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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-Eighth (19th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 22 to October 1, 2009

ELEMENTS FOR THE NEW MANDATE – PROPOSAL BY THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. On September 23, 2009, the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) received a communication from the United States of America, requesting that a proposal concerning the agenda item “Matters Concerning the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore” be presented to the WIPO General Assembly.
2. The proposal is reproduced in the Annex to this present document.
3. *The General Assembly is invited to take note of the contents of this document, and decide on the proposal as contained in the attached Annex.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

Bearing in mind the Development Agenda recommendations, the WIPO General Assembly approves that the mandate of the IGC be renewed as follows, namely that:

1. The Committee will accelerate its substantive work for the next budgetary biennium, focusing on the uncompleted work under its previous mandate.
2. The Committee will work towards further convergence of views on the preservation, promotion and protection of TCEs and TK, including through outcome-oriented deliberations on the draft objectives and principles, the agreed lists of substantive issues, and the possible gaps in the international framework.
3. The Committee will conduct its substantive work on TCEs, TK, and GR on an equal basis and will enhance its work on GR issues during next budgetary biennium.
4. The Committee will present a progress report on its substantive work to the session of the General Assembly in September 2010 and will make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the same.
5. The Committee will work towards further convergence of views on the options for the international dimension of its work, with no outcome of its work excluded, including the possible development of an international instrument or instruments, and with no outcome prejudged.
6. The Committee will present a progress report on the international dimension of its work to the session of the General Assembly in September 2011, and will make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the same.
7. The Committee will continue to request the International Bureau to assist the IGC by providing Member States with necessary expertise and documentation.
8. The Committee will continue to promote the enhanced participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities through various initiatives, including the WIPO Voluntary Fund, and also the participation of intergovernmental organizations.

[End of Annex and of document]