, and "train the trainer" workshops. A network of focal persons for staff development was created.

## **Sub-program 15.6 - Healthcare Services**

170. A total of 2,927 healthcare-related interventions, including consultations, vaccinations, pre-travel briefings, post-mission debriefings and medical entrance examinations were performed for staff, retirees and delegates. Pending the introduction of an anti-tobacco policy within WIPO, steps were taken to provide active medical and psychological support for staff members and employees wishing to quit smoking. Several inspections involving food examination and the condition of hygiene (of both kitchen personnel and equipment) were conducted in the related WIPO facilities, in compliance with official Swiss standards. Altogether 250 workstations were assessed under an ergonomic program, which resulted in the introduction of changes to create an optimal working environment. A stress management program consisting of lunchtime learning conferences was launched and was followed by a number of intensive two-day seminars. An anti-aging presentation was given to staff members, addressing measures for maximizing health and longevity. Tripartite agreements were concluded, enabling cost reductions for both staff and the Organization, for services rendered by pharmacies and other specialized healthcare providers.



## **MAIN PROGRAM 16**

### **Administrative Support Services**

#### **General Assessment**

171. The Administrative Support Services continued to provide high quality and efficient services to Member States, to users of WIPO's market sector-oriented services, to the public at large, and to the staff of the Secretariat. The staff have performed commendably in meeting the heavy demands for their services, often under very tight deadlines.

#### **Sub-program 16.1 - Financial Operations**

172. These operations were professionally managed, as in the past, with accurate records kept of all income and expenditures, and monthly and annual accounts maintained in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization. The accounts for the 1998-1999 biennium were all properly closed (for WIPO, UPOV, UNDP projects, funds in trust, and the WIPO (Closed) Pension Fund) and audited by the External Auditors. The Financial Management Report for the 1998-1999 biennium was produced, including additional information on expenditures by Main Program and for trust funds. Distribution of the Madrid Union supplementary and complementary fees and the Hague Union State fees for 1999 (totaling 23.9 million Swiss francs) were processed on time, as were the monthly distributions of the individual fees related to the Madrid Protocol (totaling 12.6 million Swiss francs) for the first six months of 2000.

173. Effective use of modern information technology has already brought a number of significant improvements in 2000. The Budget Expenditures Tracking System (BETS) was further developed, along with a redesign of the accounting system, to accept expenditure information by activity. The new payroll system has been successfully implemented, and a new electronic payments system was put in place for all payments of invoices and travel expenses to staff. Preparatory work for the proposed Enterprise Resource Planning system, AIMS (Admistration Information Management System), has continued.

#### **Sub-program 16.2 - Investment Services and Management of Funds**

174. All available funds continued to be fully invested. The Investment Advisory Committee met to review WIPO's investments, and ongoing discussions of Finance Division staff with bankers also took place. The Committee agreed that, at present and with capital safeguarded, there were no alternatives better than the placement of investment funds with the Swiss Central Bank, which currently yields 4 per cent per annum.

#### **Sub-program 16.3 - Language Services**

175. Thirty-six translations into one or several languages were delivered of laws, regulations, model laws or draft laws received from, or prepared for, 19 countries. Documents for meetings, as well as lectures for seminars or training courses organized by the Secretariat,

were translated, revised or edited as necessary. The high quality and timely delivery of translations were maintained.

176. An evaluation process is underway on the suitability of different Voice Recognition software to the translation process.

### **Sub-program 16.4 - Conference, Communications and Records Management Services**

177. Conference support services were provided for 25 meetings (with 2,300 participants) in Geneva, including the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of the Patent Law Treaty, and 88 meetings elsewhere. 219 interpreters were recruited, for a total of 1,482 workdays; these numbers reflect the use of more languages at meetings. For the first time, a WIPO staff member served several meetings as interpreter.

178. Considerable savings in mailing costs were obtained in the competitive mail delivery services sector: an agreement is about to be concluded with a mail delivery services supplier for long-distance bulk mailings of PCT documents, with savings expected to be some 500,000 Swiss francs per annum; WIPO is the biggest user of registered mail in Switzerland, with some 70,000 mailings annually, and has been able to obtain a 20 per cent reduction in registered mail rates, resulting in savings of some 56,000 Swiss francs per annum. The overall volume of outgoing mail increased slightly (212,300 kg in the first half of 2000, compared with 201,700 kg in the corresponding period in 1999), mainly as a result of increased numbers of mailings of notifications under the Madrid system. This was partly offset by a reduced volume of PCT mailings, in spite of increased numbers of PCT pamphlets published, through having waivers permitting communications on request and through sending pamphlets by other than paper media. In the telecommunications area, new lower tariffs for long distance calls were negotiated and introduced in March 2000. An information gathering exercise has been undertaken, using sources within WIPO and with other Organizations of the UN system, with a view to preparing a Document Flow Control System.

179. Some progress has been made in introducing information technology within the service. A computerized accounting system for direct dialed long-distance official telephone calls with allocation of cost by program is in the implementation stage. The WIPO telephone directory is now available to staff in electronic form on the Intranet. A small computer system for the administration of interpreters has been put in place. The first phase of a new system to streamline the printing and mailing of WIPO documents is currently being tested in tandem with the Publications Production Service. The Conferences Service is contributing to the Internet-based daily agenda of meetings in Geneva being prepared by United Nations Office at Geneva.

### **Sub-program 16.5 - Publications Production Services**

180. The workload of the internal printing plant, which for the first six months of 2000 was some 43.5 million face prints (including the printing of PCT pamphlets and the (insourced) weekly PCT Gazette), has continued to be undertaken reliably and efficiently. Indeed, the WIPO printshop has been described by the Xerox Company as the most modern Xerox site in Europe. A similar system to the one put in place in 1999 to print PCT pamphlets by

destination is being implemented to streamline the printing and distribution of WIPO documents; this system is currently under test. Outsourcing during the first six months of the year reached a new high level with 227 purchase orders placed with outside suppliers.

181. The Task Force on Administrative Procedures has continued its work of streamlining, modernizing, and codifying administrative procedures. Among its activities, the “Practical Pages” project was launched in April 2000, providing a bilingual indexing facility to enhance access to information of general interest to the staff on the WIPO Intranet.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 17**

### **Premises**

#### **General Assessment**

182. The activities of this Main Program have increased considerably during the first half of 2000. This increase resulted from the growing and constant arrival of new officials, the age of the buildings and of their modernization, the preparation for renovation work on the former World Meteorological Organization (WMO) building and the commencement of studies on the new building.

183. With respect to those last two projects, the following work has been done:

(a) Construction of the new building: the international competition for the project for the new building was completed in March with the designation of prizes awarded to six firms, from which a first prize was awarded to Behnisch, Behnisch & Partner of Stuttgart, Germany. The results were shown to the public through a display of all projects in the Arpad Bogsch Building (AB) in April 2000. A feasibility study was launched in May for the purpose of obtaining the prior agreement of the Geneva authorities with respect to the location of the 600-seat conference room, together with the ancillary premises, between the AB building and the new building.

(b) Renovation of the former WMO building: partial demolition of the existing building, which had begun in December 1999, was completed in March 2000, thus preparing the site for future general construction work. An application for a supplementary building permit was submitted to the Geneva authorities and an international call for tenders was communicated to 12 pre-selected companies in four countries.

#### **Sub-program 17.1 - Provision of Office Space**

184. The first half of 2000 was characterized by the negotiation and conclusion of a lease for practically the whole (except the first floor) of the Proctor and Gamble building (P&G). Following signatures of the contract, studies and adaptation work for the building were carried out in order to relocate the PCT printshop from the AB Building to the P&G building annex and to convert the premises to the needs of the PCT (archives, office space).

#### **Sub-program 17.2 - Maintenance of Existing Premises**

185. The first half of 2000 saw the adaptation of the Chambésy building to suit the needs of WIPO (offices, restaurant, Library and computer training room) and the completion of the conference room project, which was fitted for simultaneous interpretation.

186. In the AB Building, the call for tenders for the renovation and modernization of conference rooms A, B, 1.27, Baeumer and Bilger ended with the selection of a general contractor, who immediately started the first phase: work to install the simultaneous interpretation facilities in meeting rooms A and B. The second phase will take place in mid-2001.

187. Work undertaken to increase the Secretariat's security included: the installation of an access control system using card readers and a video surveillance system, as well as the extension of these security systems to the P&G and Chambésy buildings, with the necessary modifications and adaptations; the issue to each official of new security access cards; and the extension of surveillance missions at both the P&G building and the Chambésy site, the latter now being guarded 24 hours a day. Necessary measures have also been taken to ensure surveillance of the former WMO building construction site.

## **MAIN PROGRAM 18**

### **Procurement, Contracts and Travel Services**

#### **General Assessment**

188. The main objective of Program 18, in the first six months of 2000, was focused on maintaining and improving efficient, transparent procurement activities and travel services aimed at providing the Organization with the most suitable goods and effective services, with particular attention to those large projects such as the construction of the new premises and IT-related activities. During the first six months of this year (as was last year's trend), the Procurement and Contracts Service (PCS) was involved in a tremendously higher number of international competitive tenders issued in connection to the WIPO major procurement projects. In implementing the above-listed activities, the PCS has made all efforts to increase both the number of suppliers invited to tender and respectively the countries of origin.

#### **Sub-program 18.1 - Procurement and Contracts**

189. To achieve the above-mentioned goals during the period January 1 to June 30, the following main activities were continued and/or undertaken in cooperation with other concerned Divisions:

- a) The preparation of an international tender for the renovation and modernization of the former WMO building, as well as administrative support in the organization of the international architectural competition for WIPO's new premises, which involved 27 architects from 17 countries;
- b) Administrative support for the selection of the winning bidder for the PCT-IMPACT project;
- c) Participation in the organization of, and provision of administrative support for, the international tender process to select a main contractor for the WIPONET project.

190. Other PCS activities during the first half of year 2000 include: a new improved version of the existing Acquisition/Tenders webpage; a visual information management inventory system, for organizational space and assets related to approximately 30,000 physical assets linked to 60 WIPO floor plans for all personnel.

191. The PCS has also handled various procurement contracts for standard office equipment, supplies, furniture and stationary following the results of international tenders, allowing WIPO to achieve economies of scale, by increasing competition amongst potential suppliers. The PCS continued to provide its services in order to expeditiously process diplomatic and service-provider relations, such as: requests for visas (from both delegates and staff), legalization of extracts concerning trademarks / industrial designs, diplomatic privileges, etc.

## **Sub-program 18.2 - Travel Services**

192. During the first six months of 2000, the Travel and Mission Support section handled some 1,560 travel authorizations. Cost savings continued through airline incentives and the use of special fares whenever feasible. The total benefits for the first six months of 2000 amounted to about 540,000 Swiss francs, up 41.7 per cent compared with the same period last year. In order to reduce paper work and speed up processing, procedures were simplified and the development of an electronic travel authorization system was initiated.

*193. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to review and note the contents of this document.*

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