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PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW
JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2001

Report by the Secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This Program Implementation Overview (hereinafter referred to as the “Overview”) gives an account of activities implemented by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) during the first six months of 2001. The Overview provides Member States with a general insight into the overall direction of the activities of the Organization during the period under review.
2. The Overview contains a description of the main activities carried out for each main program of the Program and Budget 2000-2001 (document A/34/2 of March 12, 1999). However, the Overview is neither intended to provide a detailed report on program performance nor an exhaustive list of activities.
3. The Overview stands separately from the “Program Performance Report for 2000” (document A/36/4 of July 20, 2001), and the “Program Performance Report for 2000-2001” to be submitted to the Assemblies in September 2002. The performance reports are prepared in the context of WIPO’s results-based programming and budgeting, and assess the achievement of program objectives on the basis of expected results and performance indicators. Thus, the performance reports focus on results achieved, while the Overview concentrates on the status of implementation of activities.

4. This Overview also provides Member States with status information on the implementation of those projects financed from the Special Reserve Fund. These major projects include information technology items such as WIPONET, and IMPACT for PCT automation, as well as the renovation of the former World Meteorological Organization (WMO) building and the new construction project.

MAIN PROGRAM 01

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

5. WIPO's membership had increased to 177 Member States by July 2001, with accession of Myanmar and Tonga to the WIPO Convention during the reporting period. Cooperation with governments facilitated the formulation of the Program and Budget, the discussion of matters of strategy and policy and of topical and relevant intellectual property issues, the implementation of WIPO-administered treaties, and enhanced transparency and accountability. The Director General also oversaw the development of closer ties with the United Nations system, the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other international and regional organizations.

Sub-program 01.1 - Organs of the Member States

6. Meetings of the Organs of the Member States during the period under review included the Working Group on Constitutional Reform, and an Extraordinary Session of the WIPO Coordination Committee, which endorsed the Director General's proposal for the appointment of four Deputy Directors General and two Assistant Directors General.

Sub-program 01.2 - The Director General

7. The Director General provides overall executive direction, management, policy guidance and leadership in the implementation of all WIPO's program of work. Close contact was maintained with Member States both in Geneva and abroad. During the first six months of 2001, the Director General undertook 11 foreign missions and received 135 visits from representatives of Member States, including heads of state or government, ministers, ambassadors, and from 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.

8. 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, as well as ensuring the smooth functioning of 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 the smooth execution of administrative functions being ensured.

Sub-program 01.3 - Advisory Commissions

9. A meeting of the Task Force of the Policy Advisory Commission (PAC) took place in New York on May 3, 2001, attended by seven members of the PAC and the Director General, to prepare for the next plenary meeting of the PAC. A new topic was introduced at this meeting, based on a perception of a forthcoming crisis in the ability of patent offices worldwide to deal with the acceleration in the number of patent applications that has accompanied globalization and the arrival of knowledge-based economies. The PAC is expected to deal with this subject in detail at its next session. Other topics introduced included a discussion of the means of dealing with traditional knowledge (TK) in the intellectual property context, and the need for greater enforcement of intellectual property laws worldwide.

10. The Industry Advisory Commission (IAC) was not convened during the period under review.

MAIN PROGRAM 02

Strategic Planning and Policy Development

11. In the first half of 2001, the streamlining of internal structures and coordination functions within the Secretariat, introduced by the Director General in the last biennium, continued to be pursued. Specifically, adjustments to the existing program and organizational structures were implemented, not only to rationalize program implementation and re-distribute staff resources to better meet work requirements and balancing among programs, but also to facilitate the transition to the revised program structure embodied in the draft Program and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

12. Strategic planning and policy development were further enriched through closer collaboration and consultative dialogue with governments, the United Nations system, UPOV, WTO and other international and regional organizations.

13. More focused program planning and review, and adjustment of internal operational policies were given major attention, in line with the conceptual framework of WIPO's Vision and Strategic Direction (document A/34/3) and current and projected international developments and trends, particularly the widespread expansion of the use of intellectual property systems for wealth creation. The draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium, which reflects this process and contains new strategic directions, new programming and budgeting discipline, and increased administrative modernization was considered by the Program and Budget Committee in April 2001.

14. With regard to internal management and control, the Director General continued to be assisted in fulfilling his oversight responsibilities, in creating and refining strategic plans and budgets, and providing overall direction in program implementation. Supporting functions for the Director General – including preparation of technical briefs, special research and analysis – were further strengthened, through improved formats for reporting on the outcome of missions, the continuous analysis of current events and emerging issues affecting intellectual property, and the preparation and circulation of internal discussion papers and briefs on policy issues requiring the attention of senior management.

15. During the period under review, a series of analytical and factual policy papers were prepared on the subject of intellectual property and economic development and empowerment. This series of papers covered a wide spectrum of intellectual property principles, issues and concerns about the role of IP in economic development policy. The papers are being compiled and edited as a single volume, to be considered as a possible new WIPO reference publication.

Sub-program 02.1 - Program Coordination

16. Program coordination has resulted in reinforced and mutually supporting activities among WIPO's various programs. The review of the program performance of the 1998-1999 biennium, facilitated and provided input into the formulation and coordination of the year 2001 work plans for all 18 main programs and 58 sub-programs.

17. The Senior Management Team (SMT), composed of WIPO senior executives, met regularly to take action on program matters, and financial or other administrative issues. The weekly professional information meetings (PRIM) chaired by the Director General or one of his senior executives continued to be held, which effectively facilitated the sharing of important information, including yearly reports, the coordination of program activities, and discussion and decision on policies within the Secretariat.

18. A number of decisions were taken during the period under review concerning Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs) by the Project Appraisal Board, through which full in-house inter-departmental collaboration is undertaken.

19. Forging stronger cooperation between WIPO and WTO has continued at all levels of the two Secretariats. The Directors General of WIPO and WTO launched a joint initiative on June 14, 2001, to assist the least-developed country Members of the WTO meet their obligations under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) by the January 1, 2006 deadline. To mark the occasion, a signing ceremony was held and all the representatives of the least-developed countries (LDCs) present in Geneva, as well as the Organization of African Unity, were invited. The signed joint communication went to all 49 LDCs, which include 30 Members of the WTO and 41 Member States of WIPO. WIPO also participated in various WTO sessions: four meetings of the General Council, two TRIPS Council meetings, two meetings of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), two Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) meetings, and three meetings of the Sub-Committee on LDCs. WIPO also continued to provide resource persons for WTO training courses and seminars.

20. WIPO has continued to coordinate with UPOV. Greater demands by 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.

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

21. To ensure a broader understanding among WIPO program managers of the relevance of certain areas of work of other parts of the UN system to WIPO's activities, some 2,700 official documents were received, analyzed, sorted and redistributed as appropriate to

departments within WIPO. Approximately 240 items of signed correspondence received from the UN and its agencies were either replied to directly or forwarded to the appropriate department for reply. Over 80 replies and contributions to reports and requests for information were prepared. WIPO continued to improve its communications and relations with the UN, participating in, *inter alia*, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) meetings on genetic resources for food and agriculture, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) International Symposium on Ethics, Intellectual Property and Genomics, various meetings at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC III), the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on AIDS, and the spring meeting of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). WIPO gave full support to the newly-formed High Level Committee on Programmes and High Level Committee on Management of the ACC, and contributed in detail to the former's request to all agencies to provide input to the "road-map" intended to describe the necessary action to achieve the goals of the Millennium Declaration. WIPO also gave its full cooperation to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) throughout the reporting period, including meetings with Inspectors on several occasions.

22. Through the WIPO Coordination Office in New York, over 250 representatives of Member States and NGOs were given briefings on WIPO activities including Cooperation for Development, Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources, and Folklore. In addition, seminars were held for Member States and civil society representatives on intellectual property rights and human rights. New York staff also participated in many preparatory meetings leading up to the United Nations Special Session on HIV/AIDS, as well as in several other inter-agency meetings.

Sub-program 02.3 - Performance Evaluation

23. During the period under review, several tasks were pursued with the goal of strengthening the program performance assessment system of WIPO. These included participation in the work of the WIPO Task Force, set up for the elaboration of the Program and Budget 2002-2003. In this process, a number of objectives, expected results and performance indicators were refined, in consultation with the program managers concerned. Furthermore, the Program Performance Report (A/36/4) was compiled, and while the principle of the performance reporting system remained the same as for the earlier reports, the structure of the 2000 report was changed, in order to: (a) make the linkage between the program assessment and the program performance evaluation framework contained in the Program and Budget 2000-2001 more explicit; and (b) render the report more reader-friendly and coherent by merging the descriptive and tabular performance assessment parts relating to each main program and sub-program.

24. Further to the first in-depth evaluation undertaken by WIPO, in the second half of 2000, of the annual WIPO Regional Meeting of Directors of Industrial Property Offices of Latin America, a report containing the evaluation findings was prepared by the Secretariat (document PCIPD/2/8) and presented to the Second Session of the Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development related to Intellectual Property held in February 2001.

Sub-program 02.4 - Strategic Research and Analysis

25. The activities implemented under this sub-program were re-directed to support and strengthen the development of a new WIPO program on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). To ensure that SMEs are better able to capitalize on the potential of the intellectual property system for their commercial development, the WIPO Milan Forum on Intellectual Property and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises was organized jointly by the Government of Italy and WIPO, in February. The Forum featured presentations on the specific challenges for SMEs in today's knowledge-based economies, fostering the innovative potential of SMEs and the role of patent, trademark and industrial design system for promoting the market potential of SMEs. The participants launched an action plan, which recommended, *inter alia*, that WIPO work closely with governments and relevant organizations to raise awareness of the many opportunities available for SMEs through greater knowledge and use of intellectual property systems, and to advise governments on inclusion of the specific concerns of SMEs in their national IP policies.

26. The WIPO website launched pages devoted to SMEs in June; more content and further translation efforts will be continued in the second half of the year 2001.

MAIN PROGRAM 03

Legal and Organization Affairs

27. During the period under review, the Office of Legal and Organization Affairs made significant progress in the implementation of its activities.

Sub-program 03.1 - Legal and Constitutional Affairs

28. The WIPO General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform, established in September 1999, held its Third Session in March 2001. That meeting resulted in a recommendation to abolish the WIPO Conference. If the recommendation is adopted by the Assemblies of Member States in September 2001, it will result in a further reduction of the Organization's governing bodies from 16 to 15. It is recalled that earlier recommendations of the Working Group, accepted by the Assemblies of the Member States in September 2000, resulted in the elimination of five of the Organization's 21 governing bodies.

29. Secretariat services were also provided for the 15th Extraordinary Session of the WIPO Coordination Committee, which resulted in the appointment or renewal of Deputy Directors General and Assistant Directors General of the Organization. From January to June 2001, the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Section received and processed over 30 instruments of ratification or accession, and issued some 40 notifications of treaty actions in respect of WIPO-administered treaties. Publication of these treaty actions on the Internet, in press releases and in the monthly review gave wide publicity to this upsurge in depositary activities.

Sub-program 03.2 - Non-Governmental and Enterprise Affairs

30. Legal support and advice was provided with respect to contracts valued in excess of 21 million Swiss francs, an increase of fifty per cent compared to the same period in 2000,

and with respect to major IT projects (including IMPACT and WIPONET), building projects and other operational activities.

31. Legal support and advice was also provided on a wide range of other activities of the Organization, including: various other automation projects; automation and other co-operation agreements undertaken at the initiative of the Cooperation for Development Bureaus; Internet issues; initiatives involving academic institutions; activities related to global communications; commercial leases in New York, Washington and Geneva and other premises matters; and, dissemination of WIPO data and publications.

Sub-program 03.3 - WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

32. The WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (hereinafter the “Center”) strengthened its position as the leading provider of dispute resolution services for Internet domain name disputes. In the first six months of 2001, the Center received 841 cases under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) concerning allegedly abusive registrations in the generic top-level domains (gTLDs): .com, .net, and .org. The Center received a further 30 cases in relation to country-code top-level domains (ccTLDs), with 20 ccTLD administrators having adopted the Center’s services. The parties to the cases filed during the reporting period came from 63 different countries and procedures were handled in 7 languages. With the benefit of the Center’s on-line facilities and model submissions, cases were on average completed within two months. The list of WIPO domain name panelists grew to 237 persons from 42 countries; they issued 845 decisions, with trademark owners obtaining transfer of the domain name in four out of five cases. The domain name services of the Center has resolved 2,329 cases since the UDRP took effect in December 1999.

33. Together with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Center was awarded the 2000 Center for Public Resources (CPR) Awards for Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in January 2001, in the category for Outstanding Practical Achievement, for its fair, economical and effective approach to resolving domain name disputes. Also in January, the Center issued a new brochure (WIPO publication No. 457) providing an overview of its domain name activities. The Center commenced working with registries who have requested it to extend its dispute resolution services to the new gTLDs that are expected to become operational in the second half of 2001.

34. While its facilities were devoted primarily to the domain name caseload, the Center also administered cases under the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Rules and continued to meet the regular demand for appointment assistance from the WIPO roster of arbitrators and mediators. The Center’s response to demands for assistance in the design of tailor-made dispute avoidance and resolution procedures focused on the publication in May (together with the Application Service Provider (ASP) Industry Consortium) of an extensive set of practical guidelines entitled “Dispute Avoidance and Resolution Best Practices for the Application Service Provider Industry.” The main purpose of these guidelines is to provide stakeholders in the ASP industry with an insight into the use and benefits of conflict management procedures, especially under the WIPO Arbitration, Expedited Arbitration and Mediation Rules.

35. In June, the Center organized its regular mediation workshop. This well-established program, which involves intensive exercises using intellectual property-specific case scenarios, is designed for lawyers, business executives, patent and trademark attorneys and

others wishing to familiarize themselves with the mediation process and to receive training as mediators. Thirty-five participants from a variety of countries attended the workshop, which took place in London, United Kingdom. The Center also gave a presentation at the WIPO Conference on Intellectual Property Questions in the ccTLDs, held in February.

36. The Center's web site, which was regularly updated, registered over 1 million hits per month.

Sub-program 03.4 - Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property

37. The Interim Report of the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process was published for public comment on April 12, 2001. It contains preliminary recommendations on the protection in the Domain Name System of international nonproprietary names of pharmaceutical substances (INN), the names of international intergovernmental organizations, personal names, geographical indications, indications of source and geographical terms, and tradenames. Regional consultations on the Interim Report were held in Brussels (Belgium) and Accra (Ghana), in April, and in Buenos Aires (Argentina), Melbourne (Australia), Washington, D.C. (USA), and Valencia (Spain), in May. The final Report is expected to be published in August 2001.

38. On February 20, 2001, the WIPO International Conference on Intellectual Property Questions Relating to ccTLDs was held in Geneva. This one-day event, attended by some 500 participants, served as a forum for the ccTLD and intellectual property communities to meet and exchange views on the challenges arising in this area. The topics covered the practice of certain ccTLDs to market themselves as *de facto* gTLDs, the registration of domain names in non-Roman scripts, privacy issues arising from the public availability of domain name registrant contact details, and the relevance of the UDRP for ccTLDs.

39. On the occasion of the above Conference, a draft of the "WIPO ccTLD Best Practices for the Prevention and Resolution of Intellectual Property Disputes" was announced for public comment. The WIPO ccTLD Best Practices constitute a voluntary set of minimum standards for intellectual property protection in the ccTLDs. They focus on the three areas of domain name registration practices and procedures which are most important for the protection of intellectual property: (a) the domain name registration agreement, (b) the collection and availability of domain name registrant contact details, and (c) alternative means for resolving disputes concerning domain name registrations. The document was published in final form on June 20, 2001.

40. Intellectual property advice to numerous ccTLDs was provided in the context of the WIPO ccTLD Program. During the period under review, the administrator from the Netherlands overseeing the .NL ccTLD, initiated a national consultation process aimed at, *inter alia*, the possible introduction of an alternative dispute resolution procedure for its domain. This process replicates, at the national level, the first WIPO Internet Domain Name Process. To steer the process, a working group has been constituted by the administrator of .NL. WIPO has been invited and has accepted to become a member of the working group in order to provide advice on the conduct of the process and on all related intellectual property issues.

MAIN PROGRAM 04

Program Planning, Budgeting, Financial Control and Audit

41. The implementation of activities during the first half of 2001 focused on: (a) assisting the Director General in articulating his Program and Budget proposal for the 2002-2003 biennium and (b) assisting executive management with adequate program implementation measures aligning program delivery with available resources.

Sub-program 04.1 - Program Planning and Budgeting

42. During the period under review, the Secretariat continued the preparation of the 2002-2003 Program and Budget. To this end, the Program and Budget Task Force undertook extensive consultations with program managers before finalizing the proposals. Those proposals were contained in the Draft Program and Budget 2002-2003 (document WO/PBC/3/2) and the proposal for Information Technology Projects to be Financed by Surplus Resources (document WO/PBC/3/3). Subsequently, in preparation for the April 2001 Session of the Program and Budget Committee, a series of consultations were continued with Member States. At their April Session, the Program and Budget Committee instructed the Secretariat to consolidate all proposals into a single document (WO/PBC/3/5, paragraphs 76 and 77). This consolidated document (WO/PBC/4/2) is to be presented at the September 2001 Session of the Program and Budget Committee. A new round of consultations with Member States before that meeting is envisaged.

Sub-program 04.2 - Financial Control and Monitoring

43. Program implementation measures were developed as decided by the Director General in late 2000. Following a review of program and budget delivery for the year 2000, annual allotments for 2001 were re-allocated by the Director General. This re-allocation of financial resources enabled program managers to review their 2001 workplans taking into account emerging priorities. Quarterly reviews of expenditures to monitor workplan implementation continued to be performed.

44. Financial control was also exerted through the detailed scrutiny and certification of individual financial commitments. This important task involved review of over 3,500 requests for certification and other approvals, in addition to maintaining close contact with program managers concerning the implementation of annual workplans.

Sub-program 04.3 - Audit

45. During the period under review, in addition to the preparation and undertaking of audits, active participation was ensured in various internal task forces and oversight committees dealing with the preparation of the 2002-2003 Program and Budget, security coordination and building projects. Contributions were also made for the improvement of administrative and management procedures, in close cooperation with other sectors within the Secretariat, while research and drafting work continued towards the finalization of a WIPO Internal Audit Charter. The Secretariat was also represented in the General Audit Management Conference, held in San Francisco (USA) in March 2001, and in the 32nd Meeting of Representatives of Internal Audit Services (RIAS) of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, which took place in Bangkok (Thailand) in June 2001.

MAIN PROGRAM 05

Global Communications and Public Diplomacy

46. In pursuing the goal of demystifying intellectual property, activities in the first half of 2001 were concentrated on refining and expanding the reach of the WIPO web sites, expanding links with the media, NGOs and private sector groups, as well as creating new interactive audiovisual and printed information products to explain the nature and contribution of intellectual property to the general public and targeted audiences. To strengthen WIPO's corporate image as an innovative, future-oriented organization, an international competition for a new WIPO logo was launched. A contribution was made to the Organization's revenue from the sale of WIPO information products.

47. WIPO actively organized and promoted the first World Intellectual Property Day, on April 26, 2001. Some 1,000 notifications were sent to Intellectual Property Offices around the world, missions accredited to the UN in Geneva, UN information centers, non-governmental organizations and the media, informing them of preparations and events for the World IP Day. The theme of the Day was "Creating the Future Today." These contacts received a poster and two CD-ROMs specifically created by WIPO for the event. A press release was issued to inform the media about the significance of the Day. The response was positive and a number of states sought specific assistance from WIPO in organizing public awareness events, including exhibitions and seminars. Some 59 Member States and NGOs sent WIPO information on their activities for the Day; these were posted on a dedicated page on the WIPO web site.

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

48. Visits to WIPO's web sites more than tripled, generating nearly 85 million hits for the first half of 2001, compared to 25 million hits for the same period in 2000. The Arabic language version of the WIPO site was adapted to the new web site design, while work progressed on the Russian language version of the site, to be launched in September 2001. By then, the WIPO Internet site will be accessible in five languages. New features and other pages that were introduced on the portal highlighted current news of interest. The number of links from the WIPO site to sites of national intellectual property offices, academic institutions, and accredited non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations was increased nearly threefold, the WIPO web site now being linked to more than 220 IP-related sites around the world.

Sub-program 05.2 - Media Relations and Public Affairs

49. The Organization continued to expand and consolidate its links with the international and Swiss-based press. Some 55 press communiqués were issued and some 800 press articles covered issues relating to WIPO and intellectual property during the period under review. WIPO's work in alternative dispute resolution related to domain names continued to attract widespread media coverage. Press conferences, briefings and interviews (written press, television and radio) with WIPO officials on a variety of subjects were arranged.

50. Twenty-eight editions of Intellectual Property in the News, a weekly compilation of IP-related news clippings, were produced and sent to Geneva-based permanent missions. In the area of public affairs, 41 groups, including government officials, business people and

students, totaling 1,018 people, were briefed on the history, structure, and activities of the Organization. Six art exhibitions were organized, which, together with the “Music in the Digital Age” exhibit at the WIPO Information Center, drew some 3,600 visitors. Some 30 new or updated entries on WIPO in various international yearbooks and other such publications were provided, along with responses to some 2,800 general inquiries on WIPO and intellectual property. With the rising interest in intellectual property matters taken by many civil society action groups, time and effort were devoted to cultivating enriched contacts with them, providing them with a wide selection of information materials and organizing special briefings for them in Geneva and elsewhere.

Sub-program 05.3 - General Information Products

51. During the first half of 2001, the corporate image of WIPO continued to advance and was applied to some 95 new or updated public information products, as well as 52 special products for conferences and meetings, such as programs, banners, folders, CD-ROMs and posters. The international competition for a new logo for the Organization was launched, with nearly 800 entries received from 50 countries. Some 16 finalists were chosen by a pre-selection committee for final consideration by the international jury in June. The jury reached a unanimous conclusion that none of the entries fulfilled the necessary criteria to serve as a new logo for the Organization and agreed to award three third prizes, but no first or second prizes. The decision would be announced to the Member States at the WIPO Assemblies in September 2001, with proposals for the next steps to be considered in creating a new logo for the Organization.

52. The year 2000 Annual Report was prepared and published in six languages, while the General Information Brochure was redesigned, incorporating new information on the latest intellectual property issues and new programs at WIPO. Also, the WIPO Magazine was redesigned with a more contemporary look and expanded to include a broader range of news and feature articles. The publication “Intellectual Property Reading Material” was updated and revised, and published in June under the new title “WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook: Policy, Law and Use.” Revision of “The WIPO Guide to Intellectual Property Worldwide” also began. New publications for specific target groups on specialized subjects – such as domain name dispute resolution, intellectual property and SMEs, geographical indications, and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore – were published, in three or more languages. A booklet clarifying issues on intellectual property and access to drugs and health care – as well as the Organization’s contributions in the area – was also prepared.

53. A new information product line was launched with the issue of a comic book on trademarks for children between ten and 15 years of age. It was the result of a cooperative venture with the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection of Peru. A similar comic book on copyright is nearing completion. A publication for different categories of creators prepared in cooperation with the *Sociedad General de Autores y Editores (SGAE)* was finalized.

54. Significant time and resources were devoted to expanding the use of audiovisual materials to highlight the Organization’s work. The first film in WIPO’s history – “Creating the Future Today” – explaining the concepts and significance of intellectual property and the role of the Organization, was produced in three languages for broad distribution. Interactive CD-ROMs on intellectual property posters and one based on the “At Home With Invention”

exhibition were produced for distribution to Member States and other audiences. They were also posted on the WIPO web site.

55. A three-minute film segment produced with Euronews on domain names was prepared and broadcast for potential reception in some 95 million households in Europe via cable, direct satellite transmissions or terrestrial distribution, as was a second production explaining trademark issues relating to certain web sites. An 8-minute segment on the *Salon International des Inventions* in Geneva was produced for the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), which broadcasted the segment through its Eurovision network to more than 65 TV stations and major TV news agencies. These and other segments were available for WIPO's own web casting as well. Efforts continued to secure private sector sponsors and support for "The Creators" film series, which would begin production in the second half of the year with four pilot films. Work on a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) on WIPO, to be broadcast on CNN, was begun.

56. The sale of public information products and advertising generated some 2.8 million Swiss francs during the first half of the year. A total of 22,062 publications were sold and some 144,157 were distributed free of charge. Increasingly, the products are given away free or sold with major discounts, particularly for buyers from developing countries and countries in transition. New marketing initiatives, such as direct mailing campaigns to advertise new and updated publications, were developed with the goal of increasing sales, especially via the electronic bookshop. Income from the electronic bookshop increased nearly 50 per cent, compared to the same period last year, to 118,722 Swiss francs. New distribution outlets for WIPO products were secured, including through the Internet.

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

57. The Library continued growing into an Information and Documentation Center (IDC), delivering reference services. The Cyber Center and Reading Room were utilized by some 600 visitors. Over 300 journal titles were circulated to WIPO staff members, 180 "Tables of Contents" (TOCs) were electronically provided, and approximately 250 new books were ordered. The WIPO Library catalogue continued to be available on the Internet and Intranet. A list of 40 core journals in the field of intellectual property was prepared in order to study the possibility of subscribing to one extra copy of these journals for display and availability in the Library's Reading Room, for the benefit of participants in training courses and seminars organized by the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA). The eight-member Library Advisory Group (LAG), created in May 2000 with the purpose of providing advice to improve the acquisition, circulation and lending policies of the Library, met once during the period under review.

MAIN PROGRAM 06

Cooperation with Developing Countries

58. During the first half of 2001, WIPO continued assisting developing countries in effectively utilizing the intellectual property system for their economic, social and cultural advancement. Activities were focused in the specific areas of establishing modern and efficient intellectual property administrative infrastructures, promotion of effective enforcement mechanisms for intellectual property rights, fostering creativity and innovation,

developing and further strengthening the collective management of copyright and related rights and strengthening cooperation among developing countries, in all regions.

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

59. Assistance for the establishment of modern and efficient intellectual property administrations continued to be provided through the Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), and included institution-building and modernization of the administrative infrastructure of intellectual property offices. By the end of June 2001, a total of 45 such plans were being implemented. Activities carried out under those plans included the organization of 124 missions by WIPO staff members and consultants, 26 study visits for intellectual property administrators, policy-makers and managers and automation-related activities including software development and equipment supply, covering patent, trademark and copyright administrations.

60. In addition to the regular assistance to national offices in acquiring information technology tools, the installation and customization in four Arab countries of a WIPO-commissioned software for an industrial property management system continued. The processing management software designed for small and medium-sized copyright collective management societies (AFRICOS) was upgraded for deployment in its first phase, in two countries in Africa.

61. A total of 31 national, sub-regional and regional meetings, seminars and symposia, on different major topics of intellectual property, were organized in cooperation with government authorities of developing countries involving around 2,600 participants. A major part of those activities dealt with the promotion of effective enforcement of intellectual property rights and were specifically addressed to judges, magistrates, prosecutors, police forces and customs officials.

62. Developing countries continued to receive assistance in preparing new, or updating existing intellectual property laws in compliance with current international standards including the TRIPS agreement. During the first half of 2001, 14 draft laws for ten countries and 24 sets of comments for 18 countries and one intergovernmental organization were prepared and submitted upon request. Legislative advice was also provided on 16 pieces of legislation for ten countries and three intergovernmental organizations. The topics covered the protection of patents, industrial designs, trademarks, geographical indications, lay-out designs or topographies of integrated circuits, copyright and related rights, protection against acts of unfair competition, as well as enforcement. In addition, many discussions on legislative advice were held with government officials in Geneva or in the capitals.

63. Work was completed in relation to the preparation of a publication representing a comprehensive casebook of comparative judicial precedents on copyright and related rights, which will serve as a reference material on related court decisions comprising jurisprudence from the Arab countries with common and civil law traditions.

64. Concerning cooperation with LDCs, a High-Level Interregional Round Table on Intellectual Property for the LDCs, which was attended by 112 high-level government officials from 38 LDCs and five intergovernmental organizations, was organized in Lisbon in cooperation with the Government of Portugal. The objective of the meeting was to articulate

policies and identify technical issues in order to better contribute to institution-building and human resources development in the area of intellectual property in LDCs. The Round Table constituted an integral part of the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on LDCs organized in Brussels in May, and adopted a Ministerial Declaration on Intellectual Property for LDCs (see documents WIPO/LDC/2001/1 “WIPO Deliverables to Sustainable Development of Intellectual Property Systems in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and WIPO/RT/LDC/2/8 “High-Level Interregional Roundtable on Intellectual Property for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs)”).

Sub-program 06.2 - New Global Intellectual Property Challenges

65. In cooperation with the International Trade Center (ITC), a Regional Workshop for Latin American and Caribbean countries was organized in Havana, Cuba, to present the final report of a fact-finding mission and diagnostic survey carried out by both organizations during April-May, 2000, in three selected countries of the Andean Community, namely Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, on the existence of “legal means to protect craft creations” and the possible use of intellectual property mechanisms to attain such protection. The Havana workshop was an opportunity to share the findings and conclusions of the survey with other countries in the region, as well as with other specialized inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

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

66. Activities continued to focus on complementing the efforts of developing countries to improve the infrastructure for facilitating and encouraging inventive activity, technological innovation and transfer of technology, thereby contributing to a more active use and sound management of intellectual property rights. Accordingly, six regional, sub-regional, and national seminars or workshops for over 520 participants were organized on different topics related to the valuation of intellectual property rights and their commercialization, innovation, support services and patent information. An International Conference on Intellectual Property, the Internet, Electronic Commerce, and Traditional Knowledge was organized in Sofia in May 2001. Over 160 participants from 38 countries attended the Conference, including 15 representatives from ten developing countries and five countries in transition (Eastern Europe and the CIS), as well as two IGOs and two NGOs. More than 15 advisory missions by WIPO staff and experts were also undertaken to discuss and examine, together with policy-makers, issues relating to the promotion of creativity and innovation in the labor force, protection of the results of such efforts and dissemination and use of those results for wealth creation, and social and cultural well-being.

67. A total of 20 WIPO Awards were bestowed in national and international competitions or fairs to 20 inventors, of which four were women, six were young inventors and two were teams of inventors or organizations.

68. By the end of June 2001, a total of 598 requests for state-of-the-art search reports and 389 requests for on-line search reports were received, and about 3,000 copies of patent documents were distributed. The capture of bibliographic data relating to articles published in leading scientific and technical journals continued.

69. Collective management of copyright and related rights (CMCRRR) was also given major attention with awareness-building activities, as well as institutional assistance being extended to collective management societies in developing countries. In addition to the organization of training, expert advisory missions and equipment support activities to collective management organizations, 11 regional, sub-regional and national seminars were organized in different developing countries. The development of a regional system of CMCRRR for the Caribbean through the creation of the Regional Collective Management Organization (the Caribbean Copyright Link) kept progressing. During the period under review, the special training of the founding authors' societies on the first module on documentation and mechanical licensing, took place in May in Barbados. A new pilot project on Collective Management of Intellectual Property Rights of Visual Creators in the Mercosur countries was also launched.

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

70. Promoting and facilitating cooperation among developing countries continues to be an important element of WIPO's program on Cooperation for Development. The most important meeting held during the period under review was the Second Session of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property in February. Some 84 countries and 19 intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations were represented. Discussions focused on cooperation activities in the various regions and included the work of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, recent developments in information technology, e-commerce, and traditional knowledge and intellectual property.

MAIN PROGRAM 07

Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia

71. The activities undertaken with certain countries in Europe and Asia mainly focused on capacity-building for the creation and further development of lasting institutions. The demand for such activities continued to increase during the period under review, following the trend already noted in 2000. Other activities carried out included the provision of legal advice, human resource development and awareness-raising.

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

72. Consultations were undertaken with three governments in the region concerning the ratification of, or accession to, WIPO-administered treaties and with four governments on the modernization of their national intellectual property legislation. Furthermore, WIPO prepared comments for one country on its intellectual property legislation.

73. Continued attention was given to the issue of enforcement of intellectual property rights. Approximately 80 officials from industrial property and copyright administrations, the judiciary, the legal profession, police, customs and other law enforcement agencies were trained in a national seminar. The purpose of that event was to increase the participants' knowledge to effectively deal with piracy and counterfeiting of intellectual property assets,

and ultimately to strengthen the judicial and administrative mechanisms for the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

74. WIPO also cooperated actively with ten governments in the development and implementation of three Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), six bilateral cooperation programs and one country project, aimed at taking action on the authorities' immediate priorities for improving the intellectual property systems and promoting the use thereof. Assistance in this respect focused, *inter alia*, 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. In addition, three countries received computer and other equipment.

75. Two additional 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. Moreover, study visits for two national officials were organized.

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

76. Two regional awareness events and one international conference were organized, attended by approximately 350 participants, including government officials, entrepreneurs, managers, representatives of SMEs, inventors, researchers, attorneys, academics and representatives of user organizations. The presentations on, and discussion of such issues as: the role of intellectual property in economic development; the use of the intellectual property system by SMEs; and, commercialization and management of intellectual property assets, enabled the participants to recognize the value of intellectual property rights and their importance in key areas of economic activity and competitiveness. Other topical issues and subjects dealt with included: intellectual property, the Internet and electronic commerce; the domain name system; new developments in the protection of pharmaceuticals and biotechnological inventions; traditional knowledge and genetic resources; and, the protection of geographical indications.

77. A number of countries from the region received assistance to attend WIPO meetings, including the WIPO Milan Forum on Intellectual Property and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, the WIPO/Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Conference on IP in Azerbaijan, the WIPO Conference on Intellectual Property Questions in the ccTLDs in Geneva and the Workshop on Innovation Support Services organized by WIPO, in cooperation with the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft in Germany.

78. In addition, assistance was provided for the translation into Russian of the WIPO Worldwide Academy's distance learning material and other documents.

MAIN PROGRAM 08

The WIPO Worldwide Academy and Human Resources Development

79. During the first half of 2001, the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA) continued to implement activities to promote the development of human resources through distance learning, professional training and policy-level training. For the first time, the efforts of two key Academy training programs were combined, by making the registration for the Distance Learning Course DL101 a prerequisite for the participants in the Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property.

Sub-program 08.1 - Distance Learning

80. During the period under review, two regular sessions of the introductory distance learning course, DL101, were offered with a total of 2,175 registered students. Breakdowns of the sessions, held from March 1 to April 15, and June 1 to July 15 respectively, were as follows: English sessions - 849 (586) participants from 91 (83) countries, assisted by 17 (9) tutors; French sessions - 96 (100) participants from 22 (24) countries, assisted by 2 (2) tutors; and, Spanish sessions - 204 (340) participants from 25 (22) countries, assisted by 4 (6) tutors. The completion rate of DL101 exams rose from 51 per cent in 2000, to 60 per cent of registered students.

81. At the request of, and in coordination with the Staff Development Section, a special session of DL101 was offered in March and April for a total of 42 staff members (19 English-speaking and 23 French-speaking). In May, 55 participants followed the DL101 course on-line and successfully completed the final exam as a prerequisite to their participation in the Professional Training Interregional Intermediary Seminar on Industrial Property (June).

82. During the first half of 2001 a CD-ROM version of the Introduction to Intellectual Property Course, DL101 (in English, French and Spanish) was prepared, of which 200 copies were distributed. To modernize the design of the current DL platform and to facilitate the adaptability of DL101 into other languages, a new website application and templates were created for immediate implementation in the second half of 2001. Contractual arrangements were also made for the translation of DL101 course content into Arabic, Portuguese and Russian.

Sub-program 08.2 - Professional Training

83. The following training courses were organized for 102 participants from 87 countries and four regional organizations:

- The WIPO/European Patent Office (EPO) Training Seminar “Streamlining of Search and Examination Procedures” (The Hague and Geneva, March 2001) in English, for patent examiners and other officials from patent departments of industrial property offices. A total of 17 participants from 14 countries and one regional organization (the African Regional Industrial Property Organization) attended the seminar;
- The WIPO/Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) Training Course on “Client Service and Quality Management in the Delivery of Patent Services” (Hull, Canada,

May-June 2001) in English, for officials from Latin America and the Caribbean. The ten participants attending the seminar from ten developing countries, comprised patent examiners and specialists in technical information and information technology;

- The WIPO “Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property” (Geneva, June 2001), in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish. Follow-up practical training courses were also organized in June, in cooperation with the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT, Cairo), the Austrian Patent and Trademark Office (APO, Vienna), the EPO (The Hague and Vienna), the German Patent and Trademark Office (GPTO), Munich, the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI), Lisbon, and the Moroccan Intellectual Property Office (OMPI), Casablanca. A total of 60 participants from 49 developing countries and three regional organizations attended the courses;
- The WIPO/EPO/Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM) Training Seminar on “Coordinated Patent Examination Procedures (Madrid, Munich and Geneva, June 2001)” in Spanish. A total of 15 participants from 15 countries participated in the seminar.

84. Two other training events were also organized, namely: (a) a Seminar on Intellectual Property for Universities in Portuguese and Spanish (January), with the participation of 22 students and seven university professors from the University of Vale do Rios Sinos (UNISINOS), Brazil; and (b) a Post-Graduate Course on Copyright and Related Rights (April), organized for Latin American university professors in Spanish, in cooperation with the University of Los Andés, Merida, Venezuela. The course was attended by ten university professors from ten Latin American countries.

Sub-program 08.3 - Policy Level Training

85. During the first half of 2001, four Academy sessions were organized, with 72 participants from 67 countries and four inter-governmental organizations. Academy sessions and courses included: (a) a Special Academy Session for Ambassadors in English (February), attended by 15 Ambassadors from 13 countries and two regional inter-governmental organizations; (b) a General Academy Session (March) for senior government officials from Africa in English, attended by a total of 18 participants from 16 countries and two regional inter-governmental organizations; (c) the Second Session of the Academy on “Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for Judges of Continental Law Jurisdiction” (Paris and Geneva, May 2001) in French, was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI), Paris and the *Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature* (ENM). The participants were judges from all regions of the world and a total of 20 participants from 20 developing countries participated in the session; and (d) a Special Academy Session on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (June) held in Beijing and Shanghai, in cooperation with the State Intellectual Property Office of China. The session was attended by 19 senior enforcement officials (judges, prosecutors and customs officials) from 18 developing countries and countries in transition. In addition, approximately 40 local participants attended the session in Beijing and 120 in Shanghai.

86. Study visits and long-term fellowships included: (a) a study visit (April) for ten post-graduate students of international human rights and humanitarian law from the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, University of Lund, Sweden; (b) a study visit (May) for 40 students of international law from Paris University X, France; and (c) three long-term fellowships: two for the Masters of Intellectual Property program at the Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, USA, and one at the University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

MAIN PROGRAM 09

Development of Industrial Property Law

87. Work continued on consolidating and improving the Organization's normative activities in the areas of patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications. Discussions were initiated on provisions related to the harmonization of substantive patent law within the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP). Draft Provisions on the Protection of Marks, and Other Industrial Property Rights in Signs, on the Internet were adopted by the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT).

Sub-program 09.1 - Law of Patents

88. The main activity during the first half of the year 2001 was the preparation and holding of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) from May 14 to 19. The SCP discussed a first draft of the Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT), which contained provisions on certain issues related to the harmonization of substantive patent law, such as the definition of prior art, the definitions of novelty, inventive step/non-obviousness and industrial applicability, the issue of sufficient disclosure of the invention and the drafting and interpretation of claims. The International Bureau received the mandate to redraft the provisions for the next Session of the SCP in November 2001, taking into account the comments made by members of the SCP. The SCP also explored the issues related to the disclosure of technical information on the Internet and its impact on patentability. Out of 26 developing countries and countries in transition invited to the Fifth Session of the SCP, 22 attended.

89. Follow-up work to the Diplomatic Conference on the adoption of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT) continued and involved, in particular, finalization of the Records of the Conference and of the Explanatory Notes.

90. Further activities included: (a) the promotion of WIPO's industrial property treaties (through staff missions, advice on national laws and meetings with national delegates); (b) close cooperation with related sectors/activities within WIPO (for instance concerning developments in the PCT system or issues related to biotechnology), as well as outside the Organization (follow-up to the revision of the European Patent Convention and to the work of other intergovernmental organizations, and developments concerning inventions made or used in outer space); and (c) the administration of the Budapest Treaty, including its updating. Some 13 missions in ten different countries were undertaken.

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

91. During the period under review, activities were to a large extent related to the Sixth Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), which took place from March 12 to 16, 2001. The SCT adopted the Draft Provisions on the Protection of Marks, and Other Industrial Property Rights in Signs, on the Internet, and decided to propose them to the WIPO Assembly and the Paris Assembly for adoption as a Joint Recommendation, at the Thirty-Sixth Series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO in September 2001. The SCT also agreed that

the revision of the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) and substantive harmonization of trademark law should be put on the agenda of its future meetings. Out of 26 developing countries and countries in transition invited, 25 attended the Sixth Session of the SCT.

92. In addition to the work directly related to the SCT meeting, activities consisted of: promotion of industrial property treaties (in particular the Trademark Law Treaty) and Joint Recommendations (on the protection of well-known marks and on trademark licenses); advice on draft national laws; participation and lectures in conferences and seminars; meetings with government delegates, representatives of NGOs and of the private sector. Support was also provided to the programs on Cooperation for Development and Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia, as well as the WIPO Worldwide Academy with regard to seminars and programs relating to trademark law or unfair competition. Nine missions in eight different countries were undertaken.

93. The activities of the Geographical Indications and Special Projects Section included: the preparation of a working document for the Sixth Session of the SCT entitled “Geographical Indications: Historical Background, Nature of Rights, Existing Systems for Protection and Obtaining Effective Protection in other Countries”; servicing the above-mentioned Sixth Session of the SCT; making notifications under Article 6*ter* of the Paris Convention (eight notifications); production and publication of the third edition of a CD-ROM containing a searchable database with all signs notified under Article 6*ter* until December 31, 2000, and distribution of this CD-ROM to all States party to the Paris Convention and all Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) that are not party to the Paris Convention; preparation of an international symposium on geographical indications that will take place in Montevideo, Uruguay, at the end of November 2001; and, contact with other international inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations such as the WTO, the International Vine and Wine Office (OIV) and the International Wine Law Association (AIDV).

Sub-program 09.3 - Protection of Industrial Property Rights

94. Activities implemented in the first half of 2001 included further work related to the WIPO Forum on Private International Law and Intellectual Property, held in Geneva in January 2001, in particular in collaboration with the Office of Legal and Organization Affairs and the Copyright and Related Rights Division. Follow-up activities with regard to the specific recommendations by the Advisory Committee on Enforcement of Industrial Property Rights (ACE/IP) in its “Summary by the Chair” (document ACE/IP/1/3) were also implemented.

95. Staff participated in and/or made presentations at conferences and seminars and attended meetings with government delegates, or representatives of NGOs or of the private sector with regard to the enforcement of industrial property rights. With regard to enforcement issues, work was carried out in close cooperation with related sectors and other activities within WIPO.

MAIN PROGRAM 10

Development of Copyright and Related Rights

96. Activities for the promotion of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) were implemented in collaboration with the Programs on Cooperation for Development and Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia. During the period under review, three countries joined the WCT and five countries joined the WPPT, bringing the total number of countries party to those treaties to 24 and 23 respectively. The advanced stage of implementation in a significant number of countries ensures that the treaties will enter into force with broad support. Each treaty will enter into force when it has been ratified, or acceded to, by 30 countries.

97. The Fifth Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights took place from May 7 to 10, 2001. The protection of broadcasting organizations and producers of databases was examined further.

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

98. From January 1 to June 30, 2001, the number of countries party to the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) rose from 21 and 18 to 24 and 23, respectively. One regional workshop was organized in cooperation with the Program on Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia, and 12 staff missions were undertaken.

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

99. The Fifth Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights met in Geneva from May 7 to 10, 2001. The Committee decided to carry forward the issue of databases to its Sixth Session, which will take place from November 26 to 30, 2001, with regional consultations to be held in the morning of November 26. The Committee also decided that the main issue to be discussed at that Session of the SCCR would be broadcasters' rights. The Secretariat invited Governments and the European Community to submit additional proposals on broadcasters' rights, preferably in treaty language, by October 1, 2001. Two staff missions were undertaken during the period under review.

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

100. Substantive contributions were made to the Forum on Private International Law and Intellectual Property, organized in Geneva in early 2001, in cooperation with the Office of Legal and Organization Affairs and the Development of Industrial Property Law Division. Nine missions were undertaken 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

101. During the first half of 2001, the implementation of activities focused on identification of, and research and consultations on, emerging intellectual property issues for the development of 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.

102. The specific intellectual property issues which were addressed included: 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; and the role of intellectual property as to the online exploitation of cultural heritage (in conjunction with the Electronic Commerce Projects Section). Member States of WIPO held the First Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (April 30 to May 3, 2001), which was established by the WIPO General Assembly, at its Twenty-Sixth Session, held in Geneva from September 26 to October 3, 2000. This Intergovernmental Committee provides a forum where Member States are able to discuss matters relevant to three primary themes related to intellectual property issues that arise in the context of: (i) access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing; (ii) the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and creativity; and (iii) the protection of expressions of folklore.

103. In addition, activities were intensified in other related areas which entailed WIPO's participation in other international, regional and national meetings and fora. These included: UNESCO International Symposium on Ethics, Intellectual Property and Genomics (Paris, France, January 2001); FAO Fifth Inter-sessional Meeting on the Contact Group of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture for the Revision of the International Undertaking (Rome, Italy, February 2001); Council of Europe - Meeting of the Working Party on Biotechnology (Strasbourg, France, February 2001); SCP/PIFS/UNESCO Workshop for Legal Experts on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Culture (Nouméa, New Caledonia, February 2001); Second Meeting of the Expert Panel on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-Sharing (Montréal, Canada, March 2001); International Conference on Intellectual Property, the Internet, Electronic Commerce and Traditional Knowledge (Sofia, Bulgaria, May 2001); FAO Sixth Extraordinary Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Rome, Italy, June 2001).

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

104. Based on the fact-finding and exploratory work undertaken in 1998 and 1999, and following a public commenting period, the report on "Intellectual Property Needs and Expectations of Traditional Knowledge Holders: WIPO Report on Fact-Finding Missions on Intellectual Property (1998-1999)" was published in April 2001.

105. A series of information workshops on intellectual property and traditional knowledge were organized, intended to enable representatives of relevant government ministries, holders of traditional knowledge and other stakeholders to learn the principles of the intellectual

property system and how these can be applied to the protection of traditional knowledge. The first three workshops were held in the Caribbean and South Pacific Region: two National Training Workshops for Holders of Traditional Knowledge, (Paramaribo, Suriname, and Kingston, Jamaica; both in May, 2001); and a Sub-regional Workshop on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge (Brisbane, Australia, June, 2001).

106. A feasibility study on the Use of Intellectual Property and Practice to Protect Traditional Knowledge, which was conducted in Australia, was also completed during the period under review.

Sub-program 11.2 - Biotechnology and Biodiversity

107. The establishment of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore enabled continued discussions on genetic resources, biological inventions and biological diversity. During the First Session of the Committee, there was a clear expression on the part of all WIPO Member States that the Intergovernmental Committee should address the issues before it in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA). Accordingly, the work which is undertaken by the Intergovernmental Committee will be consistent with and complementary to the work being undertaken by the CBD and FAO.

Sub-program 11.3 - Protection of Folklore

108. For the purposes of this Overview, 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)

109. Following the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, and the implementation of related activities, work on selected issues on Intellectual Property and Development could not be pursued.

MAIN PROGRAM 12

Information Technology and Intellectual Property Information Services

110. All on-going IT support activities have continued to make significant progress during the first half of 2001. The following give an indication of the scale of the internal IT Services operation: more than 1,500 PC's were supported on the WIPO network, 50 office automation servers were maintained and were available at 99.90 per cent, mainframe server availability was 99.73 per cent, volume of emails was about 1 million, Internet and Intranet hits reached 85 and 5.9 million respectively, 2,247 mainframe program modules were modified, and 6,700 Helpdesk calls were received.

111. The PCT operational systems (CASPIA/CASPRO/SPIDI) all underwent substantial modification to accommodate changes in PCT Rules which entered into force on March 1, 2001. These systems were also enhanced to facilitate the transfer of data to the IMPACT project's Communication on Request (COR) component. Major areas of work on PCT operational systems planned to be completed before the end of 2001 include changes enabling the PCT publication number to exceed 99,999 and the implementation of a PCT data archiving process, as well as any further potential changes resulting from the IMPACT project.

112. The application systems supporting the International Registrations Department (MAPS/DMAPS/IMAPS) were the subject of an external review by independent consultants, with the view to identifying risks to the safe ongoing operation of these systems, and to propose a 'road-map' for their modernization. A project to redevelop the ROMARIN CD-ROM publication using 32 bit software was concluded, with the new version due for release in September 2001. Another project, aimed at modernizing the Madrid system electronic communications standard from SGML to XML, is nearing completion. Activities planned for the second half of 2001 supporting the International Registration Department, include preparation necessitated by the changes in the rules of the Madrid and Hague Systems which will enter into force in 2002, the implementation of a fax server, together with the facilities for the automation of extracts of the Madrid and Hague registers.

113. The Human Resources Management Development (HRMD) systems (SIGAGIP and HR Access) continued to be tailored to the needs of the Organization, in particular in respect of the management of the various types of employment contracts, staff insurance schemes and summary information that are extracted and passed on to the UN Administration in New York.

114. The FINAUT system supporting the Finance Division is the oldest mainframe application in the organization, and as such represents the greatest threat to ongoing applications support, a problem that will be largely addressed in the medium term through the launch of the AIMS project. FINAUT does, however, continue to require specialist human resources for its day to day support, and this requirement will continue until the deployment of AIMS. In terms of risk mitigation, a security audit of FINAUT and its electronic interfaces with other applications was concluded during the first six months of 2001.

115. An electronic gateway was installed enabling on-line credit card transactions with various credit card companies. The so-called Credit Card Payment Gateway has been linked to the e-bookshop, the publication system and to the Organization's accounting system FINAUT.

116. A CD-ROM was produced, containing the WIPO Academy DL101 training course in English, French and Spanish, for distribution to students who, for technical reasons are unable to follow Academy training courses on the Internet. In addition, a revised Academy website, including a Chinese version, has been delivered for testing. Work planned for the second half of this year in the context of the Academy, includes the identification and deployment of a Learning Management System.

117. In terms of IT infrastructure operational support, the primary thrust of the first half of 2001 included the preparation for upgrading of some 35 office automation servers to version 5 of the NETWARE operating system. This process involved the detailed planning of

individual server upgrades over several months. In addition, and in the context of the FOCUS Project, the WIPONET I and WIPONET II computer rooms were delivered, and work progressed steadily on the refurbishment and extension of the WIPO computer room, which will be used to accommodate all the office automation, IMPACT and IPDL servers.

118. A very detailed draft Information Security Policy document covering all aspects of information security, from paper-based archives, to complex computer-based database management systems was prepared and submitted to the Security Coordination Task Force for consideration.

119. All on-going IT projects have continued to make significant progress during the first half of 2001.

120. The IMPACT (Information Management for the Patent Cooperation Treaty) project made good progress during the first half of 2001. Equipment for the project was installed in the first quarter of 2001 and distributed across two separate computer centers, following the signing of contracts for the equipment in December 2000.

121. Activities during the reporting period also focused on designing and developing the software for Phase I of the project, the COR (Communications on Request) system, which is the component of the system that will primarily deal with the storage of documents and the delivery of them to IP offices. A significant part of this phase consisted of the successful deployment of a PCT scanning office, where production is scheduled to start in August 2001, and the setting up of a User Pilot Team within the PCT working with new methods more aligned with the future environment which will be in place when the IMPACT system is fully deployed. The COR phase is due for completion at the end of 2001.

122. The PCT E-Filing project was initially part of the IMPACT project but was separated from it due to the importance of the work involved and the tight deadlines given for its completion. Activities in the first half of 2001 mainly concentrated on the setting up of the PCT E-Filing project as a stand-alone project and on the development of the technical standards and PCT Administrative Instructions in order to have a sound basis prior to commencing the technical development. The PCT Administrative Instructions and the technical standards are expected to be finalized by October 2001, and their entry into force is expected in December 2001. Prototyping commenced in June 2001.

Sub-program 12.1 - WIPONET

123. Significant progress was made in preparation for the implementation of the WIPONET global intellectual property information network. Deployment in Member States commenced on June 18, 2001 with the connection of the first five Offices, namely, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Chad, Honduras and Lebanon. Following the installation of the first five Offices, the Secretariat will review the deployment procedures used, prior to commencing the deployment of the other 61 Offices, as part of phase I of the project, in the third quarter of 2001.

124. With regard to the WIPONET CENTER, all equipment was installed in April 2001 and is currently being configured in preparation for full deployment in September 2001.

125. The WIPONET Training Contract was finalized at the end of June and it is expected that training will commence in the second half of 2001, with 29 training courses in all regions.

Sub-program 12.2 - Intellectual Property Information Services

126. During the period under review, administrative services were performed for the Sixth Plenary Session of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) held in January 2001, and the First Session of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies, Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) held in May 2001. The Sixth Plenary Session focused on several proposals to restructure the SCIT, with a shift of the focus of its activities and to reform its working methods and subsidiary structures. The First Session of the SDWG involved defining tasks and addressing certain initial set-up questions, as well as studying the various WIPO Standards on the agenda.

127. In the context of the Internet, the WIPO web site was made available in the Arabic language, and all production Oracle databases were upgraded to the Oracle Version 8.1.7 which permits not only Arabic, but also Chinese and Japanese characters.

128. With the decision to complete the IPDL development phase by December 2001, all efforts are focused on implementing a full production system by that date. The IPDL infrastructure will acquire the same hardware as the IMPACT project in order to benefit from economies of scale and to limit the different types of hardware platforms deployed within the Secretariat. This decision was also made on technical grounds as most of the IPDL data originates from the PCT. By the end of December 2001, the IPDL system will contain bibliographic data, drawings and abstracts from published PCT applications from 1997 onwards, the full text of published PCT applications from April 1998 onwards and the data relating to the trademarks registered under the Madrid system. In addition, work has commenced on establishing a set of applicable standards that may be used in the different IPDL systems of IP offices to enable full interoperability and cross database searching.

129. The IBIS project, which will fully automate the IPC (International Patent Classification) system, has now progressed to the point whereby the hardware platform is in place and the software is almost completed. Demonstrations of this state-of-the-art Internet-based system were given to the Ad Hoc IPC Reform Working Group of the IPC Union. It is expected that the new system, which allows the storage and maintenance of approximately 70,000 IPC terms, will become operational in the third quarter of 2001 and form the basis for the work to be undertaken within the CLAIMS project next biennium.

130. Mongolia and Slovenia acceded to the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification.

MAIN PROGRAM 13

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System

131. The PCT achieved another historic benchmark when, in May 2001, the monthly number of patent applications received for the first time exceeded the figure of 10,000. The total of 10,150 amounts to a record high of 441 applications received per working day. Statistically, this first half of the year 2001 has again confirmed record use of the PCT.

132. During the first six months of 2001, three States (Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea and the Philippines) joined the PCT, bringing the total number of PCT Contracting States to 112, of which 58 are developing countries.

133. The implementation of a series of amendments to the Regulations under the PCT, which had been adopted by the PCT Assembly in March 2000 and which entered into force on March 1, 2001, was completed.

134. At the First Session of the Committee on Reform of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, which was held in Geneva from May 21 to 25, 2001, a process aimed at reforming the PCT was launched.

135. In close collaboration with the Information Technology and Intellectual Property Information Services several improvements to the PCT and its users were implemented. (See Main Program 12).

Sub-program 13.1 - Operation of the PCT System

136. During the period under review, 55,136 international applications filed worldwide were received, which is 9,688 or 21.3 per cent more than in the same period in 2000. The 55,136 international applications had the effect of 3,312,534 national applications and of 170,749 regional applications; the latter would be equivalent to 2,414,407 applications for patent protection in the Member States of the regional patent systems. That creates a notional effect, in total, of 5,726,941 national applications. The number of applications coming from developing countries increased to 2,966 from 1,961 for the same period in 2000.

137. Of the 55,136 international applications filed, 17,957 or 32.6 per cent contained a request form 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.

138. By the end of June 2001, the International Bureau had received, in its capacity as a receiving Office, 1,254 international applications.

139. The processing of international applications resulted, *inter alia*, in the publication during the period of 47,334 international applications as well as 6,642 republications and 26 regular issues of the PCT Gazette. Some 29,847 international preliminary examination reports (IPERs) and 34,064 demands under Chapter II were received.

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

140. During these first six months of 2001, work continued to be carried out in relation 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.

141. The PCT Assembly, at its 29th (17th extraordinary) Session held in Geneva from September 25 to October 3, 2000, decided that a special body would be set up to consider proposals for reform of the PCT. Pursuant to the Assembly's decision, the Director General

convened the First Session of the Committee on Reform of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), which was held in Geneva from May 21 to 25, 2001. The main items on the agenda of the Committee's Session were: "Consideration of proposals for reform of the PCT" and "Further work." The Committee agreed on recommendations to the Assembly concerning the establishment of a working group and the referral to the working group, for its consideration and advice, of several matters including: the concept and operation of the designation system; improved coordination of international search and international preliminary examination and the time limit for entering the national phase; changes needed to achieve consistency between the PCT and the Patent Law Treaty (PLT); and general simplification and streamlining of PCT procedures.

142. The Office of the PCT (OPCT) participated in 31 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 11 countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) in English, French, German and Japanese and were attended by almost 1,000 users and potential users of the PCT system. In addition, the OPCT participated in one regional seminar in Guatemala, and national seminars in Colombia, Cuba and Ecuador, giving presentations in Spanish.

143. Specialized training on PCT procedures was also given at WIPO headquarters to officials from the industrial property offices of Antigua and Barbuda, Colombia, Philippines as well as the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

144. During the first half of 2001 updating sheets (in English and in French) for the March update of the *PCT Applicant's Guide* were published, as well as 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 2000, revised versions of the PCT and Regulations in English and French and revised versions of PCT forms and documents of general information in various languages.

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

145. In the period under review, tasks in connection with the registration activities under the Madrid, the Hague and the Lisbon Systems continued to be performed. Work was also carried out for the improvement of the legal and procedural framework of the Madrid and the Lisbon Systems. Other activities included the promoting of both accessions to and increased use of the above registration Systems, as well as the provision of information and advice to their users.

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

146. Filings of international applications under the Madrid System continued to increase in the first six months of 2001, albeit at a slower pace than in the same period of the year 2000 (5.4 per cent as against 13.5 per cent). A landmark was reached with the publication of the 750,000th international registration in March 2001.

147. International deposits and renewals under the Hague System remained stable in the first six months of 2001 compared to the same period of the previous year.

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

148. At its Second Session, in June 2001, the Working Group on the Modification of the Common Regulations Under the Madrid Agreement and Madrid Protocol approved a set of amendments to the said Regulations for adoption by the Assembly of the Madrid Union in September 2001. The purpose of those amendments is to make the international procedure simpler, more user-friendly and safer, while at the same time accommodating the needs of a growing number of jurisdictions participating in the Madrid system.

149. During the period under review, Australia and Mongolia acceded to the Madrid Protocol.

150. In May 2001, Romania deposited with the Director General of WIPO its instrument of ratification of the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement (1999). This is the first instrument of ratification of the Geneva Act to be received. Six ratifications or accessions are required for the new Act to enter into force.

151. At its Second Session, in March 2001, the Working Group on the Modification of the Regulations Under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and Their International Registration approved new Regulations under the Agreement for adoption by the Assembly of the Lisbon Union in September 2001. The proposed new Regulations aim at clarifying the international registration procedure and improving the previous text.

152. The Republic of Moldova became bound by the Lisbon Agreement in April 2001, bringing the total membership of the Lisbon Union to 20.

MAIN PROGRAM 15

Human Resources Management

153. The implementation of activities continued to focus on the improvement of existing procedures relating to human resources management and the design and implementation of new ones. The Director General approved the principles of the framework for the administration and resolution of cases of grievances through internal mediation, including the function of an "Ombudsman." In addition, improvements continued to be made with respect to healthcare. Training activities were further expanded and consolidated.

Sub-program 15.1 - Engagements

154. During the period under review staff recruitment procedures continued to be streamlined. Some 43 competitions were announced, and 49 staff were recruited, including 18 at the Professional and 31 at the General Service level, as well as five consultants, and 13 holders of Special Service Agreements (SSA). Five Professionals were appointed within the direct recruitment scheme and 13 under the newly established Special Labor Contract (SLC) scheme. Over 460 new contracts and contract renewals were processed. In addition, more than 2,700 applications were received for competitions and 350 spontaneous applications were evaluated for both Professional and General Service posts. Finally, more than 60 briefings were given to WIPO employees, and over 90 interviews and 24 typing tests were conducted. For the period in question, a total of 276 short-term employees, 51 consultants and 52 SSA and 24 SLC holders were employed.

Sub-program 15.2 - Benefits and Entitlements

155. Benefits and entitlements were administered for 770 staff members as well as for consultants, short-term employees and holders of SSA and SLC contracts; 48 briefings were carried out for newly-appointed staff members and employees. Some 270 reports related to contracts were processed, 46 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 calculation and processing of 143 dependency declarations, payment of 24 advances and indemnities related to education grants, payment of 205 rental subsidies, administration of three requests for maternity leave, 41 requests for home leave, five requests for education grant travel, eight formalities upon departure, separation, 23 transfers, 318 attestations, 37 UN laissez-passer, 163 new requests and renewals for Swiss legitimation cards, the registration of 2,950 requests for annual, credit and compensatory leave, recording of approximately 6,000 requests for sick leave for all staff and the payment of 23,000 hours of overtime.

Sub-program 15.3 - Social Security and Staff Welfare

156. During the period under review, 65 new staff members and employees joined the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), bringing the total number of participants to 1,104. Some 196 WIPO staff and their families joined the group medical insurance scheme, bringing the total number of persons insured to 2,560, and 128 staff members joined the optional group life insurance scheme. An optional life insurance for staff members' spouses was introduced. In addition, 45 accident declarations, 55 requests for medical insurance repayments for short-term employees, 20 UNJSPF separation settlements or withdrawal settlements and 135 miscellaneous certificates were processed. Upon recommendation from the WIPO Insurance Management Committee, it was decided that the Organization continue to contribute to the medical insurance premiums for children aged from 21 to 25 still enrolled in educational institutions. Likewise, upon recommendation of the Committee, the contribution of the Organization to the premium of the medical insurance was aligned for staff in part-time employment with the premium for staff in full-time employment. Due to the inflation of medical costs, there was an increase in the premium of Van Breda medical insurance of five percent, for the first time in the last three years, and an increase in the annual deductible from 200 Swiss francs to 300 Swiss francs as of January 1, 2001. The WIPO (closed) Pension Fund considered the accounts for the year 2000, as well as documents

relating to the pension supplements paid to retired staff, and various issues relating to the management of the Fund's real estate.

157. Some 250 meetings were held with staff seeking assistance with personal and work-related issues. An information booklet was prepared on the Swiss social welfare system for distribution to all colleagues employing domestic employees through the Swiss Mission directives. Meetings with the *Fondation de Genève*, Geneva Tourist Office, and other institutions took place to discuss staff welfare related matters.

Sub-program 15.4 - Classification and Procedures

158. Activities continued in relation to the formulation of general human resources management policies in keeping with trends and development within the common system of the United Nations, and the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules were amended to reflect these changes in January and March 2001. The preparation of the annual report on staff matters to the Coordination Committee commenced and, in addition, draft administrative guidelines on classification of posts were presented to the 68th Session of the Classification Committee in May 2001, and will be subject to further discussion in early autumn. The Classification Committee dealt with 36 jobs that had been subject to reclassification. During the period under review, 138 job descriptions were prepared for new and existing posts. The Promotion Advisory Board held one session and some 49 requests for promotion were recommended following in-depth discussions.

Sub-program 15.5 - Staff Development

159. Activities continued to concentrate on three main areas of training, namely in management, information technology and communication, as well as ad-hoc courses in response to specific needs. The annual language courses included some 300 participants at the ILO, UN and Bell Language Schools. Interest in language studies was also reflected in the increasing number of staff who followed intensive language studies abroad. During the period under review, one induction session was held and two "Lunchtime Learning" sessions took place, attended by over 250 staff members. Information technology training concentrated on the essential software used by WIPO, including Word, Excel and PowerPoint, databases and Internet publishing. Network administration courses and participation in state-of-the-art conferences for IT experts also took place. Some 170 staff participated in information technology training, amounting to 305 training days. Management training also took place on an ad-hoc basis, in response to requests from several divisions in the Organization. Some 18 staff members attended a team-building workshop. New stress management courses entitled "Personal and Organizational Stress for Professional Staff" were attended by 22 staff, and the Academy on-line intellectual property courses was offered to 42 staff, in English and French. In addition, 50 staff attended various courses relating to their professional training needs.

Sub-program 15.6 - Healthcare Services

160. During the first half of 2001, a total of 2,676 interventions, including consultations, vaccinations, pre-travel briefings, post-mission debriefings and medical entrance examinations were performed for staff, retirees and delegates. At the beginning of the year a screening campaign of the most frequent cancers (breast cancer in women, prostate cancer in men) was launched. In collaboration with the Staff Development Section, a lunchtime

learning session entitled “Accrued life-expectancy: role of hormones and DHEA,” was presented by a leading expert on innovations in anti-aging and bio-medical technologies. Food and hygiene inspections were conducted in the WIPO restaurants, and an additional agreement with a health service provider was concluded for the WIPO staff members insured by Van Breda. Active medical support for staff members wishing to quit smoking was provided on a permanent basis. The annual ergonomic program also continued, with an assessment of 200 additional workstations.

MAIN PROGRAM 16

Administrative Support Services

161. Administrative support 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 continued to be provided during the period under review, which was characterized by an increase in demands for the services, and very tight deadlines.

Sub-program 16.1 - Financial Operations

162. Accurate records were kept of all income and expenditures, and the monthly and annual accounts were maintained in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization. The WIPO financial accounts for the 1998-1999 biennium were presented to the April 2001 meeting of the Program and Budget Committee, and were commended by the External Auditors. Follow-up actions have already been undertaken regarding the recommendations contained in the 1998-1999 Audit Report. Distribution of the Madrid Union supplementary and complementary fees and the Hague Union State fees for 2000 (totaling 27.2 million Swiss francs, or 14 per cent more than a year earlier) were processed on time, as were the monthly distributions of the individual fees related to the Madrid Protocol for the first six months of 2001 (totaling approximately 23 million Swiss francs, or 83 per cent more than the prior year).

163. A proposal for a new Finance and Budget Information System to be implemented as part of the AIMS (Administration Information Management System) project was presented to the Program and Budget Committee at its April 2001 Session, where it was positively received. Following consideration by the Standing Committee on Information Technology, formal approval of the budget for the Finance and Budget Information System will be sought from the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO in September 2001.

Sub-program 16.2 - Investment Services and Management of Funds

164. All available funds continued to be fully invested. The Investment Advisory Committee met in April 2001 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 during the period in question yielded 3.375 per cent per annum.

Sub-program 16.3 - Language Services

165. Laws, regulations, model laws or draft laws were translated into one or several languages for eight countries or groups of countries. Documents for 24 meetings, as well as lectures for seminars or training courses organized in the first half of 2001, were translated, revised or edited. The translation process continued to take advantage of information technology, using in particular terminology databases accessible by each translator, as well as tools and resources available on the Internet. Evaluation of different voice recognition software in the translation process continued.

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

166. Conference support services were provided for 25 meetings (for a total of 2,300 participants) in Geneva and 80 meetings elsewhere; 274 interpreters were recruited, for a total of 1,006 workdays, these numbers reflecting the use of more languages at meetings. A WIPO staff member also served a number of the meetings as interpreter and team leader, thus enabling some cost savings. Considerable savings in mailing and telecommunications call costs were obtained in the competitive communications services sectors. The estimated overall volume of outgoing mail in the first half of 2001 was 190,400 kg (as compared to 212,300 kg in the same period of 2000), the slight decrease resulting mainly from a reduced volume of PCT mailings. Total telecommunication charges decreased in the first half of 2001, compared to the same period of 2000, despite an increase in both the volume of communications and the use of portable telephones (with some associated increase in operating costs) for more efficient communications.

167. Further progress was made in introducing information technology. The WIPO telephone directory, available to staff in electronic form on the Intranet, was substantially upgraded. However, the new computerized accounting system for direct-dialed long-distance official telephone calls, with allocation of costs by program, proved unreliable and requires modification. Work advanced on streamlining the processes of printing and mailing of WIPO documents, with the ultimate goal of enabling all documents to be sent or made available in electronic form. A pilot project for an electronic document management system (EDMS) was launched: the project aims at modernizing the processing of the Organization's correspondence and at establishing a fully electronic environment for the production, management and archiving of documents. Work continued on the development of guidelines that will permit the implementation of a Document Flow Control System.

Sub-program 16.5 - Publications Production Services

168. During the first six months of 2001, some 46 million face prints were made, including some 9.5 million face prints for the insourced production of the 8th Edition of the Nice Classification in its bilingual and separate English and French versions, and including the weekly printing of the PCT Gazette. A color-printing engine was installed in the Printshop to allow full color printing. In three months, this facility provided savings to the Organization of some 80,000 Swiss francs as compared to the potential cost of outsourcing. Some technical difficulties related to the system are being resolved. The system is being implemented in tandem with the Conference Service to streamline the printing and distribution of WIPO documents. Over 130 orders were placed with outside suppliers.

169. Under the aegis of the Task Force on Administrative Procedures, the Working Group on the Dissemination within WIPO of Information of General Interest continued its work. New facilities being prepared for the WIPO Intranet have been discussed and reviewed; notable among these is an event system which will permit people to be informed of new items of interest and record whether or not they have viewed these items. This would be used in particular for disseminating administrative information, circulars, and the like. A redesign of the Intranet pages is also under consideration.

MAIN PROGRAM 17

Premises

170. During the period under review, activities related to the provision of viable work space for all staff continued to increase, following the trend from 2000.

Sub-program 17.1 - Provision of Office Space

171. During the first months of 2001, the increase in staff members and the internal reorganization of the PCT resulted in the total occupation of the part of the ex-P&G building leased by WIPO.

172. Projections of work space required to meet the needs of the Organization were reviewed in 2001, showing that the scarcity of offices could be resolved by the leasing of additional office space during the renovation of the WMO building. However, the search for 100 offices in rental properties, while underway, will be difficult due to the tight market conditions for such space not only in the vicinity of WIPO, but also throughout the canton of Geneva.

Sub-program 17.2 - Maintenance of Existing Premises

173. Full attention continued to be given to the maintenance of facilities and technical installations, in the existing WIPO buildings. Work undertaken in the first half of 2001 included the following activities and the use of the most up-to-date technology:

- Improvements were made to Room 1.27, by upgrading the technical equipment (air conditioning, lighting and sound), to ameliorate its acoustic and aesthetic qualities. The Bilger Room was entirely redone, bringing it to a higher, more modern standard, with two cabins for simultaneous interpretation, new furnishings, lighting and sound equipment. In June 2001, identical activities commenced for the Baeumer Room and Room B.
- Total revision of the air-conditioning system in the ex-P&G building, that guaranteed the necessary constant temperatures to protect the computer network rooms, including the provision of a second complementary air conditioning system.
- Installation of two additional sets of archival storage sites, for the archiving of PCT documents. Activities aiming at improving the sites included the expansion of the electrical, telephone and cable (IT) networks, and the installation of an access control system.
- Creation of the computer rooms for WIPONET I and WIPONET II (located in the lower levels of the A. Bogsch and ex-P&G buildings respectively) for the launching of

WIPONET. The work on these comprised the installation of security and base equipment, including fire detection, automatic fire-extinguishing, access control and alarm systems.

- Removal of computer equipment, belonging to the Publications Service, to the underground level of the A. Bogsch building, while ensuring that the new area was configured to respond to established norms.
- Total transformation of the facilities used to expedite, sort and scan the mail received at WIPO.
- Installation of fixed shelving utilized for PCT files in the WIPO storage facilities Meyrin II and V.
- Due to the reorganization within certain sectors of the PCT, as well as the many inter-office movements between the ex-P&G and G. Bodenhausen buildings, renovation work on walls, floor covering, installations for telephone and data-processing, etc., were carried out.
- Installation of walk-through magnetic security doors in the A. Bogsch, ex-P&G and Chambésy buildings.
- The A. Bogsch and G. Bodenhausen I and II buildings were equipped with new lock cylinders, in accordance with the new building security plan. Similar equipment is under development for the ex-P&G building, as well as for the WMO building site.
- The service elevators of the A. Bogsch and ex-P&G buildings were equipped with badge readers connected to the Interflex program. Moreover, to ensure the security of staff present in the buildings in the event of fire or emergencies outside the normal working hours, the Chambésy, ex-P&G and A. Bogsch sites were equipped with printers that can provide continuous information online regarding people present in the buildings.
- A control of fire extinction equipment was carried out at all the sites. Those in the A. Bogsch building were already supplemented in order to meet the augmented needs due to the installation of increasingly sensitive technical equipment. The other sites will also be upgraded during the second half of 2001.
- Cameras monitoring the new WIPONET data-processing centers were connected to the video system at the principal security desk in the A. Bogsch building.

MAIN PROGRAM 18

Procurement, Contracts and Travel Services

174. In the first six months of 2001, activities focused on maintaining and improving efficient and transparent procurement to provide the Organization with suitable goods and effective services at the most advantageous costs. The large WIPO projects, such as the construction of the new premises and IT-related activities, continued to receive particular attention. The already very high number of international competitive tenders issued in connection with the major WIPO projects increased by approximately 40 per cent. For all tenders, particular efforts have been undertaken to increase both the number of suppliers invited to tender and their respective countries of origin.

Sub-program 18.1 - Procurement and Contracts

175. The following main activities were either initiated or continued in cooperation with other concerned Divisions: (a) finalization of outstanding issues related to the contract for the renovation and modernization of the former WMO building; (b) provision of administrative

support for activities related to the negotiation of various engineering contracts required in connection with the preparation of an open international competitive tender for the selection of a general contractor in relation to the construction of WIPO's new premises; (c) provision of administrative support for the monitoring and administration of contracts related to the PCT-IMPACT project and WIPONET project; (d) organization of an international tender to select one (or more) contractor(s) for the implementation of a private dark fiber network infrastructure and high-speed managed links interconnecting the different WIPO locations in Geneva.

176. Other activities during the first half of 2001 included the upgrading of the existing procurement web pages and the maintenance of the visual information management inventory system for the approximately 30,000 physical assets linked to 60 WIPO floor plans.

177. Some 1,212 purchase orders were issued and registered for an overall amount of over 82 million Swiss francs. This represents an overall increase of about 74 per cent compared to the over 47 million Swiss francs of purchase orders issued during the same period of the previous year. Those figures include procurement activities related to WIPO's technical cooperation program.

178. A large number of procurement contracts for standard office equipment, supplies, furniture and stationary, following the results of international tenders, were also handled. This allowed WIPO to achieve economies of scale, by increasing competition amongst potential suppliers. Services continued to be provided to expeditiously process diplomatic and service-provider relations, including *inter alia*, requests for visas (from both Delegates and WIPO staff), legalization of extracts concerning trademarks and industrial designs and diplomatic privileges.

Sub-program 18.2 - Travel Services

179. Some 1,156 travel authorizations were handled by the Travel and Mission Support Section and cost savings amounted to 586,097 Swiss francs. This was due to special fares negotiated with airlines. Incentives received from airlines reached 161,615 Swiss francs.

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

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