

WIPO



A/40/3

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: August 20, 2004

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

E

ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

Fortieth Series of Meetings

Geneva, September 27 to October 5, 2004

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW
JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004**

Report by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. This Program Implementation Overview (hereinafter referred to as the “Overview”) summarizes activities implemented by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) during the first six months of 2004, within the framework of the 2004-2005 biennium.
2. The Overview provides Member States with an outline of the Organization and its overall direction, and offers insights on the implementation of major activities during the period under review. It describes the main activities carried out for each program of the Program and Budget 2004-2005 (document WO/PBC/7/2).
3. This Overview does not provide a detailed report on program performance and, therefore, should not be seen as an update of the “Program Performance Report for the 2002-2003 Biennium” (document A/40/2 of July 23, 2004). Instead, the Overview concentrates on the implementation of activities, focusing on their progress or status, while the performance reports, prepared in the context of WIPO’s results-based programming and budgeting, assess the achievement of program objectives on the basis of expected results and performance indicators, and focus on results achieved.

MAIN PROGRAM 01

Constituent Organs of the Member States

4. WIPO's membership increased to 180 Member States at the end of June 2004, with the accession of the Maldives, on May 12, 2004, to the WIPO Convention.

MAIN PROGRAM 02

Direction and Executive Management

5. In approaching the challenge of the emergence of a dynamic knowledge economy, and assuring that WIPO provides practically useful program outcomes, Main Program 02 guides day-to-day operations and provides policy and strategy information with a view to ensuring greater collaboration and cooperation with representatives of WIPO Member States.

Sub-program 02.1 - Office of the Director General

6. The Director General met with the WIPO Senior Management Team (SMT) on a regular basis to discuss policy and management issues with regard to WIPO. The SMT is composed of Deputy Directors General, Assistant Directors General, the Legal Counsel, the Controller, as well as senior Directors concerned. These meetings contributed to providing a transparent and integrated executive decision-making environment, a managed information flow, regularized program scheduling and timely follow-up on decisions taken.

7. The Director General ensured that high-level relations exist between the representatives of Member States and the International Bureau, and close contact was maintained with Member States both in Geneva and abroad. During the period under review, the Director General undertook three foreign missions abroad and received some 64 visits from representatives of Member States, including Ministers, Ambassadors, and Heads of international and national organizations.

8. These meetings led to an improved understanding and knowledge of the policy expectations of WIPO Member States and of the Director General's leadership of the Organization, and contributed to the effective achievement of consensual progress on international intellectual property issues. The Division of Protocol ensured the smooth execution of the logistics of these and other visits.

9. Cooperation with governments facilitated the implementation of WIPO-administered treaties, and enhanced transparency and accountability. The Director General also oversaw the development of collaboration 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.

10. Important assistance was provided to the Director General in the form of preparation of correspondence with Member States, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals, as well as speeches, briefing material and statements. The Office of the Director General also gave substantive support and

follow-up to Senior Management Team meetings and contributed to the coordination of aspects of protocol, liaison, travel and representation.

Sub-program 02.2 - Policy Advice, Advisory Commissions, Internal Oversight and External Relations

11. The Special Counsel continued to provide close support to the Director General by maintaining existing relationships and developing new contacts. Communication with representatives of Member States, both in Geneva and elsewhere, on the global and medium-to-long-term aspects of the potential progress of the intellectual property system, took place on a continuous basis. This allowed precise and well-informed analysis of topical intellectual property questions to be imparted to the Director General and Senior Management Team.

12. Although the Policy Advisory Commission did not meet during the period under review, the report of the 2003 Commission meeting was finalized, distributed and prepared for the 2004 Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. In addition, several high-level discussions were held, which focussed on the possible future agenda of the Commission.

13. Within the context of the Industry Advisory Commission (IAC), contacts with private sector and business groups continued to expand, enhancing links with industry worldwide. Discussions were held on various issues related to intellectual property and industry, as well as on WIPO activities and programs of particular interest to industry.

14. Regarding internal oversight, two independent internal evaluations were finalized, including one of a major IT project. The Program Performance Report for the 2002-2003 biennium (document A/40/2) was compiled on the basis of contributions provided by WIPO program managers. Furthermore, most of the preparatory work was done for this Overview (document A/40/3).

15. WIPO was also represented at the annual meeting of the UN Evaluation Group (the former UN Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation), in April, in Bonn, and at the 35th Meeting of the Representatives of Internal Audit Services (RIAS) of the UN Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, held in June in Paris.

16. WIPO continued to expand and consolidate its links with the international and Swiss-based press. Some 28 press communiqués were released and approximately 1,200 press articles (tracked by one system only) covered issues relating to WIPO and intellectual property. Twenty-six editions of "Intellectual Property in the News", a weekly compilation of intellectual property-related news clippings, were produced and sent to Geneva-based permanent missions.

17. Concerning activities relating to the area of public affairs, 48 groups, including government officials, business people and students, totaling 1,100 people, were briefed on the history, structure, and activities of the Organization. Eight art exhibitions, serving to demonstrate the link between creativity and copyright, were organized. The exhibitions, supported by the missions of the exhibitors' nationality, drew some 4,000 visitors. Some 25 new or updated entries on WIPO in various international yearbooks and other such publications were provided, along with responses to around 3,000 general inquiries on WIPO and intellectual property.

18. WIPO's external relations with the organizations of the United Nations system and other international fora also continued to develop in scope and intensity.
19. WIPO consolidated its links with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and actively participated in activities related to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and promotion of cultural diversity, i.e., in the preparatory work of UNESCO for the elaboration of a Draft Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions.
20. WIPO further developed its working relations with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in particular, in the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. This question received WIPO's support and participation in the International Labour Organization (ILO) in terms of its Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.
21. Cooperation continued with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), including discussions on Patenting Trends regarding Plant Genetic Resources covered by the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. WIPO, jointly with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), carried out a study on the "Role of IPRs in the Sharing of Benefits Arising from the Use of Biological Resources and Traditional Knowledge", and made the study available at the Ministerial Level segment of the Seventh Conference (COP-7) of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). A technical study on disclosure requirements related to Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge, which was requested by the CBD in 2002, and prepared by WIPO in 2003, was also transmitted to COP-7. WIPO participated in the Inter-Agency Committee on Bio ethics together with FAO, ILO, UNESCO, the World Health Organization (WHO) and others. Finally, WIPO also participated in the meeting of the Chief Executives' Board of the United Nations.
22. Cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) was intensified, especially on issues related to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), intended to encompass all dimensions of society, to distinguish principles, themes and concrete steps, as well as to identify global challenges in this field. The UN General Assembly Resolution on WSIS (A/RES/56/183, adopted on December 21, 2001, paragraph 5) encourages, *inter alia*, all relevant UN bodies to participate actively in the intergovernmental preparatory process of the Summit and the Summit itself. During the period under review, WIPO participated in the HLSOC meeting in Vienna on April 1, and the Preparatory Committee meeting in Tunis from June 24 to 26. At these events, WIPO presented contributions on the digital divide and on stocktaking of activities relevant to the WSIS.
23. Dialogue and cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) continued in areas such as the use of the intellectual property system for economic development and promotion of the cultural industries. WIPO presented a program of work in the field of intellectual property and economic development with special emphasis on assistance to developing countries at the Eleventh Conference of UNCTAD, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, June 13 to 24, 2004.
24. In addition, WIPO continued its cooperation with the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) throughout the reporting period.

25. About 2,000 official documents were received, analyzed, sorted and redistributed as appropriate to various sectors within WIPO. Around 220 items of signed correspondence received from the UN and its Agencies were either directly replied to, or forwarded to respective departments for follow-up actions. Over 50 replies, contributions to reports and responses to external requests for information were prepared. To ensure a better coordination of activities with the UN system, WIPO set up an Inter-Agency Relations Section during the period under review.

26. Cooperation between WIPO and UPOV continued at all levels of the two Secretariats regarding policy issues, activities in the area of development cooperation, training and information, biotechnology and genetic resources, and joint activities. Coordination also continued on administrative matters, for which WIPO provided services in the areas of finance, personnel, translation, documents and technical services to UPOV in response to its needs and requirements. WIPO closely followed developments in all UPOV meetings.

27. Cooperation between WIPO and WTO also continued. For the first time, WIPO and WTO jointly organized a colloquium for teachers of intellectual property law. A second colloquium is foreseen for 2005. A joint national seminar was held in Djibouti on February 11. National seminars in Chad, Ethiopia, Niger and Uganda, as well as a regional seminar in the Republic of Moldova on certain topical intellectual property issues, have been planned for the second half of 2004.

28. The negotiation process under the Doha Development Agenda, as well as the regular proceedings in various WTO bodies, including the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), General Council, TRIPS Council regular and special sessions, Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), and Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), continued to be closely monitored. As in previous years, WIPO provided resource persons for WTO training courses, workshops and seminars.

29. A high level independent Commission on "Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health" was established by the WHO in February 2004. The Commission is mandated to produce an analysis of intellectual property rights, innovation and public health, including the question of appropriate funding and incentive mechanisms for the creation of new medicines and other products against diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries. The Commission's report is expected to be submitted in January 2006, and WIPO has been invited to provide expert advice.

Sub-program 02.3 - Strategic Planning, Budget Control and Legal Affairs

30. Monitoring and analysis of intellectual property trends continued to be the main focus of the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development (OSPPD), in order to respond to new challenges faced by WIPO.

31. Support was provided to the Office of the Director General in the coordination of WIPO's activities, thereby enhancing internal communication. The implementation of the Program and Budget was coordinated with program managers with a view to reflecting WIPO's vision and strategy for the Program and Budget 2004-2005 and the Mid-term Plan within the framework of WIPO's current financial situation. A total of 17 sessions of the Professional Information Meetings were held in the first half of 2004 as a forum to discuss key questions on the future direction of Main Programs, on the basis of annual reports

presented by program managers. The OSPPD also assisted the Office of the Director General in organizing meetings of the Senior Management Team, which met once, and the Senior Management Team Task Force, which met six times during the period under review, at which management issues were discussed.

32. Furthermore, coordination of internal meetings, including the Security Coordination Task Force, was ensured in response to the growing concern over the threat to the UN system. In early 2004, OSPPD also coordinated several units in reviewing the implementation plan of the new construction project in response to disputes within the Consortium selected for the new construction, which finally constrained WIPO to terminate the contract.

33. The Office of Legal Counsel continued to provide legal advice or information on legal or constitutional affairs, contracts and other general legal matters to the Member States, the Secretariat, and other public and private entities.

34. At their meetings in September 2003, the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO adopted the recommendations of the General Assembly Working Group on Constitutional Reform that the WIPO-administered treaties be amended in order to: (i) abolish the WIPO Conference; (ii) formalize the unitary contribution system and changes in contribution classes; and, (iii) change the periodicity of ordinary sessions of the WIPO General Assembly and the other Assemblies of Member States from once every two years to once annually. During the reporting period, four WIPO Member States sent their instruments of acceptance of the adopted amendments. Those treaty actions were notified to all Member States.

35. Adherence to the conventions and agreements administered by WIPO continued to grow steadily: from January to June, 29 instruments of ratification or accession were received and processed, and 37 notifications of treaty actions were issued in respect of WIPO-administered treaties. These treaty actions were notified to Member States and other relevant entities, and were systematically published on the Internet and, where appropriate, *via* press releases. The number of subscribers to the treaties mailing list (*treaties.mail*) reached 6,467, and there was also a great interest in activities on the treaties website (*wipo.int/treaties*), with the number of page views of the site reaching a total of 718,870 hits during the reporting period.

36. Requests were received from one inter-governmental organization (IGO), 15 international and six national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for observer status with WIPO. Of these organizations, one IGO, nine international and three national NGOs have fulfilled all the required criteria. Mandatory correspondence with those organizations, as well as relevant documentation, were prepared to be presented to the Assemblies of Member States in September 2004.

37. Legal advice and assistance continued to be provided to several units within WIPO in respect of: external requests for permission to reproduce WIPO documents in various publications; requests for certified copies of WIPO-administered treaties; requests for model instruments of accession and ratification of several WIPO treaties; preparation of notes on the advantages of accession to certain WIPO treaties; continuous information on the status of ratifications or accessions to the treaties; resolution of disputes relating to the interpretation and application of the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules; and, representation of the Administration at the WIPO Internal Appeal Board and the ILO Administrative Tribunal.

38. The Office of Legal Counsel was actively involved in the meeting of the Legal Advisers of the UN System, held in Paris, in February, and also participated in the International Law Association's Committee on the Accountability of International Organizations.

39. Legal advice and support was provided to different internal units with respect to contracts related to a wide variety of issues. Some license agreements with software suppliers were also the subject of review during the reporting period. Other activities included the provision of advice concerning the interpretation of some of WIPO's agreements currently in force, tax issues, and interpretation of the privileges and immunities of the Organization, and of its staff members.

40. Advice was also given with respect to framework agreements of cooperation with governments and/or intellectual property offices from different regions, and Funds-in-Trust agreements with several countries. The Office of Legal Counsel also supported the work of the Contracts Review Committee, the Investment Advisory Committee and the Construction Committee, and provided legal support for the anticipated termination of the construction contract with the Consortium that had been selected as the General Contractor for the new WIPO building.

41. Under the overall direction of the Director General, and in close cooperation with Senior Management Team, the Internal Policy Coordination Office provided advice and inputs aimed at improving the coordination and functioning of several areas within the Organization, in particular: resource mobilization; cost-cutting measures; human resources; buildings; information technology; and, travel. In close contact with Program Managers, discussions aimed at inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral coordination as well as identifying areas of overlap and redundancy were initiated, with a view to further rationalizing and streamlining certain programs and activities. Close consultation took place with the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development regarding potential areas of policy coordination.

Sub-program 02.4 - Liaison Offices and External Coordination

42. The WIPO Coordination Office in Brussels continued to represent WIPO at events organized by the European Commission (EU), sessions of the European Parliament, and meetings of the World Customs Organization (WCO), as well as a wide range of other events taking place in Brussels. A series of meetings, aimed at improving cooperation and collaboration between the EU and WIPO, took place with the Europe Aid Cooperation Office and the Directorate Generals: Research of the European Commission; Enterprise; Internal Market; and, Trade. Among the results achieved from these meetings was the cooperation between WIPO and the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Unit of Directorate-General Enlargement of the European Commission (T.A.I.E.X.), which has led to an extensive program of intellectual property training that makes full use of WIPO expertise for the benefit of countries covered by Main Program 09. The discussions with the Europe Aid Cooperation Office aimed at enhancing WIPO collaboration with the EU, to help deliver technical assistance programs designed by, and for the benefit of, developing countries.

43. The WIPO Coordination Office in Brussels also gave presentations at a number of events targeted at opinion and policy makers, including on trademarks to the *Délégation des Barreaux de France* and on university-industry relations at the Europe of Knowledge conference organized by the Directorate-General Research in Liège. The Office also participated in the Global Summit on Combating Counterfeiting organized by the WCO and

the 10th Anniversary of TRIPS Conference organized by the Directorate-General Trade, both of which included senior level participation from WIPO in Geneva.

44. The WIPO Coordination Office in Washington focused on raising awareness about WIPO in the United States of America Congress, and relevant national Government agencies, NGOs and industry groups. The Office advised on legislation and continued to enhance contacts with interest groups to promote a broader understanding of international intellectual property issues and the work of WIPO among the national intellectual property community. The Office provided information to WIPO headquarters on developments in Washington, D.C., and provided support to WIPO officials on mission there.

45. The WIPO Coordination Office in New York participated in, and monitored, several UN meetings held in New York, including: preparatory meetings for the 2004 Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the on-going substantive Session of ECOSOC; the 42nd Session of the Commission for Social Development; the Commission for Sustainable Development; the Special High Level Meeting between ECOSOC, the Bretton Woods institutions and the WTO; the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the 44th Session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination; the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL); the Seventh Session of the High Level Committee on Programmes; and, the resumed Session of the General Assembly, which dealt with financial matters. Many of these meetings concerned development issues relating to, *inter alia*, technology, traditional knowledge and genetic resources, electronic commerce, and UN system coordination..

46. In its efforts to widen knowledge about intellectual property amongst UN delegates, the WIPO Coordination Office in New York collaborated with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa to arrange a one day event on science and technology under the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD). A briefing on WIPO activities was also arranged for the Group of the Latin American and Caribbean countries at the UN Headquarters. A new program of Ambassadorial consultation, concerning the importance of intellectual property for wealth creation also began, involving six consultations during the period under review.

47. To celebrate World Intellectual Property Day, the Office hosted a joint WIPO/United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) workshop, at which academics and Office staff briefed members of the diplomatic community in New York on WIPO. An exhibition of textile designs from different countries was also held.

48. In its outreach to civil society groups, the Office lectured over 200 participants of the Model UN Conference, spoke to executive members of The Global Business Forum, represented WIPO at NGO panel discussions, for example, on database protection, and assisted WIPO headquarters at the annual International Trademark Association Conference. In addition, the Office responded to over 284 inquiries.

49. The Office strengthened its Academic Outreach program with lectures at four American universities, and discussions at intellectual property student societies. A total of 375 students attended these lectures. In continuation of its collaboration with intellectual property professional associations, the Office held two significant events: Trademark Practice and Industrial Design Update: a Global Perspective, attended by 40 attorneys; and, The PCT: Where we Stand, What Lies Ahead, attended by a total of 90 participants, many of them patent attorneys.

50. To further inform WIPO headquarters about developments in the UN, two internal newsletters were launched: “UN Weekly” and “IP in the US”.

MAIN PROGRAM 03

Patents and the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System

51. Activities continued in respect of the further development of legal principles and convergence of practices in the area of patents, and included the continuation of discussions on substantive patent law harmonization at the Tenth Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) and the consideration of proposals for reform of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) system, which progressed with the convening of the Sixth Session of the Working Group on Reform of the PCT.

52. The total number of patent applications received during the first half of 2004 amounted to 58,146, which confirmed the extensive use of the PCT.

53. Through the PCT reform process, significant improvements were introduced in the legal framework. As of January 1, 2004, a simplified designation procedure and fee structure, and a new enhanced international search and preliminary examination system, came into effect. Further changes concerned communication to offices and access to the file of an international application.

54. Legal advice and information was provided to Contracting States with the objective of enhancing the quality and efficiency of the International Bureau’s bilateral relationships. Furthermore, seminars, presentations and training sessions were offered to users and potential users of the PCT to foster usage of the system.

55. On February 12, the International Bureau as a Receiving Office (RO/IB) started to receive electronic filings of international applications from all PCT Contracting States.

56. The Thirty-Fourth Session of the Committee of Experts of the International Patent Classification (IPC) Union approved amendments to the seventh edition of the IPC, as well as several documents related to IPC reform. In order to provide more time for the creation of the Master Classification Database, and for the implementation of the reformed IPC in IP Offices, the Committee decided to postpone the entering into force of the reformed IPC for one year, until January 1, 2006.

Sub-program 03.1 - Development of International Patent Law and Services

57. One of the main activities consisted of the preparation and organization of the Tenth Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP), which took place from May 10 to 14. The SCP continued its discussions on further harmonization of substantive patent law within the framework of the draft Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT) and draft Regulations and Practice Guidelines under the SPLT. The SCP considered whether discussions at this stage should be limited to a number of provisions relating to prior art, on which quick progress would be achievable, or whether talks should cover the current draft SPLT as a whole, and consider issues such as disclosure of the origin of genetic

resources and traditional knowledge, public health and exceptions to patentability criteria. Although the SCP could not reach agreement on this issue, it agreed to continue discussions of the existing draft SPLT text during its Tenth Session. Provisional agreement was reached on a number of provisions, and progress towards agreement, or at least greater mutual understanding, was apparent in a number of areas, such as the introduction of a grace period, the prior art effect of earlier filed, but later published, international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and the definition of novelty. On other issues, differences among patent systems and practices remain and require further reflection.

58. Further activities relating to general patent law included, in particular: the promotion of industrial property treaties through staff missions; advice on national laws and meetings with national delegates; and, close cooperation with related sectors and activities within WIPO, for instance, regarding different issues relating to the international patent system, PCT system developments, and biotechnology. Other activities comprised the follow-up on general developments of the patent systems at the international level and on the work of other IGOs, as well as the administration of the Budapest Treaty.

59. As regards PCT reform, work continued to be carried out on the improvement of the legal and procedural framework of the PCT, in line with the objectives of PCT reform set out by the PCT Union Assembly, including simplifying and streamlining procedures, reducing costs for applicants, maintaining balance between workload of PCT Authorities and quality of services provided, aligning PCT provisions with those of the Patent Law Treaty (PLT), and ensuring that the system works to the advantage of all offices, irrespective of their size.

60. At its Sixth Session held in May, the Working Group on Reform of the PCT considered further proposals for changing the PCT system. The Working Group approved a number of proposed amendments to the Regulations, with a view to their submission to the PCT Union Assembly, concerning simplification of the protest procedure in case of non-unity of invention, furnishing of sequence listings for the purposes of search and examination, and corrigenda and consequential amendments further to the amendments already adopted by the PCT Union Assembly in 2002, with effect from January 1, 2004.

61. The Working Group felt that further consideration was required with regard to a number of other proposed amendments to the Regulations concerning restoration of the right of priority, rectification of obvious mistakes, missing part requirements, improving the quality of international searches, declaration of the source of genetic resources and traditional knowledge in patent applications, single request for the recording of changes during the national phase, signature requirements and international publication in multiple languages. The Working Group also considered certain aspects of copyright and other rights in non-patent literature made available by intellectual property offices and proposals concerning the working methods of the Working Group.

Sub-program 03.2 - The PCT System

62. During the period under review, 58,146 international applications filed worldwide were received. The number of applications coming from developing countries amounted to 2,835.

63. Of the 58,146 international applications filed, 22,784, or 39.2 per cent, contained a request form prepared using the PCT-EASY software, and 4,722, or 8.1 per cent, were received in fully electronic form.

64. By the end of June 2004, the International Bureau had received, in its capacity as a Receiving Office, 3,363 international applications. Some 1,041, or 31 per cent, of these filings were received electronically.
65. The processing of international applications resulted, *inter alia*, in the publication of 54,345 international applications during the period under review, as well as 24,921 republications and 26 regular, and three special, issues of the PCT Gazette. Some 5,277,047 standard documents requested by National Offices, or 92 per cent of all documents concerned, were communicated by the International Bureau in the first six months of 2004 in electronic form (CD or DVD or FTP), the remaining eight per cent being communicated on paper.
66. To enhance the International Bureau's capacity to meet the demands of PCT users and industrial property offices, and to enhance the quality of the services entrusted under the PCT, a number of initiatives, in particular in the area of statistical data management and analysis, were launched. In addition, a number of internal procedures were put in place aimed at introducing a modern business policy to enhance the quality of services.
67. The amendments to the PCT Regulations, which were adopted by the PCT Assembly at its 31st and 32nd Sessions in September 2002 and September 2003, and implemented on January 1, 2004, required complementary implementation related work during the first six months of 2004. Those tasks included: revision of the PCT Applicant's Guide in English and French; revision of the PCT seminar and training materials in English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish; publication of revised versions of the PCT Regulations in various languages; updating of PCT indexes and reference resources; and, internal training within the Office of the PCT.
68. Legal advice and information were provided to Contracting States on a total of 1,143 occasions, of which 66 per cent were provided to industrialized countries, 18 per cent to certain countries in Europe and Asia, 13 per cent to developing countries and three per cent to LDCs.
69. Some 64 seminars/presentations/training sessions were carried out with a total of 3,994 participants. Of these, 55 seminars were held in 13 different countries and were attended by 3,663 participants. Other sessions held at WIPO premises included: three Fora on the PCT for Diplomats organized in English, French and Spanish; the PCT Users' Roundtable on the PCT attended by representatives of major users of the PCT System, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the European Patent Office and the International Bureau; and, three specialized training sessions and presentations on the PCT given to staff of other units of the Secretariat, one to government officials and one to intellectual property students.
70. The following publications and texts were issued and/or made available on the Internet: updating sheets of the "PCT Applicant's Guide" and of its Internet version; special issues and Section IV of the "PCT Gazette"; the "PCT Newsletter"; "the Yearly Review of the PCT: 2003"; Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and Regulations as in force from January 1, 2004; "History of the PCT Regulations, June 19, 1970 to January 1, 2004"; PCT Legal Text Index; modified PCT forms; editable versions of PCT Receiving Office forms; updated PCT seminar materials; revised tables of important PCT reference data; and, general information documents in various languages. Additionally, video and

PowerPoint presentations on the changes to the PCT Regulations, which came into effect on January 1, 2004, were made available on the Internet.

Sub-program 03.3 - International Patent Classification (IPC)

71. The following IPC-related meetings were held during the period under review: the Thirty-Fourth Session of the Committee of Experts of the IPC Union (Geneva, February); the Second Meeting of the Task Force on IPC Training Examples (Munich, German Patent and Trademark Office, May); and, the Eleventh Session of the IPC Revision Working Group (Geneva, June).

72. The Committee of Experts approved amendments to the seventh edition of the IPC, as well as changes to references and subclass indexes in the IPC. With regard to IPC reform, the Committee approved several documents providing a basis for the application of the reformed IPC for classifying and searching of patent documents. In order to provide more time for the creation of the Master Classification Database, and for the implementation of the reformed IPC in IP Offices, the Committee decided to postpone the entering into force of the reformed IPC for one year, until January 1, 2006.

73. The IPC Revision Working Group considered several IPC revision projects, approved a new sub-class relating to “Conjoint control of vehicle functions” and a revised classification scheme for “Methods of electronic business”, as well as a number of classification definitions explaining in detail the contents of subclasses of the IPC. The Working Group also considered issues relating to the publication of the eighth edition of the IPC and of associated publications.

74. In order to provide better access to IPC information resources, the IPC website was completely redesigned and a new set of material, relating to IPC reform, was added.

75. A study was conducted on the extension of the non-patent part of the PCT Minimum Documentation (MD) to include traditional knowledge related periodicals and databases to be recommended to the International Authorities under the PCT (IA) for use in searching and examination. Based on the criteria defined by IA, five traditional knowledge related periodicals were proposed for inclusion in the MD. An updated list of periodicals to be used for search and examination under the PCT will enter into force on July 1, 2004. With a view to providing information resources relating to the extension of the non-patent part of the MD to include databases, the PCT Minimum Documentation website was created.

MAIN PROGRAM 04

Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

76. During the period under review, intensive work was carried out within the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) for progressive development of international law in these areas. Among the important decisions taken by the SCT was the submission, to the WIPO General Assembly in September 2004, of a proposal to convene a diplomatic conference for the revision of the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) in the first half of 2006.

77. Registration activities under the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon Systems continued to be carried out. At the end of June 2004, the number of international applications of marks received by the International Bureau amounted to 14,006, representing an increase of 18.39 per cent compared to the same period in 2003. Some 764 international applications of industrial designs were received, representing a decrease of 43.45 per cent. Five new international applications were received under the Lisbon System and, on June 30, 784 international registrations of appellations of origin were in force.

78. The amendments to the Common Regulations concerning the inclusion of Spanish as an additional language of the Madrid System entered into force on April 1, 2004, making the Madrid System operational on the basis of a trilingual regime.

79. Advisory and promotional activities aimed at achieving a wider recognition, use and implementation of WIPO treaties, recommendations and standards in the area of trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications, were also undertaken.

Sub-program 04.1 - Development of International Law and Services

80. Work on the revision of the Trademark Law Treaty continued at the 12th Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) in April 2004, which was attended by a total of 76 Member States' delegations, and representatives of four IGOs and 14 NGOs. The SCT worked intensively on provisions concerning address for service and representation, communications and relief in respect of time-limits, and engaged in a full substantive discussion on draft articles concerning trademark licenses. It further considered, for the first time, the final and administrative clauses as contained in the draft revised TLT.

81. The SCT also decided to recommend to the WIPO General Assembly in September 2004, to convene a diplomatic conference for the revision of the TLT in the first half of 2006, with the exact dates and venue to be decided by the preparatory meeting, and to hold two more sessions of the SCT prior to the holding of the diplomatic conference.

82. Concerning the work of the SCT on the further development of international trademark law and the convergence of national trademark office practices, a questionnaire containing a substantive number of questions on national trademark law and administrative office practice was circulated to SCT members in August 2003. By the end of June 2004, more than 70 replies had been received. The responses will be compiled into a provisional summary document, to be published after SCT members have had an opportunity to comment on it, which could serve as a basis for the future work of the SCT.

83. The SCT also discussed the protection of geographical indications against their abusive registration as domain names, and agreed that this issue would stay on the agenda of the SCT.

84. Regarding Article 6^{ter} of the Paris Convention, the "Article 6^{ter} Express" database, the latest addition to the WIPO Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL), went live early 2004. It constitutes a free-of-charge on-line search facility of all signs and emblems currently protected under Article 6^{ter} of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. The database contains a total of 1,228 protected signs and can be accessed at <http://www.wipo.int/article6ter/en/>.

85. During the period under review, five new notifications were sent under Article 6ter to the States party to the Paris Convention and, in application of the WIPO/WTO Agreement of 1995, to the Members of the WTO that are not party to the Paris Convention. In the same period, eleven new requests for notification were received.

86. Additional activities during the period under review consisted of: the promotion of industrial property treaties (in particular the TLT) and Joint Recommendations; advice on draft national laws; and, meetings with government delegates, NGO representatives and the private sector. Support was also provided to the Economic Development Sector and the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA). Furthermore, the Sector of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications participated in a National Seminar on Geographical Indications, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO) and the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ), in Kingston, as well as in seven other meetings at the invitation of: the World Trade Organization (WTO); the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA); the Institute for International Management of the University of Graz (Austria); the International Vine and Wine Office (OIV); the International Wine Law Association; the Japanese Group of the International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI); and, the Tequila Regulatory Council (Mexico).

Sub-program 04.2 - International Registration Systems

87. During the first half of 2004, two countries (Croatia and Kyrgyzstan) became party to the Madrid Protocol and one country (Namibia) to both the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol. In May, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic deposited its instrument of accession to both the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol (with effect from August). As a result, at the end of June, the Madrid Protocol was effective in 64 States and the Agreement in 55, bringing the total membership of the Madrid Union to 76 States. On July 1, the European Union acceded to the Madrid Protocol, thereby bringing total membership of the Madrid System to 77.

88. Three countries deposited their instruments of accession to the 1999 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement (Croatia, Hungary and Namibia), one country deposited its instrument of accession to the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement (Croatia) and one country (Hungary) denounced the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement (with effect from February 1, 2005). In May, Egypt deposited its instrument of accession to the 1999 Act (with effect from August). As a result, at the end of June, the 1999 Act was effective in 14 States, the 1960 Act in 30, and the 1934 Act in 15. The total number of States participating in the Hague System was 38.

89. One country (Georgia) deposited its instrument of accession to the Lisbon Agreement (with effect from September). At the end of June, the Lisbon Agreement was effective in 20 States.

90. On April 1, 2004, the amendments to the Common Regulations concerning the inclusion of Spanish as an additional language of the Madrid System entered into force. Since that date, the Madrid System operates with a trilingual regime.

91. Also on April 1, 2004, following the entry into force of the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement, the 1999 Act was implemented.

92. Concerning the operation of the Madrid System, at the end of June 2004, the number of international applications of marks received by the International Bureau was 14,006, representing an increase of 18.39 per cent compared to the same period in 2003, while the number of registrations was 11,665, representing an increase of 5.34 per cent. Some 3,827 renewals of international registrations were received, representing an increase of 19.11 per cent. The number of modifications amounted to 36,000, representing a decrease of 8.01 per cent, while the number of recorded modifications reached 30,894, representing an increase of 9.69 per cent.

93. In accordance with the amended Common Regulations, the first trilingual (English, French and Spanish) *WIPO Gazette of International Marks* was published on May 20, 2004 (Gazette No. 8/2004). At the same time, the International Bureau introduced a weekly publication of that Gazette. From that date, the Gazette was published on a weekly basis and is now (from No. 5/2004) printed entirely at WIPO.

94. Concerning the operation of The Hague System, at the end of June 2004, the number of international applications of industrial designs received by the International Bureau amounted to 764, representing a decrease of 43.45 per cent compared to the same period in 2003. Some 1,834 renewals of international registrations were received, representing an increase of 2.63 per cent. The number of recorded modifications reached 1,214, representing a decrease of 32.10 per cent.

95. Following the entry into force of the 1999 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement, international applications of industrial designs began to be filed under the Common Regulations of the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act on April 1, 2004, the date of entry into force of said Common Regulations and of the new Administrative Instructions.

96. Under the Lisbon System, five new international applications were received by the International Bureau during the first half of 2004, the same number of international applications as during the same period in 2003. At the end of June 2004, 784 international registrations of appellations of origin were in force.

97. Efforts were also undertaken to further automate the international procedures under the Madrid and Hague Systems, to encourage Offices of Contracting Parties and users to communicate with the International Bureau by electronic means, and to establish an electronic International Register under the Lisbon Agreement.

98. Promotional activities for the Madrid, Hague and Lisbon international registration systems included: a Forum on Intellectual Property and SMEs for IP Offices and Relevant Institutions of OECD and EU Enlargement Countries, organized by WIPO, in Alicante; an International Conference on Design, organized by WIPO jointly with the Ministry of Productive Activities of Italy and the City of Venice, in Venice; and, a meeting entitled WIPO Comes to Silicon Valley—High Tech IP Issues in Global Marketplace, organized by WIPO jointly with the Stanford Law School, in Palo Alto.

99. The promotion of the Madrid and Hague Systems also included participation in seminars and information meetings organized in Azerbaijan, Cuba, Cyprus, France, Iran

(Islamic Republic of), Kenya and Switzerland by the national industrial property offices, and in China by the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs) (OHIM). WIPO also participated in nine meetings, seminars or workshops at the invitation of: *Centre universitaire d'enseignement et de recherche en propriété intellectuelle* (CUERPI), European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA), *Forum Institut für Management*, Inter-American Association for Industrial Property (ASIPI), Inter-American Bar Association (IABA), International Trademark Association (INTA), Management Forum Ltd., and University of Alicante.

100. Training on the procedures under the Madrid and/or Hague Systems was also provided to the staff of the following national industrial property offices: Department of Registrar of Companies of Cyprus, Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), Registration of Deeds and Properties Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran, State Agency on Standardization, Metrology and Patents of Azerbaijan, Swedish Patent and Registration Office, and the French National Industrial Property Office.

101. A seminar on the International Registration of Marks was organized at WIPO, to explain the Madrid System to both the private sector and national industrial property offices. Training on the procedures under the Madrid System was also provided at WIPO headquarters to the staff of the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the Korean Institute of Patent Information.

Sub-program 04.3 - International Classifications in the Fields of Trademarks and Industrial Designs

102. During the first half of 2004, one country (Belgium) acceded to the Locarno Agreement, bringing the total number of contracting States to 44.

103. The new (eighth) edition of the Locarno Classification, which was published in English and French in September 2003, entered into force on January 1, 2004.

104. The Preparatory Working Group of the Nice Union held its Twenty-fourth Session from April 19 to 23, 2004, to continue the revision of the eighth edition of the Nice Classification.

105. Activities for the promotion of a wider application of the Nice, Vienna and Locarno Classifications continued, and support was provided to the Japan Funds-in-Trust, including two expertise and training missions on the Nice and Vienna Classifications in Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

106. In the framework of the WIPO Classification Service for Marks, some 50 reports giving advice on the correct classification of indications of goods and/or services were provided following requests from national industrial property offices. A new Recommendation of the International Bureau, giving the benefit of the classification reports that were drawn up, was forwarded in January to the members of the Nice Union and Observers in the Committee of Experts and Preparatory Working Group of the Nice Union.

MAIN PROGRAM 05

Copyright and Related Rights

107. The Copyright and Related Rights Sector continued to strengthen the international copyright and related rights system through more effective legal protection, development, use, and management of literary and artistic works and other objects of protection.

Sub-program 05.1 - Development of International Copyright Law

108. Activities continued on the promotion of, and provision of legal advice on, the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT), including four staff missions to four Member States and one study visit from a representative of a developing country, in cooperation with the Economic Development Sector and the Sector for External Relations and Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia. Four countries became party to the WCT and one country became party to the WPPT during the period under review, bringing the total number of countries adhering to the treaties to 46 and 43, respectively. A significant group of countries continues to prepare actively for accession to the treaties.

109. The final part of a study on transfer of rights in audiovisual performances and related aspects of private international law was completed in June. Informal consultations among interested private sector stakeholders continued to take place.

110. After discussing the issue of the protection of non-original databases, the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), at its 11th Session in June 2004, decided to re-visit the issue at its second session in 2005, in order to continue providing a forum for discussion and possible consensus-building on this subject.

111. As a next step in the preparation of a possible diplomatic conference on the protection of broadcasting organizations, substantial discussions on a draft consolidated text for a treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations took place at the Committee's June session, and progress was achieved in clarifying the scope of protection of broadcasting organizations, resulting in a recommendation by the SCCR to the WIPO General Assembly to consider convening a diplomatic conference at an appropriate time. After consideration of a refined version of the consolidated draft treaty proposal in November 2004, the Committee hopes to recommend firm dates for a diplomatic conference.

112. WIPO continued to provide legal advice, comments and technical assistance to Member States. During the period under review, over 300 written requests were dealt with. Twenty-three staff missions were undertaken, covering participation in 12 international and 11 regional, sub-regional and national conferences, seminars and consultations, in a total of 21 countries, including three developing countries and two countries in transition. These events were organized by governmental and semi-governmental authorities, universities, non-governmental bodies and the private sector. Over 19,000 people received information on copyright issues.

113. The Guide to WIPO's Copyright and Related Rights Treaties and the Glossary of Copyright and Related Rights terms was published.

114. The Secretariat continued its regular contacts with government officials of Member States, as well as with some inter-governmental organizations and many non-governmental organizations, including universities and private sector bodies. In addition, meetings and discussions were held with the business, creative and user communities, focusing, in particular, on policy, access, technology, enforcement and business issues. These events aimed, *inter alia*, at raising public awareness, as well as highlighting the contribution of copyright protection to wealth creation and its use as a tool for cultural management.

Sub-program 05.2 - Copyright-based Business and Culture Development

115. Eleven missions were undertaken to five countries to promote better understanding of the economic contribution of copyright to local, regional and international economies. Special emphasis was placed on the effective functioning of the copyright system in the digital environment through participation in meetings dealing with topics related to the future of the digital commons, global access to essential learning tools, the Digital Media Project, and open source software. Staff members made presentations, moderated discussions, held consultations on developments in copyright law and practice, offered advice to individual governments and regional governmental groups, and generally followed the evolution of the latest trends in copyright and related rights. Over 1,000 people received information on issues related to copyright-based business and cultural development.

116. The voluntary recordation systems of 14 developing and developed States members of the Berne Convention were surveyed. Findings are currently being analyzed with a view to demonstrating the benefits that such systems have provided to the countries that have adopted them and comparing similarities, or differences, between systems.

117. The WIPO Guide on the Licensing of Copyright and Related Rights was published.

118. The Copyright and Related Rights Sector continued to represent the Organization actively at preparatory meetings for next year's World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

MAIN PROGRAM 06

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

119. On May 12, the Arbitration and Mediation Center received its 6,000th case under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and UDRP-based policies. From January through June, the Center received 526 such cases, comparable to the filing rate during the previous period. WIPO's administration of these cases represents an effective contribution to the enforcement of trademark rights. Due to its enhanced profile as a provider of arbitration and mediation services for all types of commercial disputes involving intellectual property, the Center also received new cases under the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Rules. Apart from its case administration, the Center produced several new publications in its capacity as a resource institution in the area of the out-of-court resolution of intellectual property disputes.

Sub-program 06.1 - Arbitration and Mediation Services

120. Because they require international, neutral and efficient dispute solutions, transactions such as cross-border licenses increasingly provide for the submission of disputes to mediation and arbitration under the WIPO Rules. In the first half of 2004, the Center received five more conventional cases under the WIPO Rules, involving patent, copyright and trademark disputes, for a total of eight such cases administered during the reporting period. The Center furthermore received a total of 16 requests for arbitration or mediation of domain name disputes. As administering authority, the Center appointed specialized WIPO arbitrators and mediators and supported them in the efficient conduct of the proceedings. The Center also assisted parties to non-WIPO cases in the appointment of neutrals from the Center's expanding list of intellectual property and dispute resolution specialists.

121. Events organized in connection with WIPO dispute resolution included two sessions of the WIPO Workshop for Mediators in Intellectual Property Disputes, held in June in Geneva. Publications produced included a new edition of the Guide to WIPO Mediation, available in several languages and updated to include WIPO case examples, as well as a new UNCTAD-published volume on WIPO mediation and arbitration written by a WIPO neutral. To increase awareness of WIPO dispute procedures as an additional option for intellectual property owners and users, the Center answered hundreds of information requests and made presentations to specific audiences of intellectual property stakeholders, including WIPO-hosted seminars and meetings.

Sub-program 06.2 - Domain Name Policies and Procedures

122. The Center continued its tasks as the leading Internet domain name dispute resolution provider. Administered in eleven different languages, the 6,249 UDRP-based domain name cases received since commencement of this WIPO service in December 1999, have involved parties from 119 countries and covered 11,021 separate domain names. The core domain name policy administered by the Center remained the UDRP, which applies principally to .com, .net and .org, as well as to seven more recently introduced domains. In addition to its work in the aforementioned generic top-level domains, in the first half of 2004, the Center assisted in the design and implementation of dispute resolution mechanisms for the .CH (Switzerland) and .FR (France) country code top-level domains. As of the end of the reporting period, 42 such national registries had designated the Center as dispute resolution provider.

123. Continuously adding web content, the Center processed 452 new WIPO Domain Name Panel Decisions for its online legal index. This free-of-charge service contributed greatly to the success of the Center's site, which continued to rank among the most-visited WIPO web pages. In addition, the Collection of WIPO Domain Name Panel Decisions, a compilation designed to illustrate the major substantive issues and procedural mechanics of the UDRP, was published.

124. Discussions continued with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and its various constituencies on intellectual property aspects of the domain name system. This concerned, in particular, substantial follow-up on the recommendations made by the WIPO Member States in the context of the Second WIPO Internet Domain Name Process. In this connection, contributions were made to the work of

the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT).

MAIN PROGRAM 07

Selected Issues of Intellectual Property

125. In the first Semester of 2004, the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (the IGC), after concluding its initial exploratory mandate, took on a new result-oriented approach, in line with its renewed and focussed mandate from the WIPO General Assembly. During the period under review, the IGC confirmed its position as a key international forum for policy dialogue and pooling of practical experience in an area that is an important priority in international cooperation. It made important strides towards a clearer and stronger international framework, and progressed a range of practical initiatives for legal and policy guidance, capacity building, and defensive protection against illegitimate patenting of traditional knowledge.

126. The need for the IGC process to be inclusive and accessible was a major focus, with practical steps taken to enhance the participation of the increasing number of accredited NGOs representing local and indigenous communities. Capacity-building and policy information were provided for traditional knowledge (TK) holders, national authorities and regional bodies, including the publication of articles and studies, as well as support for numerous training programs and seminars conducted by NGOs, partner UN agencies, the WIPO Academy, and other educational and training institutions.

127. The budget for 2004–2005 reinstated work on intellectual property and life sciences as a distinct sub-program (sub-program 7.2), to coordinate and enhance WIPO's continuing work in supporting and informing international policy discussions in this vital area, covering both medical technologies and agricultural biotechnologies. Rapid advances in the life sciences have provoked an extensive international debate on the appropriate role and actual impact of IP rights on life science technologies, and their ethical, developmental and health policy implications. Under this sub-program, WIPO increased its support for international policy discussions, with a focus on promoting practical and empirical understanding of these issues. This included an active role, in cooperation with the WHO Commission on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Public Health.

128. The Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) held its second session in June, focusing on the role of the judiciary in the enforcement of IP rights. During the period under review, WIPO participated in a wide range of events, organized by WIPO and also in cooperation with various partner organizations, including those representing the private sector, to develop a collective understanding of the principles relating to the enforcement of intellectual property rights. The Secretariat was also particularly active in developing the new enforcement website, which was launched in April, and which integrates the Intellectual Property Enforcement Issues and Strategies (IPEIS) Electronic Forum.

Sub-program 07.1 - Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

129. The Sixth Session of the IGC was held in March. Its work was marked by greater comity and cooperation with other international and regional organizations, and with national authorities. The need for inclusiveness in the IGC was a major focus and the list of NGOs specially accredited to the IGC approached 100. Practical steps were taken to enhance participation of the increasing number of accredited NGOs representing local and indigenous communities, and to communicate their perspectives through formal IGC documentation and on a dedicated website.

130. One of the key outcomes of the Sixth Session was the proposal to develop two complementary sets of shared objectives and core principles concerning the protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs) or folklore and of TK respectively, to be supplemented by outlines of policy options and legal mechanisms currently used in practice to give effect to these objectives and principles. This work would be built on the sound empirical basis already forged from a wide range of practical experience, existing national and regional initiatives, and other areas of international law and policy, as well as the needs and expectations of traditional holders of TK and TCEs.

131. The documentation prepared for the Sixth Session was supplemented by additional presentations, meetings and consultation fora, including specific outreach and briefing activities for NGO observers, which drew on practical experience in over 80 countries and consultations with over 3,000 representatives of traditional communities.

132. Within limited available resources, and through careful coordination with other program areas within WIPO and external fora and agencies, participation in a wide range of missions, meetings and workshops was ensured in order to provide direct support for initiatives to enhance the protection of TK and TCEs/folklore, namely:

- ICTSD-UNCTAD Seminar on Geographical Indications and Sustainable Development, Geneva, in March;
- 60th Session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, in March/April;
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Regional Workshop on Certain Topical Issues related to Intellectual Property, Kuala Lumpur, in April;
- Conference on “Folklore, Aesthetic Ecologies, and Public Domain”, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, in April;
- III Congreso de la Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos del Magister Lvcentinvs(AAA), Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in April;
- Fordham University School of Law Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy, New York, in April;
- 8th Congress of the *Société Internationale d’Ethnologie et de Folklore* (SIEF) and the 3rd Congress of the *Association d’Anthropolgie Méditerranéenne* (ADAM), Marseilles, in April/May;
- International Seed Federation: Seminar on the Protection of Intellectual Property and Access to Plant Genetic Resources, Berlin, in May;
- United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, in May;
- WIPO Comes to Silicon Valley – High Tech IP Issues in a Global Marketplace, Stanford Law School, Stanford, in May;
- WIPO and US Copyright Symposium, Washington D.C., in May;

- South African Developing Country (SADC) Workshop on Indigenous Knowledge Systems Policy Development and Capacity Building, Pretoria, in June;
- 43rd Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) on “Expressions of Folklore and its International Protection”, Bali, in June;
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Regional Workshop for African Countries, Sandton, South Africa, in June; and,
- The New IP Order: A Global Trade-Off, Haifa University, Haifa, Israel, in June.

133. WIPO also took part in the Seventh Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), where an important study was launched, commissioned by WIPO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), on the role of intellectual property in sharing benefits from the use of genetic resources.

134. Finally, with a view to supporting the recognition of TK concerns, this sub-program also contributed to ongoing work in other program areas, such as the revision of the International Patent Classification (IPC) and minimum documentation within the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System. Likewise, through it, WIPO directly supported and contributed substantively to national and regional processes aimed at developing positions on issues concerning genetic resources, TK and TCEs/folklore.

Sub-program 07.2 - Intellectual Property and Life Sciences

135. The Secretariat gave presentations on policy issues related to IP management of government-funded innovations in health technologies at the request of Member States, and on biotechnology patenting issues to representatives of technology incubators. It also gave factual explanations of issues surrounding patenting material such as proteins, DNA, and living organisms and provided input to meetings of the UN Interagency Committee on Bioethics and meetings of UNESCO on a Draft Declaration on Bioethics. Furthermore, the Secretariat contributed to a series of WTO regional workshops dealing with current IP issues, including public health.

136. The principal focus was work related to the WHO Commission on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Public Health. In this connection, an overall policy framework was developed in the form of an initial submission and program of follow-up studies, as well as continuing development and liaison to contribute a broad range of practical and factual material in support of the Commission’s work in identifying obstacles to innovation for neglected diseases, and appropriate means of overcoming obstacles to address the health needs of the developing world.

Sub-program 07.3 - Intellectual Property Enforcement Issues and Special Projects

137. The second session of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE) took place from June 28 to 30, 2004. As agreed, the discussions followed a thematic approach and focused on the role of the judiciary, quasi-judicial authorities and the prosecution in enforcement activities. A series of presentations by top judges and senior government officials from various regions were delivered at the meeting which examined a range of key questions related to the theme, including: the importance of continued judicial training and specialization in the field of intellectual property; civil and criminal actions and remedies; the determination of damages in different legal systems; and, concepts to reduce IP litigation

costs, such as effective case management by the judiciary, the integration of mediation procedures within judicial structures, and the streamlining of procedures in IP litigation. It was concluded, *inter alia*, that the next meeting of the ACE would address the issue of education and awareness-building, including training, in all areas of enforcement, with a particular focus on areas of common concern as reflected in requests for assistance in this area by Member States.

138. During the period under review, various in-house meetings and briefings took place to coordinate assistance pertaining to enforcement in reply to requests by Member States. Numerous meetings were held with a number of delegations from Member States composed, in particular, of senior members of the judiciary and high-level government officials, to analyze and discuss certain matters related to IP enforcement. Furthermore, the understanding of principles relating to the enforcement of intellectual property rights was actively promoted by the Enforcement and Special Projects Division through participation in meetings and seminars organized by other WIPO sectors. Such activities included, among others: the WIPO Sub-regional Seminar on Enforcement of IPRs (Almaty, Kazakhstan); WIPO Intensive Seminar on Intellectual Property for Law Students (Geneva); National Colloquium on Intellectual Property for Judges and Members of the Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal (Nairobi, Kenya); and, the WIPO Colloquium in Intellectual Property for Judges from Sudan (Geneva).

139. In connection with the above-mentioned activities, national governments and regional organizations were assisted in modernizing the legislative framework related to the enforcement of intellectual property rights. Particular attention was given to requests from Member States to assist with the development and implementation of enforcement strategies, which included consultations for improved cooperation within the public sector and integration of private sector support through their representative associations.

140. In line with the objective to cooperate and coordinate with multilateral and regional organizations in order to share expertise and experiences in the field of the enforcement of intellectual property rights, WIPO continued to closely cooperate with a number of IGOs and NGOs and their specific IP enforcement related programs, including, in particular: the IPR Strategic Group of the World Customs Organization (WCO); Interpol and its Intellectual Property Crime Action Group; the World Trade Organization (WTO); the Program on Counterfeit and Substandard Medicines of the World Health Organization (WHO); the Special Commission on Jurisdiction, Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgements in Civil and Commercial Matters of the Hague Conference on Private International Law; the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI); the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition (IACC); the Counterfeiting Intelligence Bureau of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC-CIB); the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI); the Motion Pictures Association (MPA); the International Publishers Association (IPA); Reconnaissance International; and, the International Hologram Manufacturers Association (IHMA).

141. Major activities in this context included: the preparations for, and the participation in, the first Global Congress on Combating Counterfeiting, held on May 25 and 26, 2004, in Brussels, organized by WCO and Interpol with the support of WIPO; participation in the WHO Satellite workshop on Counterfeit Medicines, held in Madrid, February 13 and 14; participation in two sessions discussing the Draft Hague Convention on Exclusive Choice of Court Agreements (The Hague/Washington, March 29 to 31 and April 21 to 27); and, participation in the IP Crime Day, during the Interpol International Conference on Financial

Crime, held in Lyon on April 15. Following a request by WCO, a set of comments on the WCO Model Provisions on Enforcement of IPRs were also prepared.

142. With the European Commission, and in cooperation with the WIPO Division for Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia, the Enforcement and Special Projects Division embarked on a training and education program on the enforcement of IP rights under the Commission's Technical Assistance Information Exchange (T.A.I.E.X.) program for the enlargement in Europe. In this context, WIPO prepared programs for, and participated in, four T.A.I.E.X. workshops and conferences on the enforcement of intellectual property, held in Brussels (Belgium), Bucharest (Romania), Bratislava (Slovakia), and Warsaw (Poland), for the judiciary, IP attorneys, customs and police officials, and consumer associations.

143. Moreover, a website on enforcement matters, which integrates the Intellectual Property Enforcement Issues and Strategies (IPEIS) Electronic Forum, was developed and launched, and an electronic newsletter was issued summarizing global events and WIPO's activities in the enforcement arena.

MAIN PROGRAM 08

Cooperation with Developing Countries

144. The work of the Economic Development Sector focused on the practical use of the intellectual property system for economic development in developing countries. While addressing specific needs of the intellectual property community, WIPO also continued to provide a forum for policy debate on intellectual property, and offer advice and appropriate tools for optimizing and assessing the impact of the intellectual property system on the national economy. In particular, efforts were made to assist developing countries integrate intellectual property in their development policies and practices; value, manage and exploit intellectual property assets; design proactive policies on the basis of their comparative creative advantages; and, address public policy objectives. A series of practical tools were developed, or made available to, developing countries to realize these goals.

145. Thirteen regional meetings were organized in the different geographical regions. Advisory missions, and legal, managerial and economic advice were provided upon request to countries and regional projects. Some 119 staff missions were undertaken involving 135 lecturers and 53 international experts. A total of 6,515 participants from developing countries took part in the activities of the Sector.

146. During the period under review, 20 study visits were organized, four Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs) were implemented, and equipment and software was provided to 20 countries. Two collecting societies also received assistance.

147. Among WIPO's main partners in these efforts were Member State governments and national intellectual property administrations. Resources for activities were also made available through funds by the governments of France, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Sweden. Partnerships with different organizations, such as *l'Agence Internationale de la Francophonie*, the European Union, the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), the Organisation for Cooperation and Development (OECD), UNCTAD, UNESCO and WTO, were expanded.

Sub-program 08.1 - Empowerment for Development

148. In Africa, the main focus was on the realization of the economic benefits of the intellectual property system. To this end, a national Workshop on Intellectual Property Licensing, followed by a Sensitization Seminar to Promote Filing of Patent Applications, were organized in Abuja on March 29 and 30, and in Lagos on April 1, respectively, in cooperation with the Government of Nigeria and the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP).

149. A pilot project on the Promotion and Protection of Geographical Indications in French-speaking Africa also continued to be implemented. In this connection, missions to emphasize the importance of geographical indications in the context of economic development, and the fight against poverty in rural areas, were undertaken in Cameroon and Guinea in March, in cooperation with the National Institute for Appellations of Origin (INAO) (France), the *Centre international pour la recherche agronomique et le développement* (CIRAD), and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

150. In addition, WIPO participated in training sessions within the framework of a project for Strengthening Expertise in Negotiating Trade Agreements in French-speaking Countries (REXPACO), initiated by the *Agence intergouvernementale de la francophonie* (AIF), held in Yaoundé (Cameroon), in Dakar (Senegal) and in Antananarivo (Madagascar).

151. A two-day national Workshop on Intellectual Property Law Enforcement for officials from the judiciary, customs, the police, as well as right holders, followed by a two-day Colloquium on Intellectual Property for Judges and Members of the Kenya Industrial Property Tribunal were organized in cooperation with the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), in Nairobi, in June. A three-day sub-regional workshop on intellectual property law enforcement for judges was organized in Libreville (Gabon), in June. A seminar for the Judiciary and Copyright Law Agencies was organized in Niamey (Niger), in April.

152. Study visits on documentation and distribution procedures in the field of collective management were organized from April 28 to May 7, in cooperation with the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) and the Portuguese Society of Authors (SPA), in Lisbon, for the benefit of officials from Portuguese-speaking countries (Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique). A round table took place during the study visit with participants from WIPO.

153. WIPO continued assisting intellectual property offices of the English-speaking countries of Botswana, Ghana, Lesotho, Nigeria and Zimbabwe with office automation, by installing equipment, deploying the WIPO Trademarks System (TMS), training registry staff and capturing data.

154. In the Arab region, WIPO completed the Study on the Performance of Copyright Industries in Selected Arab Countries, namely, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. The industries surveyed, dealing with music, film, book publishing and software, were selected because of their great potential for promoting economic development, safeguarding national cultural traditions and preserving national cultural identity. The Study analyzes the environment in which the specific cultural industries operate, and targets policy makers and various stakeholders in copyright-based activities.

155. A Sub-regional Meeting on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for Prosecutors of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries was organized in Muscat (Oman), in April. The meeting promoted better understanding of the multilateral intellectual property rights enforcement regime, including special requirements, measures and procedures for the efficient functioning of enforcement mechanisms, and problems and constraints for such mechanisms. International experiences from the European and Arab systems were shared to this effect, and the roles of the judiciary, public prosecution, police, customs authorities, and the private sector, in fighting against counterfeiting and piracy, were extensively addressed. The development aspect was also subject of discussions in the context of the job creation and revenue generation potential of the effective exploitation of intellectual property rights. Prosecutors and local enforcement officials from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates participated, as well as judges from Egypt and Italy, and representatives of the private sector.

156. A WIPO-Arab Regional Conference on Teaching of Intellectual Property Law took place in Ajman, United Arab Emirates, in May. This was the first regional conference addressing intellectual property teaching at Arab universities, organized in cooperation with the Ajman University of Science and Technology Network. Its objective was to promote the teaching of intellectual property law within Arab universities, taking into consideration the expertise and experience of leading universities in this field in Europe and the United States of America. A series of recommendations concerning possible assistance by WIPO in this respect were adopted.

157. A WIPO-Arab Regional Meeting on Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth, took place in Amman, in June, organized in cooperation with the King Abdullah II Center for Intellectual Property and the Jordanian Government. The meeting was devoted to intellectual property rights from a development perspective, and discussions focussed on the economic potential of intellectual property regimes. The meeting was attended by Heads of copyright and industrial property offices in the Arab region participated, as well as local representatives from interested public and private circles. Resource persons from various regions shared their knowledge and experiences of practical cases, including the Arab and Jordanian experiences, particularly in the fields of pharmaceuticals and information technology. Public and private intellectual property strategies were also discussed with a view to encouraging partners in policy and decision-making circles to integrate intellectual property in national economic development strategies, as well as advising private sector enterprises on the issue.

158. In Asia and the Pacific, support to intellectual property offices in streamlining administration and other functions using information technology and developing professional and administrative skills and capacities, continued to be carried out through expert missions and training. Expert missions were undertaken to: the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in January, in the field of automation; Cambodia, in February, to assist in setting up the patent system, and in March, to review the trademark examination and automation requirements; Bhutan and Sri Lanka in March, to provide training in the Vienna and Nice classification agreements; Iran (Islamic Republic of) in May, on industrial designs; Bhutan in May, to provide training and expert advice regarding trademark administration; and, China, to provide training and expert advice on patent examination. A National Workshop on the TRIPS Agreement was also held in Myanmar in June to discuss critical policy issues related to implementation of the TRIPS Agreement and the use of intellectual property as a public policy tool for economic and cultural development. A training course on industrial property

administration took place in Tokyo, Japan from February 18 to March 4. Intellectual property outreach activities continued through several sub-contracts for the translation of WIPO public information materials to local languages in Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

159. Promoting a deeper understanding of the role of copyright and related rights in specific sectors was the thrust of a series of national and regional events that took place in the region, including: a WIPO Regional Symposium on Copyright in Educational Institutions and Libraries in the Digital Era, Hong Kong SAR, in March; a National Seminar on Copyright and Collective Management in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in February; and, a study visit of officers of national collecting societies and copyright offices from Cambodia, the Philippines and Viet Nam, which took place in Tokyo, Japan, in May. These awareness-raising activities focused on the specific needs and situations of certain targeted sectors, such as university professors and librarians and representatives of the music and performing arts industries.

160. With a view to providing a forum for focused discussions and analysis on the advantages of using the intellectual property system and developing intellectual property assets as a means to wealth creation and economic growth, the following activities were undertaken: the WIPO Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on the Economic Benefits on the Protection of Trademarks, including Brand Names, and the Role of International Protection Systems, in March, in Bangkok, Thailand; a National Seminar on the Madrid system in the Islamic Republic of Iran in January, followed by an advisory mission in April. An international patent licensing seminar was also held in Tokyo, in January, and a national seminar for professors of faculties of laws in the Islamic Republic of Iran in May, focusing on intellectual property teaching.

161. In the Latin American and Caribbean countries, WIPO organized a regional meeting of Heads of industrial property and copyright offices of Latin America, in Guadalajara, Mexico, in March, in cooperation with the Government of Mexico, through the *Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial*, and the *Instituto Nacional de Derecho de Autor*. The meeting was attended by government representatives of the 19 countries of the region, experts from the WTO, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Andean Community Secretariat, the Central American Economic Integration Secretariat, the Inter-American Association of Industrial Property, the European Patent Office, the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, the Business Software Alliance, and the *Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina y el Caribe*, as well as representatives from the public and private sectors of Mexico. It examined the national intellectual property systems in the region and provided a forum for discussion on various relevant topics on the intellectual property agenda, allowing for joint development of guidelines and strategies for strengthening the capacity of industrial property and copyright offices of Latin America, to better apply, manage and use intellectual property as a tool for economic growth. Recommendations were made at the meeting on future directions for further development of intellectual property systems in Latin American countries.

162. In April, WIPO organized, in cooperation with the Government of Brazil, through the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Fight Against Counterfeiting, a regional meeting and a seminar on Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for MERCOSUR countries, and its associated countries: Bolivia and Chile. The aim of the meeting was to facilitate discussions between government representatives on the implementation of the special agreement signed by the said countries in the field of enforcement. A seminar was also held for policy-advisors, intellectual property agents, judges, police and customs officials, mainly from the host country, which dealt with practical aspects linked to the identification of pirated and

counterfeited goods, the legal framework on enforcement, and the activities of the Brazilian inter-ministerial committee for fighting counterfeiting.

163. The Fifth Latin American Encounter on Patents (ELDIPAT 2004) was organized by WIPO in cooperation with the European Patent Office, the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office and the Government of Peru in Lima, in May. The meeting, attended by 19 government officials from Latin American intellectual property offices, academics, researchers, students and representatives from private sectors of Peru and other Latin American countries, focussed on discussing and analyzing the strategic importance of patent information as a tool to promote the technological development of the region.

164. A seminar on intellectual property and economics of the audiovisual sector, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of Mexico through the Copyright Office, the Spanish Collective Management of Audiovisual Producers and the Minister of Culture of Spain, was held in Mexico City from June 28 to July 1. The event addressed intellectual property lawyers and business managers involved with cultural industries, in particular, the audiovisual business sector in Mexico and other Latin American countries (focusing on Central America).

Sub-program 08.2 - Special Support Areas

165. In the field of legislative assistance to developing countries, the trend since last year of increasing demand for, and delivery of, assistance continued. Increasingly, assistance related to specific issues raised by a WTO accession situation or by new trade agreements. Focus areas included intellectual property standards related to public health policy, as well as protection of traditional knowledge and genetic resources. Upon request from developing countries, 27 draft laws, and 17 comments on legislation were prepared, and consultations were held with four countries. Legal advice was provided in nine additional cases.

166. Information and documentation on intellectual property legislation was considerably widened. Through updates of the Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA) database, as of June 30, a total of 3,193 bibliographic entries and 2,431 full text documents relating to the laws of 80 countries and the European Communities, the Andean Community, as well as of Treaties and Conventions administered and non-administered by WIPO were published. The structure and interface of CLEA were significantly improved. The new application comprises more user-friendly document search and retrieval functions for quick and easy access to the desired documents. In addition, the editing work for the IPLEX CD-ROM, the bilingual off-line database of legislation, 3rd edition, was accomplished.

167. The coordination and monitoring of the progressive implementation of WIPO Deliverables for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) continued to be of high priority. The WIPONET project has assisted intellectual property offices in LDCs to modernize their IT infrastructure. As of June 2004, WIPONET services and equipment had been installed in 44 intellectual property offices in 32 LDCs. The implementation of the other WIPO Deliverables, namely, human resources development, establishment of collective management societies, and the provision of information for SMEs in LDCs, also continued.

168. Upon request by the President of the University of Addis Ababa in February, a two-day comprehensive training program was organized for two university professors, in cooperation with the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA). The training aimed at familiarizing the

participants with WIPO's substantive areas, with a view to assisting the introduction of an intellectual property program in the University of Addis Ababa.

169. On May 14, a one-day briefing session was organized for 12 Bangladesh trade officials at the request of the UNCTAD Secretariat on WIPO's program for LDCs and the major intellectual property disciplines.

170. WIPO representatives addressed the Ministerial Meeting of LDCs held on the occasion of UNCTAD XI, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, outlining the implementation of WIPO Deliverables for LDCs and the Brussels Program of Action.

171. WIPO participated at the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC (Ministerial Level), held in New York in June. The Meeting of the Council was devoted to the first review of the implementation of the Program of Action for LDCs as agreed in Brussels in May 2001, and documents on the implementation of WIPO Deliverables for LDCs and other WIPO materials were distributed. In addition, at two separate roundtables on Aid Modalities and on Information Technologies, 40 delegations from developed, developing and least developed countries, as well as representatives of the private sector, were briefed on technical capacity building and the implementation of WIPONET services and provision of equipment in LDCs.

172. WIPO continued to receive requests from LDCs for technical assistance including for the preparation of guidelines, model provisions and strategies, and for more effective protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs). A national study in the area of TCEs began in Senegal, in June. The study aims at enabling Senegal to develop and formulate appropriate national intellectual property strategies, and will focus on identification of TCEs, creation of inventories and registers, documentation and/or recording of TCEs as part of an intellectual property strategy for economic growth and development, and development of appropriate intellectual property strategies for their protection.

173. As part of the ongoing implementation of the WIPO-WTO Joint Initiative for Least Developed Countries, WIPO participated at the WTO workshop for French speaking LDCs (19 countries from Africa, Asia and Haiti) on June 9.

174. In the field of collective management of copyright and related rights WIPO continued to assist developing countries in cooperation with its partner organizations. As stipulated in the WIPO-CISAC and WIPO-IFRRO Cooperation Agreements, signed respectively in September 2002 and October 2003, two Joint Working Committees were established as a "bridge" to deal with the implementation of joint activities foreseen within the framework of the Agreements. WIPO participated in first meeting of the WIPO-IFRRO Joint Working Committee, in Brussels, in February, where possible future joint activities by region were examined. Similarly, the meeting of the WIPO-CISAC Joint Working Committee, which was held at WIPO headquarters in March, reviewed last year's activities and discussed the tentative program for 2004.

175. Considering the recurrent requests from Member States seeking to establish a collective management regime, a report was prepared providing information, in a comparative format, on existing software for managing musical rights available for newly established collective management organizations, or those modernizing their system. For the preparation of a joint report with CISAC, WIPO participated in meetings in Paris and Zurich, where detailed explanations and presentation of software were given by the Swiss Society for Authors' Rights in Musical Works (SUISA) and the General Society of Authors in Spain (SGAE).

176. Within the framework of the Caribbean Copyright Link (CCL), WIPO contributed to a special training session organized by CISAC for the CCL founding societies' managers, in Tobago, in January.

177. A roving national Forum on Intellectual Property and Collective Management for Visual Creators was held in Cuenca, Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador, in April, in order to promote and strengthen the new activities of the recently created ARTEGESTION Visual Arts Ecuadorian Collective Management Society, as well as to facilitate the artists associative process. Together with the Government of Ecuador, represented by the President of the *Instituto Ecuatoriano de la Propiedad Intelectual* (IEPI), the Forum was held at the time of the VIII International Biennial, which hosted exhibitions of 78 selected artists from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, the United States of America and Uruguay, providing an excellent opportunity to promote the intellectual property rights of visual creators.

178. The Second Ibero-Latin-American Training Course on Performers' Intellectual Property Rights, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Ibero-Latin-American Federation of Performers (FILAIE), and the Spanish performers' society *Artistas Intérpretes o Ejecutantes, Sociedad de Gestión de España* (AIE), was held in Madrid. Intended to strengthen the cooperation of collective management societies of performers in the Iberolatinoamerican region, and in view of the necessity of building capacities specifically within this sphere, it enlisted the participation of all the performers' collective management societies of the region.

179. Activities in the field of intellectual property and economic development aimed at assessing how intellectual property works in practice as a tool for economic development and wealth creation and how intellectual property can create economic value for its owners and society as a whole. With the objective to establish contacts with target groups/focal points at the national level and, more generally, with those involved in the development of macro-economic policies at the country level, two fact-finding missions were undertaken in Indonesia and in Panama.

180. In this connection, contributions were also made to the Arab Regional Meeting on Intellectual Property as a Power Tool for Economic Growth, in Jordan, and the WIPO Seminar on the Commercialization of Inventions and the Results of Research and Development, in Panama.

181. WIPO also developed partnerships with other international organizations and specialized agencies. To this end, several meetings were organized in Geneva, with the Centre for the Management of IP in Health Research and Development, OECD, UNCTAD and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). WIPO also participated in the Inter-Agency Cooperation Network on Biotechnology. A mission to the OECD Headquarters provided opportunities for a dialogue with 28 OECD officials. Possible areas of cooperation include joint studies, analytical work and joint seminars. A consultation meeting was organized with the OECD Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development at WIPO headquarters with the aim to contribute to ongoing work of the OECD by submitting comments on planned publications. Information exchange and activity coordination with other international organizations and specialized agencies was explored in the following events: the OECD Expert Meeting on Best Practice Guidelines for the Licensing of Genetic Inventions (Germany); in the framework of UNCTAD XI, the Workshop on Cultural Entrepreneurship in Creative Industry, as well as in the High-Level

Panel on Creative Industries and Development (Brazil); and, the coordination meeting organized by UNESCO on a High-Level Symposium on Promoting the Cultural Industries in Asia and the Pacific for Local Economic Development (Thailand).

182. A mission was undertaken to Latvia to assist the Government in surveying the economic contribution of the copyright-based industries in cooperation with the Government of Finland and the Copyright Federation of the Netherlands. WIPO's assistance ensured the application of the WIPO Methodology in this area and provided overall coordination of this project, which is the first of its kind in a country in transition.

183. Upon the request of the Permanent Mission of Malta, WIPO participated in the working group for the preparation of a national branding draft action plan. WIPO's contribution included the preparation and submission of the first draft of the action plan, which subsequently became the working document for the working group.

184. On the margins of the WIPO Arab Regional Meeting, a meeting was organized with the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan (RSS) in Amman. Upon the request of the RSS, WIPO will assist in the setting up of a technology management office, in the first instance by preparing a study.

185. With a view to establishing strategic partnerships with research institutions working in the field of intellectual property and economic development, a meeting was organized in Geneva, in March, with the University of Lyon, regarding cooperation in the field of intellectual property and economic development. The cooperation will cover, in particular, exchange of information on best practices and organizing joint seminars and workshops. To expand its network among the academic community, WIPO also contacted various universities, such as McGill, Stanford, Duke, Cornell, Harvard and Sheffield University. An article on intellectual property and accounting was published in the WIPO magazine.

186. To facilitate the attainment of intellectual property rights and support the objectives of developing countries and LDC Member States in their efforts to maximize the benefits from their respective intellectual property systems, during the period under review, the IP Office Automation Division (IPOAD) provided advisory and technical automation assistance to intellectual property offices and collective management organizations across all regions.

187. Assistance focussed on institution building and strengthening the capacities of the intellectual property offices and collective management organizations by harmonizing and tailoring automation solutions provided to meet the specific needs of national and regional offices. This approach resulted in concrete deliverables to Member States in terms of promoting a more comprehensive and sustainable solution for intellectual property offices. Cost-effective and timely assistance was achieved by using tested and proven solutions, leveraging inter-regional solutions, and alignment with international standards and best practices.

188. The number of requests for automation assistance from Member States continued to grow, and were being assessed on a case by case basis, in line with available resources.

189. A large number of activities were carried out across all regions, ranging from technical advice, needs assessments, training, through to the full deployment of the automation system known as IPAS (Intellectual Property Automation System).

190. In the Arab region, six automation assistance activities were carried out in addition to the two full automation projects completed in the intellectual property offices in Kuwait and Qatar.

191. In the African region, eight automation assistance activities were carried out in addition to one full automation project. Additionally, two automation projects were in progress and three others in the planning stages.

192. In the Latin American and the Caribbean region, automation assistance activities were carried out in 16 IPOs.

193. In the Asia and Pacific region, one assessment mission was undertaken in preparation for the full deployment of the automated system in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. In addition, three automation projects were in progress and a number of other intellectual property offices were in various stages of automation planning and preparation.

194. In countries in transition, technical consultation and guidance was provided to two intellectual property offices in relation to their automation projects.

195. The IPOAD website was further enhanced to provide a repository of information and experiences with respect to intellectual property office automation. The online service provided by the website is being used by Member States for submission of their Annual Technical Reports to WIPO, by Regional Automation Consultants for maintaining and enhancing systems already deployed, and for providing better support services to intellectual property offices.

196. IPOAD and WIPONET continued close collaboration to maximize the benefits of WIPONET. This collaborative effort focuses on the following areas: the Regional Automation consultants provide ongoing help to intellectual property offices in their regions in the use of WIPONET Services; follow-up on the post-deployment of WIPONET Kits at intellectual property offices; use of WIPONET Kits in the 'intellectual property office internal automation; interfacing intellectual property offices' automated systems to WIPONET and other WIPO IT projects, where appropriate; and, developing new online services on WIPONET.

197. In the area of collective management of copyright and related rights, six automation assistance activities were carried out in the Latin American and Caribbean region and two in Africa. Major enhancements, both functional and technological, were made to WIPO's copyright management software, known as AFRICOS, to make it compliant with international databases and standards, and to improve the distribution module's functionality and ease of use.

198. A Trademark Module was developed within IPAS to facilitate the processing of international registrations made under the Madrid System by intellectual property offices. The enhancements permit the automatic transfer of electronic data relating to the international registration into the national trademark database of the IPAS system. The Madrid Module was being successfully installed in the intellectual property office in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and planning was underway for its deployment in the intellectual property office in Kenya.

MAIN PROGRAM 09

Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia

199. The activities undertaken with certain countries in Europe and Asia focused mainly on the provision of legal advice, human resource development and awareness-raising. Regional and international cooperation was further enhanced.

200. Consultations were held with four governments concerning the ratification of, or accession to, WIPO-administered treaties, and a number of other governments on implementation of WIPO-administered treaties and general intellectual property issues. One country received advice on a national strategy of integration of intellectual property into economic policy, and two countries received comments on their intellectual property laws. Moreover, legal advice was provided with regard to the preparation of the new version of the Model Copyright Law for CIS countries.

201. WIPO also continued to cooperate with nine governments in the development and implementation of Nationally Focused Action Plans (NFAPs), seven bilateral cooperation programs and a memorandum of understanding, aimed at assisting national authorities in achieving more efficient management and use of the intellectual property system, thereby bringing long-term benefits to the economies of the relevant countries. In addition, two countries received advice on computerization of their operations, one country was provided with equipment, and two countries with selected books and publications. Assistance was also given for the translation and customization of various WIPO publications.

202. Furthermore, two country projects, aimed at capacity-building in the area of collective management of copyright and related rights, continued to be implemented, and an advisory mission with regard to the translation into Russian of a software for the copyright and related rights collective management systems of the CIS countries was undertaken.

203. Some 1,000 participants attended seven meetings held by WIPO in cooperation with the national intellectual property administrations in the region, namely: the Interregional Seminar on strengthening Institutional Capacity for the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights to promote Investment and Transfer of Technology with special emphasis on information and communication technologies (jointly with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)); Sub-regional Seminar on Enforcement of IPR (jointly with the USAID Trade Facilitation and Investment Project); Regional Balkan Seminar on Assessment and Valuation of IP Rights and Research Results; Regional Seminar on the Critical Policy Issues of Industrial Property Protection in the CIS (jointly with the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) and the Coalition for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR)); Regional Seminar on Protection and Use of Geographical Indications; Sub-regional Seminar on Copyright and Broadcasting (jointly with the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers). Moreover, WIPO officials presented papers in several seminars organized by the national authorities and other institutions.

204. WIPO also cooperated closely with the Commission of the European Union (EU), the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Office (T.A.I.E.X.) and the Enlargement Directorate General in organizing eight seminars for the countries which acceded to the EU on May 1, 2004. Topical issues and subjects dealt with included, in particular: enforcement of intellectual property rights; counterfeiting; economic significance of industrial designs,

trademarks and geographical indications; commercialization of intellectual property; and, the central role of intellectual property assets in creating and sustaining business success in domestic and international markets for SMEs. These events further strengthened the impact of WIPO's program in the countries concerned.

205. As a new initiative, WIPO also started cooperation with the CARDS (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stability), a program under which the EU's technical and financial assistance to the Western Balkan countries is carried out.

206. Furthermore, WIPO officials participated in meetings of the UNECE Advisory group on the Protection and Implementation of Intellectual Property Rights for Investment in Countries in Transition, the Administrative Council of the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) and the European Patent Organization (EPO).

207. A number of countries from the region received assistance to attend WIPO meetings, including the International Conference on Design in Italy and the WIPO-OHIM Forum on IP and SMEs in Spain.

MAIN PROGRAM 10

The WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA)

208. The WIPO Worldwide Academy continued to implement activities for the development of human resources through distance learning, professional training, policy development, teaching and research.

209. Some 679 participants attended seminars, meetings, academy sessions and post-graduate courses, organized under the professional training, policy development, teaching and research programs.

210. The Distance Learning Program reached 4,291 students through its regular sessions. Some 34 WIPO staff members received intellectual property training in a special session. The Distance Learning course, General Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101), was a prerequisite for all of the 75 participants in the Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property and 38 students of the Masters of Law in Intellectual Property, which is offered jointly by the University of Turin and the WIPO Worldwide Academy. The Policy Development, Teaching and Research Program reached some 604 officials from various fields related to intellectual property.

Sub-program 10.1 - Distance Learning

211. The distance learning General Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101) continued to attract large numbers of students worldwide. The course was offered from March 1 to April 15, with the participation of a total of 4,291 registered students, in the following language sessions:

- English - 1,356 participants from 97 countries, assisted by 18 tutors;
- French - 480 participants from 31 countries, assisted by six tutors;
- Spanish - 548 participants from 28 countries, assisted by six tutors;

- Chinese - 61 participants from two countries, assisted by one tutor;
- Russian - 1,019 participants from seven countries, assisted by eight tutors;
- Portuguese - 642 participants from seven countries, assisted by 15 tutors;
- Arabic - 185 participants from 19 countries, assisted by three tutors.

212. Although the course has been regularly updated since its initial launch in 1999, it underwent a major content review and updating during the period under review. The revised version of DL-101 will be released in October-November 2004. Particularly noteworthy in this regard was the collaboration of partner institutions, the Russian Agency for Patents and Trademarks (Rospatent), the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS-Brazil), in providing the respective language translations of the updated course.

213. Similarly, the pilot versions of the advanced courses on Copyright (DL-201), Electronic Commerce (DL-202), Traditional Knowledge (DL-203), and Biotechnology (DL-204), which were tested in 2003, were the object of extensive content reviews prior to their official launch planned for the second semester of 2004.

214. An important partnership was launched in April, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed between WIPO and UFRGS-Brazil. The partnership involves the integration and accreditation of the Academy's DL-101 course in the curricula of all graduate schools at UFRGS. Some 160 students from some 30 different graduate schools successfully completed the first joint course in May.

215. In coordination with the Staff Development Section, a special session of DL-101 was held in March and April, for a total of 34 WIPO staff members (17 in English and 17 in French).

Sub-program 10.2 - Professional Training

216. During the period under review, the following professional training courses were organized for 75 officials from developing countries and countries in transition:

- WIPO/CIPO Executive Workshop on the Application of Management Techniques to the Delivery of Intellectual Property Services (Gatineau, Canada) in English for 11 senior officials from national industrial property offices in Asia and the Pacific and the Latin American and Caribbean regions;
- WIPO Interregional Intermediate Seminar on Industrial Property (Geneva) in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish. Follow-up practical training courses were organized in cooperation with the Austrian Patent Office (Vienna), the *Centre d'Etudes Internationale de la Propriété Industrielle* (Strasbourg), the European Patent Office (the Hague), the Moroccan Intellectual Property Office (Casablanca), the National Institute of Industrial Property (Lisbon), the National Institute of Industrial Property (Paris), the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (Madrid), and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (Bern). A total of 57 participants attended from developing countries and countries in transition, and two regional organizations.

217. In addition, two one-week training programs were organized: a Colloquium on Intellectual Property for Professors of Intellectual Property, for three professors from Sudan, June 7 to 11, Geneva; and, a Colloquium on Intellectual Property for Judges, for four judges from Sudan, Geneva, June 14 to 18, Geneva.

Sub-program 10.3 - Policy Development, Teaching and Research

218. The Policy Development, Teaching and Research Program organized seven general and special Academy sessions and training programs for 604 government officials, judges, police officers, researchers and professors, and an intensive seminar for law students as follows:

- Colloquium on the Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of Zambia, March 31 to April 2, Lusaka (Zambia), attended by 110 participants (English);
- International Symposium on Emerging Issues in Copyright and Related Rights for Developing Countries and Countries in Transition, organized by the United States Copyright Office and WIPO, May 3 to 7, Washington, D.C., attended by 14 participants (English);
- Training course on Intellectual Property Protection of Scientific Research Results and Technical Achievements, organized by the Bureau of Science and Technology, Municipal Government of Shanghai in cooperation with the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), and WIPO, May 31 and June 1, Shanghai (China), attended by 180 participants (English);
- WIPO Seminar on Intellectual Property for WTO Trade Policy Course Participants, June 14, Geneva, attended by 25 participants (French);
- Two National Seminars on Intellectual Property Education and Training organized by WIPO in cooperation with SIPO (China), May 24 to 25, and May 26 to 28, Beijing, attended by 60 and 85 participants respectively (English); and,
- Two WIPO Seminars on Intellectual Property for WTO Trade Policy Course Participants, March 15 and March 22, Geneva, with 29 and 27 participants respectively (English).

219. Furthermore, WIPO and WTO organized a joint WIPO-WTO Colloquium for Developing Country University Professors on Intellectual Property, June 28 to July 9, Geneva, attended by 19 participants (English).

220. In the context of the degree/diploma programs offered jointly with other institutions, 38 students enrolled for the Master of Laws in Intellectual Property/Post-Graduate Specialization Course in Intellectual Property, of which 18 were financed by WIPO.

221. Finally, law students also benefited from the Academy's courses through a visit of 17 graduate students from New York University, Wagner Institute, on June 23, in Geneva.

MAIN PROGRAM 11

Intellectual Property for Development and Prosperity; Creation of IP Culture

222. Activities under this Main Program focussed on the following: how intellectual property can best work as a tool for the economic development of Member States, in particular, through intellectual property assets management in the private and public sector; the expansion and creation of a more customized and effective promotion of the use of the intellectual property system by innovators and SMEs; the development of a WIPO-private sector partnership program, as well as further strengthening WIPO's relationship with NGOs dealing with intellectual property issues; and, further enlargement of the scope and quality of WIPO's public outreach coverage.

Sub-program 11.1 - Intellectual Property Policy and Development

223. The activities in this field involved analytical and research work in support of effective intellectual property policies and strategies in developing countries. In particular, focus was placed on intellectual property asset management in the private and public sector. The project on Research and Development (R&D) Networks and IP Hubs was conceptualized, developed, and written to support research in the sub-region of Central Africa (Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Republic of Congo) and in Colombia. In addition, the project development was the product of collaboration with eleven national and regional scientific, intellectual property, academic and economic development institutions, as well as over 20 R&D centers. The project was awarded extra-budgetary funding by the Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN) and its implementation is expected to begin in September of 2004.

224. The Study of IP Assets Development and Management in the Caribbean Region was completed. Support was provided for the drafting of the Cooperation Agreement, approved at the WIPO Ministerial Level Meeting on IP for Caribbean Countries, and the drafting of the three-year Cooperation for Development Project and the Work Plan 2004. The Strategic Plan of the Ethiopian Intellectual Property Office was also completed during this period. Technology licensing was discussed with university and research and private sector partners in Brazil within the framework of a meeting co-organized with the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIPi), and collaboration is expected to result in future projects. The IP Asset Management Database was published on the WIPO Intranet, comprising 38 searchable sub-categories including a compilation of National IP-related Strategies and Plans. The work on compilation of National IP/Innovation/Science and Technology Strategic Plans continued with regard to the study of 14 countries and groupings of countries, with summaries and references set forth in a summary document. An IP Audit Tool for the public sector was finalized and will be made available for electronic distribution to Member States. The Audit Tool is accompanied by an explanation of a suggested process to develop national intellectual property strategic plans and supported by a diagram illustrating such a process.

225. A publication entitled "IP Assets Development and Management: A Key Strategy for Economic Growth" was finalized, published in booklet form and distributed to Member States. A Guide on Successful Technology Licensing was also completed and edited in the period under review. Different licensing training materials, including sample clauses were prepared. In cooperation with the National University of Singapore Law School, a

course on Global Exploitation of IP Rights was jointly developed, written, and implemented, and WIPO participated in the launch of the training course by way of on-site lectures and video-conferencing.

226. Numerous presentations were made on missions to Member States and in Geneva concerning how intellectual property assets can be developed, protected and commercialized, emphasizing practical and concrete measures.

Sub-program 11.2 - Innovators and SMEs

227. With respect to infrastructure services and innovation promotion, during the period under review, a total of 25 WIPO Awards for Outstanding Inventors were bestowed in national and international competitions or fairs to inventors, from 15 different countries, of which six were developing countries. Two WIPO Trophies for Innovative Enterprises were awarded to enterprises in two countries (Lithuania and Viet Nam). Seven WIPO Creativity Awards were offered to authors and creators from six countries, in recognition of creations in various categories of art such as music, literature, poetry, cinema and industrial design.

228. WIPO provided expert assistance while participating in seminars and workshops on innovation promotion and related aspects, in Muscat (Oman), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Lima (Peru) and Durres (Albania).

229. The WIPO Directory of Innovation Centers was updated regularly. It contains fact sheets and links to over 125 innovation centers offering various support services to facilitate information sharing and networking between industry users, inventors, innovation centers, and technology managers.

230. Within the framework of the WIPO Patent Information Services (WPIS) program, WIPO received a total of 548 state-of-the-art search requests, including requests for search and examination reports of applications for patents under the ICSEI Program. Some 301 online search requests were received from developing countries and countries in transition and 169 copies of patent documents were delivered following requests from developing countries. In addition, WIPO organized a national seminar in Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic), attended by representatives from universities, industrial associations, inventors associations, SMEs, chambers of commerce and staff of industrial property offices, at which a presentation was made on WIPO services, technological information and economic development, access to patent information, online databases, and transfer of technology.

231. The WIPO University Initiative Program (UIP) continued to attract interest. At the end of the reporting period, 37 universities from 34 countries had joined the program, established intellectual property coordinators and received the WIPO/UIP Documentation Kit (11 universities in nine countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region, five universities in four countries of the Asia and the Pacific region, 11 universities in 11 countries of the Africa region, four universities in four countries of the Arab region, and six universities in six Eastern European countries). A WIPO official presented the Program at a symposium in Gothenburg (Sweden).

232. Activities concerning Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) included two events in Geneva aimed at broadening the scope of understanding and level of use of the intellectual property systems by SMEs in the SMEs communities, namely: a Special Program on

Practical Intellectual Property Issues for Entrepreneurs, Economists, Bankers, Lawyers and Accountants in co-operation with the Association of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (WASME); and, a Training Seminar on Intellectual Property for Managers and Staff of Science Parks and Business Incubators, in co-operation with the International Association of Science Parks (IASP).

233. Furthermore, WIPO participated in eight additional events of partner institutions making substantive presentations on intellectual property for SMEs. These included: the Workshop on EU Company Law and Competition Policy (Bratislava, Slovak Republic) organized by the Technical Assistance Information Exchange (T.A.I.E.X.), Office of Directorate General Enlargement European Commission, in co-operation with the Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry; the 2nd INSME Promoting Committee Meeting and IKED/INSME International Roundtable (Malmö, Sweden); the Creator's Rights Alliance Conference (Montreal, Canada); the IPR-Helpdesk of the European Union and European Patent Office (EPO) (Alicante, Spain); the Regional Balkan Seminar on Assessment and Valuation of IP Rights and Research Results (Varna, Bulgaria); a series of meetings on joint activities with UNIDO (Vienna, Austria); the participation in the UNCTAD XI Conference (São Paulo, Brazil), with a contribution to the Workshop on Cultural Entrepreneurship in the Creative Industries; and, participation at the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (ICSID) (Milan, Italy).

234. In May, WIPO organized the Second Forum on Intellectual Property and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) for intellectual property offices and relevant institutions in the OECD member countries and the EU enlargement countries, held at the headquarters of the Office for Harmonization of the Internal Market (Trademarks, Designs and Models) (OHIM), Alicante. The Forum provided an interactive platform for participants to share policies, practices and experiences on their respective outreach and support activities concerning intellectual property for universities, entrepreneurs, industry and business.

235. WIPO's website for SMEs continued to be up-graded, in order to demystify intellectual property for SMEs through an SME-IP virtual network comprising of a user-friendly and interactive website and the SME newsletter. The regularly updated website is currently being re-structured to enable readers to find information more quickly. The website contains: basic information on intellectual property for business; intellectual property and E-commerce for SMEs; best practices in encouraging the use of the intellectual property system by SMEs; case studies concerning the actual benefit derived by SMEs through effective and proper use of the intellectual property system for business advantage/success; practical articles for SMEs on different intellectual property issues; useful documents and publications on intellectual property for SMEs; FAQs on intellectual property for SMEs; extensive links to other relevant documents and websites; and, regularly updated information on the activities of the WIPO SMEs Division. WIPO's SMEs monthly newsletter provides updates and other relevant information on intellectual property for SMEs to some 8,200 subscribers worldwide in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). The newsletter contains useful news on intellectual property and SMEs, best practices, useful intellectual property tools, useful links, etc.

236. Finally, WIPO published, jointly with the ITC, a WIPO/ITC "Guide on Secrets of Intellectual Property: a Guide for SME Exporters". The Guide provides practical guidance on how to deal with some of the most common intellectual property issues encountered by exporters.

Sub-program 11.3 - Cooperation with the Private Sector

237. During the first six months of 2004, progress was made on the initial stages of development of a private sector partnership program, particularly through the establishment of contacts with the United Nations Foundation. The necessary research for the preparation of draft guidelines, for approval by the competent governing body of WIPO, continued throughout the period, as did ongoing contacts with the private sector.

238. WIPO's relationships with NGOs dealing with intellectual property issues were maintained and strengthened. Information on the work carried out by WIPO was provided on various occasions. WIPO was particularly active in participating in the regular meetings of the Geneva-based NGO/CSO (Civil Society Organization) Focal Points and Liaison Officers, as well as meetings organized at the level of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Activities also included participation in: the 126th Annual Meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA), in Atlanta; the 23rd Annual Conference of the European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA), in Funchal, Madeira, Portugal; the 35th World Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), in Marrakech, Morocco; the 39th Congress of the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), in Geneva; the Meeting of NGO and Civil Society Focal Points from the UN System and International Organizations, organized by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in Rome; and, a briefing by the Project Director, Secretary-General's Panel of Eminent Persons on UN-Civil Society Relations, organized by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), on the report entitled "We the Peoples: Civil Society, the United Nations and Global Governance", in Geneva, in June.

Sub-program 11.4 - Public Outreach

239. Activities aimed at enlarging the scope and quality of public outreach of the Organization. To this end, WIPO focused on increasing collaboration with the Member States, forging partnerships with the private sector, and working with WIPO constituents in civil society. WIPO publications were made available to a broader audience by initiating translation of general outreach material into the local languages of certain developing countries.

240. WIPO actively organized and promoted World Intellectual Property Day on April 26. More than 1,150 notices were sent to intellectual property offices, missions accredited to the UN in Geneva, UN Information Centers, NGOs, corporations, and the media, informing them of the event. Kits containing a message from the Director General were distributed, as well as leaflets and order forms for the Creative Planet video, posters, bookmarks and two new SMEs guides: "Making a Mark" and "Looking Good". A list of activities planned by Member States and international or regional organizations to commemorate the event was posted on the WIPO website.

241. Work continued on further developing, refining and updating the corporate image of WIPO on a wide range of information products generated within the Organization. Some 31 new products were issued and another 23 updated. In addition to the materials for World Intellectual Property Day, new products included three issues of the WIPO Magazine in English, French and Spanish, and a new brochure for university students entitled "Your World of IP". The English language version of the Annual Report for 2003 was prepared and

ready for printing at the end of June. Two important publications were produced: one on copyright for the Copyright and Related Rights Sector, and one on copyright in five selected Arab countries for the Economic Development Bureau for Arab Countries. Some 110 specialized products (conference materials, banners, reports, covers, etc.) were produced for various sections of WIPO. These products included the preparation of publicity materials for the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center, and the SMEs Division.

242. Some 8,649 public information products were sold during the first half of 2004 and 128,595 products were distributed free-of-charge. The total income from products sold, including proforma invoices, reached 1.8 million Swiss francs. The revenue generated via the electronic bookshop came to just over 80,000 Swiss francs from 581 orders. Through sales agents, WIPO products were displayed at various bookfairs around the world including Egypt, India, Switzerland and the United States of America.

243. Production of television and multimedia materials continued to expand. Three 30 second Public Service Announcement spots were finalized, and the first spot was successfully placed with two major international networks, CNN and BBC WORLD, with various broadcast/repeats. Some 78 copies of the first four episodes of the WIPO video series "Creative Planet" were distributed to more than 56 intellectual property offices in 44 countries on the occasion of World Intellectual Property Day. A number of videos were recorded and edited for webcast on WIPO's website. At the request of various WIPO sectors, numerous custom-made multimedia products were created, from CD-ROMs to interactive presentations, in order to provide specific messages on intellectual property and to reinforce the image of the Organization.

244. During the period under review, the Information Center displayed an exhibition on intellectual property and the evolution of the aviation industry, in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Office of France (INPI). The Information Center also continued to provide delegates to WIPO meetings and visitors with the opportunity to acquire WIPO publications and other souvenirs.

MAIN PROGRAM 12

Resources Management

245. WIPO's effectiveness and cost-efficiency continued to be enhanced through the provision of more efficient administrative services, namely financial, human resources management, knowledge management, conference management and languages, printing services, procurement, travel and management of buildings.

Sub-program 12.1 - Financial Operations

246. Financial operations were managed and accounts maintained in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the Organization. Distribution of the Madrid Union supplementary and complementary fees and the Hague Union State fees for 2003 (totaling 24.5 million Swiss francs) was processed on time, as were the monthly payments of the individual fees related to the Madrid Protocol (totaling 21.5 million Swiss francs for the first six months of 2004). Likewise, since the ratification of the Geneva Act, monthly payments of

fees related to the Hague Agreement were processed for the first time (totaling 0.75 million Swiss francs for the first six months of 2004).

247. The AIMS project progressed well during the period under review. The expenditure modules were put into production since January, and the migration was on schedule, within budget, and was fully satisfactory. Efforts have since concentrated on staff training, as well as on the income part of the project. The first steps of the migration of the income modules to production are scheduled for the second half of 2004.

248. As far as investment services and management of funds are concerned, all available funds continued to be fully invested. The Investment Advisory Committee met in March to review WIPO's investments and, considering the present situation of interest return rates with capital being safeguarded, confirmed that there was no better alternative than to place the investment funds with the Swiss Central Bank (which yielded 2.8125 per cent per annum during the first semester of 2004).

Sub-program 12.2 - Human Resources and Knowledge Management

249. Human resources management processes and procedures continued to be strengthened including, *inter alia*, further development of the direct on-line access to information for supervisors and program managers, who now have timely information on the absence of individual staff members and short-term employees and groups/units under their supervision.

250. Practices and procedures also continued to be developed with respect to due process for staff members and enhancing relations with the host country in its dealings with staff. A fresh initiative was launched with respect to a new performance appraisal system, which will apply to permanent, fixed and short-term staff.

251. Work continued on different aspects of recruitment and retention of staff, as well as on staff healthcare matters and the work/family agenda. The reform process of pay and benefits, taking place within the United Nations common system, was actively supported and followed-up within the Organization

252. A total of 10 competitions were announced and 22 staff members were recruited, transferred, promoted or regularized, and six temporary employees were recruited. Some 1,100 job applications were received and processed, and over 350 contracts were renewed. The contracts of 316 short-term employees, 69 consultants, 28 Special Service Agreements (SSA) and 16 Special Labour Contract (SLC) holders were administered during the period under review. Conditions of employment of temporary employees were improved with an increase in the period of entitlement to full pay while on special leave for maternity purposes from eight to 12 weeks.

253. The administration of regular staff included the annual consolidation of the dependency entitlements for 2003, and the advancement for the present year in a total of 634 cases. In addition, the closure of the 2003-2004 education grant claims started (83 cases) and the annual rental subsidy survey for all duty stations was in process (219 cases). The Promotion Advisory Board met twice during the period under review, considering a total of 56 requests and, at the end of June 2004, a job classification exercise examined some 20 posts in Geneva. WIPO hosted the first International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) workshop for UN

common system organizations in Europe on the newly promulgated classification standard for posts in the Professional and Special categories in January.

254. During the period under review, 12 staff members and employees joined the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) and 24 separation cases were calculated, bringing the total number of participants to 1,275 members. With some 85 entries and 97 withdrawals, the group medical insurance scheme insured 3,079 persons during the period in question. Some cost containment measures were taken in January with more measures to follow in July. Consequently, the annual premium increase was limited to six per cent. Following a call for tender for medical insurance, Van Breda was selected due to their superior insurance conditions and a decrease in administrative costs. With regard to the WIPO (Closed) Pension Fund, the accounts were managed and pension supplements to retired staff were paid.

255. Staff welfare activities focused on the further development of the Children's Club and Summer Camps for children, and the implementation of new activities, including the establishment of programs for newcomers, model projects on problems of dependencies, family-related issues and the regular publication of a 'flash' newsletter providing useful information of general interest to the staff. Around 200 people attended a lunchtime learning session on the International Civil Servants' Mutual Association (MEC) and the United Nations Federal Credit Union (UNFCU).

256. Regarding staff development, training concentrated on management, communication, and technical training in response to specific needs. Some 300 participants benefited from language courses in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish, as well as oral expression courses in French. UNESCO Proficiency Examinations in English, French and Spanish were organized on WIPO premises for 15 WIPO staff members. Technical training was organized for IT specialists and 86 participants attended in-house training on Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and GroupWise. The WIPO Worldwide Academy on-line intellectual property training course was attended by 34 staff members in English or French. In addition, specific management training was provided on an *ad hoc* basis and five staff members attended courses related to their professional needs.

257. The WIPO Medical Service (WMS) administered over 3,000 interventions to staff and delegates, including wellness visits, vaccine administration, wound dressings, injections, and ergonomics training (and supply of equipment) with a focus on health maintenance via the introduction of supplement therapy and proven stress reduction techniques.

258. For the containment of medical costs, an agreement was concluded with an ophthalmologist who will administer care to staff once a week at a reduced cost at WIPO premises.

259. The WIPO Knowledge Management Center and e-Library offered library services for WIPO staff and the public, including book lending and circulation of about 300 periodicals in-house, as well as comprehensive reference desk activities for all users. On-line search tools have been extensively used to answer internal and external requests. Due to budget constraints, the Center temporarily suspended some traditional library services and activities and instead concentrated on re-arrangement of the library collection.

260. A major collection revision and inventory of the book and the journal collections was undertaken, which greatly improved the quality of the existing library collections and

services. The book scanning, aimed at preserving the Historical Books Collection, was continued. A number of old books are now available in electronic format and have been consulted by several external researchers.

261. As part of the Knowledge Management activities, an in-house electronic newsletter “Synergia”, introduced in 2003, was further developed and is now published on a monthly basis. It informs the staff about the activities of the library, introduces Knowledge Management techniques, provides tips related to efficient online searching and highlights links to interesting new online information tools and databases.

Sub-program 12.3 - Conference, Languages and Printing Services

262. Conference support services were provided for 25 meetings (for a total of 2,100 participants) in Geneva, and 53 meetings elsewhere. Some 207 contracts were issued for interpreters, for a total of 810 workdays. Two WIPO staff members served as interpreters at several of the meetings, thus enabling cost savings.

263. Competitive prices for mail and telecommunications services were obtained. The estimated overall volume of outgoing mail in the first half of 2004 was some 520,000 items, weighing approximately 100,000kg, significantly less than for the same period in 2003 (574,000 items, weighing 183,000kg), resulting mainly from greater use of IT communications. Total telecommunications charges decreased in the first half of 2004 by some 10 per cent, compared to the same period in 2003, due to a reduction in long-distance call charges and savings in line rental and maintenance costs, despite an increase in the volume of communications. The use of mobile telephones grew, with the benefit of more efficient communications. Some savings in mobile telephone costs are expected in the second half of 2004 following conclusion of a joint venture agreement with other Geneva-based UN Organizations.

264. The Records Management and Archives Service handled some 140,000 incoming letters and parcels. Thirty-eight thousand items of incoming and outgoing correspondence, including faxes and e-mails, were registered centrally. The incoming mail was subjected to security checks. Work continued on the classification and preservation of the Organization’s physical archives, including scanning of historically valuable documents. Two hundred and thirty boxes of documents were received by the Archives Unit.

265. In coordination with the IT sector, progress continued on modernizing the outdated database applications of the Conference Service. This included streamlining the linkage between data related to documents in the Conference Service database and the electronic versions of documents posted on the WIPO website and development of an integrated system for meetings documents, mailing addresses and interpreters. The module for the administration of interpreters was successfully completed. Most documents are now available via the WIPO main website, with the goal of enabling most documents to be sent or made available in electronic form. Similarly, most internal information circulars and other communications were made available to staff electronically, with distribution of paper copies largely discontinued. Due to lack of funding for the Electronic Document Management System project, designed to modernize the processing of the Organization’s correspondence and to establish a fully electronic environment for the production, management and archiving of documents, initiatives were concentrated on developing image scanning of current

documents and introduction of facsimile server technology for the reception, registration and distribution of correspondence.

266. Concerning the Language Service, during the period under review, laws, regulations, model laws and draft laws were translated into one or more languages for 19 countries. Documents for 15 meetings, and lectures for seminars or training courses were translated, revised or edited. The Service continued to make use of the Isiview documentary search software, a modern computer-assisted translation aid that enhances the efficiency of the translation process, including the regular incorporation of new files in the Isiview database.

267. In the first semester of 2004, the Publications Production Service printed 38.5 million pages, compared to 50 million pages in the same period in 2003. This reduction in paper copies is explained by the fact that many national patent offices are opting for published PCT applications in electronic form, and 6,120 CDs/DVDs were produced for that purpose. The in-house printing of the WIPO Gazette of International Marks was successfully taken over and is now produced on a weekly basis.

Sub-program 12.4 - Procurement, Travel and Building Services

268. During the first semester of 2004, the Procurement and Contracts Service focussed on cost savings, including down-scaling programs for IT, buy-out agreements, contract terminations, such as the termination of the general contractor contract for the new WIPO construction, or negotiations with new partners. A new Request for Proposal was launched for the provision of Group Medical Insurance for WIPO staff for the next five years. Bids were evaluated, the final results presented to the Contracts Review Committee and negotiations for the new contract started.

269. Other activities included international tenders for the procurement of paper, office furniture, language courses, moving services, etc., the maintenance and improvement of the inventory management system for organizational space and assets. The latter included the finalization of special survey reports on IT items. The supplier's database containing information on approximately 3,300 suppliers was also regularly updated.

270. Some 684 purchase orders were issued and registered for an overall amount of 37 million Swiss francs. Some 22 Requests for Proposals were launched. The processing of duties related to diplomatic privileges (Organization and staff), such as VAT exemptions, car plates, petrol cards, as well as staff removals, continued.

271. WIPO participated in the Inter-Agency Procurement Working Group meeting, and increased its participation in the common procurement activities carried out by the UN Joint Purchase Service in view of promoting new areas of consolidated procurement for Geneva-based UN Organizations.

272. The Procurement and Contracts Service participated actively in the Contracts Review Committee meetings and presented 11 cases in the first semester of 2004.

273. In accordance with WIPO budgetary policy, the Procurement and Contracts Service continued to concentrate on the prioritization of purchases, conduct of multiple consultations

with requisitioners and the Office of the Controller, as well as renegotiation of existing contracts in order to improve cost-efficiency.

274. Regarding Travel Services, from January to June 2004, 798 Travel Authorizations were issued and processed covering an estimated 1,297 mission days. Estimated savings amounted to 857,168 Swiss francs. The savings were mainly due to the systematic application of reduced air fares offered by airlines and the ratio between last year and this year was balanced taking into consideration the decrease in travel activities.

275. As regards visas, 466 visas and 1,716 documents for diplomatic privileges were processed. Some 59 files and 2,197 invoices were checked and processed for the annual reimbursement of VAT.

276. Concerning the management of WIPO premises, following the termination of rental contracts for the office space in the IBM, *Sogival* and Union Carbide buildings (except the 7th floor of the latter), offices were vacated and handed over according to deadlines. The termination of the rental contract for the *Luis-Casai* building was notified for the end of April 2005.

277. Staff members previously occupying the IBM, *Sogival* and Union Carbide buildings were relocated to other WIPO buildings, which involved the move of some 320 persons, as well as necessary transformation work on the new office spaces. In addition, the occupation of the former WMO building was completed with the transfer of some 300 PCT staff members by the end of February. Redistribution of the parking spaces for the staff affected by the relocation took place accordingly. The reorganization of office space, storage and parking areas also resulted in cost reductions.

278. Contracts concerning building maintenance, cleaning and security were modified in order to address the new configuration of office space in the various WIPO buildings, as well as other requirements of the Organization. Regular maintenance of the technical installations in the AB and GB buildings, of working areas in general and of outdoor facilities continued, with the replacement of obsolete installations.

279. Security services continued at the same level as in 2003. Security measures designed to improve the monitoring of the underground car park of the AB building were put in place as from the end of March. As in previous years, in order to familiarize staff members with security rules, building evacuation exercises took place at various WIPO buildings.

Sub-program 12.5 - New Construction

280. In view of the difficulties encountered within the Consortium selected for the construction of the new building, and because the Consortium failed to honor its contractual obligations, WIPO terminated its contract. The consortium was requested to complete the preparatory work under way and close the construction site.

281. The architects and engineers selected for the new construction project were requested to undertake additional studies on how to achieve savings in the further execution of the project. The results of those studies are expected in July 2004.

MAIN PROGRAM 13

Information Technology

282. The majority of the main IT projects have become operational, with AIMS following its track of implementation closely. As a result, the first six months of 2004 focused on rationalization of the delivered systems by identifying duplication of services, as well as implementation of cost containment measures.

283. Member States continued to receive regular project status reports via the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) reporting mechanisms.

284. Security threats increased substantially during the period under review, and a number of new measures, including web-content filtering, started to be implemented.

Sub-program 13.1 - IT Policy and Systems Development

285. Detailed reports of WIPO's IT projects and IT related business areas were presented to the Eighth Plenary Session of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) in February.

286. The Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the SCIT, at its Fourth Session in January, attended by delegates from 40 Members States, seven IGOs and one NGO, adopted a revision of WIPO Standard ST.10/C regarding the bibliographic data components of patent documents in order to improve the quality of patent family data and avoid confusion in the presentation of priority application numbers.

287. The SDWG also agreed to revise WIPO Standard ST.80 related to bibliographic data components of industrial designs. This revision was necessary for the implementation of the 1999 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement and, in particular, will enable unambiguous publication of the announcements appearing in the International Designs Bulletin.

288. The SDWG furthermore agreed to establish two Tasks in its Work Program, namely for the creation of a standard for the electronic management of the figurative elements of trademarks, and an Extensible Markup Language (XML) standard for the electronic external process and exchange of trademark data. For the latter, the SDWG agreed to work in close cooperation with the Expert Group of the Office for the Harmonization in the Internal Market (European Union), which is discussing the creation of a similar standard.

289. The SDWG also established a Task Force for the discussion and preparation of a proposal to renew the contents of the WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation and its publication and maintenance procedures.

290. The SDWG also dealt with the creation of a standard for the processing of patent documents using XML. The SDWG agreed that the proposal for a new XML standard in the field of patents, elaborated over the past few years, will be presented at the next session of the Working Group for its consideration and eventual adoption.

291. The WIPO IT Policy Board met twice and recommended a number of important IT policies relating to the use, distribution and replacement of IT equipment within the

Secretariat. The Board is also seen as an important forum for dialog with the business areas within WIPO concerning IT initiatives and priorities.

292. Financial expenditure on IT equipment and software continued to be closely monitored to ensure optimal usage of the current IT systems. Furthermore, a major effort was initiated to ensure that all IT equipment is correctly inventoried, especially equipment in the secure computer rooms.

293. The AIMS project made significant progress, including the successful delivery of the expenditure and budget reporting system, as planned, on January 5. The system has since been functioning satisfactorily. In addition, program management reports were made available to all programs via the Intranet. Expenditure is also being distributed via this mechanism in Excel format to enable individual programs to analyze and process data related to their programs. A reporting tool, using business objects, was deployed both in the Finance Division and in the Office of the Controller.

294. The AIMS income component is expected to become operational during the second half of 2004. The income system is significantly more complex than the expenditure and budget component due to customization needed to meet WIPO's specific requirements and several two way interfaces between AIMS and the application systems in the revenue generating sectors. The key tasks in progress include the completion of the development, system testing and the development/testing of data conversion. Progress was also made in training and integration of the existing staff members who supported the previous financial system to enable them to undertake long-term support of the AIMS system.

295. Regarding trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications, efforts focused on the further automation of the international procedures under the Madrid and Hague Systems, including adaptations required as a result of the inclusion of Spanish as an additional language of the Madrid System, and the implementation of the 1999 Act of the Hague Agreement, both effective from April 1, 2004. As provided for in the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement, work was undertaken to develop the International Designs Bulletin on WIPO's Internet website, which resulted in the publishing, for the first time, on May 28, of the said publication (No. 4/2004). Efforts also continued to encourage Offices of Contracting Parties and users to communicate with the International Bureau by electronic means (in particular as regards irregularity letters). Furthermore, a new version of ROMARIN was developed as of April 1, with a view to its on-line access during the second half of 2004. Substantial work was also undertaken for the establishment of an electronic International Register under the Lisbon Agreement.

Sub-program 13.2 - IT Networks, Operations and Services

296. The main emphasis during the current biennium will be on proactive cost-containment, consolidation and streamlining of the IT infrastructure, while responding to emerging new challenges, such as enhanced business continuity, system availability and handling of new and increasing security threats.

297. The United Nations Information Computing Center (UNICC) Mainframe System continues to host WIPO's key business systems. With careful performance and cost monitoring, it is expected that existing cost levels can be maintained in the future despite

increasing system usage. Average system availability during the reporting period was 100 per cent during working hours, and 99.96 per cent during extended working hours.

298. During the reporting period, the WIPO e-mail system, consisting of eight servers and four gateways, was available 99.7 per cent. On average, 11,200 messages were processed per day corresponding to a daily volume of 300 Mbytes. As a result of new policies aimed at controlling the growth of mailboxes, the total size of mailboxes was kept under 200 Gbytes.

299. The Helpdesk processed a total of 9,610 requests during the reporting period, including 726 office moves, 895 PC hardware repairs, 537 printer related interventions and 56 laptop PC configurations. A total of 110 training days were provided to 86 staff.

300. In addition to the general maintenance of the WIPO website, Intranet sites and various applications, the following new applications were launched for internal review: prototype of the central database web application EDOCS, which provides access to information about meetings (Geneva-based and others), as well as related documents; prototype version of the re-designed Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA) database web application, which provides access to an international archive of intellectual property legislation.

301. The WIPO website was further enhanced with the creation of the following new areas and/or services: an Article 6ter of the Paris Convention site; an enforcement of IP Rights site; Industrial Property Statistics Online Directory site; a search tools site; specific conference sites (International Conference on Design, WIPO Comes to Silicon Valley – High Tech IP Issues in a Global Marketplace, Stanford Law School, and WIPO Forum on Intellectual Property and SMEs for IP Offices and Relevant Institutions of OECD and EU Enlargement Countries, all held in May); an on-line version of the Industrial Designs Bulletin; a Hague fee calculator; a website management system containing the structure/design of all WIPO websites, including access statistics; database collections for vacancies, notifications, PCT Gazette and press releases; a dynamically generated site newsfeed; and, the treaties Newsletter now included in the “WIPO website newsletter” collection.

302. The following new Intranet homepages were created: Office of the Ombudsman; Division for Cooperation with Certain Countries in Europe and Asia; and, the WIPO Coordination Office of New York. In addition, support, maintenance and re-design of Intranet sites and applications continued.

303. Following the conclusion of the WIPONET project implementation phase on December 31, 2003, WIPONET formally moved into its operational phase on January 1. During the period under review, WIPONET activities focussed on the consolidation of processes and procedures, as well as the implementation of decisions taken to make WIPONET cost effective and responsive to business needs. These decisions were based upon an internal independent evaluation, which started in the last quarter of 2003.

304. Accordingly, responsibility for the maintenance and operations of WIPONET services was transferred from International Business Machines (IBM) to the United Nations Information Computing Center (UNICC), the WIPONET Helpdesk function was internalized, the procedures with regard to the re-scoped WIPONET services were developed, and the work associated with transferring Internet connectivity provided to intellectual property offices from SITA to local Internet Service Providers (ISPs), commenced.

305. Significant progress was also made with regard to the interconnectivity of WIPONET with TriNET and Patnet, with TriNET being the network connecting the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, whereas Patnet interconnects European national intellectual property offices and the European Patent Office. The interconnection of the three networks called IPOVPI will allow access to information and services made available on the three networks to all their members through a single connection to IPOVPI. During the period under review, WIPO successfully implemented two pilot projects, first to connect the *Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle* (OAPI) and second, to connect the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) with IPOVPI.

Sub-program 13.3 - PCT Information Systems

306. During the first half of 2004, the move of the PCT IB System to the new secure Computer Room located in the ex WMO building was completed. Due to direct communications links with similar equipment in the WIPO AB Main Computer Room, it is now possible to plan for enhanced business continuity of key PCT systems. The WIPO Internal Network (LAN) was also expanded and secured to accommodate the full deployment of the ex-WMO Building.

307. A validation test was concluded for the redeployment of the IMPACT Storage Area Network (SAN) equipment as a centralized, enterprise-level resource. This new data storage and backup consolidation strategy will enable the Organization to reduce backup, storage and system administration costs through economies of scale.

308. With regards to IMPACT, an architectural review of existing computer hardware and software was conducted and recommendations were implemented. In addition, a process of continued rationalization, standardization and consolidation of IT equipment, resources and functions was put in place.

309. The automated system of document scanning and reproduction, called the Communication On Request (COR) system, enables the IB to communicate documents to offices on paper, on CD and on DVD. During the first six months of 2004, the COR system was used to communicate about 5,750,000 documents to offices, of which 92 per cent were in electronic format.

310. The test campaign of the new COR functionality, which allows offices to request documents online through an Internet web-based interface called Online-COR, was successfully concluded in early 2004. This new functionality is now being used by 12 offices, and deployment to other offices wishing to use this new facility is ongoing.

311. A WIPO PCT Electronic Data Interchange Service (PCT-EDIS) was developed in early 2004, and is now available to offices. PCT-EDIS provides a flexible, secure and completely automated mechanism for the exchange of intellectual property information between offices and the IB. Offices can order documents using a bulk order in XML and copy the results in bulk. They can also submit priority documents in a wrapper. Other general-purpose bulk data transfers can be agreed between WIPO and offices.

312. An electronic dossier viewer function, which allows IB staff to consult documents using their workstation, was developed and is now used on a daily basis by three processing teams.

Deployment to subsequent processing teams is on-going. The viewer allows processing of electronically filed full XML applications without having to access a paper copy. An add-on function to process priority documents in a paperless way was also developed and is now being tested by users.

313. Following an internal security review in January 2004, the PCT-SAFE system became operational on February 12, making electronic filing under the PCT available to applicants from all PCT member states, with fee reductions of up to 300 Swiss francs. Since deployment, over 1,000 electronic filings were received at the International Bureau as Receiving Office, representing approximately 30 per cent of its filings. This deployment included establishment of the WIPO Customer Certification Authority, which provides low level Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certification authority services under PCT-SAFE.

314. Since deployment, the number of WIPO website downloads of PCT-SAFE software indicates that PCT-SAFE is now in regular use by thousands of PCT filers. For example, for the three new builds of the PCT-SAFE client that were released, there was an average of 8,563 downloads for each build. Likewise, the PCT-SAFE Editor, which is used exclusively for full electronic filing, has seen 5,124 downloads since it was released at the end of 2003.

315. In total, there have been 37,800 downloads of the various PCT-SAFE software releases during this period. Various components of the PCT-SAFE system have also been deployed to all seven PCT Receiving Offices that have implemented PCT electronic filing. Work also continued on Annex F of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT (containing the technical standard for electronic filing and processing of international applications), which was modified on two occasions. First, with effect from January 1, 2004, taking into account three proposals for change, and second with effect from February 12, 2004.

316. The CLAIMS Project relates closely to the progress of the International Patent Classification (IPC) reform, the main goal of which is to enhance the searchability of patent information through the use of the reformed IPC and its two levels of classification (Core and Advanced). The four tracks of CLAIMS are: Categorization assistance in the IPC (IPCCAT); IT support to IPC reform and revision (RIPCIS and IBIS); IPC tutorials and linguistic support comprising Natural Language search in the IPC (TACSY); and, translation assistance tools.

317. After the deployment of the CLAIMS infrastructure in March, the software installation at WIPO of the CLAIMS sub-systems IPCCAT and TACSY began. The RIPCIS sub-system remained hosted by the company developing it.

318. The addition of a Spanish version to the categorization assistance system IPCCAT was accelerated. The production version of IPCCAT in English, French, German and Spanish was installed at WIPO and made available to IPC Member States in June. A monolingual version of IPCCAT on CD, as well as batch processing facilities, were created within the framework of the same contract.

319. Following the decision by the 34th Session of the IPC Committee of Experts to postpone the entry into force of the IPC reform to January 1, 2006, the IBIS sub-system was updated and the RIPCIS implementation plans revised.

320. In June, the RIPCIS functionality was developed and made available to WIPO users for testing on the contractor's site. Because of staffing constraints, the deployment on WIPO

infrastructure was deferred to the last quarter of 2004, as was work related to linking with the future Master Classification Database (MCD) hosted by the European Patent Office.

321. Furthermore, the IPC tutorial web application was updated to reflect most recent requests of the IPC community, and the implementation and deployment on the CLAIMS server of the Natural Language processing search facility for IPC TACSY was completed in May. The harmonization of the user access to IPCCAT, TACSY, IBIS, IPC E-forum and RIPIS began in June.

322. During the first half of 2004, the full text of 1.5 million pages of PCT pamphlets was captured using OCR and timely delivered to both WIPO, through secure on-line transmission and on PCTI2C DVDs, and the European Patent Office on ST.35 tapes.

323. Adaptation of the contractor's production line to perform this activity using PCT rule 87 DVD electronic products as input was successfully tested. The use of this as alternative input was deferred to the second half of 2004, after implementation of the PCT 2004 rule changes, in both the PCT rule 87 DVD and PCTOCR outputs.

324. Furthermore, the secure online transmission to collect data back from contractor was replaced in May.

325. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to note the contents of this document.

[End of document]