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**RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS;
REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT**

Report by the Director General

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INTRODUCTION

1. This document contains a report on the resolutions adopted and the decisions taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sessions held between July 1, 1999, and July 1, 2001, the former date marking the end of the period covered by the previous report on this subject (document WO/GA/24/3). It also contains information on reports received from the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) concerning, among other organizations, WIPO.

2. The agreement between the United Nations and WIPO, approved by the General Assembly of WIPO on September 27, 1974, and by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 17, 1974, whereby WIPO as a specialized agency was brought into relationship with the United Nations, provides, in its Article 5, as follows:

“(a) The Organization, having regard to the obligation of the United Nations to promote the objectives set forth in Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations and the function and power of the Economic and Social Council, under Article 62 of the Charter, to make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters and to make recommendations concerning these matters to the specialized agencies concerned, and having regard also to the responsibility of the United Nations, under Articles 58 and 63 of the Charter, to make recommendations for the co-ordination of the policies and activities of such specialized agencies, agrees to arrange for the submission, as soon as possible, to the appropriate organ of the Organization, of all formal recommendations which the United Nations may make to it.

“(b) The Organization agrees to enter into consultation with the United Nations upon request with respect to such recommendations, and in due course to report to the United Nations on the action taken by the Organization or by its members to give effect to such recommendations, or on the other results of their consideration.”

3. None of the resolutions adopted and none of the decisions taken by the General Assembly or by the Security Council during the period covered by the present report contains any recommendation which, in its terms, is specifically addressed to WIPO as such. On the other hand, a number of those resolutions and decisions are directed, in some form or another, to the organizations of the United Nations system, extending as such to the specialized agencies and thus to WIPO; consequently, such of those resolutions and decisions which are relevant to WIPO are brought to the attention of the WIPO General Assembly in the present document.¹

¹ In the said resolutions and decisions, the General Assembly or other organs of the United Nations “requests” or “invites” or “urges” or “reminds” or “appeals” to “the organizations of the United Nations system” or “the specialized agencies” or “the international community” to take, “within their respective spheres or areas of competence,” certain action, such as providing material, financial or other assistance or adopting measures with a view to giving effect to the objective or objectives set forth in the resolution or decision concerned. For the purpose of this report, the mention in a given resolution or decision of such an organization or of the specialized agencies or of the international community is regarded as including WIPO. Unless otherwise stated, the United Nations are hereinafter referred to as “the General Assembly” and “the Secretary-General,” respectively, whereas the Director General of WIPO and the Secretariat of WIPO are hereinafter referred to as “the Director General” and “the Secretariat” respectively.

4. For reasons of economy, the full texts of the resolutions and the decisions that are the subject of this report are not attached to the present document, since they have already been circulated to Member States by the United Nations. Each resolution or decision that is relevant to a given heading or sub-heading of the present document is, however, cited in the text under that heading or sub-heading. Where further indication of the scope of the resolution or decision is deemed necessary, a résumé is given. In respect of each heading or sub-heading, a summary of the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Secretariat on the subject matter of the resolution or decision cited is also given.

5. The programs implemented by the Secretariat during the years 1999 and 2000 and the first half of 2001 which bear on the matters dealt with in the resolutions and decisions that are the subject of the present report, and which are referred to in this report as part of the action taken by the Director General or the Secretariat in connection with the subject matter of the resolution or decision concerned, are mentioned only briefly in the present document. The said programs are described in more detail in the reports on the program performance of the Secretariat that have been submitted to the Assemblies at their sessions in September-October 2000 (see document A/35/2) and in September-October 2001 (see, in particular, documents A/36/4 and A/36/5).

I. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

Assistance to Developing Countries

6. In a number of separate and different resolutions, each relating to one or more developing countries, or to a group or category of developing countries, or to developing countries in general, the General Assembly calls upon the international community, including the specialized agencies, to provide or increase financial, material, technical or other assistance to those countries, to cooperate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing or implementing an international program of assistance to those countries and to provide information to the Secretary-General for inclusion in reports to be made by him to the General Assembly or other organs of the United Nations on the steps the specialized agencies have taken and on the resources that they have made available to assist those countries.

7. The said resolutions concern developing countries in general (54/202, 54/226, 55/184), least-developed countries (54/235, 55/214), land-locked developing countries (54/199), land-locked countries in Central Asia (55/181), island developing countries (54/90, 54/96), the developing countries in Africa (55/216, 55/217), and the developing countries in Central America (54/118), as well as certain developing countries or countries in transition to a market economy facing special difficulties. The said countries specifically mentioned include Afghanistan, Belize, Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Guatemala, Haiti, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan and Venezuela (54/96, 54/182, 54/187, 54/188, 54/189, 55/165, 55/167, 55/176).

8. In respect of most of the countries which are the subject of the said resolutions, assistance has been provided during the period covered by the present report, and the Secretariat will continue to provide, upon the request of the government or governments of those countries or of the

intergovernmental organizations concerned, and within the limits of available resources, assistance in the form of training, advisory and expert services and state-of-the-art search reports. In addition, travel costs and subsistence allowances have been or will be borne by WIPO for government officials from developing countries attending training courses, seminars and workshops, and for one governmental representative of each of the least-developed countries, members of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property attending the meeting of that Committee, as well as for one governmental representative of each of a certain number of other developing countries attending certain other meetings organized by WIPO. The said assistance is described in the documents containing the reports on programs referred to in paragraph 5, above. That assistance is also the subject of reports submitted to the WIPO Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property and to the WIPO Conference (see document WO/CF/19/1).

Program of Action for the Least-Developed Countries and Third United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries

9. In its resolution 54/235, the General Assembly decides that the Program of Action for the Least-Developed Countries for the 1990s will continue to provide the framework for national and international action for the least-developed countries (LDCs) until the adoption of the next program of action at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries.

10. The General Assembly, in its resolution 55/214, recalls that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries will convene from May 14 to 20, 2001, in Brussels, emphasizes the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders as well as of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and stresses that the intergovernmental follow-up, review and monitoring of the new program of action should be undertaken in a more effective manner, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, as well as with the involvement of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system.

11. It is recalled that the Director General established the LDCs Unit in 1998 to improve the overall capacity of the LDCs to respond to intellectual property opportunities created by the rapid globalization of the world economy.

12. At the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Brussels, WIPO presented a program of practical assistance, including a set of concrete measures, to enable LDCs to harness the economic benefits of their creativity through more effective systems of intellectual property protection. The said measures include the transfer of knowledge and development of human resources through the teaching, training, advisory and research services of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, improved access to affordable information and communication technologies and data exchange through the establishment of WIPONET, the creation of collective management societies to ensure that creators receive payment for the use of their works, and optimizing the wealth-creation effect of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and expressions of folklore. Although only 41 of the 49 LDCs are WIPO Member States, all LDCs are eligible to receive WIPO assistance under this special program. The program of action was formulated on the basis of the Lisbon Declaration on Intellectual Property adopted by ministers and senior government officials of the High-level Roundtable on Least-Developed Countries on February 1 and 2, 2001.

Integration of the Economies in Transition into the World Economy

13. In its resolution 55/191, the General Assembly reaffirms the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy, and calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and technical assistance to the governments of the countries with economies in transition in strengthening the social and political framework for completing market-oriented reforms and emphasizes the importance of their further integration into the knowledge-based world economy through the effective utilization of information and communication technologies.

14. During the period covered by this document, the Secretariat continued to promote accession of all the countries with economies in transition to the various WIPO-administered treaties. The Secretariat also assisted the countries concerned in adopting their intellectual property laws to conform with the WIPO-administered treaties and the TRIPS Agreement. Other relevant activity includes the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between WIPO and the Secretariat of the Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, cooperation with the Interstate Council for the Protection of Industrial Property of the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and with the Eurasian Patent Organization. In this connection, attention is drawn to main program 07 of the Program and Budget for the 2000-2001 biennium (document A/34/2), pursuant to which assistance has been, and will continue in an increasing way to be, provided to certain countries in Europe and Asia, to foster their integration into the world economy.

Business and Development

15. In its resolution 54/204, the General Assembly notes the important efforts of the United Nations system to facilitate the active and constructive involvement of the private sector in the development process and the efforts of the Secretary-General to create partnerships with the private sector, recognizes the important role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and micro-financing in supporting economic and social development, and emphasizes that business and industry, including corporations engaged in international business activities, can contribute substantially to a country's economic and social development and are important generators of employment and economic growth.

16. The said resolution calls upon the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and agreed work programs, to continue to assist Member States, at their request, in implementing national programs to create an enabling environment for business, investment and development, stresses the need to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in strengthening their capacity to encourage wider participation of the private sector in their economies, and invites relevant United Nations organizations to promote meaningful contributions by business, in both the public and the private sectors, in support of economic growth and sustainable development.

17. In recognition of the role of WIPO in promoting the use of the intellectual property system for enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs worldwide in the use of patents, trademarks, utility models and other related areas, the Director General requested, and obtained, the approval of the WIPO General Assembly, at its September-October 2000 session, to establish a new program of activities,

focusing on the intellectual property-related needs of SMEs worldwide (see documents WO/GA/26/5 and WO/GA/26/10, paragraph 109). The revised Draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium, includes a Sub-Program on SMEs and Intellectual Property. The objective of this new Sub-Program is to strengthen the capacity of governmental, private and civil society institutions worldwide to formulate and implement policies and strategies for meeting the intellectual property needs and concerns of SMEs (see document WO/PBC/4/2, Sub-Program 10.2). Other relevant activity includes the holding of a two-day Milan Forum on SMEs, co-organized with Italy's Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade in February 2001.

II. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science and Technology for Development

18. In its resolution 54/201, the General Assembly recognizes that information technologies are important requisites for research, planning, development and decision-making in science and technology. In the said resolution, the General Assembly also recognizes the need to address the obstacles faced by developing countries in accessing new technologies, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries, and stresses the need for dissemination of research knowledge and sharing of technologies and expertise in the field of biotechnology, in particular in the areas of agriculture, pharmaceuticals and health care, that could benefit mankind.

19. The General Assembly, stressing the importance for developing countries of the need to promote, facilitate and finance access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, on concessional, preferential and favorable terms, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries, invites the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to provide assistance and to promote cooperation in the areas of partnership and networking, biotechnology, and information and communication technologies, including in the design and implementation of national strategies on such technologies or mechanisms.

20. In this connection, it is recalled that a Global Information Network (WIPONET) is being installed by the Secretariat. Using a combination of private networks, the public Internet and state-of-the-art technologies, WIPONET will establish a global intellectual property information network between all Member States. In linking the intellectual property offices of WIPO Member States, this project will facilitate access to and exchange of information across the globe and enhance use of the intellectual property system to foster economic and cultural development in all participating countries. It is expected that by the end of 2001, some 65 intellectual property offices will have received the WIPONET Kit (i.e. basic computer hardware, software, training and reliable Internet connectivity) as part of the first phase of the project. The remaining 91 offices will receive the WIPONET Kit in the second phase in 2002, thus marking completion of the project.

21. Another related activity is the on-going Intellectual Property Digital Libraries (IPDLs) project, which provides Internet access to various intellectual property data collections hosted by WIPO. Following an extensive period of prototype design and evaluation, the IPDL project will become fully operational in 2001 and will expand its existing collections.

22. Attention is drawn to the documents on information technology development and the provision of industrial property information services presented by the Secretariat to the Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property at its second session in February 2001 (see documents PCIPD/2/4 and PCIPD/2/5).

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

23. In its resolution 54/221, the General Assembly expresses its deep concern about the continued loss of the world's biological diversity, recognizes the contribution of indigenous and local communities, and women within those communities, to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, and welcomes decision IV/15, in which the Conference of the Parties stressed the need to ensure consistency in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements, including the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), with a view to promoting increased mutual supportiveness and integration of biological diversity concerns and the protection of intellectual property rights.

24. Resolution 54/221 further reaffirms paragraph 10 of decision IV/15, in which the Conference of the Parties emphasizes that further work is required to help develop a common appreciation of the relationship between intellectual property rights and the relevant provisions of TRIPS and the CBD, in particular on issues relating to technology transfer and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources, including the protection of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. The resolution also encourages the Secretariat of various conventions and other international organizations to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional and national levels.

25. In its resolution 55/201, the General Assembly takes note of the fact that the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement and the CBD are interrelated, and invites WIPO and WTO, within their respective mandates, to explore the relationship.

26. The establishment of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (see documents WO/GA/26/6 and WO/GA/26/10, paragraph 71) enabled continued discussions on genetic resources, biological inventions and biological diversity. During the first session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, there was a clear expression on the part of all of the WIPO Member States that the Intergovernmental Committee should address the issues before it in conjunction with the secretariat of the CBD and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA). The work which the Intergovernmental Committee does will be consistent with and complementary to the work that is being undertaken by the CBD and the FAO.

III. SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL MATTERS

Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat

27. In its resolution 54/139, the General Assembly reaffirms the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D.1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition. In the said resolution, the General Assembly strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at the D.1 level and above, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to intergovernmental, judicial and expert bodies, identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programs.

28. The WIPO Secretariat continues to give particular attention to measures for the involvement of women in the activities of WIPO. Whereas at the beginning of 1998, roughly 64 percent of the staff in the professional category were male, that figure currently stands at 59 percent. There has been a real breakthrough in the special category of D.1 and above; whereas the proportion of males in the special category stood at 97 percent at the beginning of 1998, that is now down to 85 percent.

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of La Francophonie

29. In its resolution 54/25, the General Assembly notes with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programs and the International Organization of la Francophonie (IOF), and invites the United Nations, the specialized agencies, and other organizations to collaborate with the IOF by identifying new synergies in favor of development and to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation.

30. It is recalled that the IOF (formerly called the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (ACCT)) has the status of permanent observer at WIPO (see documents AB/X/17, paragraph 8 and AB/X/32, paragraph 14). The Director General of WIPO and the Secretary General of IOF have signed an agreement on the establishment of working relations and cooperation between WIPO and IOF. That agreement was approved by the Coordination Committee at its session in September-October 2000 (see documents WO/CC/45/3 and WO/CC/45/5, paragraph 24).

Observer Status for the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries in the General Assembly

31. In its resolution 54/10, the General Assembly considers that it is mutually advantageous to provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), takes note of the desire of the CPLP for the establishment of that cooperation, and decides to invite the CPLP to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer.

32. In this connection, the Director General draws attention to the fact that the Assemblies of Member States and the Unions administered by WIPO are being asked to grant observer status in their meetings to the CPLP (see document A/36/12).

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

Pattern of Conferences

33. In its resolution 55/222, the General Assembly requests the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various duty stations and to avoid scheduling meetings of related intergovernmental bodies too close together. The said resolution also notes with satisfaction that the Secretariat took into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208A and 54/248 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of *Id al-Fitr* and *Id al-Adha*, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings.

34. It is recalled that in a letter dated March 9, 2000, the Permanent Representative of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria, acting in his capacity as Chairman of the Council of Heads of Arab Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva (the Council), requested, on behalf of the Council, the Director General of WIPO to take into consideration the dates of the Islamic feasts of *Id al-Fitr* and *Id al-Adha* while programming the meetings convened by WIPO, and to include the dates of the said feasts among the Organization's official holidays (see document A/35/8).

35. At their Thirty-Fifth series of meetings in September-October 2000, the WIPO General Assembly and the WIPO Coordination Committee declared the two days of Islamic feasts as official holidays within WIPO, on the understanding that staff members would be able to avail themselves of a total of ten official holidays in WIPO, and resolved that no official meetings should be convened in WIPO on Orthodox Good Fridays (see document A/35/15, paragraph 196).

United Nations Common System Staff Matters

36. Those provisions of the WIPO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules that have been, or are proposed to be, modified as a consequence of decisions of the General Assembly taken in 1999 and 2000 and of the decisions and recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) taken in 1999 and 2000 are the subject of reports submitted by the Director General to the WIPO Coordination Committee at its sessions in 1999 and in 2000 (see documents WO/CC/44/1 and WO/CC/45/1).

V. LEGAL MATTERS

United Nations Decade of International Law

37. In its resolution 54/28, the General Assembly recalls its resolution 44/23 of November 17, 1989, by which it declared the period 1990-1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law. Noting the conclusion of the Decade, the resolution recalls that the main purposes of the Decade were, among others, to promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law, to encourage the progressive development of international law and its codification, and to encourage the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law.

38. Resolution 54/28 notes the deposit by the Secretary-General, on December 21, 1998, of an act of formal confirmation, on behalf of the United Nations, of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations of March 21, 1986. Resolution 54/28 also expresses its appreciation to States and international organizations that have undertaken activities in the implementation of the United Nations Decade of International Law, and invites States and international organizations to continue encouraging the publication of books or other materials on subjects of international law and the holding of symposia, conferences, seminars or other meetings aimed at promoting a wider appreciation of international law.

39. It is recalled that, in response to a request from the Director General, the Coordination Committee, at the occasion of its Forty-Fifth session in September-October 2000, decided to authorize the Director General to make WIPO a party to the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations (see documents WO/CC/45/2 and WO/CC/45/5, paragraph 8). An instrument of accession by WIPO to the said Convention was deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in October 2000.

40. In the areas of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, WIPO's activities over the relevant period included the WIPO Worldwide Academy's continuing dedication to optimizing the use of intellectual property systems by enhancing human resource development programs at national and regional levels. Attention is drawn, in this connection, to the document "The WIPO Worldwide Academy: Performance, Challenges and Opportunities," submitted to the second session of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Cooperation for Development Related to Intellectual Property (see document PCIPD/2/2).

41. Several other Divisions and Units of the WIPO Secretariat continue to organize seminars, training workshops and other meetings with a view towards increasing and promoting acceptance of and respect for the principles of intellectual property law worldwide. In respect of WIPO's Second Internet Domain Name Process and the Organization's activities in the fields of electronic commerce and arbitration and mediation, attention is drawn to documents WO/GA/27/1 and WO/GA/27/5. The Secretariat also convened a WIPO Forum on Private Intellectual Property on January 30 and 31, 2001, at which some 200 leading experts discussed the intellectual property implications of the global reach of the Internet and the rapid growth of electronic commerce, particularly in relation to the jurisdiction of courts, applicable law, and enforcement of judgements. As part of a campaign to further raise awareness of intellectual property law among students, the Secretariat has launched an

international essay competition, which is open to university students. The 2000-word essay must address the question “What does intellectual property mean to you in your daily life?” It may be submitted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish. A prize of 1,000 Swiss francs will be awarded for the best essay in each language, to be announced on April 26, 2002, the World Intellectual Property Day.

VI. OTHER MATTERS

Information for Reports of the Secretary-General to be submitted to Certain Organs of the United Nations

42. In response to requests from the Secretariat of the United Nations, the WIPO Secretariat provided, and will continue to provide, information on the activities of WIPO for inclusion in reports on various matters, submitted, or to be submitted, by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly or to other organs of the United Nations on the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly and of other organs of the United Nations.

VII. JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

43. During the period from July 1, 1999, to July 1, 2001, the following JIU reports were received, concerning, among other organizations, WIPO:

- (a) “Private Sector Involvement and Cooperation with the United Nations System” (JIU/REP/99/6). This JIU report analyses the lines along which a new partnership between the United Nations system and the private sector can be developed, and considers how areas of mutual interests and benefits can translate into concrete actions. It recommends the setting of realistic objectives and expectations; carrying out outreach programs targeting the private sector, with designated information focal points; ensuring UN presence at relevant business events, organizing joint encounters and encouraging a wide private sector participation in relevant activities of the organizations; developing guidelines on principles and procedures for dealings with the private sector; providing for appropriate financial disclosures to avoid conflicts of interests of staff involved; speeding up internal processes and establishing time-frames to avoid discouraging private sector initiatives, and establishing suitable mechanisms for the sharing of information and best practices regarding relations with the private sector. Executive Head comments coordinated by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Secretariat were made in United Nations document A/54/700/Add.1; those comments generally endorse the recommendations made in this JIU report.
- (b) “Policies and Practices in the Use of the Services of Private Management Consulting Firms in the Organizations of the United Nations System” (JIU/REP/99/7). This JIU report examines the policies and practices governing the use of management consulting firms in the United Nations system, examines the advantages and disadvantages of their use, and draws conclusions. The recommendations deal with organizations developing a policy framework, with appropriate standards, procedures and guidelines for the use of management consulting

firms; monitoring the performance of management consulting firms, including the transfer of new management skills to the organization; conducting evaluations of the performance and extent of implementation of their recommendations; inter-organization sharing of experience and information on the use of management consulting firms; guarding against possible conflicts of interest; giving preference to qualified regionally-based firms; rotating the choice of management consulting firms, and inviting bids as widely as possible. ACC (Executive Head) comments have not yet been prepared for this JIU report.

- (c) “United Nations System Common Services at Geneva – Part II: Case Studies (ICC, JMS, TES, DPS, JPS)” (JIU/REP/2000/5). This JIU report provides a series of case studies as a follow-up to the JIU report on “United Nations System Common Services at Geneva - Part I: Overview of Administrative Cooperation and Coordination” (JIU/REP/98/4), which was referred to in paragraph 38(d) of document WO/GA/24/3. The case studies are intended to identify key strengths and constraints of some existing common services in Geneva, in order to derive lessons that could be applied to the expanded sharing of support services recommended in the Part I report. Analyses are undertaken and recommendations made regarding the International Computing Centre (ICC); the Joint Medical Service (JMS), which is managed by the World Health Organization; the Training and Examinations Section (TES) of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG); the UNOG Diplomatic Pouch Service (DPS), and the Joint Purchase Service (JPS). ACC (Executive Head) comments have not yet been prepared for this JIU report.
- (d) “Strengthening the Investigations Function in United Nations System Organizations” (JIU/REP/2000/9). This JIU report, which is intended to enhance the capability of United Nations system organizations for meeting the need for investigations, makes recommendations concerning the development of a common set of standards and procedures for conducting investigations in United Nations system organizations; training for managers involved in investigations; preparing a risk profile of each organization as an initial basis for indicating the need for access to professionally trained and experienced investigators; having small organizations present options for financing access to a professional investigation capability; development of preventative measures based on proactive investigations and lessons learned from completed investigations, and fostering inter-agency cooperation regarding the investigations function. ACC (Executive Head) comments have not yet been prepared for this JIU report.
- (e) “United Nations System Support for Science and Technology in Latin America and the Caribbean” (JIU/REP/2001/2). This JIU report follows upon two previous reports on the same subject, concerning Africa (JIU/REP/94/1) and Asia and the Pacific (JIU/REP/95/7), both of which rated WIPO projects in those regions very highly. Indeed, in report JIU/REP/94/1, the project executed by WIPO—“Establishment and Strengthening of Industrial Property Systems in Africa” (ESIPS)—received the highest ratings (as noted in document AB/XXVI/6). The present report JIU/REP/2001/2 examined 10 projects, none of which involved WIPO. Most of the recommendations are directed to specific United Nations system organizations or entities, in particular, the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Development Group, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Environment

Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations University (UNU), the World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), and the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute (CFNI). The recommendations which have some relevance to WIPO deal with deriving lessons regarding information technology capacity building; intensifying cooperation with the Latin American Economic System (SELA)'s science and technology initiatives; assessing and developing science and technology networks; and monitoring and helping develop biotechnology work in Latin America and the Caribbean. ACC (Executive Head) comments have not yet been prepared for this JIU report.

44. WIPO also received the JIU Annual Reports for 1999 (A/55/34) and for 2000 (A/56/34), and the "Program of Work of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2000 and preliminary listing of potential reports for 2001 and beyond" (document A/54/960).

45. Copies of the JIU reports listed in paragraph 43, above, were placed on the Internet by the JIU Secretariat to facilitate access by Member States throughout the world and were distributed by the United Nations to all Member States of WIPO. The Executive Head comments, coordinated by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Secretariat, listed in paragraph 43, above, and the documents listed in paragraph 44, above, were distributed by the United Nations to all Member States of WIPO. All of those documents are available for reference in the WIPO Secretariat.

46. During the period under review, WIPO provided input for and comments on the reports listed above, as well as on the draft reports received from the JIU on the following subjects: management of United Nations buildings in New York; and governance and oversight: enhancing the effectiveness of oversight by the legislative organs of the United Nations system. WIPO also provided inputs and completed questionnaires for JIU studies on: reproduction and distribution of documents in the organizations of the United Nations system; on policies, procedures and practices for senior-level appointments in the United Nations specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); on the management of buildings in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system; on the administration of justice in the organizations in the United Nations common system; on governance and oversight in the United Nations system; on management and administration of the ITU; on United Nations system revenue-producing activities: income generation and cost-recovery; on host country agreements entered into by the organizations of the United Nations system; on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned reports JIU/REP/94/1 and JIU/REP/95/7; on management information systems: lessons learnt from the experience of the United Nations system organizations; and on the involvement of civil society entities in technical cooperation projects in selected organizations of the United Nations system. WIPO also provided information for the JIU follow-up system, and exchanged views on follow-up with the JIU Secretariat.

47. The WIPO General Assembly is invited to note the information contained in this report and to approve the actions taken or proposed to be taken, as stated in this report.

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