



Proposals (18) received from Member States to host a WIPO External Office in the 2016-2017 biennium in accordance with the 'Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices' (contained in document A/55/INF/11)

May 11, 2016

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C. N 3689

The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office in Geneva and has the honor to refer to the decision of the WIPO General Assembly at its Forty-Seventh (22nd Ordinary) Session, as contained in document A/55/INF/11, concerning new WIPO External Offices.

In accordance with the 'Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices' as contained in A/55/INF/11, and further to the outcome of the process of consultations conducted by the Chair of the WIPO General Assembly, His Excellency Ambassador Gabriel Duque, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the World Trade Organization (WTO), with the Regional Coordinators in Geneva, the final list of Member States having submitted proposals to host a new WIPO External Office for the 2016-2017 biennium in accordance with the Guiding Principles is: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, Republic of Korea, Romania, Tunisia and Turkey (18 proposals).

The International Bureau will provide 'a separate, factual and technical report' on the proposed new External Offices as stipulated by the Guiding Principles in the six official languages of WIPO by June 29, 2016, so that this report is available two months prior to the 25th Session of the WIPO Program and Budget Committee (August 29 to September 2, 2016) at which it will be considered.

Responding to the request of the Member States as communicated during the aforementioned consultations led by Ambassador Duque, and to facilitate the consideration of this issue by the Member States, the International Bureau is pleased to enclose with this Note copies of all 18 proposals received by Member States for the 2016-2017 biennium in the language of this Note.

BD

May 11, 2016

Algerian People's Democratic Republic



WIPO Regional External Office

Algerian Proposal

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original French-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and French versions, the French version shall prevail.

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Section 3: Mission and objectives of the WIPO regional external office for Africa



Discovering Algeria

Algeria (*Al-Jaza'ir* in Arabic) is a North African country in the Maghreb. Since 1962, it has been a State whose full name is the Algerian People's Democratic Republic. Its capital, Algiers, the most populated city in the country, is located in the north, on the Mediterranean coast.

With a surface area of 2,381,741 square kilometers, it is the largest country in Africa, the Arab world and the Mediterranean basin. Algeria shares more than **6,385 km of terrestrial borders** with Tunisia in the north-east, Libya in the east, Niger and Mali in the south, Mauritania and Western Sahara in the south-west and Morocco in the west. Because of its strategic location, **Algeria offers access and proximity, key assets for communication and cooperation in the region.**

Algeria has been a member of the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the African Union (AU), the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the Arab League practically since 1962, when it gained its independence. It also joined the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in 1969.

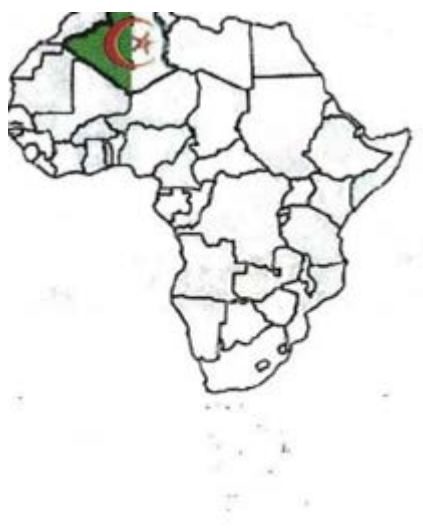
In 1975, Algeria became a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In February 1989, it joined other Maghreb States to form the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU). The country also joined the Mediterranean Union in 2008.

Algeria is a country with Berber, African and Arab cultural foundations.



CHAPTER 1

Algeria, a permanent commitment to Africa



A continental country at the confluence of Europe, Africa and the Arab countries, Algeria is strategically located, its origins stemming from a blending of civilizations and cultures through a glorious heritage, a country strongly committed to freedom and independence whose peoples have successfully resisted occupation throughout history.

It is this feeling of freedom and autonomy that has prevailed and has preserved the cultural identity of a whole people.

With this background, Algeria has always supported just causes, especially in Africa. The consistency of its diplomatic stances and its political choices has earned it the reputation of defender of just causes, especially the African cause.

Convinced that development can only be achieved if it is underpinned by equity, social progress, knowledge sharing, respect for sovereignty and equality in economic relations and policies, Algeria will spare no effort in pursuing and achieving the aims of the countries of the African Union.

Today it is a country turned towards modernity and socio-economic development in order to build a democratic nation respectful of the rule of law.

To this end, Algeria has from the very beginning given pride of place to universal education and the emancipation of Algerians. The role of science in society has been enshrined in law and intellectual property was included in the new Constitution.

This is why Algeria has been a powerful motor for Africa's development and has participated in all international fora.

Today more than ever, Algeria hews firmly to these convictions. Its commitment to hosting a WIPO external office is a historical extension of its efforts for inclusive and sustainable development, the well-being of its people and a sovereign and healthy African economy.

The conclusion is obvious: **Algeria has a duty to host a WIPO external office.**

CHAPTER 2

Algiers, a capital ready to host a WIPO regional external office



With its status, size and activities, the capital **Algiers** is the most important city in Algeria. It has the highest population in the country and the largest concentration of activities, services, equipment, infrastructure, research centers, industries and major urban projects.

It is the political, administrative and economic capital of the country, and the seat of all central government bodies, political and social institutions, the major economic and financial institutions and diplomatic missions.

Algiers, "*El Bahdja, the White One*", is located in the central north of the country and occupies a geostrategic position from the perspective of economic flows and trade with the rest of the world. The capital covers more than 809 sq. km and opens out to the world and the African continent through its airport, port and road network.



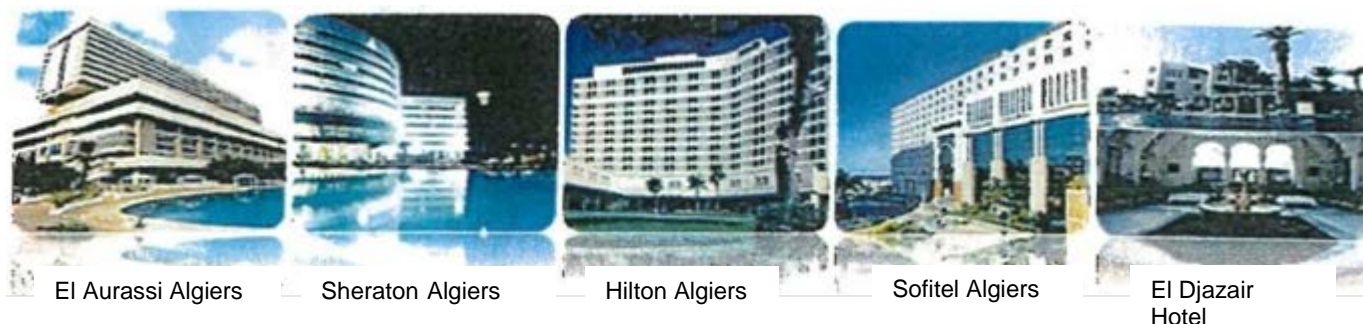
Algiers is bordered by:

The Mediterranean to the north;
Blida wilaya (province) to the south;
Tipaza wilaya to the west; and
Boumerdes wilaya to the east

Section 1: Infrastructure and services

1. Hotel infrastructure in Algiers

Algiers has no less than 126 hotels, 2,800 restaurants, a thermal spa, touristic sites and over 10 listed monuments.



Hotel rates are among the lowest in the region and the hotels offer high-quality services.

Hotel	City	Average rates (in euros)		
		3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Hydra	Hydra	59		
Lala Dodja	Hydra		166	
El Aurassi	El Biar			230
El Biar	El Biar		121	
Hilton	Pin Marityme			230
Ibis	Bab Ezzouar	104		
El Djazair	Hydra			220
Mercure	Bab Ezzouar			157
ST Hotel	Central Algiers	90		
Sofitel	Hamma			194
Europe Oasis	Central Algiers			124
Dar Diaf	Central Algiers	82		
Soltane H Dey	Central Algiers		119	
Africa Nova	Central Algiers	107		
El Emir	Cherega	70		

2. Health infrastructure

They are also highly concentrated and comprise 23 hospitals, 83 polyclinics, 137 treatment rooms and 32 maternities.



Chifa-Hydra Clinic



El Azhar Clinic, Cheraga



Mustapha Bacha Hospital Algiers

3. The urban transport network in Algiers

Designed as a holistic and multi-modal system, the urban transport grid offers several interlinked means of transport: the metro, trams, trains, individual and collective taxis, bus services, cable car and cable railways.

- ***The Algiers metro***

Algiers is the first Maghreb city to boast an underground metro. Initially 9 km long with 10 stations, it is now over 14 km long, with 18 stations. By 2017, when the ongoing extension will be completed, it will be 18 km long, with 19 stations. In 2020, it will be 40 km long with 37 stations to serve the Algiers districts with the highest population density.

- ***The trams***

The tram network is designed to provide reliable links between [eastern Algiers](#) and the city center. It covers 23.2 km with 38 stations serving very densely populated districts and socio-economic facilities in eastern Algiers.

The major cities of Algeria also have similar transport networks. This is true for Constantine, Oran, Sidi Bel-Abbès, Batna, Ouargla, Mostaganem, Setif and Annaba.

- ***Cable cars and cable railway***

There are currently 4 cable cars and a cable railway linked to other forms of transport, which they effectively supplement for travel to the heights of Algiers.

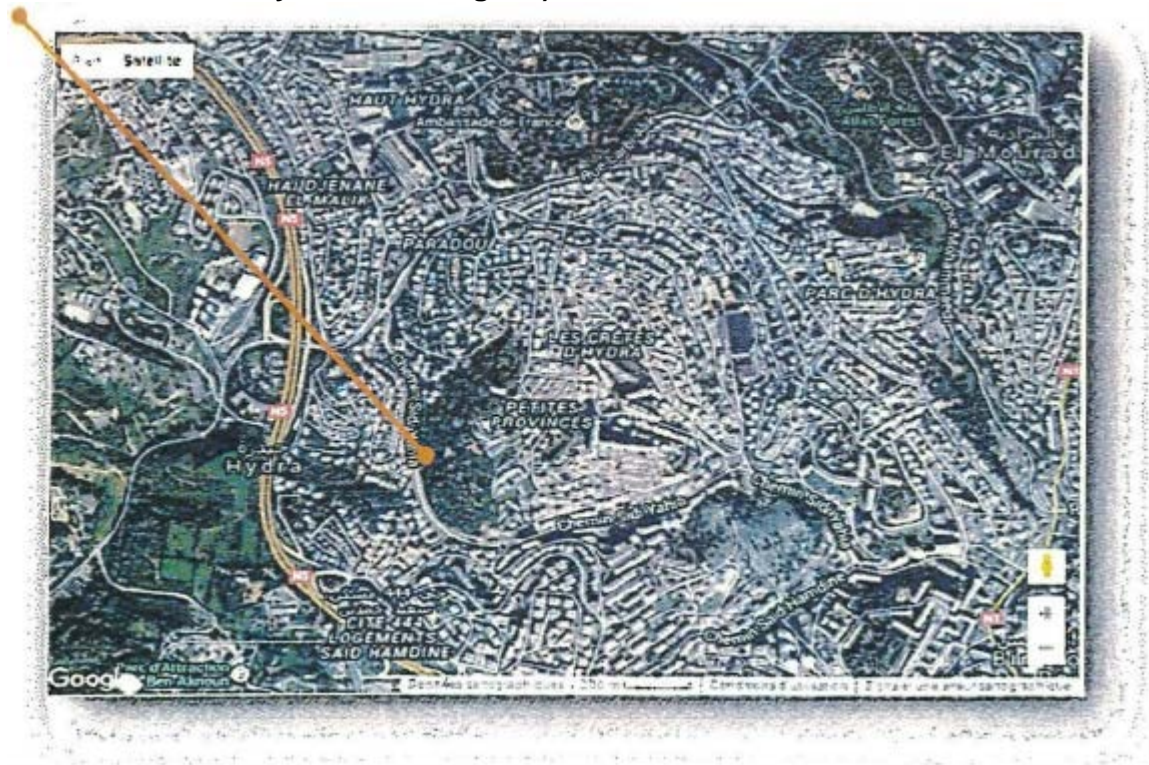
Section 2: Hydra, host city of the WIPO regional external office

Hydra is the designated host city of the WIPO regional external office. Situated in the near south-west suburb of Algiers, it is at the crossroads of the major Algiers districts and is served by a dense road network, crossed by the Algiers North highway, which places it **20 minutes away from Algiers International Airport (16.5 km)**.

Neighboring districts are central Algiers 3.9 km away; Cheraga, 8.7 km away; Ain-Benian 12.6 km away; and Staoueli 13.7 km away. They all have very high economic and touristic potential. Hydra also hosts many **diplomatic missions**, including from the United Kingdom, France, the Swiss Confederation, Ukraine, the Republic of Austria, Indonesia, Côte d'Ivoire, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Lebanon and others.

The presence of government institutions, major Algerian corporations, major foreign corporations, national and foreign banks, research centers and university establishments make Hydra an ideal location for the external office.

**Sider Hydra site, location of the WIPO regional external office
(7, chemin du Paradou, Hydra, 16000 Algiers)**



The Hydra site is urbanized. It is equipped with all basic infrastructure and necessary utilities.

The location has the following facilities:

- the main access point in the west, in the middle of the site;
- a second access point in the south west, for the upper level;
- a third access point in the north west, for the entire zone;
- a lower access point opening directly onto Sidi Yahia Boulevard; and
- a series of pedestrian walkways and stairways linking the various levels.

CHAPTER 3

Algeria, a developing country

Algeria is a country resolutely on the path to development, focusing all its effort on driving growth, increasing the diversification and competitiveness of its economy in order to become integrated into the global economy.

This ambition is pursued through major projects, particularly for basic infrastructure which needs huge financing.

The opening of new roads, the construction of the East-West motorway and the Hauts-Plateaux highway, the construction of health infrastructure, universities and schools and the extension of the railway network by supplementing existing connections have all made it possible to hook up many areas to the development train and thereby guarantee the socio-economic development of the whole country.

The expansion of the knowledge economy through support for scientific research and technological development, combined with the teaching and use of new IT in the entire national teaching system and public services) is also a central pillar of the country's development policy.

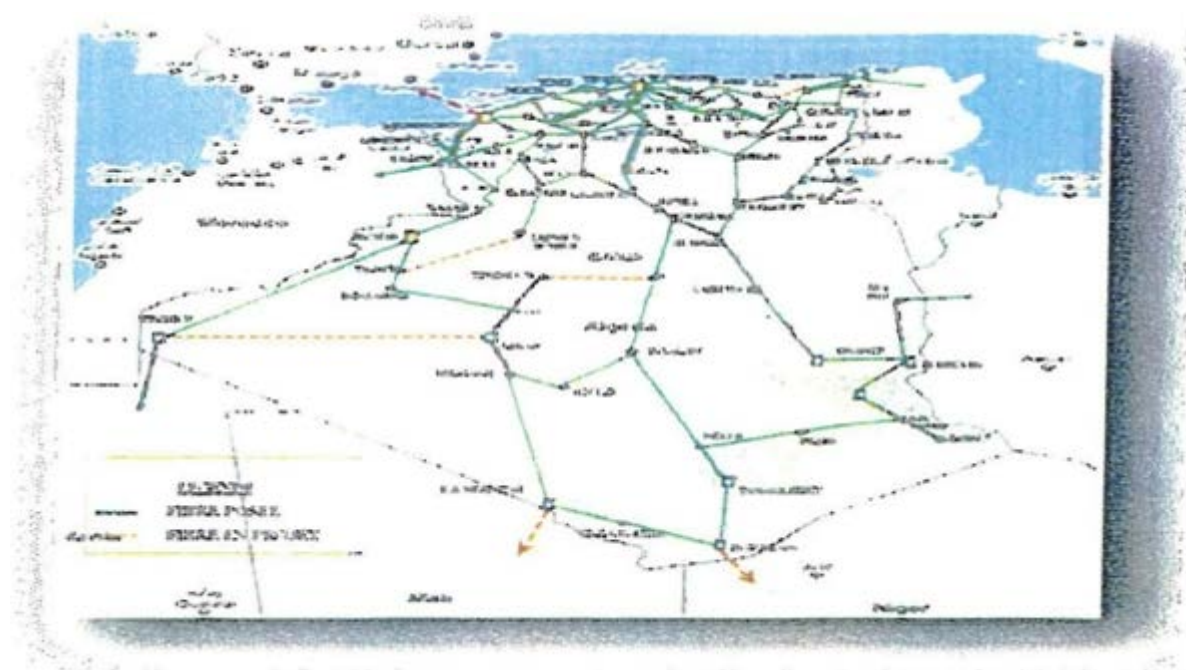
The result of these efforts by the Algerian Government is now being seen, particularly in regard to infrastructure constructed in key sectors, consolidating the country's development policy.

Section 1: Algeria's Telecommunications Network

1. Optical fiber network

Telecoms sector reforms led to the modernization of basic infrastructure and the use of new technology. Thus, considerable effort was made to ensure that the entire country was connected to an optical fiber system by creating a network to deal with more subscribers and higher speeds.

An expansion has been under way for the past 10 years in the most remote parts of the country with a population above 1,000.



The topography of Algeria (with over two million square kilometers) and the continuous demand for telecoms services following an increase in population are clear evidence of the Government's colossal efforts to join the digital economy.

Designation	Optical Fiber Algeria					
	2000	2005	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total lengths of cable laid	7,250	24,000	46,230	50,800	61,550	72,300

For example, more than 72,000 km of optical fiber now connect all the country's wilayas. Consequently, more than 85% of communes are linked by the national optical fiber network.

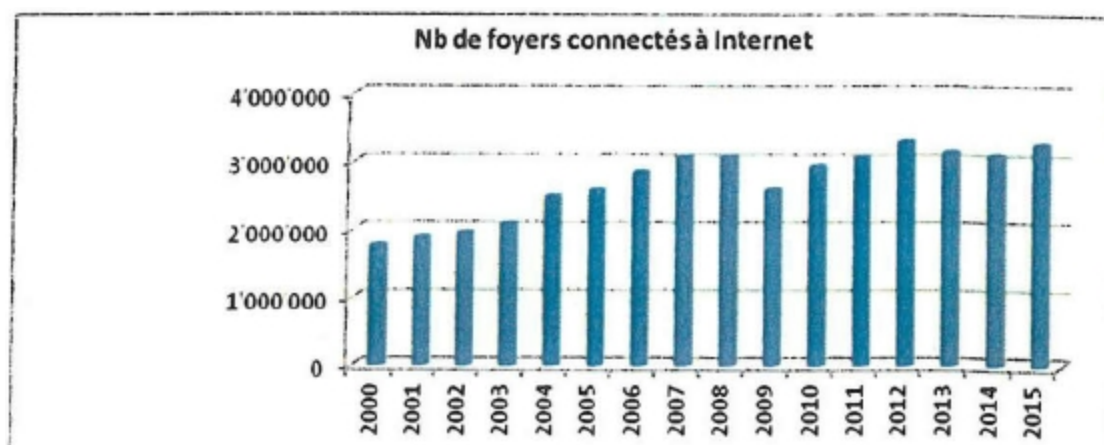
International optical fiber connections are growing apace and Algeria is connected to Spain, France and Italy by sub-marine cable. Similarly, two optical fiber connections link Algeria to neighboring Morocco and Tunisia.

On the African continent, there is the Algiers-Zender link to Niger and Abuja, Nigeria, of a total length of 4,500 km under a New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) initiative. The part running through Algerian territory (2,700 km) is 95% complete. This initiative is largely supported by Algeria (60%), which seeks to contribute to the **digital disenclavement of Africa through a high-speed network especially for Internet and fixed and mobile telephone services.**

In short, all these achievements make it possible to connect Algeria to three major regions: **Europe, Africa and the Middle East and North Africa.** This approach makes Algeria a **strategic digital and economic hub** and supports the country's overall strategy for an economy based on knowledge and centered on intellectual propriety.

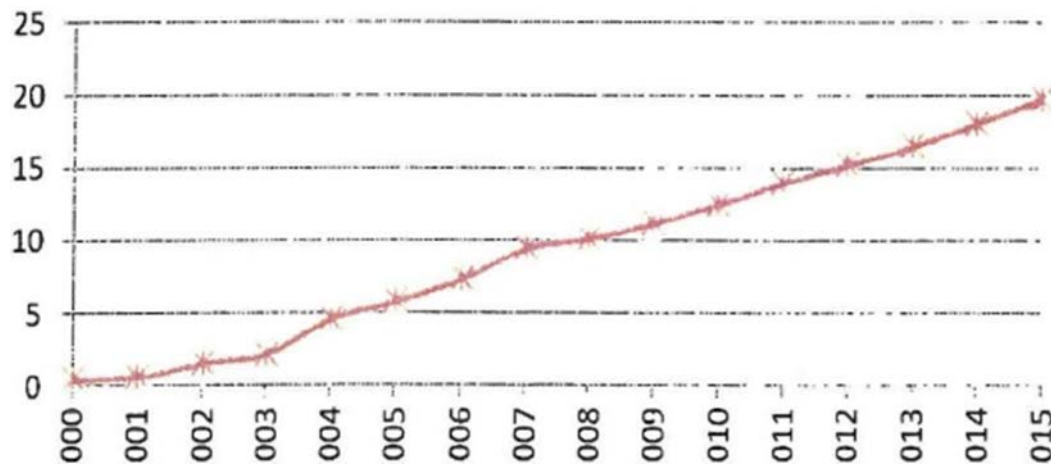
2. Internet services

As previously emphasized, Algeria's efforts to build infrastructure have created a strong economic drive for modernization and the provision of all IT-related services to Algerians.



Internet use (by cable), dating back to the 1980s, has grown rapidly according to available statistics. Today, more than 3 million homes are connected to the Internet; this is about half of Algerian homes.

This effort has made it possible to improve the country's IT indicators, given that over the same period, the fixed telephone subscription rate per 100 people has increased tenfold, from 2 per cent to 20 per cent. This effort remains considerable because it must be viewed in the country's geographical and sociological context, with long distances (thousands of kilometers) and 33 per cent population growth during the same period.

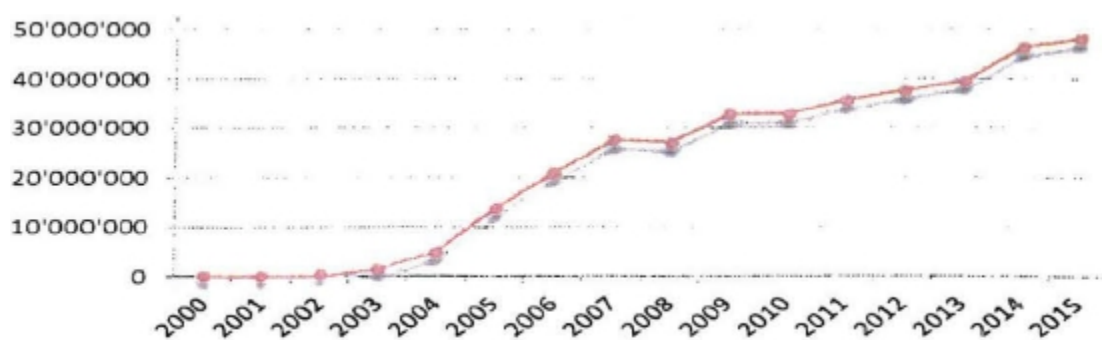


The total offer for networks and telecoms is as follows:

- A fixed telephone network also used for ADSL Internet connections of up to 20 Mbps. Optical fiber connections for specialized datalinks, including high-speed Internet of up to 150 Mbps are also available.
- A mobile network using various technologies such as WiMAX, 4G LTE and 3G. WiMAX is used more by businesses, given its quality and easy availability. It offers point-to-point connections and a high-speed Internet service of up to 10 Mbps. 3G and 4G LTE are intended more for personal use than for businesses.
- A satellite network offering WAN connections and Internet access. This solution is especially useful for connecting to remote sites, particularly in the south of the country.

3. Mobile telephony

The improvement of the business climate in Algeria and the establishment of a telecommunications regulator (ARPT) have led to steady growth in mobile telephony. Today, there are three operators competing to provide services to citizens, while a national operator is in charge of fixed telephony.



Source :UIT/ITU

The effect on the market has been the achievement of rates beyond all expectations. The number of mobile phones is now over 45 million (higher than the total population).

On another level, it is also important to stress that analysis of statistics collected since 2000 shows that number of ADSL (high-speed) connections has doubled, such that nearly half of Algerian homes have a fixed Internet connection.

The combination of mobile telephony and fixed ADSL statistics shows a coverage rate of over 100 per cent for Algeria for mobile and fixed telephony and the Internet.

This progression has placed Algeria among the 5 African countries with almost 90 per cent of high-speed Internet subscribers, according to UNCTAD.



4. Fixed telephony

Algeria's fixed telephone network has been greatly improved and now covers the entire country. Today, at least one in three homes has a landline. According to estimates by the ARPT, the ongoing government program would help reach three out of four homes by 2019.

5. Telephone and Internet tariffs

Fixed telephone tariffs continue to fall with the installation of modern equipment and the densification of the national network. These tariffs are highly competitive. For example, for an IDOOM subscription with Algeria Telecom, customers have the following offers:

2.32\$/month	4.66\$/month	9.32\$/month
Unlimited fixed and local calls	Unlimited local and national calls	Unlimited fixed local and national calls. 30% discount for calls to mobiles and international calls

Thanks to the deployment of optical fiber, in particular for connections via sub-marine cables and satellite coverage, it is now possible to reach all countries of the world from Algeria. Tariffs are competitive compared to international offerings.

Cost	0.06\$/minute	0.06\$/minute	0.1-0.15\$/minute
Type of communication	Landline to landline	Landline to mobile	Mobile to mobile depending on geographical area

Section 2: The Algerian Transport Network

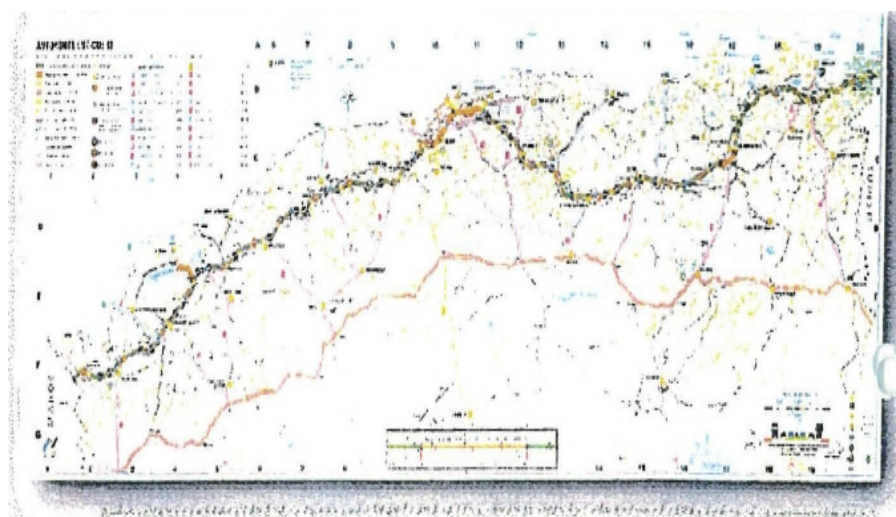


1. The Road Network

The transport sector is undergoing profound change. A large number of projects are completed or under way.

The road network is one of the densest on the African continent at 112,000 km long, including nearly 30,000 km of national roads and more than 4,910 works of art.

This network is supplemented by soon-to-be-finalized motorways totaling 1,216 km, connecting the far eastern city of Annaba to the city of Tlemcen in the far west. To this will be added the Hauts-Plateaux motorway, 1,020 km long.

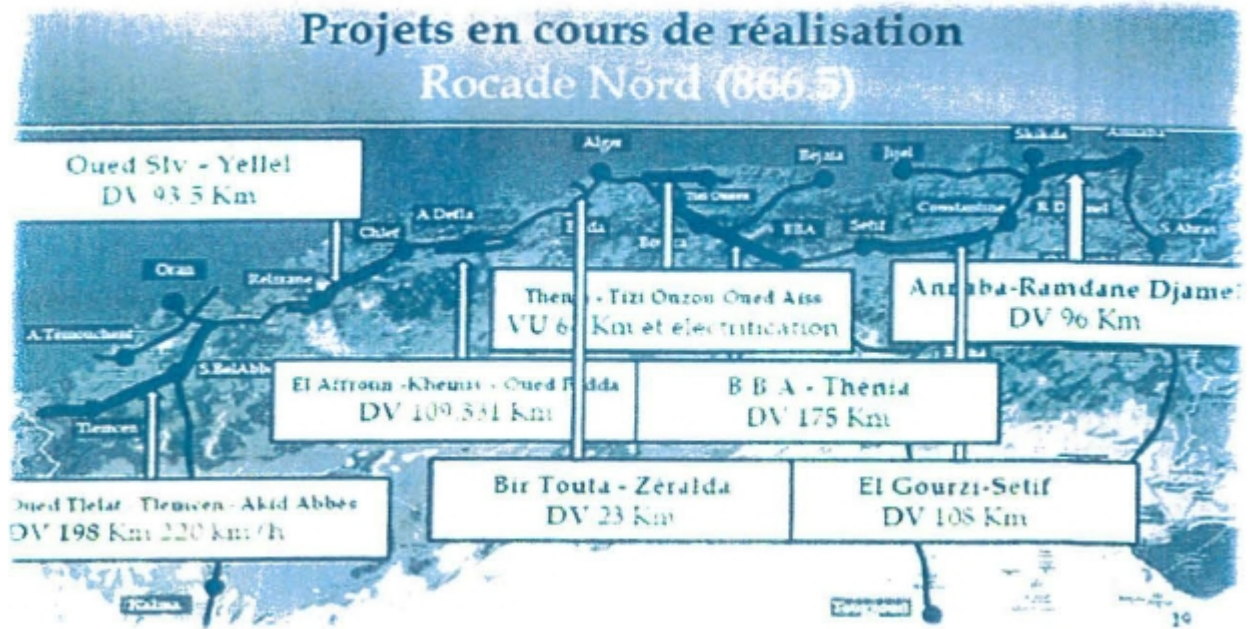


The Trans-Saharan road, a major economic highway to neighboring countries, links Algiers with Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Chad.

2. The railway network

The railway sector has developed remarkably in the past five years thanks to the initiative of the Government to open up remote parts of the country and ensure balanced socio-economic development.

Thanks to the extension of its network to 12,000 km in 2016 and the introduction of high-speed trains, the railway network will link the main cities more efficiently and at lower cost.



Les grands axes de développement
du réseau ferroviaire national



3. Maritime transport

The Algerian Maritime Corporation (CNAN) and the National Passenger Maritime Corporation are the key players in Algerian maritime transport. Several ferries travel to and from the European coast and carry goods all over the world.

Almost all international trade is carried out by sea from eleven commercial ports: Algiers, Oran, Skikda, Arzew, Bejaia, Mostaganem Ghazaouet, Jijel, Ténès and Dellys.

4. Air transport



Airport: Houari Boumediene International, Algiers

Algeria has developed its air transport sector so as to make it a reliable means of regional and international integration.

Algeria has 35 airports, 13 of them international. The largest is the Houari Boumediene International Airport in Algiers. Its current capacity is over 6 million passengers per year. When the ongoing work to extend and transform it into a hub will be completed, the airport should be able to handle 16 million passengers per year by 2018.

In addition to Air Algérie, the national airline, eight other private airlines fly to Europe, Africa, Canada, China and the Middle East.

Several foreign airlines fly to Algeria. They include Tunis Air, Royal Air Maroc, Air France, Alitalia, Aigle Azur, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, British Airways and Qatar Airways.

At least 60 flights per week link Algiers and the main European airports considered hubs: Paris, Madrid, Frankfurt, London, Rome, Istanbul and Geneva.

Departure airport	Airline	Number of flights per week
Rome	Alitalia	14
	Air Algeria	4
Madrid	Air Algeria	5
	Air Iberia	4
Istanbul	Air Algeria Turkish Airlines	Daily
Frankfurt	Air Algeria	3
Geneva	Air Algeria	3
London	British Airways	5
	Air Algeria	4
Frankfurt	Lufthansa	5
Paris CDG	Air France	35
	Air Algeria	28
Paris Orly	Aigle Azur	35
	Air Algeria	24

Average flight duration is three hours.

For Africa, Algiers International Airport has connections to several capitals, including Dakar, Bamako, Niamey, Abidjan and Ouagadougou. It also has flights daily or two to three times per week to the capitals of Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritania and Egypt.

Departure airport	Airline	Flights per week
Dakar	Air Algérie	2
Tunis	Air Algérie	Every day
Abidjan	Air Algérie	3
Casablanca	Royal Air	Every day
Bamako	Air Algérie	3
Ouagadougou	Air Algérie	3
Egypt	Air Algérie	2
	Egypt Air	7

Algiers being the city to host WIPO's regional external office, the average duration of travel to and from the airport is 20 to 30 minutes.

Section 3: The Algerian banking and financial system

1. Structure of the banking system

The banking system has 29 banks and financial establishments distributed as follows:

- six public banks, including the savings bank;
- 14 international banks
- four financial establishments, including two public ones; and
- five leasing companies including three public ones.

There are a total of 1,525 tellers for banks and financial institutions. The postal check network has 3,533 outlets, which are electronically connected.

With the entry into force of the provisions of Basel II and III in October 2014, the banking sector posts solvency ratios that are significantly higher than the standards recommended by Basel III.

2. The payments system

In full compliance with the criteria of the Bank for International Settlements, the payment system has two subsystems:

- the real-time gross settlements system for large amounts and urgent payments, Algeria Real Time Settlements (ARTS); and
- the system of remote compensation of bulk payments, the Algeria Interbank Remote Compensation (ATCI) system.

3. Currency exchange transactions

The Algerian dinar is freely convertible only for balance of payments current accounts. Dinar conversions of for financial transactions are subject to the authorization of the monetary authority.

3.1 Current transactions

Pursuant to article VIII of the statutes of the Monetary Fund, these transactions concern the following:

- **goods and services**, in respect of payments for imports, transfers for food allowances and family support;
- **transfer of investment income**; and
- **current transfers** by foreign residents working for technical assistance programs in Algeria, locally domiciled companies, public bodies or semi-public corporations, for amounts up to 100% of their remuneration.

3.2 Currency accounts of resident and non-resident foreigners and non-resident legal entities

These people are authorized to open accounts in freely convertible foreign currency with a credit balance. They can be credit with very amount originating from:

- **transfers** from abroad;
- transfers from a currency account or an Algerian dinar convertible account (CEDAC) of the equivalent value of any dinar sums which, at the time of deposit or transfer, meets all the requirements for transfers abroad; and
- payments in freely convertible foreign currency.

Within the limit of the balance in hand on their currency accounts, account holders may order withdrawals to make a transfer abroad, credit a currency or CEDAC account, withdraw foreign currency for spending and make withdrawals or transfers in dinars for payments in Algeria.

These currency accounts earn interest on amounts deposited for three months or more.

Section 4: Security and Safety

Thanks to its national reconciliation policy launched in 1999, Algeria has consolidated national peace and security. This consolidation of peace has given impetus to economic development, revived tourism and attracted foreign investors. Major multinationals are now active all over the country, in the most remote and isolated areas, investing in different sectors.

To face multiple security challenges, in particular in an unstable regional economic situation which has affected most North-African and Sub-Saharan African countries except Algeria, for many years the country has set up one of the most advanced security services. This service has performed its tasks professionally and in an exemplary manner, always strictly respecting rights and freedoms in accordance with national legislation, while directing its efforts and training its personnel to enhance its inherent human component.

In recent years, Algeria has been selected to host major national and international cultural, commercial, economic and political events. The Algiers exhibition of Arab culture in 2007, the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the 17th Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries were an unqualified success, testifying the Algeria's organizational ability.

The location Algeria has selected to host the WIPO regional external office is strategic and has all the requisite conveniences and security features. The Hydra district is home to several nerve centers, including embassies, offices of multinationals and the prestigious National School of Administration.

On all points, Hydra guarantees that the WIPO external office will accomplish its tasks in optimal security conditions. Moreover, true to its heritage, Algeria will establish the appropriate security mechanisms for such institutions to increase the security of the selected location.

Section 5: A tradition and experience in organizing regional and international events

Algeria has organized many regional and international events and meetings in the past 10 years relating to issues of the day in security, economics and governance.

These high-level events have enabled it to restate its firm commitment on all issues that can advance peace, stability and economic development in Africa.

2011

- The cultural event, “Tlemcen, capital of Islamic culture for 2011” was organized
- 19th session of the Council of African Union (AU) Ministers of Industry of the African Union (CAMI19), organized by Algeria in cooperation with the AU and UNIDO. Participation of **46 Member States** and international organizations (COMESA, ECCAS, ECOWAS, EAC, ECOBANK, SADC, UEMOA, ADB, BADEA, ECA, European Union, NEPAD, UNIDO, PACCI and the World Bank from March 27-31, 2011
- Constituent Assembly of the African Forum for Constitutional Justice, May 7-8, 2011 in Algiers
- Meeting of African experts on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Algiers, September 6-9, 2011
- 3rd Conference of the Focal Points of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) held in Algiers, from December 11-13, 2011

2012

- 36th annual session of the Governors of the African Central Banks, Algiers, March 29-30, 2012.
- 10th Congress of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), Algiers, December 1-7, 2012

2013

- Meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council (PCS), Algiers, June 29, 2013, for the establishment of a framework for national reconciliation in Africa.

2014

- African conference of Police Directors and Inspectors General (AFRIPOL), Algiers, February 10-11, 2014. African conference on the green economy, Oran, February 22-23, 2014.
- 17th Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, Algiers, May 26-29, 2014.

2015

- “Constantine, capital of Arab culture for 2015”.
- 3rd meeting of the AFRIPOL Committee, Algiers, March 18-19, 2015.
- 7th Meeting of the intelligence services of the Sahel-Saharan region, Algiers April 15-16, 2015.
- International conference on violent extremism and radicalization, Algiers, July 22-23, 2015.
- AU seminar on Sahel development initiatives, Algiers, November 10-12, 2015.
- International meeting on AU development initiatives in the Sahel, co-organized in Algiers, December 2-4, 2015, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with the AU Commission and its mission for Mali and the Sahel.
- Meeting of working groups of the African Governance Initiative on (i) “Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law” and (ii) “Human Rights and transitional Justice”, Algiers, August 2-5, 2015.
- Constituent General Assembly of AFRIPOL, Algiers, December 14-15, 2015, sponsored by the President of the Republic, Abdelaziz Bouteflika.
- 3rd High-Level Seminar on Peace and Security in Africa, Oran, December 20-22, 2015.
- Seminar on analyzing operational intelligence, organized at the initiative of ACSRT, in partnership with the German Police force (BKA), Algiers, December 8-16, 2015.

2016

- High-level advisory meeting of the members of the Monitoring Committee of the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Mali, Algiers, January 18, 2016.
- 39th session of the OATUU General Council, Algiers, February 23-26, 2016
- Two international conferences in 2016. The first, which will be held in the first quarter, will relate to the role of democracy in radicalization and the second on

cybercrime and the use of Internet by terrorist networks,.

- AU Conference on the financing of terrorism
- 5th Ministerial Conference of Member Countries of the International Energy Forum, September 2016.

Technical cooperation with WIPO is multifarious and abundant and dates back to the 1990s. This cooperation was enhanced by the signature of the Framework Cooperation Agreement in Algiers on October 17, 2010, between WIPO and the Government of Algeria to develop the legal, technical and infrastructural framework of the ministries and institutions concerned with intellectual property.

Several regional and international seminars and workshops on IP were organized, including the following:

- Meeting of the Africa Committee of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), June 2014;
- National seminar on patent information and the creation of value through IP, November 2014;
- Sub-regional workshop on building respect for IP for judges of Maghreb countries, June 2014;
- Second WIPO regional consultation meeting on IP and technology transfer “common challenges – building solutions”, January 2013;
- Consultative training meeting on aspects of incorporating IP in technology transfer, organized by the Ministry of SMEs and Investment Promotion and WIPO, January 2013;
- National workshop on using Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) systems and the marketing of research results, September 2011;
- National workshop on IP and patent information search strategies, November 2011;
- Inter-regional seminar on IP and its impact on economic development, October 2010;
- Regional training workshop on drafting patents in IT, renewable energy, biotechnology and nanotechnology, aiming to jointly develop IP in Algeria;
- Sub-regional seminar on the economic, social and cultural importance of protecting copyright and related rights, jointly organized by WIPO and ISESCO, January 2010;
- International seminar on the protection of copyright and related rights in a digital environment, April 2008;
- International seminar on the protection of computer programs organized by ONDA, WIPO and the European Union Programmes Agency, April 2009;
- WIPO regional workshop for magistracy schools and institutions in Arab countries, May 2007;
- WIPO seminar on the protection of agricultural and crafts products using collective marks and geographical indications, April 2007;
- National innovation day and WIPO national seminar on the protection of inventions and technology transfer, December 2006;
- WIPO national seminar and on industrial property and customs practices in combating counterfeits, December 2006;
- WIPO national seminar on the socio-economic and cultural importance on the protection of copyright and related rights and the effects of piracy for journalists, June 2004;
- WIPO national seminar on the protection of copyright and related rights in the digital environment, May 2004;
- WIPO national seminar on IP for judges, October 2003
- WIPO national seminar on patent law and the Patent Cooperation Treaty, November 2002;
- National seminar on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), June 2002;
- National seminar on marks and domain names, February 2002; and
- National seminar on the TRIPS Agreement, June 1998.

CHAPTER 4

The innovation and creativity ecosystem

Considered a driver of investment and a powerful lever for economic development and the improvement of well-being, IP protection is now fundamental to public policy, at a time when Algeria is fully committed to the transformation of its **economy to make it efficient and based on knowledge, innovation and the mastery and transfer of technology.**

Public policies supporting innovation, cultural industries, industrial investment and competitiveness rely completely on the IP system. They are designed, both in their underpinning and in their implementation, with due regard for the importance of IP and its expected benefits.

Section 1: A national legal framework meeting international standards

IP has pride of place in the Algerian legal system. Intellectual creation is guaranteed by the Algerian Constitution. The first related legislation was passed in the mid-1960s. It sought in particular to offer creators, inventors and project leaders total legal certainty for their creative endeavors. The legal framework is consistent with international standards and the TRIPS Agreement.

Algeria applies the national aspect and the most favored nation clause in that regard.

As regards literary and artistic property, Algeria is a member of the following:

- Universal Copyright Convention, administered by UNESCO, since 1973;
- Berne Convention for the protection of literary and artistic works, since 1998;
- Rome Convention, since 2007; and
- WIPO Copyright Treaty since 2014.

As regards industrial property, Algeria is a member of the following:

- Lisbon Agreement, since March 1972;
- Madrid Agreement (indications of source), since March 1972;
- Madrid Agreement (marks), since March 1972;
- Nice Agreement, since March 1972;
- Paris Convention, since September 16, 1965;
- Madrid Protocol since July 31, 2015;
- Patent Cooperation Treaty since December 8, 1999; and
- Nairobi Treaty, since July 16, 1984.

Section 2: Institutions responsible for drafting and implementing IP policy: an experience to sustain

The two main public institutions responsible for copyright and industrial property enjoy the close interest of the public authorities and have successfully capitalized on the experience of several years to consolidate their management systems and integrate them seamlessly into the prevailing business ecosystem.

1. The National Agency for Copyright and Related Rights (ONDA): forty-two years of experience to share

ONDA is a public entity with financial autonomy established in 1973 through the copyright law. Its mission is the collective management of copyright and related rights, the protection and defense of the moral and property rights of authors and their beneficiaries and holder of related rights, along with the protection of works that are part of the national cultural heritage and national works that have lapsed into the public domain. The rights of foreign nationals are protected under Algeria's international commitments and reciprocal representation contracts between ONDA and sister agencies.

Since its inception, ONDA has been responsible for all procedures relating to the documentation of works and the collection and distribution of royalties.

The first distribution of royalties for copyright, mechanical rights and communication to the public dates back to 1973.

With the Ordinance of 1997, the duration of copyright protection was lengthened and, in particular, protection was extended to databases and computer programs. Related rights, private copying and collective rights management were introduced. The first distribution of royalties for related rights dates back to 2002.

Royalties are collected by a network of agencies covering the entire country, mobilizing over 50 collectors for a wide range of rights: (i) public performance; (ii) broadcasting; (iii) reproduction of musical, dramatic and literary works; (iv) secondary remuneration; (v) private copying; and (vi) reprography.

To legalize mechanical production rights, ONDA has developed its own system to trace authorizations and acquired the means for effectively fighting against illicit reproduction of phonograms and videograms.

To combat various infringements of copyright and related rights, ONDA has adopted a strategy based on several years of experience, relying on three essential elements:

- daily monitoring and intervention in markets;
- continuous outreach to school children, students and the general public; and
- constant coordination of anti-counterfeiting efforts involving the security services (customs, police, the judiciary and the gendarmerie).

ONDA has been a member of the board of directors of CISAC since the mid-1970s. It is bound by reciprocal representation contracts with 47 foreign societies, including 16 with African copyright agencies. Eleven contracts have been signed with French-speaking agencies, three with English-speaking agencies and two with Arabic-speaking agencies.

For management purposes, ONDA has built a database relying both on its own information system and on the CISAC information system.

This automated information system encompasses all collective rights management processes for copyright and related rights; membership, documentation of works and performances; and calculation and distribution of royalties for copyright and related rights.

ONDA personnel develop, administer, maintain and update the system.

2. Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI): the benefits of an effective use of WIPO's IT solutions

The Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI) is a public body responsible for protecting inventions, trademarks, appellations of origin, designs and layouts designs of integrated circuits. INAPI receives applications for protection and delivers the relevant protection. Foreign rightholders are afforded protection under Algeria's commitments, in particular those arising from its signature of the Paris Convention.

In addition to the administration of these industrial property rights, INAPI also engages in dissemination and outreach to operators, researchers and, more generally, users of these systems.

As part of cooperation with WIPO, INAPI makes effective use of most of the IT solutions set up by WIPO.

As the first industrial property institute to install and effectively use the WIPO Publish solution for the transparent management of files and daily publishing of recordings in standardized formats on the WIPO website, INAPI seeks to consolidate its expertise and will continue to fully utilize

its expertise to strengthen already robust cooperation links, in particular to help deploy and assist WIPO in its work in the Arab region and African countries.

The protection of plant breeders' rights falls to the Ministry of Agriculture, which applies instruments governing biological resources and the conservation and promotion of the genetic heritage of plants, animals and microorganisms. It shares responsibility for aspects related to undisclosed information with the Ministry of Health.

Measurements at the border are the responsibility of the customs administration.

The national security administration, which is managed by the Public Prosecutor, is tasked with investigating IP infringements and prosecuting perpetrators.

Section 3: The national innovation ecosystem: increased demand for global IP systems

The improved management of innovation and the addition of industrial and commercial value over the last few years have led to an increased use of global IP systems. This dynamism is set to continue, as it benefits fully from the established institutional and legal mechanisms supporting and protecting IP on the basis of Algeria's experience in managing global IP systems.

The Algerian university network is a major user of IP through the following:

- 99 university establishments nationwide whose services utilize the results of research;
- 60 research centers and units;
- 1,400 research laboratories; and
- a network of six specialized research agencies, including the Agency for the Utilization of Research Results and Technological Development (ANVREDET).

The economic sector, which has been modernized through different support programs and the establishment of research, development and technology monitoring facilities, will join the university network to increase demand for the IP protection system. The development of startups in the field of up-to-date technology and, more generally, businesses in the various industrial sectors, supported by a wide network of support for innovation, will lead to increased demand for WIPO services in order to obtain information and technical assistance.

This network for support and assistance to innovation and technological development in Algeria is composed mainly of the following:

- Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and Industrial Technical Centers (ITCs) serving as the interface between universities and industries to study and launch businesses through the exploitation of patents, new procedures, innovation, etc. These businesses make it possible to examine different facets of the actual size of an enterprise.
- The national network of TISCs, developed with WIPO support, now has 30 centers. As a strong bridge linking to universities, research centers and business people, these centers allow access to all information on patents and innovation in various areas of industry and technology. A program seeking as broad a deployment as possible of these centers in universities, research centers and main businesses active in the selected sectors is being devised.
- The Center for the Development of Advanced Technologies (CDTA) is a reliable link to scientific research and business, in particular through the prototyping services it offers to innovative businesses. It is an IP need-generating environment which should be supported.
- The network of technical platforms, currently 17 in number, implement nationwide allows universities and industries to conduct full-size tests on many devices, particularly in the area of physics and chemistry, supercomputing, software development, characterization of materials and medical technology.

CHAPTER 5

Mission and objectives of the WIPO Regional External Office

Section 1: Algeria's commitment to the opening of a regional external office for Africa

Algeria has unceasingly called in all international fora for the promotion of IP in Africa in order to use it to leverage the development of its SMEs and derive full benefit from WIPO's global IP systems, that is, the PCT, the Madrid System and the Hague System. To this end, African users of these systems should be able to access **information and support** services locally, while being completely free from constraints arising from language, time differences, and access to information and technology.

The use of automated IP management solutions, including industrial, literary and artistic property, is crucial to encouraging the use of IP in African countries. The effective deployment of such systems can only be considered from a locally established focal point which can provide solutions tailored to the legal and technological environment existing in Africa's regions.

Relying on its own experience in promoting IP, which is based in particular on **national capacity-building**, Algeria is convinced of the need to deploy capacity-building strategies as soon as practicable, tailored to the institutional and legal framework of African countries. The guidelines for such strategies must be defined as close as possible to users and their implementation must also be local, in local languages.

Persuaded of the cogency of these principles, Algeria has proposed within the African Group in WIPO and firmly supported the establishment of two external offices on this huge continent.

Buttressed both by its capacity-building experience and south-south cooperation, Algeria wishes to contribute to the attainment of these objectives, to share with African countries in its region its knowledge, experience, lessons learnt, know-how and human and technological resources, to serve the development of IP. To this end, it seeks to host one of the WIPO external offices which the WIPO Assembly agreed to establish at its last session.

Algeria is convinced that its experience in policies for IP promotion, its know-how in the administration of IP management systems, its infrastructure, specifically its technology and the availability of human resources highly qualified in the latest information technology make Algiers the ideal location for one of the WIPO external offices.

Section 2: Algeria's commitment to capacity-building for the African region

As regards collective management of copyright and related rights, ONDA organized several training courses for staff of African societies at WIPO's request.

Country	No. of Beneficiaries	Year
Burkina Faso	1	2014
	2	2015
Djibouti	2	2010
	1	2015
Egypt	1	2012
Guinea	1	2014
Mali	1	2014
Mauritania	1	2010
	1	2014
Niger	2	2008
	2	2008
Sudan	1	2009
	1	2013
	2	2015
Chad	1	2014
Tunisia	2	2015

ONDA has also participated in several technical assistance missions to the Sudanese Institute for the Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights.

ONDA is also bound by:

- an assistance agreement with the Moroccan copyright office;
- an assistance agreement with the Tunisian copyright office; and
- an assistance agreement with the Ivorian copyright office.

Section 3: Mandate objectives of the regional external office for Africa

The mandate of the external office for the area is fully consistent with WIPO policy and seeks the following aims:

1. capacity-building for Algeria and countries of the region;
2. consolidating automated solutions offered by IP systems and spreading them to countries of the region; and
3. support for local and regional information and technical assistance systems.

PILLAR 1		
CAPACITY-BUILDING		
Objectives	Expected results	Action
<p><u>Objective 1</u></p> <p>Help public authorities to build respect for IP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public authorities and senior officials who are most aware of the issues at stake in IP and able to devise national IP policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize specialized workshops on the economic and social importance of IP and on the range of policy options Organization of national and regional seminars on the main IP issues of concern to the global community
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The best-trained and best-prepared operational actors for implementing IP multiplier mechanisms and combating counterfeiting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize training workshops for judges, judicial police and customs officers Organize regional experience and best practice sharing meetings in the application of global IP systems Provide technical training for interested parties (innovation management, patent drafting, organization of professions linked to cultural industries)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IP educational system contributes to dissemination, together with the judiciary, of IP norms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote IP teaching in universities and schools of engineering by providing course content tailored to the existing legal framework in the countries concerned and to various target publics (engineers, legal practitioners, architects, etc.)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users of works and services are made aware of their obligations in terms of respecting literary and artistic property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize seminars explaining copyright law and the obligations of users and exploiters of intellectual works and services Raise public awareness of IP matters and the dangers of piracy and counterfeiting.
<p><u>Objective 2</u></p> <p>Help public authorities to set up an IP information and evaluation system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The administration has indicators and aggregates for measuring the effectiveness of its action in IP matters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help national, local and regional authorities to develop a body of indicators of effectiveness integrated into the IP information system

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public authorities adjust their policies to trends in the forms of exploitation of IP assets and related expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor implementation and necessary adjustments
PILLAR 2		
POPULARIZATION AUTOMATION IP SOLUTIONS		
Objectives	Expected results	Action
<p><u>Objective 1</u></p> <p>Popularize the automation of systems for the collective management of copyright and related rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collective management organizations for copyright and related rights will have integrated databases and dedicated software. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard solution for automated management of copyright and related rights will be consolidated and adapted for regional collective management organizations Train stakeholders on the various technologies used (operating system, DBMS, development tools, administration)
<p><u>Objective 2</u></p> <p>Support WIPO's efforts to implement automation systems for local and regional IP offices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broaden the use of WIPO's automated systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness on the use of WIPO systems by national IP offices of the region Organize training for officials of national IP offices in the region on the use of automation software Support regional IP offices in the implementation of these solutions
PILLAR 3		
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEMS		
Objectives	Expected results	Action
<p><u>Objective 1</u></p> <p>Help establish TISCs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional deployment of a TISC network of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist countries in the region to establish and implement TISCs and support them in training resource persons and database exploitation Provide TISC members with an IT platform that allows collaboration
<p><u>Objective 2</u></p> <p>Provide users with information on WIPO's systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders are better informed on the use of these systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to requests of information Provide technical assistance

The implementation of this action plan will be based primarily on the availability of IP specialists. Master's and doctoral training available for the past 15 years, *inter alia* in the University of Algiers, where an IP chair was recently endowed and a research laboratory is active, have contributed greatly to providing the labor market with IP specialists. ONDA and IINAPI contribute to the practical training of these specialists by hosting them for practical internships.

ONDA and INAPI specialists will also contribute to the implementation of this action plan. ONDA's specialist IT engineers will contribute by deploying IT systems for IP management.

PROPOSAL

for the establishment of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) external office (EO) in the Republic of Azerbaijan

Taking into account the leading position of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the region, its favorable geographic location, implementation of several large-scale projects and programs, growing role of intellectual property in the innovation, creative economy and sustainable development of the knowledge-based industries and its importance for our fast-growing economy, we apply for the establishment of the WIPO EO in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The proposal of the Republic of Azerbaijan to establish WIPO EO prepared jointly by the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent and Copyright Agency was officially presented to the WIPO by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the International Organizations in Geneva through the letter of February 11, 2014. The issue was also discussed during the meetings between Mr. Gurry, the Director General of WIPO and Mr. E. Afandiyev, Deputy Prime Minister and Mr. M. Mammad-Guliyev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs during Mr. Gurry's official visit to Baku on May 13-15, 2014 and in general, this issue was positively welcomed by the management of the WIPO.

The mandate of the WIPO EO in the Republic of Azerbaijan will be to represent WIPO in the country and to raise awareness of civil society about the activities of WIPO and the overall international intellectual property system.

The main aim of the EO in Azerbaijan will be to improve understanding and respect for IP, increase awareness of IP, improve their IP systems, streamline processes and develop the relevant staff dealing with IP at national IP offices, as well as to increase WIPO's visibility and engagement with the WIPO in the collaboration with the national IP offices – State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Copyright Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The EO in Azerbaijan will offer considerable advantage in terms of strengthening the participation of the country in WIPO's Global IP Systems in order to resolve IP related issues more quickly by more effective use of such systems, enabling the WIPO to service more sustainably, equitably and effectively a vast territory and its surrounding region, and will assist in building capacity for the use of IP in a region where most national economic strategies aim to use rich resource base as a foundation for value addition in more knowledge-based industries.

Original version in English

The activities of the EO will include: promoting research, development, outreach on intellectual property (IP) issues between WIPO and the government, industry, the private sector and the general public in the Republic of Azerbaijan; providing legal and technical assistance on IP; promoting the use of WIPO's services, providing assistance to the users; and liaising with WIPO Headquarters on issues that impact on the work of the Organization. It also will seek to increase innovation and creativity in the region by promoting effective use of global IP services such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty Madrid System of Marks, and Hague System for Industrial Designs.

More precisely, there will be several functions of the EO. First function will be the provision of information and assistance to the IP users. The EO can perform an indispensable work in supporting WIPO's global systems in the relevant time zones and in the locally applicable language.

Furthermore, it will provide support to WIPO's general customer response network. As the WIPO receives, thousands of call per week on IP related matters, and based on time difference many of them became unanswered after the business hours in WIPO Headquarters in Geneva, the existence of such an office in the region can be proven to be very valuable addition to the WIPO's general services.

Another function will be the administration of mirror sites for the WIPO's IT systems, platforms and databases for the purposes of IT security, business continuity, disaster recovery and load-sharing.

The further function will be the provision of technical support in relation to the various technical assistance programs administered in the Global Infrastructure Sector of the WIPO, such as implementation of the automation system for IP offices, establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers, that make available patent and other IP related information available to IP offices, higher educational and research institutions and implementation of IT system for collecting societies in support of copyright administration. This will also promote development and transfer of technology.

Last, but not least, the another function will be a general capacity building, that covers an extensive range, including conferences, seminars, trainings, on a spot training of technical nature (e.g. for patent or trademark examiners or for technical resources in relation to technical database), participation in academic courses and programs, study visits and training at the foreign IP offices.

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AN EXTERNAL OFFICE OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO) IN CHILE

A. Background

1. During the Fifty-fifth Series of Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) the “Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices” (hereinafter referred to as “the Guiding Principles”) were adopted in a phased and prudent approach towards establishing new external offices (EOs). It was also decided that no more than three external offices would be opened in the 2016/2017 and 2018/2019 biennia, subject to the approval of the WIPO General Assembly. During that period, priority would be given to Africa.

2. According to the Guiding Principles, any Member State wishing to host an EO in its own national capacity or on behalf of a group of countries or regional group should notify the President of the General Assembly and the WIPO Director General in writing. Circular No. 3641 of the WIPO Director General, dated November 13, 2015, provided that in respect of the 2016/2017 biennium, such notifications must be transmitted before February 29, 2016.

3. The same circular provided that any Member State that had given notification of its wish to host an EO must submit a proposal as prescribed in the Guiding Principles through the Director General for review by the Program and Budget Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the PBC”) and must be transmitted within the time limit indicated in the preceding paragraph.

4. The Director General further stated in the circular that during the 2014 informal consultations on the opening of new WIPO EOs, the Chair of the consultations, The Honorable Ambassador Thomas Fitschen of Germany, informed Member States that the International Office had received official written requests from 14 Member States¹ and nine oral requests² from senior officials of Member States interested in hosting a WIPO external office. In the annex to the aforementioned Circular of the Director General, dated July 21, 2014, Chile is mentioned in the third paragraph as one of the 14 Member States which will, in due time, file an official written request to host a WIPO EO on its territory.

5. It should be noted that, on two occasions, Chile formally and officially informed the WIPO Director General of its interest in hosting a WIPO EO on its territory. The first occasion was through a memorandum sent by the then Minister of External Relations, Mr. Mariano Fernández Amunátegui, to the Director General of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry, on July 22, 2009, via a memorandum of the Permanent Representative of Chile to the World Trade Organization, Ambassador Mario Matus, on August 27, 2009. The second occasion was a restatement of Chile’s interest in hosting a WIPO EO, in a memorandum from His Excellency Sebastian Pinera Echenique, President of the Republic of Chile, to the Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, dated April 2010, to which the Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, responded on June 15 of the same year, taking note of Chile’s interest.

B. Restatement of Chile’s interest to host a WIPO external office on its territory

6. Pursuant to the WIPO Director General’s request in his Circular No. 3641 and the foregoing, Chile hereby restates its keen interest in hosting a WIPO EO on its territory for the

¹ Algeria, Azerbaijan, Chile, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Rumania and Turkey.

² Bangladesh, Cameroon, United States of America, Jordan, Peru, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

2016/2017 biennium, in accordance with the proposal contained in this document and the Guiding Principles, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. Chile makes this proposal in its national capacity, without prejudice to the expansion of the activities of the Chile-based WIPO EO to other countries of the Latin American and Caribbean Region, in accordance with any decision that WIPO itself shall take.

7. In the event that this request and proposal are not considered for WIPO's current fiscal year, corresponding to the 2016/2017 biennium, or cannot be executed for any reason during this biennium, Chile requests, in the alternative, that they be considered for the following biennium, 2018/2019.

C. Reasons for establishing a WIPO External Office in Chile

8. The main reasons behind Chile's request to host a WIPO EO on its territory are as follows:

Main geographical, political, institutional, social and economic characteristics of Chile

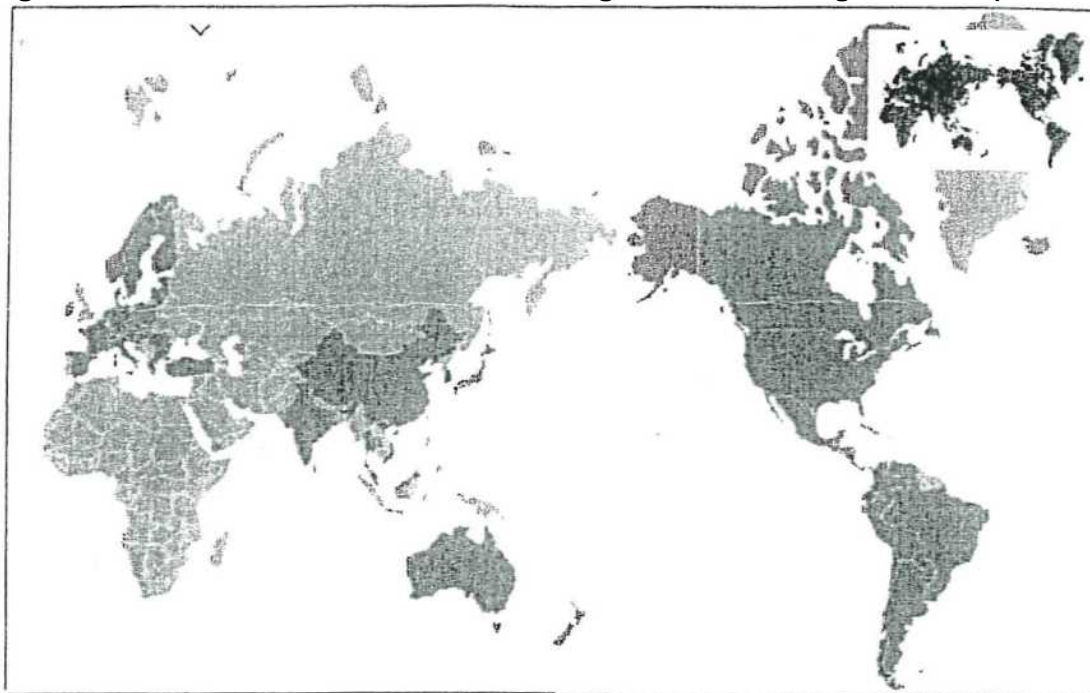
9. Chile is located in the south-western part of South America and has a combined continental and oceanic surface area of 756.096 sq. km, with a Pacific Ocean coastline of 4.270 km. Its population was projected to be almost 18 million inhabitants in 2015 and it has a gross domestic product (GDP) of 258,000 million dollars and a per *capita* income estimated at 22,300 dollars per year.³

10. Chile has a republican, democratic, unitary, and representative political regime, and a presidential system of government. The State is divided into three independent branches of power, namely: the executive branch headed by the President of the Republic who runs the Government; the legislative branch, which is a bicameral National Congress (Senate and Chamber of Deputies); and the judicial branch, which is the responsible for the administration of justice *stricto sensu*.

11. The State structure also includes a number of institutions vested with special status, with independence and autonomy vis-à-vis the three traditional branches of power, under the Political Constitution of the Republic of Chile and its respective organic laws. These include the Office of the State Prosecutor, the Central Bank of Chile and the General Comptroller of the Republic. In our view, the autonomy and clear separation of powers among these organs – understood to mean the roles traditionally assigned to each of these three branches of power – produces a healthy balance in the public functions of the State, as manifested in the rule of law. This ultimately ensures the political, institutional and socioeconomic stability of Chile as a country that, *inter alia*, guarantees a suitable environment for foreign investments, functions as a regional hub for trade and innovation and serves as a regional center for international organizations.

12. Over the past few decades, Chile's economy has developed and earned a reputation for being open, competitive, geared towards free trade and underpinned by a bold export policy. It is no coincidence that Chile is one of the countries that have signed the greatest number of free trade agreements in recent years (26, including the recently signed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)), which include Canada, China, United States, Japan, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, the European Union and EFTA States, making a total of more than 70 countries. These agreements have had a significant and positive impact on IP development in Chile.

³ World Bank figures for 2014.

Figure 1: Countries with which Chile has signed free trade agreements (in blue)

Source: General Directorate for International Economic Relations, DIRECON, Chile

13. The official language of Chile and 17 other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean is Spanish. Only Brazil, Guyana, Suriname, Haiti, and the CARICOM countries⁴ have different official languages. This factor and the fact that intellectual property (IP) professionals and experts in Chile must be proficient in English, as a general rule, have transformed the country and its human capital into skilled partners capable of working with WIPO, the countries of the region and even the Asia-Pacific region, thanks to its APEC membership.

14. According to the 2014 *Global Innovation Index*, Chile is ranked 46th (out of 72 countries) and second among Latin American and Caribbean countries, just after Barbados, which is ranked 41st. As regards global information technology, Chile is ranked 38th (out of 143 countries), according to *The Global Information Technology Report 2015*, which is the best ranking in Latin America and the Caribbean. In terms of technological connectivity, Chile is ranked third in the world among resource- and efficiency-driven economies, according to *Connectivity Scorecard*. Furthermore, it has a modern and expanding road network, world-class airport and port infrastructure, and is connected to the major capitals of Latin America, the Caribbean and other regions of the world.

15. Lastly, it should be noted that Santiago, the capital of Chile, is one of the cities that is farthest away from Geneva. According to a study carried out by WIPO itself, Santiago is located 19.05 flight hours away from Geneva and the flight costs 5.016 Swiss francs, thus exceeding the travel distance and cost of other countries in the region like Mexico, Panama and Peru, which are mentioned in the same report.⁵ This should obviously be an important aspect to take into account when establishing a WIPO EO in a country like Chile, especially as the

⁴ Caribbean Community and Common Market, an organization founded in 1958 with 15 member-states, namely: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

⁵ WIPO, "Information paper on external offices. Document prepared by the Secretariat". Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. Fifty-first Series of Meetings, Geneva, September 23 to October 2, 2013, Document A/51/INF/6 of September 15, 2013, Table 10, p. 37.

establishment of such an office will mitigate difficulties such as the distance from headquarters (flight hours) and the cost of each trip between Geneva and Santiago.

Institutional framework of IP in Chile

16. The current national IP system is composed of various public entities. Its structure is more of a response to historical circumstances and the needs of the moment, and not necessarily the result of a planned decision. However, on several fronts, IP is treated holistically because it is understood to be a system that requires a comprehensive vision. For example, at the international level, various treaties address all IP rights jointly and in a single chapter. Besides, various IP rights may converge at the same time for the same product, service or undertaking.

17. The main State bodies responsible for IP are the National Industrial Property Institute (INAPI), the Seed Department of the Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG) and the Department of Intellectual Rights (DDI) within the Directorate of Libraries, Archives and Museums in the Ministry of Education.

18. The SAG Seed Department is the Chilean entity tasked with the registration of protected plant varieties and receives almost 100 applications per year, as can be seen in the table below:

Figure 2: Applications for the protection of plant varieties and concessions in Chile

Year	No. of requests	No. of licenses	Valid licenses per year
2010	120	77	656
2011	92	115	720
2012	84	62	733
2013	69	81	737
2014	134	60	732

Source: International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, UPOV

19. The DDI, which is an organ under the Directorate for Libraries, Archives and Museums (DIBAM) has the specific mission of managing the State registry system for copyright and related rights, promoting the protection of such rights and preserving fixations of intellectual productions found in their collections, thereby contributing to the establishment, development and sustainability of a national culture of respect for the IP rights of literary, artistic and scientific works. Its functions include the registration of intellectual works and productions for its Registry and Deposit; registration of documents or contracts of assignment or transfer (DDAA and related) and their resolution; registration of contracts for the publication of literary works; registration of court decisions; registration of pseudonyms; issuance of certificates and certifications; management of queries and reports made or requested by private and public services; and advising the government in all matters pertaining to copyright, related rights and related subjects. DDI annually handles over 35,000 files relating to registration of rights, certificates and consultations.

20. Furthermore, under the Ministry of the Economy, Development and Tourism, there is the National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI), a functionally decentralized public service with its own legal personality and assets, tasked with the administration and management of industrial property services including patents, utility models, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications and appellations of origin, layout designs of integrated circuits and trade secrets.

21. Created in 2008, INAPI started operations on January 1, 2009, as the legal replacement of the defunct Department of Industrial Property of the Under-Secretariat for the Economy in the

Ministry of the Economy. The law establishing INAPI entrusts it with the administration and management of industrial property rights, and major responsibilities such as being the advisory and consultative organ for the President of the Republic on industrial property matters, proposing Chile's signature of and adherence to international treaties on industrial property, disseminating knowledge on industrial property and facilitating public access to information on patents in order to identify items that are in the public domain and thus promote technology transfer, research and technological innovation in the country.

22. INAPI currently receives over 3,000 patent applications and 47,000 trademark applications (new and renewals) per year, as shown in the table below.

Figure 3: Patent and trademark filed with INAPI

IPR type/year	2012	2013	2014	2015
Patents	3,025	3,236	3,265	3,357
Trademarks	53,040	49,049	48,197	47,567

Source: INAPI

23. Apart from the above-mentioned entities, there are other services whose duties have an impact on IP-related domains. These include the Ministries in charge of agriculture, the economy and health, the National Council of Culture and Arts, the Under-Secretariat for Telecommunications, the Agricultural Studies and Policy Office and the General Directorate for International Economic Relations in the Ministry of External Relations (DIRECON). DIRECON executes and coordinates Government policy on international economic relations, in which IP has played an increasingly relevant role.

24. Since 1991, Chile has had a special and independent industrial property tribunal under the administrative, legal and fiscal oversight of the Supreme Court. The tribunal has six substantive and four alternate members and normally sits in two and, exceptionally, three court rooms. Its members are appointed by the President of the Republic from a shortlist generated through a public competitive examination and presented by the Supreme Court of Justice.

25. The tribunal may hear and rule on appeals against the final decisions of the National Director of INAPI in the first instance. It also hears appeals against certain decisions of the Plant Varieties Classification Committee of the Agricultural and Livestock Service, in accordance with the provisions of the law governing plant breeders' rights. Finally, it has the jurisdiction to hear, in a single proceeding, requests for extension of the validity of patents or health registrations to compensate for undue delays in granting them and to consider applications for the ownership of inventions in accordance with industrial property law.

26. In 2015, the tribunal handled 4,000 cases, a significant increase as compared to the two previous years.

Chile, innovation and entrepreneurship

27. Over the past 15 years, Chile has adopted innovation, development and entrepreneurship as crucial to boosting the economic and social growth of its people. This led to the creation of a national ecosystem of universities, research centers and entrepreneurs that has gradually created the ideal conditions for generating knowledge, thus boosting IP usage and development in the country.

28. A few examples are: (i) the role played by State-owned and private universities and research centers, including the leadership of several Chilean universities at the regional level;

(ii) recent strengthening of the advanced human capital policy, which has led to the increased training of young researchers both in Chile and abroad; (iii) the Chilean entrepreneurial ecosystem, recognized as the regional and even international leader, according to recent rankings, and a primary source of business innovation. All this confirms not only the existence of favorable conditions for IP demand, but also the existing potential for significant IP growth even in the short and medium terms.

29. The many Government plans and programs in this area include various policies for financing research, development, innovation and entrepreneurship (R&D+i); the existence for more than a decade of a clear scholarship policy to enable Chilean professionals to specialize abroad through “*Becas Chile*” and thus build advanced human capital; the attraction of international talent to transform Chile into a regional center of innovation through programs such as *Start Up Chile*, or the International Centers of Excellence that are being established in the country with significant Chilean State funding.

30. The current government has exhibited a marked resolve to forge towards sustainable development as one of its priorities. Other measures include implementation of the Agenda for Productivity, Innovation and Growth, driven by the Chilean Ministry of the Economy, Development and Tourism, which establishes specific measures for achieving productive transformation, with a view to diversifying the economy through the production of new goods and services, thus developing new industries and generating new centers of innovation.

31. One of the Government’s recent initiatives in this regard has been the study to create a Ministry of Science and Technology, expected to be established in September 2016.

Chile: Regionalism and regional center for international bodies

32. Chile’s regional integration is one of its key foreign policy targets, reflected in various projects aimed at bringing the country closer to other Latin American and Caribbean countries in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding. In this regard, DIRECON has been the key organ promoting economic integration in the region through its active participation in international fora, especially WIPO. Moreover, through DIRECON, Chile has coordinated IP training activities in different countries of the region as well as outreach to the over 50 field offices of the Chilean Exports Promotion Program (PROCHILE) on the importance of IP in international trade.

33. In the specific area of industrial property, Chile, through INAPI, has signed cooperation agreements with various entities such as the national industrial property authorities and offices of various countries in the region and in the world⁶ for the purpose of sharing information and experience. This constitutes recognition of our country’s IP efforts. Noteworthy examples are the memoranda of understanding (MoUs) or cooperation agreements signed with Central American countries and the integration and mutual cooperation projects on industrial property such as PROSUR, in which nine South American offices participate.⁷

34. Chile participates through DIRECOM in the IP group of the “Pacific Alliance”, in which specific IP projects are developed. This group of countries recently signed an agreement on *the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)* between industrial property offices.

35. For several decades, Chile has worked towards becoming a regional center for international organizations. Our country currently hosts the central, regional or subregional headquarters or local offices of 11 international organizations (UNHCR, OHCHR, ECLAC, FAO, FLACSO, IOM,

⁶ Australia, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Spain, United States, India, Mexico, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China and entities such as WIPO and the European Patent Office (EPO).

⁷ The participants in the PROSUR project are: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay.

ILO, PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, ITU and UNESCO), two inter-governmental bodies (ESO, belonging to the European Communities, and CEJA, belonging to the active member countries of the OAS), and five funds or programs of the United Nations system (WFP, UNDP, UNCCD, UNFPA, UNAIDS). Lastly, both the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank have representations in Santiago.

36. The reasons behind these organizations' decision to establish their headquarters in our country certainly include Chile's political and economic stability, security, neutrality and foreign policy that yield attractive benefits and privileges for them under the various headquarter agreements, as well as the conditions, connectivity, quality of life and services in the city of Santiago. Naturally, all these conditions and Chile's vast and recognized cumulative experience as the host country of international organizations, underscore the point that the country is comparatively better prepared to receive a new entity like WIPO and to assist in ensuring that the WIPO EO in Chile operates and fulfills its mandate satisfactorily.

37. A WIPO EO in Santiago could and should also benefit from the synergies and partnerships that could develop with other specialized agencies based in the city and thus ensure adequate fulfillment of its mandate. Chile has in mind, for instance, all the accumulated knowledge and broad access to the economic and institutional system of Latin America and the Caribbean under ECLAC.

38. Developing innovation and entrepreneurship in countries requires knowledge of their socioeconomic realities and national institutions. Chile takes the view that interdisciplinary studies in IP would be an interesting area to develop within the Santiago WIPO office, by exploring collaboration with ECLAC and, possibly, WHO and UNDP.

Chile and the development of IP rights protection

39. Chile firmly believes in the importance of an international IP system that promotes and protects innovation and entrepreneurship and generates benefits in terms of sustainable and balanced social, economic and cultural development. Accordingly, the country has actively participated in various international fora where IP issues are discussed (WIPO, WTO, APEC, WHO, WCO, FAO, UNICTRAL, UN and CDS, etc.) and is recognized as an effective intermediary in complex multilateral negotiations.

40. Hitherto, Chile has supported and advanced the position that, apart from promoting IP rights protection, measures should be taken to ensure that IP effectively becomes a tool that guarantees innovation and transfer of technology and knowledge. Hence, governments must implement policies that ensure respect for IP rights, and prevent abusive IP practices that create barriers to trade or limit access to knowledge and health.

41. The country has initiated significant reforms to modernize its IP system. The most significant recent milestones are the creation of the National Industrial Property Institute (INAPI), which has profoundly transformed the system from a mere registration service into an institute that ensures efficiency for users by promoting the transfer of knowledge, developing studies and proposing amendments in IP law and public policy.⁸

42. The robust industrial property system developed by Chile has positioned IP rights as a key tool for stimulating entrepreneurship, innovation and competitiveness.

43. Chile's IP office has also laid emphasis on the modernization of its entire technological

⁸ A bill is currently under consideration at the National Congress that will completely replace the current industrial property law. This bill basically improves protection of the various industrial property rights and accelerates the administrative and statutory procedures for the granting of such rights.

system (IT platform, digitization of documents and records, website, online applications). The successful implementation of IPAS,⁹ WIPO's IT system for automating the processing of trademark and patent applications, has elevated Chile into an ideal partner for technology transfer in the region, because it has trained Spanish-speaking professionals to develop this initiative. These professionals have acquired not only the necessary knowledge, but also the practical experience of having implemented the system in a Latin American office. INAPI is currently managing its integration into Global Dossier, WIPO Publishing and WIPO Case jointly with WIPO. In 2016, it should be able to implement its version of the WIPO Library designed in 2015 and formulate its project as a TISC agenda.

44. Chile is a signatory of 13 of the IP treaties administered by WIPO. INAPI is currently conducting the necessary studies to adhere to the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks and to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs and the agreements on the classification of industrial property rights (Nice, Vienna, IPC) – in any event, those which are applicable in Chile under domestic norms.

45. In 2010, one of the most significant reforms in copyright and related rights was introduced to update and adapt the regulations to new IP challenges. It involved the establishment of effective measures to guarantee an adequate level of protection through civil and criminal action to ensure the respect of copyright and related rights, relating to the offences generally referred to as piracy. The reform also contemplated the establishment of an adequate framework of exceptions and limitations to copyright and related rights, in order to guarantee access to cultural goods and the exercise of the fundamental right of citizens, as enshrined in most international laws, in accordance with the flexibilities allowed under the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, reaffirmed by Chile in various free trade agreements. It also regulates the responsibility of Internet service providers, limiting their liability for infringement of copyright and related rights to violations committed by users through their networks, in accordance with the international commitments made by Chile under the Free Trade Agreement signed with the United States.¹⁰

46. In 2008, Chile established the Intellectual Property Crimes Investigation Brigade (BRIDEPI), a specialized unit of the civil police whose mission is to investigate infringements of industrial property rights, copyright and related rights.

47. In conclusion, over the last 10 years, Chile has worked in a coordinated manner to build solid IP institutions and is currently a reference in the region. Moreover, it tries to maintain a balance between the interests of inventors and society as a whole, with a view to encouraging innovation and guaranteeing proper access to knowledge. All these achievements have created an enabling environment for the development and establishment of innovative industries and reflect the country's maturity to host a WIPO EO.

PCT Treaty and INAPI as the ISA/IPEA Authority

48. Chile became a Member State of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) on June 2, 2009 and has recorded sustained growth in the number of patent applications from 2011 to 2015. Accession to this treaty – which initially met with great resistance from certain sectors in Chile – is considered crucial to the improvement of the national patent system and an efficient tool

⁹ At present, the whole process of granting or renewing a brand registration, from filing of the application to the final decision, including payment of the associated fees and the receipt of documents can be done online. In December 2012, online applications exceeded applications personally filed at INAPI, for the first time since the implementation of IPAS. Meanwhile, as regards computerization of patent applications, the authority has the firm intention of advancing as far as possible in this direction in 2013. Proof of this, as well as the preliminary first step, is that all patent – and trademark – records were successfully digitized at the end of last year.

¹⁰ Presidential message that accompanied Law No. 20.435.

that facilitates the acquisition of patents abroad by nationals. Moreover, it improves users' access to the various patenting systems of PCT Member States. In fact, from 2011, 80% of applications received at the national level by INAPI, were filed through the PCT.

49. During the Assemblies of WIPO Member States in 2012, INAPI was designated as the International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA). In this role, it receives the strong and unstinting support of the entire Latin American and Caribbean region, including countries which are not PCT members, and from offices in all regions of the world, considering that it was elected unanimously. INAPI began its ISA/IPEA operations in October 2014, after subjecting its staff to an extensive training program to ensure that they play this role adequately. Practically all Spanish-speaking countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region have designated INAPI as their ISA/IPEA.

50. The Government of Chile considers that INAPI's performance of its duties as ISA/IPEA, under a joint work plan with the WIPO EO, can help to strengthen the system in the region and boost PCT filings from the Latin American and Caribbean region which currently accounts for an infinitesimal share of the global total (0.66% in 2011), being the sub-region with the second lowest participation after the African region, which accounts for 0.24%.¹¹ This is especially important considering that revenue from new applications grew by only 4.8% between 2005 and 2010, far below the rate for regions like Asia, whose PCT applications increased by 10.9% during the same period. Some of the possible reasons for this trend are listed below.

- a. The fact that INAPI functions as an ISA/IPEA has led practically all Spanish-speaking Latin America and Caribbean countries to choose its industrial property office for the filing of their PCT applications. In 2015, 151 applicants designated INAPI as their ISA/IPEA. The inception of the Chilean ISA/IPEA authority increased utilization of the PCT system in the region, thanks to lower associated costs (such as legal representation services) and greater social, cultural and geographical proximity, among others.
- b. Furthermore, Chile believes that the WIPO EO in Chile would clearly promote greater adherence to the PCT by countries of the region that have not yet become members. By relying on cultural and language proximity and affordable costs, the EO will more effectively drive this shift towards accession to and utilization of the PCT system.
- c. A significant long-term effect of the abovementioned two factors is expected to be a net increase in future WIPO revenue from the Latin American and Caribbean region, generated from the use of WIPO services. Hence, the joint work of the Chilean ISA/IPEA authority and the WIPO EO could yield significant economic sustainability for the regional headquarters, thus allaying fears of rising operational costs for WIPO, which have been raised by some countries as an argument against the creation of regional offices. In addition, the huge array of administrative, operational, economic, fiscal, and other benefits and prerogatives that Chile would grant to WIPO if it establishes an EO in Santiago would naturally have an even greater effect in cutting the expenditure of the regional headquarters.

¹¹ Figures obtained from the report: WIPO, "2012 PCT Yearly Review – The International Patent System", Table A2.5: *PCT applications by subregion of origin*, p. 31, document last viewed on 10/02/2013 on http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/freepublications/en/patents/901/wipo_pub_901_2012.pdf.

Conclusion

51. In light of the foregoing, the Government of Chile considers that its keen interest in hosting a WIPO EO on its territory, its track record in IP protection, and its status as a developing country are all solid arguments and valid reasons for the WIPO General Assembly to give positive consideration to the establishment of a WIPO EO in Chile.

D. Mandate of a WIPO external office in Chile

52. The mandate proposed for the WIPO EO in Chile is basically identical with the contents of the Guiding Principles, as follows:

- a. Collaborate with local IP institutions to support and promote the execution of the Organization's Programs. Chile is currently participating in a series of WIPO programs, including WIPO Case, WIPO Publishing, Global Dossier, TISC Program, etc., and could contribute in sharing its experience with other countries of the region through the WIPO EO.
- b. Improve innovation and creativity, mainly by promoting the effective use of IP services. INAPI has a sub-directorate responsible for transfer of knowledge, technological services and innovation support, which has worked with local agencies to encourage better use of industrial property. This skill and experience could be shared with other countries through the WIPO EO.
- c. Encourage awareness, understanding and respect of IP. The sub-directorate designs numerous training plans at different levels for different types of users and technological sectors, which could be used by the EO to build IP awareness and protection. INAPI also participated with the *American Chamber of Commerce* (AMCHAM-Chile) in an annual contest for the production of very short films ("nanofilms") on the observance of IP rights. Such contests could be enhanced through the presence and participation of the WIPO EO in Chile and the mechanism replicated in other interested countries.
- d. Provide customer care services to users of global IP services, including treaties and agreements administered by WIPO. INAPI and DDI have a long track record in managing users of the IP system and could therefore contribute to the implementation of the EO mandate, which could be widened to include interested countries in the region. Furthermore, INAPI has experience in providing services remotely by phone through its direct user advisory services for submitting user applications and measuring the level of user satisfaction (or dissatisfaction) with services provided. Its experience could be beneficial to the WIPO EO for replication in other interested countries in the region.
- e. Assist in utilizing IP as an instrument for promoting development and technology transfer. In this regard, the EO could collaborate with INAPI in the dissemination of some technology transfer tools developed by INAPI, such as "*INAPI-Proyecta*" which facilitates the learning, utilization and transfer of IP, and will be launched as a pilot mechanism within the Pacific Alliance.
- f. Provide technical and policy support to national IP offices to increase the use of IP. Some countries in the region have already formulated their national IP policies or strategies (Costa Rica, El Salvador) while others are still in the process of doing so (Chile). Hence, the support and assistance of the WIPO EO could be crucial, not only in the formulation of such policies or strategies, but also in updating them, because practice has shown that regular updates are necessary to adapt to changing local conditions. In this respect, support should be provided not only in the formulation and update of national policies or strategies, but also to certain entities, such as universities,

which have shown a growing interest (at least in Chile) in the formulation of IP policies.

- g. Prior to the approval of its Program and Budget Committee, WIPO may examine the possibility of tasking the EO with other activities beneficial to WIPO Member States. In this regard, the following activities could be considered:
- (i) carry out coordinated or joint work with inter-governmental agencies, including United Nations agencies which have their headquarters or a representation in Chile, such as IsDB, ECLAC, FAO, PAHO-WHO, ILO, UNDP and UNESCO, which could have an impact on several countries in the region;
 - (ii) establish permanent or occasional fora where interested countries of the region can share experiences or projects on various aspects of IP;
 - (iii) help interested countries in the region to mainstream the relevant aspects of IP into their various research, development, innovation and entrepreneurship programs;
 - (iv) actively collaborate with and assist groups or associations of countries, such as PROSUR or Pacific Alliance, whose objectives include IP; and
 - (v) provide useful and timely customer services to users and take international calls when WIPO offices in Geneva are closed on account of the time difference or during UN holiday periods; etc.
- h. Supplement the activities of national IP authorities without taking over their primary obligations, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 9 of the Guiding Principles.
- i. The WIPO EO in Chile could also offer to establish an Arbitration and Mediation Center to promote the resolution of IP-related disputes, thus providing alternative services and methods for resolving conflicts between parties. Such services could be provided in Spanish and extended to all countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region, in accordance with WIPO procedures and regulations. These services could be supplemented through a permanent connection to the database of over 1,500 experts located at WIPO headquarters in Geneva and to the rulings made in cases submitted to it for consideration.

53. As stated in paragraph 8 of the Guiding Principles, a WIPO EO in Chile will not conduct any activities related to processing¹² of international applications filed under the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems, such as receipt, transmittal, review, search and examination, handling, publication, assignment or transfer of rights to licenses, renewal and/or storage, or any associated financial transaction.

E. Financial and budgetary sustainability

54. Prior to their establishment, all specialized agencies of the United Nations system with headquarters in Santiago had to comply with the preliminary condition of signing the respective headquarters agreements which define the special regulatory framework of their presence and operation in Chile. Given the special status of these agencies as members of the United Nations system, the parties had to rely on the "Basic Agreement on Technical Assistance between the Government of the Republic of Chile, the United Nations and its Specialized

¹² For example: receipt, transmittal, review, search and examination, handling, publication, assignment or transfer of rights to licenses, renewal and/or storage.

Agencies”¹³ as the general or primary framework governing all specific agreements during each negotiation and drafting process. In general, this instrument determines the minimum content of every headquarter agreement with UN system agencies and every cooperation agreement with Chile. An agreement with WIPO, a specialized agency of the United Nations specifically tasked with promoting the use of IP as a means of stimulating innovation and creativity, would fall within this regulatory framework. Consequently, a headquarters agreement between the Government of Chile and WIPO should be based on the provisions of the aforementioned agreement. Such provisions should determine the scope and specificity of the WIPO headquarters agreement.

55. The conditions and prerogatives for establishing a WIPO EO in Chile, including the privileges and immunities to be granted to such an office and its diplomatic personnel as well as the property, funds and correspondence of the headquarters, will be defined by mutual agreement between the parties to the headquarters agreement. Such conditions and privileges shall be established on the basis of the “best deal” conferred and recognized by Chile for other international organizations on its territory.

56. Any condition or prerogative agreed upon with WIPO by the Government of Chile involving budgetary expenditure must receive the prior approval of the Ministry of Finance.

F. Geographical aspects of the WIPO external office in Chile

57. As a fundamental principle, the Government of Chile considers it incumbent on the Organization, acting exclusively and through its competent decision-making bodies, to determine the operational scope of its various EOs. This notwithstanding, the Government of Chile would like to set forth a few ideas on the subject which WIPO could take into account in its assessment of Chile as a possible host of one of its EOs.

58. Firstly, the main purpose of establishing a WIPO EO in Chile would be to support the execution of IP projects and activities in the country, meaning that the Office would work with Chilean institutions to promote WIPO services, projects and programs in the country. Accordingly, Chile believes that a WIPO EO in Chile could cooperate with the institutions of other interested countries, mainly from the region, to disseminate IP, boost the creation of lasting and intangible assets and encourage and protect innovation.

59. Secondly, and as stated above, Chile is located in the south-western part of South America, a factor that could distinguish its EO from the office located in Brazil, which is situated in the eastern part of the same continent. Consequently, the geographical location of Chile could facilitate and complement (rather than undermine) WIPO’s activities with the countries along the Pacific coast and could also serve as a point of contact for addressing WIPO’s cooperation with the Asia-Pacific region.

60. Thirdly, and notwithstanding the above, Chile’s location is also advantageous on account of its proximity to the countries in the southern cone of the continent, including those situated along the Atlantic coast. This could also facilitate the implementation of WIPO programs and projects in this region of the continent, in conjunction with other EOs, especially those located in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

61. From a domestic standpoint, and considering that Chile has a coastline that is over 4,200

¹³ The agreement was concluded on January 15, 1957 and, in addition to the Republic of Chile, it was signed by the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunications Union and the World Meteorological Organization.

kilometers long, the WIPO EO in Chile could boost the efforts being made by its offices to promote the use of IP to protect knowledge generated in the various countries.

G. Summary and final considerations

62. WIPO EOs enable the Organization to further fulfill and advance its mandate and to increase its efficiency and efficacy, with the possibility of achieving this at lower cost, depending on the specificities of each situation.

63. Through the arguments and facts presented in this proposal, the Government of Chile has endeavored to show that the country possesses the requisite characteristics to be the ideal host of a WIPO EO, considering that:

- a. Chile's political, institutional and economic conditions guarantee the stability needed for a WIPO headquarters to operate and fulfill its mandate;
- b. Chile is a Spanish-speaking country that has cultural and social affinities with the majority of countries in the region;
- c. excellent communication in terms of flights, infrastructure and services in the city of Santiago and in Chile in general also contribute to the achievement of our goals;
- d. Chile's foreign policy is favorably oriented towards integration, multilateralism and the development of free trade;
- e. Chile has the advantage of longstanding and cumulative experience in hosting the headquarters of many other international organizations, a factor which could benefit WIPO in terms of possible synergies with other organizations;
- f. Chile has resolutely embarked on the path to sustainable development that is based, *inter alia*, on innovation;
- g. Chile attaches great importance to IP as a priority tool for stimulating innovation and has accordingly endeavored to boost the entire system by setting up INAPI;
- h. our IP offices have made achievements and improvements on several fronts which could contribute to the fulfillment of the mandate of the WIPO EO in Chile; and
- i. INAPI has the advantage of acting as the sole ISA/IPEA in the region that uses Spanish as an official language, according to the PCT Treaty. This factor could encourage more accessions from countries in the region, increase regional revenue from its services and thus reduce the costs of the WIPO Office.

64. In our view, the foregoing considerations are sound and convincing reasons which lend credence to Chile's candidacy and justify why WIPO should choose our country to host its EO.

65. Lastly, it should be restated that the final proposal agreed with WIPO, and any agreement reached, must be approved by the financial and budgetary authority of Chile, namely the Ministry of Finance.

COLOMBIA: HOST COUNTRY FOR A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE

The Government of the Republic of Colombia submits to the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the President of the General Assembly its candidacy as host country for a WIPO External Office. This proposal is submitted for the consideration of the Program and Budget Committee (PBC) in accordance with document A/55/INF/11, paragraph 3, adopted by the WIPO General Assembly in 2015.

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This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

INTRODUCTION

Colombia has been a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) since 1980 and since it joined, has endeavored to implement the programs developed by the Organization. Since it joined WIPO, the relationship between Colombia and this multilateral agency has been close. WIPO has assisted the country with drafting intellectual property rules, the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the TRIPS Agreement) of the World Trade Organization, free trade agreements and other multilateral agreements. Moreover, WIPO has supported efforts to design national programs related to the promotion, dissemination and use of intellectual property.

Colombia has signed 12 of the 25 conventions and treaties administered by WIPO and is in the process of ratifying the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and the Marrakech Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

Regarding the country's efforts to strengthen the IP system, it is important to mention several economic and administrative initiatives that are now yielding concrete results.

One of the most important is the creation by Decree No. 1162 of 2010 of the Intersectoral Commission on Intellectual Property (CIPI). Its members are government ministries and other bodies in the field of intellectual property (IP). It is responsible for coordination and oversight of shared IP policies. CIPI is considered the natural and appropriate forum for formulating initiatives for increased and better use of the country's IP system.

Another initiative was the publication of document 3533 by the National Council for Economic and Social Policy, CONPES, in 2008: "Basis of an Action Plan to Tailor the IP System to National Competitiveness and Productivity". In this document, Colombia recognized the need to create a system that afforded adequate IP protection and enhanced national competitiveness and productivity, in order to promote creativity and innovation.

After discussions among the various IP stakeholders in Colombia, having regard to the provisions of the CONPES document, six national strategies for strengthening IP, together with the corresponding recommendations, were devised. These strategies have been implemented by the appropriate bodies to achieve the set goals.

As regards science, technology and innovation, Colombia also intends to draft a road map for eliminating obstacles to competitiveness and the development of the IT sector. In this area, Colombia aims to be one of the top three countries as regards innovation, as part of a long-term national strategy.¹

In addition, the commitment of the Government of Colombia and the importance it attaches to the promotion of innovation are reflected in the inclusion in the National Development Plan 2014-2018 "All for a New Country" (foundation government document) of policies in a chapter entitled "Competitiveness and Strategic Infrastructure", which states that one of its objectives is to contribute to productive development and to solving the country's social challenges through science, technology and innovation, while also seeking more sophisticated and diversified production.

¹ According to the Global Innovation Index, Colombia ranks 68th on the list of most innovative countries and 7th in Latin America.

This plan is based on a number of strategies, including the following: (a) developing a system and institutions enabling science, technology and innovation; (b) improving the quality and impact of research and the transfer of knowledge and technology; (c) promoting scientific and technological development and innovation as drivers of business growth and entrepreneurship; and (d) generating a culture that values and manages knowledge and innovation (see statistics of the National Development Plan in the Annex at Table 1).

This document recognizes the role of IP as one of the most important instruments for the cross-cutting promotion of competitiveness and innovation. Firstly, it makes it possible to overcome market failures that impede better performance of the country in innovation and the production of new knowledge. It also helps to resolve information inequalities, given that it provides conditions and capabilities to enable all players in the system to recognize, protect and negotiate asset-based intellectual property agreements.

Secondly, industries protected by copyright have extensive production of their own. Colombia hopes to receive more private investment and increase productivity and competitiveness of industries protected by copyright and related rights (IPDA).

The quantification of the economic contribution of IPDA to value added, national employment and foreign exchange earnings seeks to make these industries visible to the public and to potential investors and financiers (public sector, private companies and investors). It also seeks to devote public efforts to specific actions seeking their consolidation and expansion. Put differently, it is worth noting that in addition to the scope of cultural heritage that characterizes them, these industries constitute a potential source of economic growth and development.

Thus, Government initiatives and efforts for economic, political and social progress will create an enabling environment for innovation and development in coming years. Moreover, national progress in IP represents leadership and status in the region as a cooperative country, by means of different programs. Neighboring countries have sought cooperation and support to strengthen and develop these programs.

Colombia has made progress through the adoption and sustainable use of appellations of origin, scientific advances, artistic works and all intellectual property rights to create lawful employment options that will drive national productivity. Similarly, the acceleration of development and the adaptation, transfer, dissemination and improved access to technology and knowledge to benefit the development of legal, productive and sustainable economies is decisive for the creation of ecosystems that promote social inclusion.

Hence, the existence of an appropriate and balanced IP policy tailored to the real needs of the country is a key contribution to the current situation of Colombia, making it a laboratory for the convergence of new policies on science, technology and innovation, industries protected by copyright, related rights and sustainable development (for more information, see Annex I of this document).

Finally, it is worth noting that Colombia's economy has been growing in recent years, making it one of the most attractive for investors in the region (for more information, see Annex II of this document).

1. COLOMBIA'S LEADERSHIP IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Colombia's efforts to develop its IP policy have resulted in an improvement of good practices in this area, making it a regional leader, with some of its results being spread through south-south cooperation. The following are some of the initiatives that Colombia has been leading.

(a) Regional Internships and Courses

Working with WIPO, the National Copyright Directorate (DNDA) has played a leading role in offering regional internships and courses. These are intended for officials of copyright offices in Latin America and the Caribbean, allowing high-level officials in the region to acquire knowledge and training on copyright and related rights, collective management of those rights and procedures for inspection, monitoring and control.

In addition, since 1990 the DNDA offers training and outreach on copyright and related rights to the general public. As at December 31, 2015, these efforts had benefited 112,379 people. During this period, a total of 2,094 courses, totaling 3,601 hours of training, were offered. It is worth noting that in the period from 2011 to 2015, the interest of Colombians in training on copyright and related rights increased significantly; statistics show that the number of people trained in the last 5 years represents 47% of all those trained in 25 years. During the reference period, 53,059 people were trained in 3,601 hours, through 981 courses.

Moreover, in cooperation with WIPO, the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce established the Intellectual Property Academy (API) which, since its inception in 2011, has focused its efforts on increasing the use and exploitation of IP by system users: entrepreneurs (SMEs), universities (lecturers, students and researchers) and craftspeople, among others. The API has organized more than 1,000 events and has trained more than 30,000 people across the country. (See statistics in Annex III on training, Tables 29 and 30).

(b) Virtual Courses

Today, the National Copyright Directorate offers 7 basic courses on copyright and related rights; the courses are free and virtual. They were designed and developed by the National University of Colombia in 2012, following the guidelines and standards set by the National Learning Service, SENA.

In 2013, 2014 and 2015, the courses were made available to the public, with the participation of people around the world and especially from other Latin American countries, including officials from other IP offices of the region.

It is important to note that during the years in which the courses have been on offer, 3,043 people have obtained certificates of participation (for certification, participants must score at least 60 per cent) and 4,597 students were active on the platform during the 3 batches. (These students performed more than three activities on the platform but did not score enough to receive the certificate).

(c) Enforcement

Given the important role of artistic creativity and innovation in the productivity indices of different countries for several years now, it has become urgently necessary to adopt increasingly effective enforcement mechanisms. In this area, Colombia has different institutions to deal with civil and criminal matters and implement alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

With the entry into force of the current General Code of Procedure (Law No.1564 of 2012), the DNDA was vested with jurisdiction over copyright and related rights. Likewise, the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce (SIC) was tasked with matters relating to the infringement of industrial property rights and unfair competition.

This change in national legislation means that the aforementioned institutions can hear and determine civil matters arising from IP disputes, addressing them according to specialty, without infringing on the jurisdiction of civil judges.

Several countries in the region have requested and participated in internships and specialized courses in the jurisdictional powers of Colombian institutions, which made it possible to share technical knowledge, documentation and best practices.

(d) Mediation and Arbitration

The DNDA established the Fernando Hiestrosa Center for Mediation and Arbitration in 2012. The center's statistics for mediation procedures since its inception show progress, suggesting that this mechanism meets a need within the copyright sector and is becoming an important tool for the restoration of relations within the chain of production of literary and artistic works.

The statistical results show a soaring number of requests for mediation, from 31 applications in 2013 to 368 requests in 2015 (see statistics in Annex III on mediation, Tables 40, 41 and 42).

Given the positive experience of the Center for Mediation and Arbitration, it is even more important to definitively establish the center, implement the "Framework Cooperation Agreement on the provision of services for alternative dispute resolution methods", signed between the DNDA and WIPO on 1 May 2014. It is expected that this agreement, would make it possible for requests for mediation to the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center from parties based in the Latin American region to be processed by the Center for Mediation and Arbitration.

(e) Patents

Regarding the registration of industrial property rights, the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce has been working to improve processing efficiency and speed. These improvements have been reflected in the reduction of time for making substantive decisions on patent processes, from 65 months (four years) to 22 months in 2015. (For all the relevant statistics, see Annex III, Table 6.)

(f) Registration of Marks

In trademarks, decision time has remained at an average of six 6 months. However, in August 2014, the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce implemented a tool that allows applicants to access the registration of a mark in less time, without contravening the principle of priority. This tool has enabled the SIC to grant mark registrations in two months (for all statistics, see Annex III, Tables 21, 22, 23 and 24).

(g) Technology and Innovation Support Centers

Colombia currently has Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs), created to facilitate access by Colombian innovators to technology information services and other related services. The main objective of TISCs is to facilitate access to information technology and build capacity to use it effectively for innovation and economic growth. The program started in August 2014 and so

far, 18 TISCs have been established in six departments of the country. (See TISC statistics in Annex III, Table 31.)

This successful initiative is the result of joint efforts by the Government of Colombia and WIPO.

(h) Registration of works

As a country, Colombia is keen to reduce paperwork and attain global standards in the implementation of e-government. This includes procedures for the registration of works. The DNDA is the agency responsible for the national copyright register, which can be accessed in person or online.

The procedure, either in person or online, lasts fifteen (15) working days from the date on which the application is filed with the DNDA and is free of charge. In 2015, the registry office of the DNDA received 86,354 applications for registration and formally registered 69,599 works. (See statistics for registration of works in Annex III, Tables 43 and 44.)

Registry application

With the advancement of technology, particularly mobile access to all kinds of services, Colombia has decided to incorporate this technology in the registration of works, making available a tool for Colombian artists. Thus, it has developed, as a first step, an application (app) that allows the registration of two types of works that are easier to access in this way: photographs (artwork) and video (audiovisual work).

The app for the registration of photographic and audiovisual works is already available for iOS and Android systems. The official launch took place in early December 2015 in Bogota.

2. COLOMBIA'S INTEREST IN HOSTING A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE

WIPO external offices represent a fundamental strategy for Colombia, bringing IP services and technical cooperation closer to stakeholders in the country, resulting in the protection of creations and innovation. In recent years, Colombia has launched projects aimed at boosting innovation in order to improve the economic conditions of the country in sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, services, and others. However, it is necessary to create new support programs to complement national efforts and allow further progress in generating and protecting innovation.

While the mechanisms implemented so far have shown remarkable results, it is important to continue working on strengthening IP in the country in order to generate sustainable growth that can guarantee national competitiveness and a transition into areas other than the production of raw materials (commodities) while enhancing the creation of added value.

Colciencias is the Administrative Department of Science, Technology and Innovation in the country (an institution with the powers and prerogatives of a government ministry). It has examined the state of innovation in Colombia and identified strengths and weaknesses, which are inputs for the formulation of strategies. The strengths identified are: (a) enabling regulatory environment for business; (b) political will for innovation; and (c) increased public resources for science, technology and innovation. The weaknesses identified are: (a) low levels of productivity; (b) low level of business participation in innovation; and (c) small innovation system lacking a strong business center.

With its biodiversity and multiculturalism, Colombia has a wide range of genetic, biological resources and traditional knowledge to be exploited commercially and used in research processes. Thus, there is an urgent need for training and designing activities aimed at leaders, officials and communities for a public policy in line with international discussions on IP, in which collective rights are guaranteed and transparent processes are structured for the necessary access to traditional knowledge, genetic resources and cultural expressions.

Conversely, Colombia has identified the important role played by culture and artistic expressions, especially in two areas: firstly as a tool for reconciliation and secondly as a tool to promote the development of activities that help improve the quality of life of all citizens who were linked to illegal activities, thereby facilitating their reintegration into productive activities. To this end, Colombia believes that encouraging new creations, generating innovation and the realization of ideas in the productive sector are more than necessary in the current situation, at the threshold of post-conflict processes.

At the regional level, Colombia has demonstrated that it has strengthened its IP institutions and adopted programs and activities that have positioned it as a regional leader, as highlighted throughout this proposal. Colombia has the potential, political will and institutional commitment to act as a multiplier of its best practices in the region, becoming a strategic focal point for the countries of South America, Central America, the Caribbean and North America in establishing activities that disseminate IP.

3. PURPOSE OF THE WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE IN COLOMBIA

To determine the general and specific objectives of the WIPO external office in Colombia, the importance of supporting WIPO's mission, as expressed in its nine strategic goals, was considered through each of the proposed activities that align with the objectives.

WIPO mission: Promoting innovation and creativity for economic, social and cultural development of countries through an effective and balanced international intellectual property system.

Maximize and strengthen Colombia's intellectual property through the inclusion of normative activities, techniques and practices that increase the competitiveness of artistic creations and innovations to contribute to economic growth and sustainable development.

Support and strengthen the international IP system through the implementation of strategies and activities which enhance the visibility and promotion of WIPO and its treaties, in order to achieve greater strength and effectiveness in the relations between WIPO and the Latin American community, enhancing the capacity of developing and disadvantaged countries in the region.

Encourage the development of complementary objectives, activities and strategic goals of WIPO, so that they can be centralized and replicated in Colombia to carry out their proposed programs.

Objectives
WIPO
external
office in
Colombia

Activities for
specific
objective I

Activities for
specific
objective II

Activities for
specific
objective III

Activities for
specific
objective IV

Activities for
specific
objective VII

3.1 General objectives

1. Maximize and strengthen Colombia's intellectual property through the inclusion of normative activities, techniques and practices that increase the competitiveness of artistic creations and innovations to contribute to economic growth and sustainable development.
2. Support and strengthen the international IP system through the implementation of strategies and activities which foster the visibility and promotion of WIPO and its treaties, in order to achieve greater strength and effectiveness in the relations between WIPO and the Latin American community, enhancing the capacity of developing and disadvantaged countries in the region.
3. Encourage the development of complementary objectives, activities and strategic goals of WIPO, so that they can be centralized and replicated in Colombia to carry out their proposed programs.

3.2 Specific objectives

- I. Work with stakeholders to coordinate and strengthen IP programs that promote innovation, science and technology.
- II. Develop strategies and activities that contribute to the construction, development and sustainable use of appellations of origin, scientific advances, artistic works and all IP rights for social inclusion and development.
- III. Promote and support organizations and stakeholders in enhancing traditional knowledge, genetic resources and cultural expressions in relation to IP.
- IV. Strengthen the IP enforcement program in the country and replicate successes in the region.
- V. Work with the private and public sectors to develop activities to support SMEs in facing IP challenges in Colombia.
- VI. Support institutions, civil society, industry sectors, NGOs and general interest groups to develop activities which promote the update of the regulatory framework and strengthen staff capacity in IP.
- VII. Promote and encourage accession to WIPO treaties and global services in Colombia and the region.
- VIII. Create better methods of communication and stronger links between WIPO and the Member States of the region.

3.3 Proposed activities

For Objective No. I

- **Strategy for the promotion and enhancement of patent applications in Colombia:** This consists of a program of advice to companies, academic institutions and government agencies, among others, with innovation projects and training in patent processing. This strategy will also make it possible to devise funding scenarios for innovation projects and approach organizations familiar with IP and science and technology to market their products and procedures.
- **A study to determine the difficulties of using the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT):** This aims to develop strategies to increase PCT use in Colombia: conduct surveys and studies to determine the obstacles to PCT use experienced in Colombia. In this way, strategies and training could be structured to encourage more PCT use.

- **System of patents for innovation:** Generating meeting points to increase contact with academia, consumer groups, professional associations and industry, actual and potential users of the patent system in Colombia, to promote the strengths and opportunities of a balanced patent system.
- **For business innovation in Colombia:** A project aimed at entrepreneurs, through which a diagnosis determines a company's level of innovation and prepares a legal strategy for IP protection.
- **Program for research promotion:** Aimed at research centers, technological development centers, universities and others. It identifies ongoing technological and scientific research and establishes methodologies that seek to support research processes aimed at producing patents.
- **IP academic program:** This program aims to demonstrate, enhance and raise awareness of IP in areas such as schools, universities and institutions, based on two approaches: (a) a study to identify weaknesses in the academic IP programs; and (b) based on the study, design an academic program for schools, universities and tertiary educational institutions that allows the dissemination of IP for users and future professionals, increasing the number of Colombians who know about IP.
- **Creation of a center for IP studies:** Share case studies, case law, regulations and workshops to help strengthen the study of intellectual property by all stakeholders.

For Objective No. II

- **Creation of a forum that addresses the discussions of the 45 recommendations of the WIPO Development Agenda in order to accelerate the closure of intra-regional gaps in sustainable development:** With the support of government bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society and industry. The forum will aim to discuss in depth the most important aspects of IP and make recommendations on accelerating the development, adaptation, transfer, dissemination and improved access to technology and knowledge for developing legal, productive and sustainable economies in these countries.
- **Regional laboratory for the implementation of facilitation mechanisms:** With the coordination and support of government entities representing science and technology, centralize strategies for the appropriate use of IP in implementing facilitation mechanisms in developing countries.
- **Support for copyright-based businesses:** On the understanding that culture is a driver of economic growth, this activity seeks to create strategies for copyright-based ventures so that they can be consolidated as small and medium enterprises, which could receive capacity building in different areas of IP.
- **Through CREANET, promote the display of works created by authors for persons interested in cultural industries:** The National Copyright Directorate makes available to

Colombian creators a service portal to support entrepreneurship called CREANET. With the support of a WIPO external office, it would become a space for viewing the works of authors in general and those created by people who at some point were linked to illegal activities and whose creations target cultural industries, thereby generating social inclusion.

For Objective No. III

- **Training for Trainers program on IP, traditional knowledge, genetic resources and cultural expressions:** This is a training program aimed at government agencies and public officials through in-person and virtual seminars with the participation of WIPO experts to train officials and major government entities on protecting these rights.
- **Open and distance learning program for awareness-raising and enhancement of knowledge on IP in matters associated with genetic resources in the agricultural industry, plant varieties, and agro-biodiversity.**
- **IP training programs for local, indigenous, native islander and Roma communities:** It aims to provide training on the processing of appellations of origin, working from the innovation of crafts and local products, with the support of the SIC and the DNDA.
- **Support administrators or “Regulatory Boards” to ensure compliance of appellations of origin and advise organizations holding collective marks.**
- **Training programs for local, indigenous, native islander and Roma communities on IP and traditional knowledge, genetic resources and cultural expressions.**

For Objective No. IV

- **Mediation and Arbitration Center available to the region:** To serve as virtual (broadband and screen) and physical location for hearings and dispute resolution in cases submitted to WIPO in the region. Support WIPO for the establishment of an office to coordinate mediations and arbitrations led by the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center.
- **Training program for officials with judicial powers:** This aims to provide judicial officers of the DNDA and the SIC with training and equipment to help them apply IP criteria.
- **Technical cooperation program for regional judiciaries:** The assignment of judicial functions to administrative authorities is exceptional and innovative and is unlike any of the roles played by copyright offices in the Latin American region. In this regard, the DNDA, working in partnership with the WIPO external office, can:
 - Share its experience with other copyright offices in the region, through interning, conferences or training activities.
 - Share case studies and case law that will help enhance the study of copyright in the Latin American region, which can be useful both for member countries of the Andean Community, with which Colombia shares an Andean Community Regime, and for other countries in the region. Analyzing case law contributes to the study of copyright in academic contexts (students, researchers, lecturers and trial lawyers) and helps enforcement authorities (judges, prosecutors and customs authorities).

For Objective No. VII

- **Program to promote the Madrid System:** Establish promotional strategies and contact between companies, the WIPO external office and public institutions in charge of promoting exports to increase use of the Madrid System in micro, small and medium enterprises through funding.
- **Center for addressing Madrid System concerns:** Serve as a receiver and transmitter to the International Bureau of complaints and concerns of users regarding system failures and as information point on system improvements and modernization.
- **Program to promote industrial designs and the Hague System:** (a) Disseminate and create understanding of the objectives and purposes of the diplomatic conference for the adoption of the new design law treaty (DLT) and the potential benefits of Colombia's accession to the Hague System and its subsequent use by Colombian designers and design companies; (b) collaborate with public institutions in drafting national norms that must be enacted or amended for Colombia to join the Hague System.
- **Program to promote the Lisbon System:** Disseminate and create understanding of the aims and objectives of the Geneva Act, explaining the potential benefits of Colombia's accession to the Lisbon System and its subsequent use by beneficiaries of Colombian geographical indications. Finally, collaborate with public institutions in drafting national norms that must be enacted or amended for Colombia to join the Lisbon System.

4. STRATEGIC LOCATION OF COLOMBIA

Colombia is located in the north west of the continent of South America. It is bordered to the north by Panama and the Caribbean, to the east by Venezuela and Brazil, to the south by Peru and Ecuador, and to the west by the Pacific Ocean. It is divided into 32 departments and a capital district (Bogota), in addition to six major regions: Andean, Caribbean, Pacific, Orinoquia, Amazonia and Insular.

Colombia has coasts in the Pacific Ocean and access to the Atlantic through the Caribbean, with several islands such as San Andrés and Providencia. It is the fourth largest country in South America and, with around 47 million inhabitants, has the third highest population in the region.²

Furthermore, Bogota has been listed as the eighth best city in which to do business in Latin America and the Caribbean and growth is 4% per year, contributing 25% to GDP. It also ranks among the top 15 cities in the world with the best protection for investors, according to the "Doing Business Report" of the World Bank; Siemens, Sony, HINO, Henkel, Citibank, IBM, Merck, SAP and Hewlett-Packard are among the 1,500 companies that have settled in the city.³

According to *The Economist*, Bogota stands out for its economic strength associated with the volume of production and GDP per capita (the highest among major cities in the nation), facilities to

² National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE). <http://www.dane.gov.co/index.php/poblacion-y-demografia/muestras-censales>.

³ Forbes Mexico. <http://www.forbes.com.mx/las-mejores-ciudades-para-invertir-en-america-latina/>.

create and do business, financial maturity, ability to attract global companies and the quality of its human capital.⁴

As to developments in infrastructure, the World Bank recognizes the breakthrough of Colombia regarding the increase in air transport, from 18,768,535 passengers in 2011 to 25,053,386 passengers in 2014. According to figures from the civil aviation authorities, in the El Dorado Terminal 21 airlines operate international flights, 6 domestic flights and 15 cargo flights. The airport moves the most cargo in Latin America and is currently being expanded to deal with an average of 40 million passengers per year in 2017.

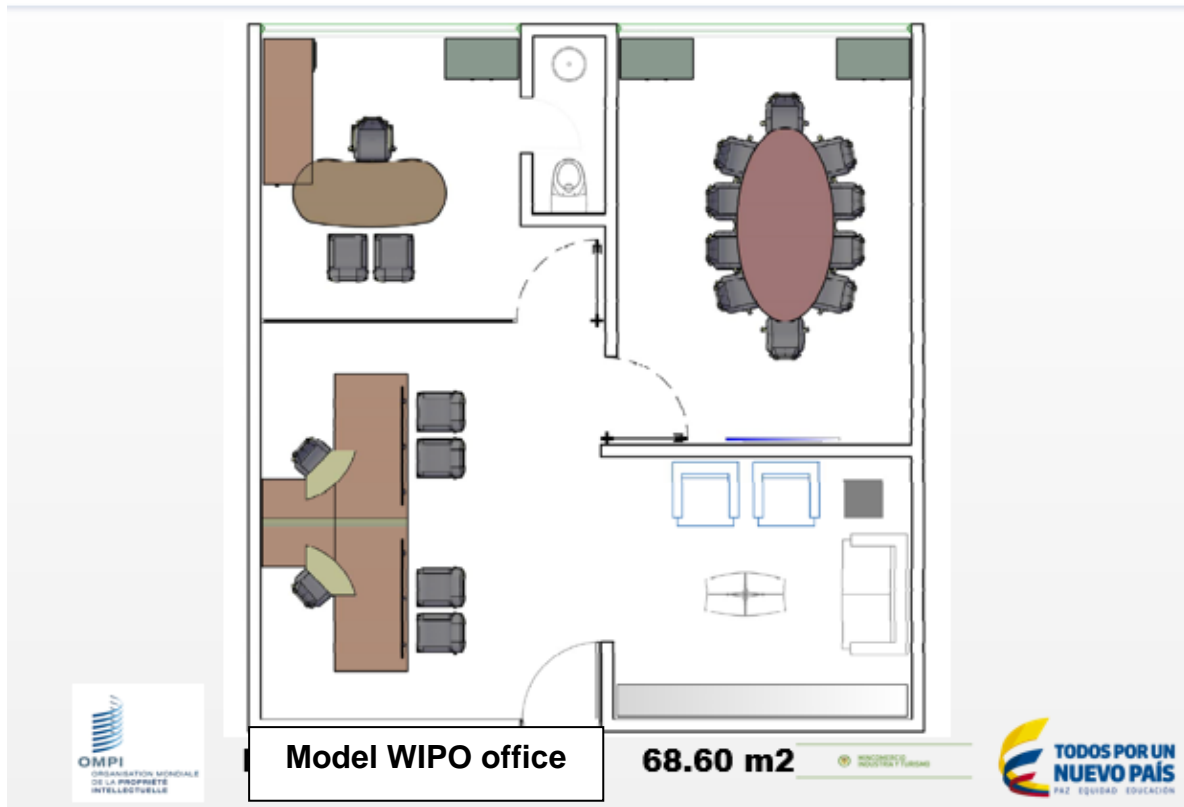
5. COLOMBIA'S OFFER

Regarding Colombia interest in hosting a WIPO external office, such an office would be located at the headquarters of the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce (SIC) in Bogota at Carrera 13#27-00, in the Bochica building. The building is part of the Tequendama International Center (CIT), which is part of what is known as the International Center of Bogota, which comprises a hotel and the business center.

Additionally, the office would be a 3-minute walk from the following entities: National Copyright Directorate (DNDA), the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism and the National Planning Department. It is also located 15 minutes from the historical center of the city where the following sights will be found: Palace of Government, Congress, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and all major institutions. Finally, it is 25 minutes away from El Dorado International Airport which has departures to over 70 national and international destinations.

Colombia makes the following offer that includes office rental costs of offices and maintenance of common areas, equipment and mechanical, electrical and public services totaling approximately 75,820 US dollars. Installation costs are estimated at 54,396 US dollars and annual operating costs for maintenance of utilities and rent of the Office are estimated at 21,424 US dollars per year.

⁴ *The Economist* "Hot spots. Benchmarking global competitiveness". P. 28.



Model WIPO office

68.60 m²



Costs for equipping the office of the director, two staff members and meeting rooms

	ITEM	COLOMBIAN PESO	US DOLLARS
PURCHASE, FITTING AND INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT			
1	Supply and installation of coordinator type workstation type	2,500,000.00	752.44
2	Supply and installation of two workstation for professionals	4,000,000.00	1,203.90
3	Supply and installation of three 2X1 filing cabinets	1,800,000.00	541.75
4	Supply of three keyboard holders	450,000.00	135.44
5	13 5-bladed armchairs with fixed arms and casters	5,000,000.00	1,504.87
6	Two visitor-type chairs	600,000.00	180.58
7	Three footrests	300,000.00	90.29
8	Three metal trash cans	195,000.00	58.69
9	Auxiliary room sofa	4,000,000.00	1,203.90
10	Coffee table for auxiliary room	6,000,000.00	1,805.85
11	Meeting table for about 10 people and their network points	10,000,000.00	3,009.75
CIVIL WORKS AND TECHNOLOGY			
12	Supply and installation of mineral fiber ceiling 60x60 cm, plus self-assembling structure	3,000,000.00	902.92
13	Supply and installation of imported roller blind without valance. REF: Solar screen 10, cream	2,000,000.00	601.95
14	Supply and Installation of 3/4" EMT pipe	380,000.00	114.37
15	Cabling, supply and installation of lights	4,500,000.00	1,354.39
16	UTP cabling run minimum CATEGORY 6A for 15 double posts. Certified.	6,000,000.00	1,805.85
17	Installation of metal perimeter conduit with division, grounded to earth, for voice, electrical and data cabling.	2,500,000.00	752.44

18	Installing double face plate metal conduit for jack RJ45 type couplers for voice and data cabling	200,000.00	60.19
19	Installation and connection of RJ45 feedback-type connectors minimum category 6A for 13 double network points	800,000.00	240.78
20	Installing double-face metal plate conduit for Lewinton currents, regulated red and unregulated beige	300,000.00	90.29
21	Installing a rack panel patch Supplied by SIC, category 6A minimum with 24 RJ45 type ports	300,000.00	90.29
22	Installation and connection of category 6A minimum RJ45 couplers for a Patch Panel.	350,000.00	105.34
23	Supply and Installation of Patch Cord Certified category 6 A minimum	600,000.00	180.58
24	Laying, installation and wiring of optical fiber cable	15,000,000.00	4,514.62
25	Laying, installation and connection of regulated electrical connection	9,000,000.00	2,708.77
26	Installation and connection of one electric board	10,500,000.00	3,160.23
27	Supply, installation, configuration and commissioning of one switch	8,000,000.00	2,407.80
28	Installation and adjustment of two bathrooms	25,000,000.00	7,524.36
29	Refurbishment of floor as per materials	15,000,000.00	4,514.62
PURCHASE AND INSTLLATION OF IT EQUIPMENT			
30	TV, about 40 inches	5,500,000.00	1,655.36
31	Mac or similar high-end computer	5,500,000.00	1,655.36
32	Two office computers for professionals	6,000,000.00	1,805.85
33	Three high-end Avaya telephones	10,500,000.00	3,160.23
34	Two multipurpose printers	1,500,000.00	451.46
UTILITIES AND FIXED MONTHLY COSTS			
35	General stationery for one year	1,000,000.00	300.97

36	Water for one year	1,600,000.00	481.56
37	Electricity for one year	1,600,000.00	481.56
38	Internet for one year	3,000,000.00	902.92
39	DIRECTV for one year	1,800,000.00	541.75
40	Rent for one year	63,000,000.00	18,961.40
LICENSES			
41	Microsoft Office Professional licenses for three teams	6,000,000.00	1,805.85
42	Microsoft Windows 8.1 Licenses for three teams	6,000,000.00	1,805.85
INSURANCE			
43	Equipment insurance premium	680,000.00	204.66
	TOTAL	251,955,000.00	75,832.04

In addition to the above, taking into account quality standards and certification of technical standard NTC-5906/2012 of the Mediation and Arbitration Center of the DNDA, WIPO may have, if necessary and subject to availability, access to rooms for meetings, training, arbitration, mediation and legal advice, through which it is possible to coordinate mediation and arbitration of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. These facilities are fully equipped in the DNDA, with the technical specifications below.

ROOM	SPECIFICATIONS
MEETING ROOM Multipurpose. It can serve both for the activities of the WIPO external office and for the activities of the Center for Mediation and Arbitration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Video format electronic screen, matte white, maximum height 170 cm, minimum height 120 cm. - 3000 ANSI lumens projector, native resolution WXGA video format (1280 X 800), ports: HDMI1, VGA1, S-Video, RCA. Bulb life in normal mode 3000 hours and 5000 hours in economy mode. - Fixed holder for video projector. - Two modular concealable desktops, pressure system for aerodynamic opening. Power supply: two RJ45 points, 1 VGA + audio, 1 HDMI + audio. Color: black. - HDMI cable 15m. - VGA switches, 4 entry ports and 1 exit port, with audio. - Two ceiling speakers, minimum 6", white, minimum power 40w. - Amplifier with at least one channel with at least 80w rms. - Automated system for controlling electric curtain, the video beam, sound levels and video input or sources, to be placed on wall. It must include infrared receptors allowing activation of equipment through automation or any other manner. - Stainless steel panel with 8 programmable buttons and/or mechanism allow management teams to centralize all devices with one control panel.

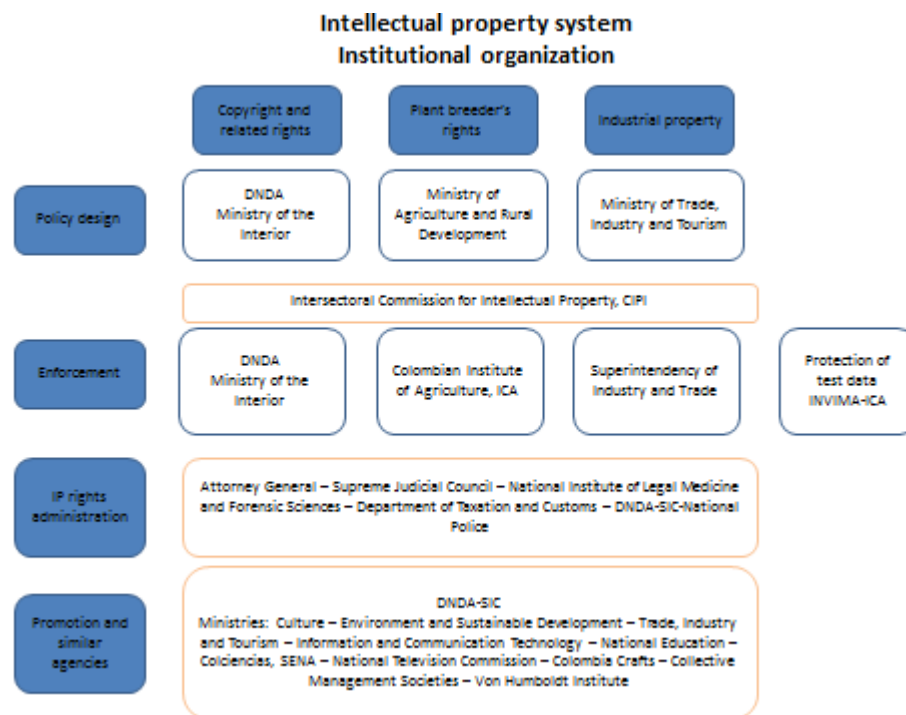
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manual blackout covering an area of approx. 11 m length by 2.4m height. - Rectangular table to seat 10. - 10 executive-type armchairs.
<p>TRAINING ROOM Multipurpose. Especially for training and outreach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Video format electronic screen, matte white, maximum height 170 cm, minimum height 120 cm. - 3000 ANSI lumens projector, native resolution WXGA video format (1280 X 800), ports: HDMI1, VGA1, S-Video, RCA. Bulb life in normal mode 3000 hours and 5000 hours in economy mode - Fixed holder for video projector - Two modular concealable desktops, pressure system for aerodynamic opening. Power supply: two RJ45 points, 1 VGA + audio, 1 HDMI + audio. Color: black. - HDMI cable 15m. - VGA switches, 4 entry ports and 1 exit port, with audio. - Four ceiling speakers, minimum 6", white, minimum power 40w. - Amplifier with at least one channel with at least 80w rms. - Automated system for controlling the electric curtain, the video beam, sound levels and video input or sources, to be placed on wall. It must include infrared receptors allowing activation of equipment through automation or any other manner. - Stainless steel panel with 8 programmable buttons and/or mechanism allow management teams to centralize all devices with one control panel. - Manual blackout covering an area of approx. 2.4m in height. - HD 1080p camera with USB port. - Wireless lapel microphone. - Wireless hand microphone. - Minimum 2-channel mixer and outlets to computer and room speaker or corresponding amplifier. - General wiring, labor installation, configuration programming and tuning of system for the training room. - 40 lecture-hall type chairs. - 12 executive-type armchairs.
<p>ARBITRATION ROOM 1 Can serve both as judicial hearing and arbitration room.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two modular concealable desktops, pressure system for aerodynamic opening. Power supply: two RJ45 points, 1 VGA + audio, 1 HDMI + audio. Color: black. - HDMI cable 15m. - VGA cable, 40m. - VGA switches, 2 entry ports and 1 exit port, with audio. - Two ceiling speakers, minimum 6", White, minimum power 40W. - Amplifier with one channel with at least 80 W rms. - 50" Plasma TV, LCD or LED ports: HDMI 1, VGA 1 or appropriate converters, USB 1, Audio (RCA, PLUG, etc.) and audio output. - Fixed wall holder for television set.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Software for digital audio and video recording. DVR control. Minimum requirement: can be activated or deactivated by one operator. Video archiving must be in a standard format (.avi,.mpeg,.mp4,.flv, etc.). - Professional matrix for video or DVR signals with at least 4 composite video entry ports via BNC, 4 stereo video entry ports, output: 1 BNC output, 1 VGA output and 1 RCA output. Optional: 1 Ethernet port, 1 USB port. - Dome-type camera, minimum resolution 480. - Microphone for conference chairperson, designed for Surface placement and highly ergonomic, unidirectional, on/off Button has priority switch to block delegates' microphones. - Three delegates' microphones, designed for Surface placement and ergonomic, unidirectional, on/off button. - Central conference unity with capacity to control 5 units management of TCP/IP for control from PC. LCD frontal display with status and configuration menu, maximum no. of active microphones (1/2/4) selector and indicators, entry and output ports: 2 RCA output ports enabled for long transmission, 1 entry and output port for recording, 1 line input with volume control, RS-232 ports. - Two lectern-type tables and three working-group type tables. - Nine chairs.
<p>ARBITRATION ROOM 2</p> <p>Can serve both as judicial hearing and arbitration room.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two modular concealable desktops, pressure system for aerodynamic opening. Power supply: two RJ45 points, 1 VGA + audio, 1 HDMI + audio. Color: black. - HDMI cable 15m. - VGA cable, 40m. - VGA switches, 2 entry ports and 1 exit port, with audio. - Two ceiling speakers, minimum 6", White, minimum power 40W. - Amplifier with one channel with at least 80 W rms. - 50" Plasma TV, LCD or LED ports: HDMI 1, VGA 1 or appropriate converters, USB 1, Audio (RCA, PLUG, etc.) and audio output. - Fixed Wall holder for television set. - Software for digital audio and video recording. DVR control. Minimum requirement: can be activated or deactivated by one operator. Video archiving must be in a standard format (.avi, mpeg, mp4, flv, etc.). - Professional matrix for video or DVR signals with at least 4 composite video entry ports via BNC, 4 stereo video entry ports, output: 1 BNC output, 1 VGA output and 1 RCA output. Optional: 1 Ethernet port, 1 USB port. - Dome-type camera, minimum resolution 480. - Microphone for conference chairperson, designed for Surface placement and highly ergonomic, unidirectional,

	<p>on/off Button has priority switch to block delegates' microphones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three delegates' microphones, designed for Surface placement and ergonomic, unidirectional, on/off button. - Central conference unity with capacity to control 5 units management of TCP/IP for control from PC. LCD frontal display with status and configuration menu, maximum no. of active microphones (1/2/4) selector and indicators, entry and output ports: 2 RCA output ports enabled for long transmission, 1 entry and output port for recording, 1 line input with volume control, RS-232 ports. - Equipment rack compatible with the equipment installed in rooms with space for two additional computer towers. - Two lectern-type tables and three working-group type tables. - Eight chairs.
<p>MEDIATION ROOM Multipurpose. May be mediation or meeting room.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HP Compaq Pro 4300 PC. - Samsung ML – 2010 printer. - Three modular concealable desktops, pressure system for aerodynamic opening. Power supply: two RJ45 points, 1 VGA + audio, 1 HDMI + audio. Color: black. - One rectangular working table to seat eight. - 8 chairs.
<p>Multipurpose. May be mediation or meeting room.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One round table. - 4 armchairs.

ANNEXES TO PROPOSAL FOR A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE IN COLOMBIA ANNEX I

Description of the IP System in Colombia



The Colombian IP system is structured as follows.

Institutions responsible for designing public policy: National ministries, through the Intersectoral Commission for Intellectual Property, CIPI.

Institutions responsible for registration and administration: National Copyright Department (DNDA), Colombian Institute of Agriculture (ICA), Superintendency of Industry and Commerce (SIC) and the National Institute of Food and Drug Monitoring (INVIMA).

Institutions responsible for enforcement: In criminal matters: Attorney General, Supreme Judicial Council, National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences; in civil matters, circuit judges, the National Copyright Department (DNDA) and the Superintendency of Industry and Commerce, exercising judicial functions; and, for customs, the Department of Taxation and Customs (DIAN).

Promotion and similar agencies: National Copyright Department (DNDA), Ministry of Culture, Ministry of the environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Housing, Urban and Territorial Affairs, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies, Ministry of Education, Department for the Administration of Science, Technology and Innovation (Colciencias), National Learning Service (SENA), National Television Commission, Crafts of Colombia, Collective Management Societies, and the Von Humboldt Institute, among others.

Users of the IP system: Natural persons (individual inventors, authors, performers, artists, system programmers, film and TV producers, journalists, etc.); businesses (SMEs, large national and

multinational corporations); public and private academic institutions and research centers (universities, technology parks, incubators, R&D centers, government agencies, etc.).

In view of the need for institutional coordination of the IP System, Colombia created the Intersectoral Commission on Intellectual Property (CIPI) by Presidential Decree No. 1162 of 2010 for high-level coordination and orientation of shared policies on IP and its implementation.

The CIPI strengthened inter-institutional dialogue prioritizing IP as a national policy among different government agencies, articulating the country's position in international fora and identifying six themes and permanent discussion fora among the following branches: Subcommittee on Copyright, Subcommittee on Industrial Property, Subcommittee on Plant Varieties, Subcommittee on Traditional Knowledge and Genetic Resources, Subcommittee on Enforcement and Subcommittee on Education.

National Copyright Department (DNDA)

The DNDA is an independent entity with its own legal personality, under the Ministry of the Interior. Its main function is to promote the effectiveness of and respect for copyright. Thus, its efforts are focused on promoting respect for rights and thereby creating an enabling environment to promote productive creativity. This is achieved through functions such as managing the copyright registry; raising awareness of IP among creators, users and the general public; monitoring, inspecting and overseeing collecting societies; recommending accession to international treaties on copyright and related rights; designing, managing and implementing government policies on copyright and related rights; serving as an arbitration and mediation center in matters relating to copyright and related rights; and exercising the judicial functions on these issues under the powers vested in it by the new General Code of Procedure in 2012.

Superintendency of Industry and Commerce (SIC)

The part of the SIC that manages the IP system is composed of the Delegation for Industrial Property, itself consisting of two departments: New Creations and Distinctive Signs. The first is responsible for processing new applications for patents, utility models and layout designs of integrated circuits, while the second is responsible for processing applications for trademarks, slogans, business names and signs and appellations of origin. The Delegations is complemented by the Center for Information Technology and Management Support for Industrial Property (CIGEPI), a group responsible for promoting the use of new creations and patent documents as a source of technological information.

ANNEXES TO PROPOSAL FOR A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE IN COLOMBIA

ANNEX II

The national economic environment

In 2015, the Colombian economy showed resilience in response to the various adverse trends of the global economy. The strength of the country's economy has been based on major changes in the economic, political and social spheres. Since 2004, Colombia has positioned itself as an important axis of development of the region, reaching an average growth rate of 4.67 per cent per annum over the past 12 years. As a result, it has become the fourth largest economy in the region.

According to the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), Colombia's nominal GDP in 2014 was 377,947,000 US dollars, showing the major advance of the country, which increased its relative weight in world GDP from 0.27 per cent in 2004 to 0.51 per cent in 2014. Also, since 2004, the national economy has received large inflows of foreign investment, based on the breakthrough in security at the national level and a good macroeconomic environment. It is estimated that since 2004, Colombia has received 116,236 million US dollars in foreign investment. In 2014, the highest foreign direct investment was recorded in the history of the country, at 16,324 million US dollars.

In the past year, Colombia rose over five places in the Global Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum, ranking 61st out of 148 economies. Among the most important advances was a 45-place gain in the sub-index of financial market development and improvement by 8 places in the sub-index of health and primary education.

Additionally, business sophistication improved 3 places this year, reaching a ranking of 58. Marketing scope and cluster development are highlights of this improvement. However, as regards the fundamentals of innovation and sophistication, there is much more room for progress.

In the same vein, Colombia began the process of accession to the OECD as part of its commitment to the continuous improvement of public policy and its determination to meet the highest international standards. It is estimated that Colombia will complete its accession in 2017. To date, the 11 committees approved so far are: (i) agriculture; (ii) competition; (iii) statistics; (iv) consumption; (v) financial markets; (vi) health; (vii) education; (viii) science and technology; (IX) regulatory policy; (X) territorial policy; and (XI) Committee on Fiscal Affairs. It is estimated that the remaining 12 committees prioritized for Colombia will be approved at the end of 2016.

Colombia's increasing strength in the region made for the opening of new markets, as evidenced by the signature of new trade agreements (European Union, EFTA countries, etc.) favoring trade for the expansion of Colombian products into new markets, thus generating better and higher incomes for local producers.

The country has 13 free trade agreements in force⁵ with a total of 60 countries and 5 agreements⁶ with 7 countries (3 of them already had an existing agreement) undergoing the approval process.

⁵ The agreements in force are: TLC Colombia –Mexico; Agreement with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras; CAN; CARICOM; MERCOSUR; Chile; EFTA; Canada; United States; Partial Agreement with Venezuela; Cuba; Nicaragua and the European Union.

⁶ The agreements correspond to the Pacific Alliance, Republic of Korea, Costa Rica, Israel and Panama.

Together, these countries account for more than 50% of global GDP, reflecting the potential reach of Colombian products. The agreements pose the challenge of proper management, to identify and exploit the advantages of internationalization.

ANNEXES TO PROPOSAL FOR A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE IN COLOMBIA
ANNEX III

Figures and statistical tables

• **Figure 1**

Goals		
Mid-term goal	Baseline (2014)	Goal in 2018
Investment in science, technology and innovation as percentage of GDP	0.5%	1%
Product	Baseline (2014)	Goal in 2018
Percentage of investment allocation for tax deduction	69%	100%
Cities implementing innovation agreements	0	0
percentage of funds executed through FFJC by different contributors to Colciencia	46%	60%
Mid-term goal	Baseline (2014)	Goal in 2018
High-impact publications in science and technology	6.4	11.5
Product	Baseline (2014)	Goal in 2018
Scholarships for Master's and doctoral training at home and abroad funded by Colciencias and other bodies	7,540	10,000
Scientific articles published by Colombian researchers in specialized science journals	7,059	10,000
Mid-term goal	Baseline (2013)	Goal in 2018
Percentage of enterprises classified as innovative in both a broad and a narrow sense in the industrial and service sectors	22.5%	30%
Product	Baseline (2013)	Goal in 2018
Businesses support by Colciencias for innovation	1,416	7,000
Technology licenses granted	0	25
Patent applications by residents in the national office and under the PCT	270	600
Mid-term goal	Baseline (2013)	Goal in 2018
Percentage of Colombians with high and very high technology appropriation indices	51.8%	70%
Product	Baseline (2013)	Goal in 2018
Persons reached through outreach strategies focused on the use, appropriation and utilization of CTI	328,000	2,000,000
Children and young people supported for science and technology vocations	1,800,000	3,000,000

Department of National Planning: National Development Plan 2014-2018:

N.B.: In the following graphics, the following should be understood

* **Residents:** legal or nature persons that are nationals of Colombia.

* **Non-residents:** legal or nature persons that are not nationals of Colombia.

- **Figure 2. Patents – total applications (2000-2015)**



- **Figure 3. Patents – total applications by non-residents (2000-2015)**



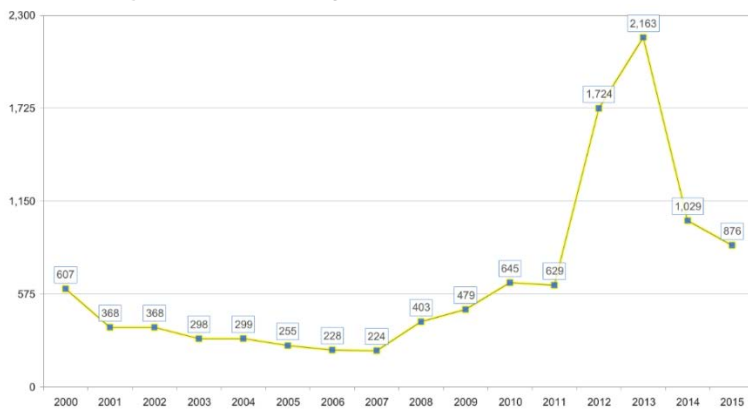
- **Figure 4. Patents – applications by non-residents (2000-2015)**



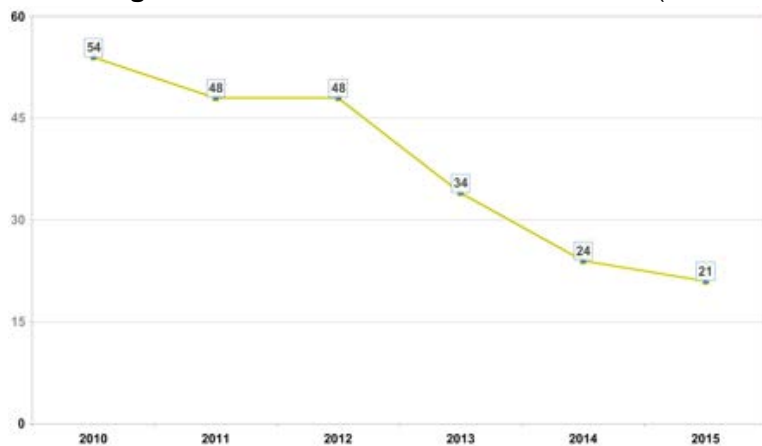
• **Figure 5. Patents – PCT applications (2000-2015)**



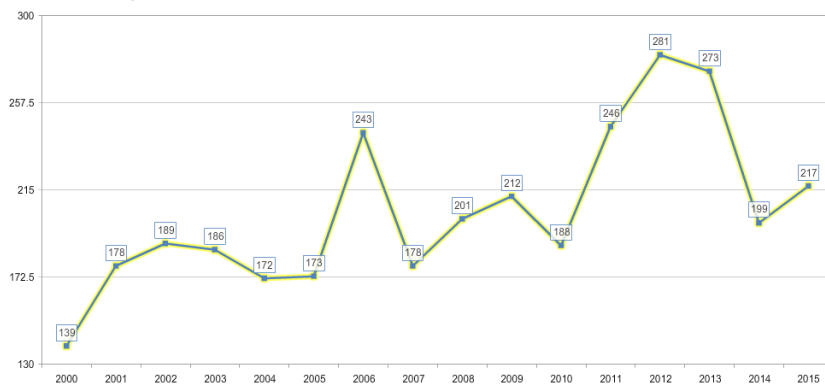
• **Figure 6. Patents granted (2000-2015)**



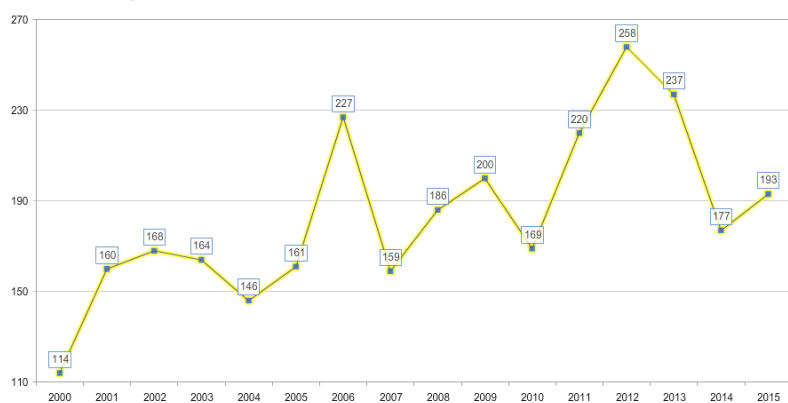
• **Figure 7. Patents – decision time in months (2010-2015)**



• **Figure 8. Utility models – total applications (2000-2015)**



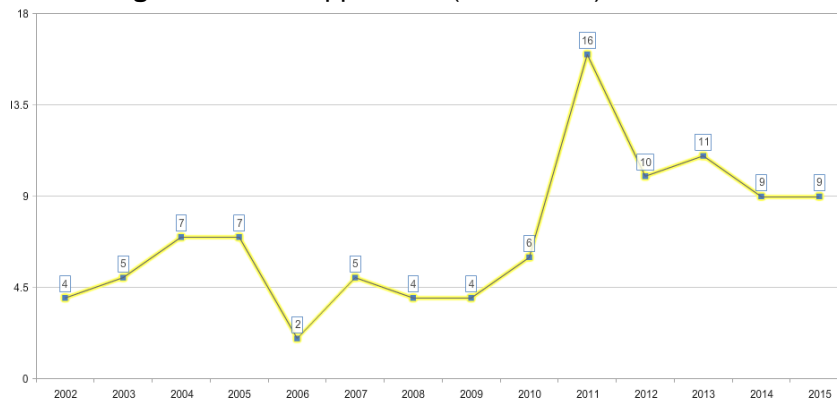
• **Figure 9. Utility models – applications by residents (2000-2015)**



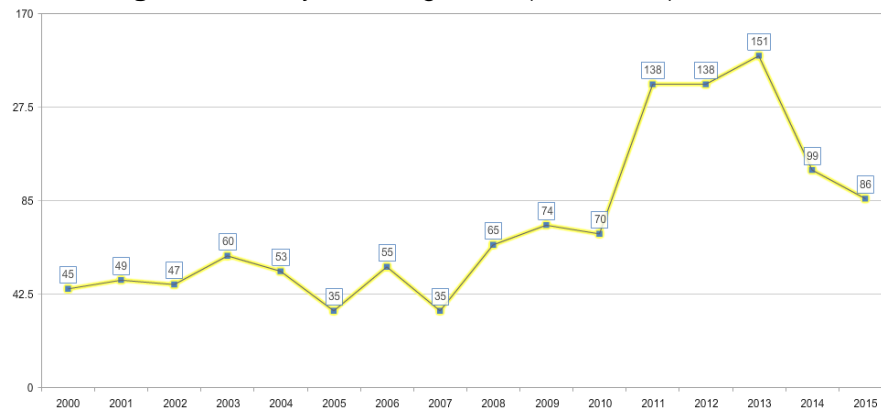
• **Figure 10. Applications by non-residents (2000-2015)**



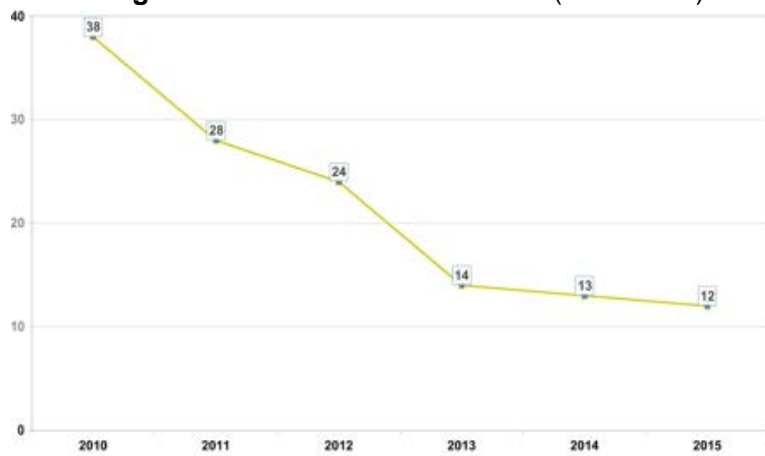
• **Figure 11. PCT application (2000-2015)**



• **Figure 12. Utility models granted (2000-2015)**



• **Figure 13. Decision time in months (2010-2015)**

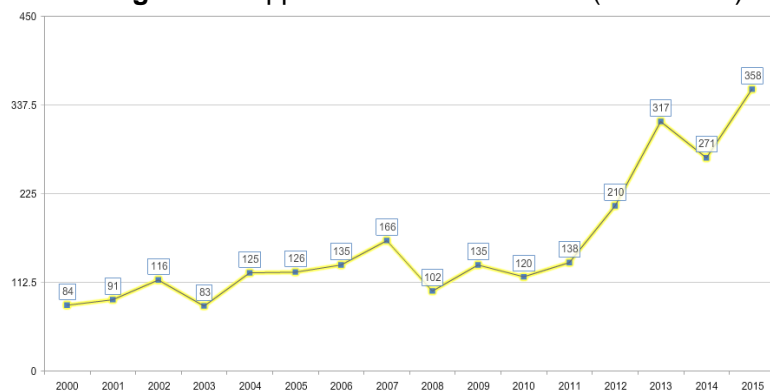


Industrial designs:

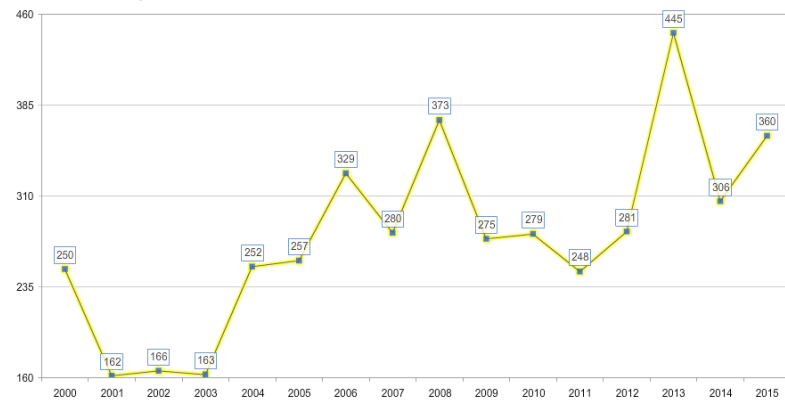
- **Figure 14. Total application (2000-2015)**



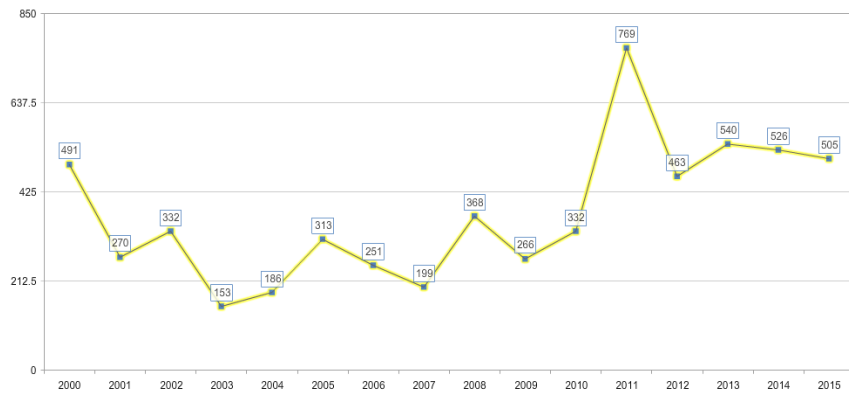
- **Figure 15. Applications from residents (2000-2015)**



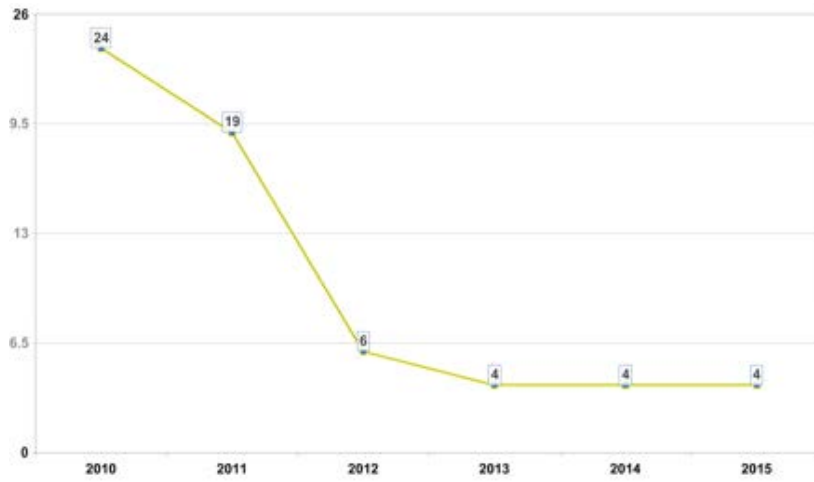
- **Figure 16. Applications from non-residents (2000 – 2015)**



- **Figure 17. Industrial designs granted (2000-2015)**

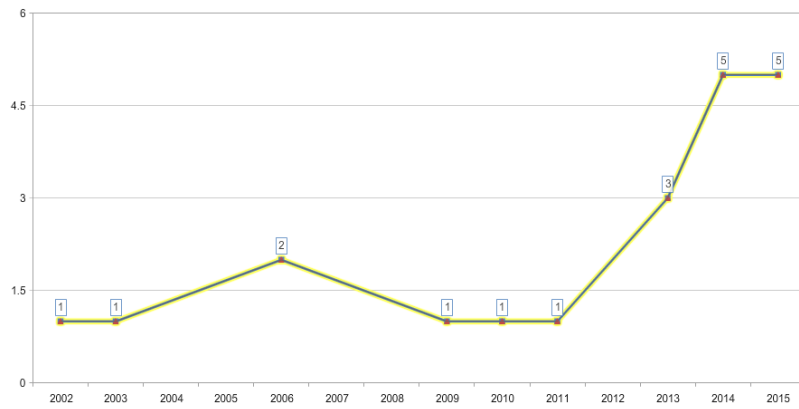


• **Figure 18.** Decision time in months (2010-2015)

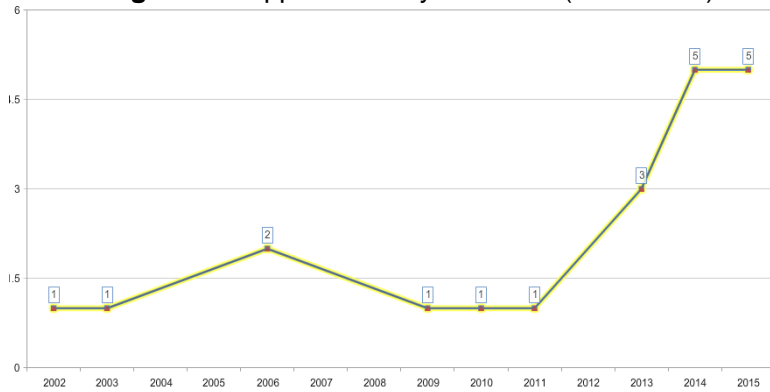


LAYOUT DESIGNS OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

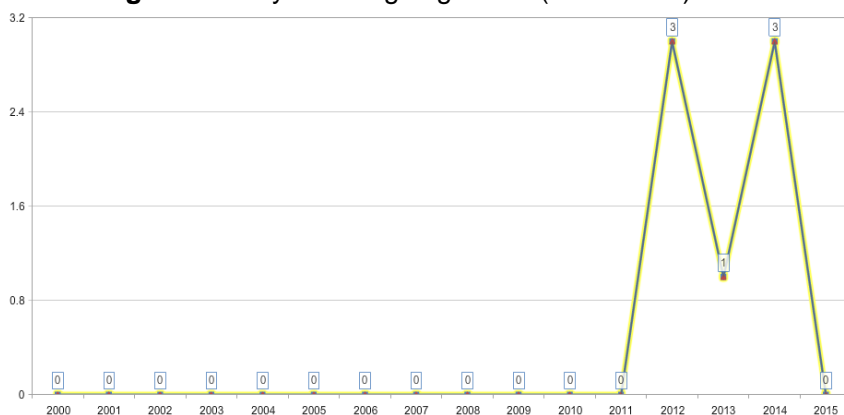
• **Figure 19.** Total applications (2000-2015)



• **Figure 20.** Applications by residents (2000-2015)



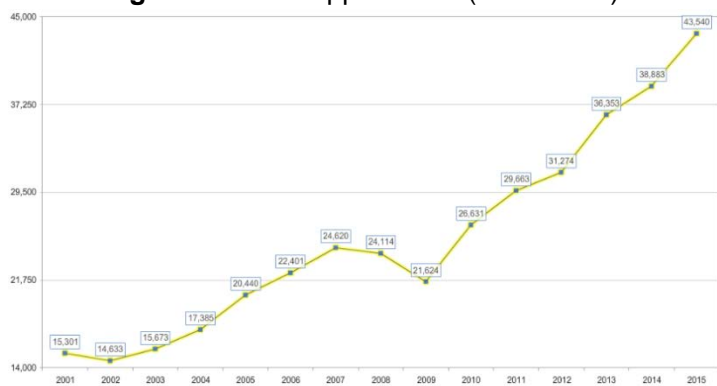
• **Figure 21. Layout designs granted (2000-2015)**



Distinctive signs

- **Trademarks**

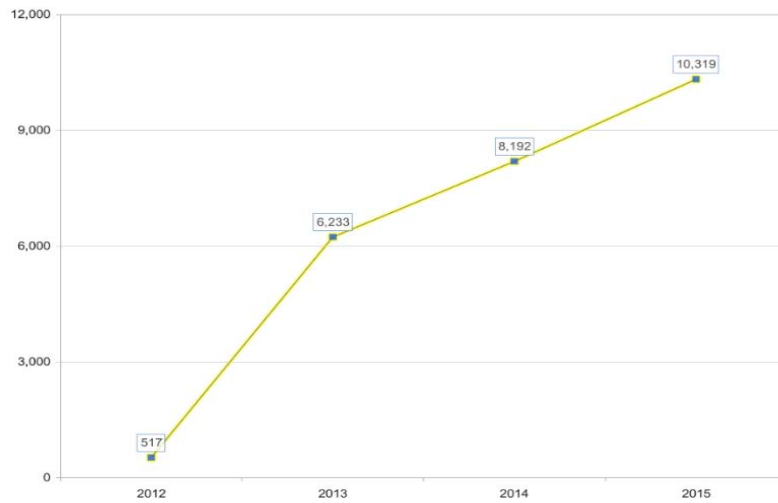
• **Figure 22. Total applications (2000-2015)**



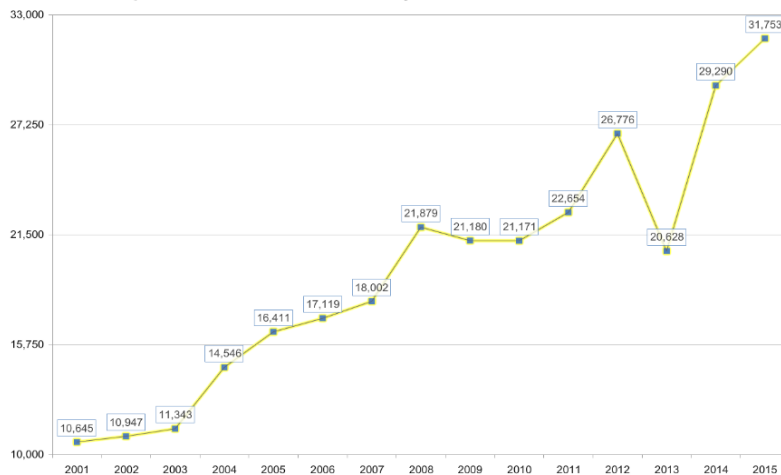
• **Figure 23. Nationally filed applications (2000-2015)**



• **Figure 24. Madrid Protocol applications (2000-2015)**

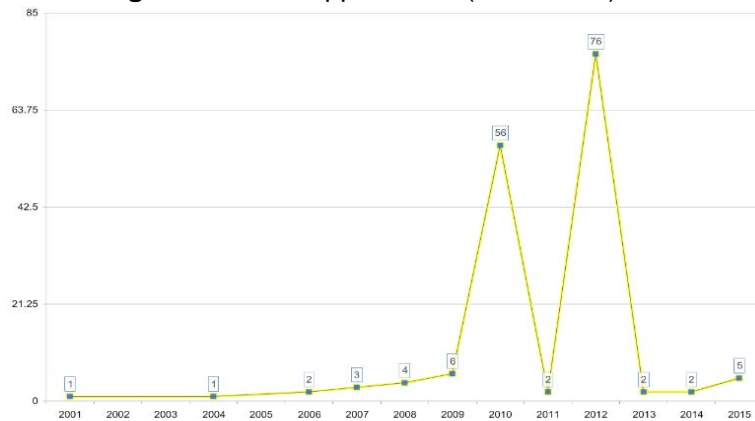


• **Figure 25. Trademarks granted (2000-2015)**

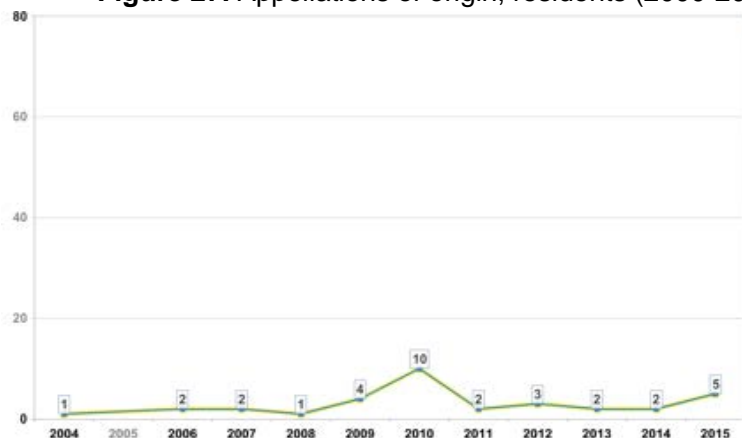


Appellations of origin

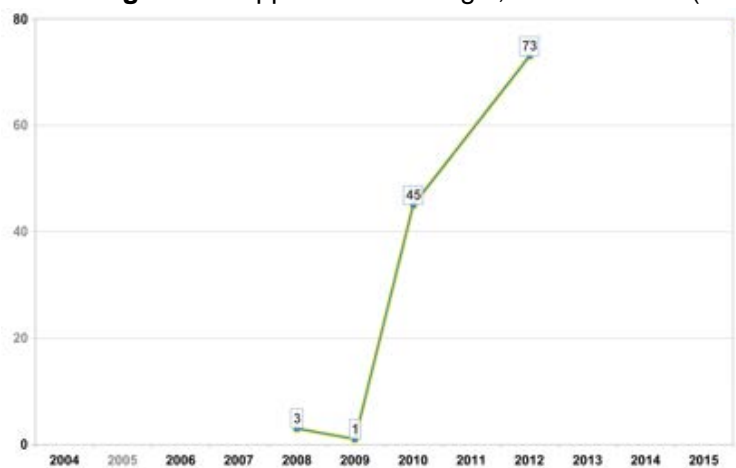
• **Figure 26. Total applications (2000-2015)**



• **Figure 27.** Appellations of origin, residents (2000-2015)

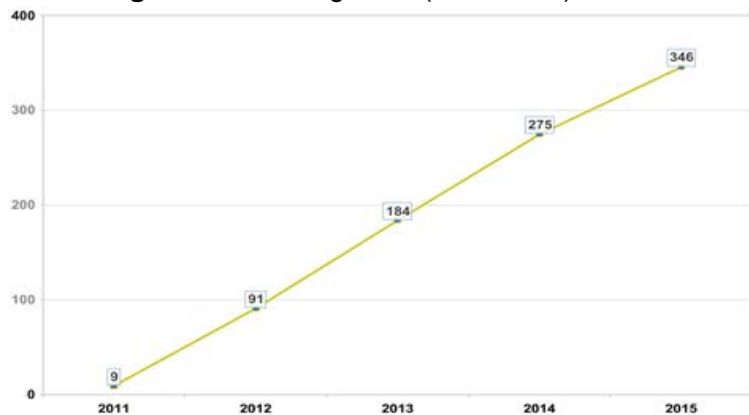


• **Figure 28.** Appellations of origin, non-residents (2000-2015)

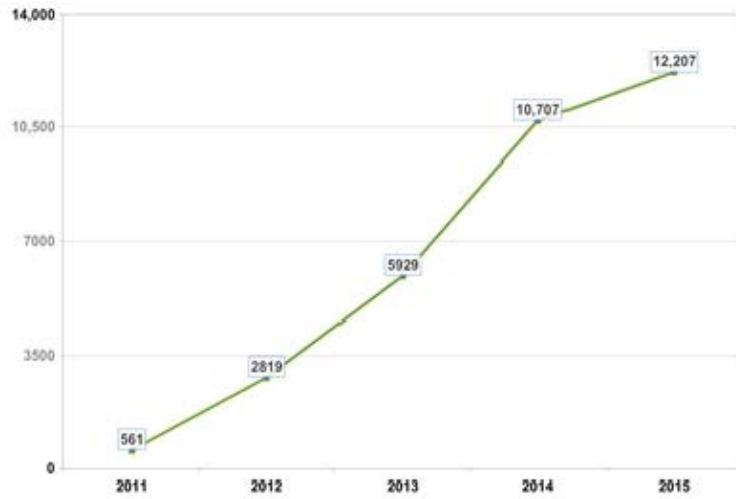


**Statistics on the promotion and dissemination of industrial property
Classroom activities, intellectual property**

• **Figure 29.** Training done (2011-2015)

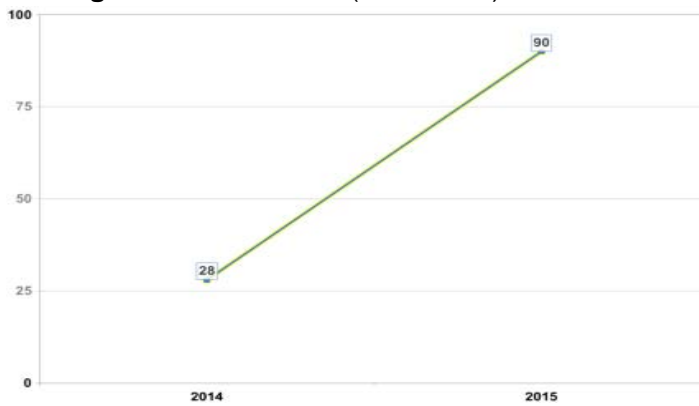


• **Figure 30.** Users trained (2011-2015)



Tasks performed by the 18 TISCs of the SIC

• **Figure 31.** TISC tasks (2014-2015)

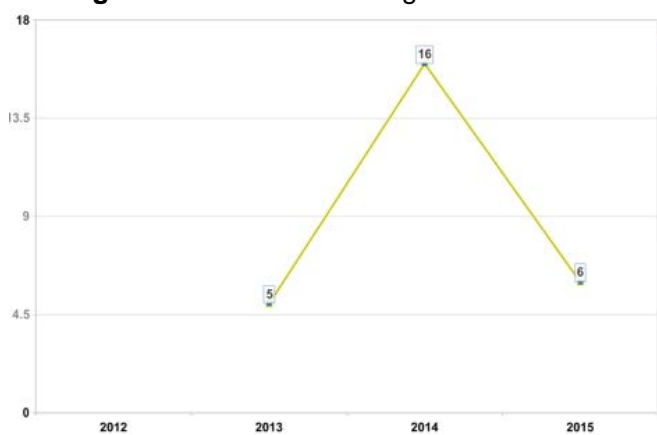


Statistics on the judicial functions of the SIC in industrial property

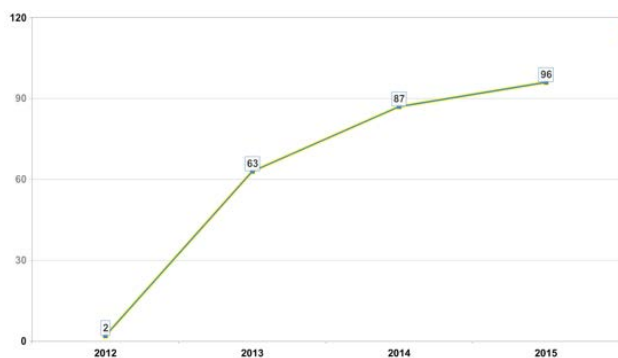
- **Figure 32.** Total claims (2012-2015)



- **Figure 33.** Claims for infringement of new creations (2012-2015)



- **Figure 34.** Claims for infringement of distinctive signs (2012-2015)



STATISTICS FOR THE JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL COPYRIGHT DIRECTORATE

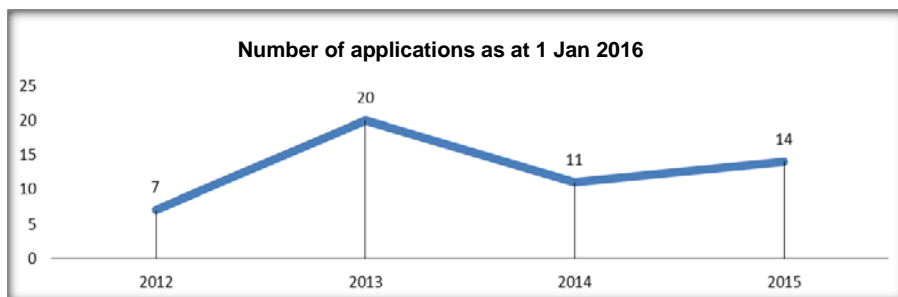
a. Statistics for judicial functions

I. Number of applications

- **Figure 35**

Number of applications as at 1 Jan. 2016		
Year	Number	Difference
2012	7	
2013	20	13
2014	11	-9
2015	14	3

- **Figure 36**



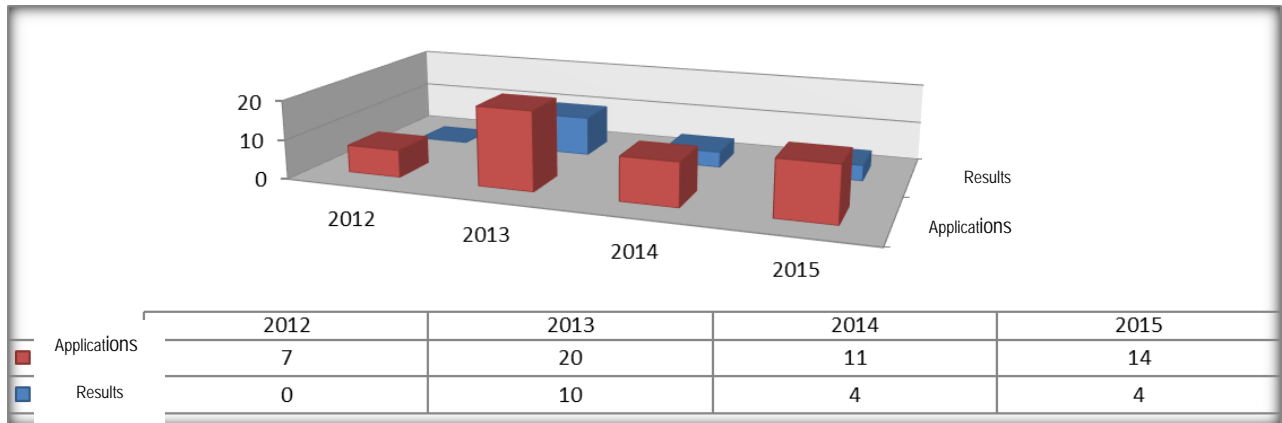
II. Number of applications processed

While analyzing the dynamics of demand is important, it is also necessary to analyze the effectiveness of these applications by measuring how many applications have resulted in definitive answers.

- **Figure 37**

Comparison of applications v. final results			%
Year	Number	Difference	
2012	0	7	
2013	10	20	200%
2014	4	11	275%
2015	4	14	350%

- **Figure 38**



III. Number of interlocutory findings

Interlocutory decisions are reasoned determinations that resolve a background situation in the process. For this reason, it is considered that the best way to measure the work of the organization is to quantify the number of interlocutory decision.

- **Figure 39**

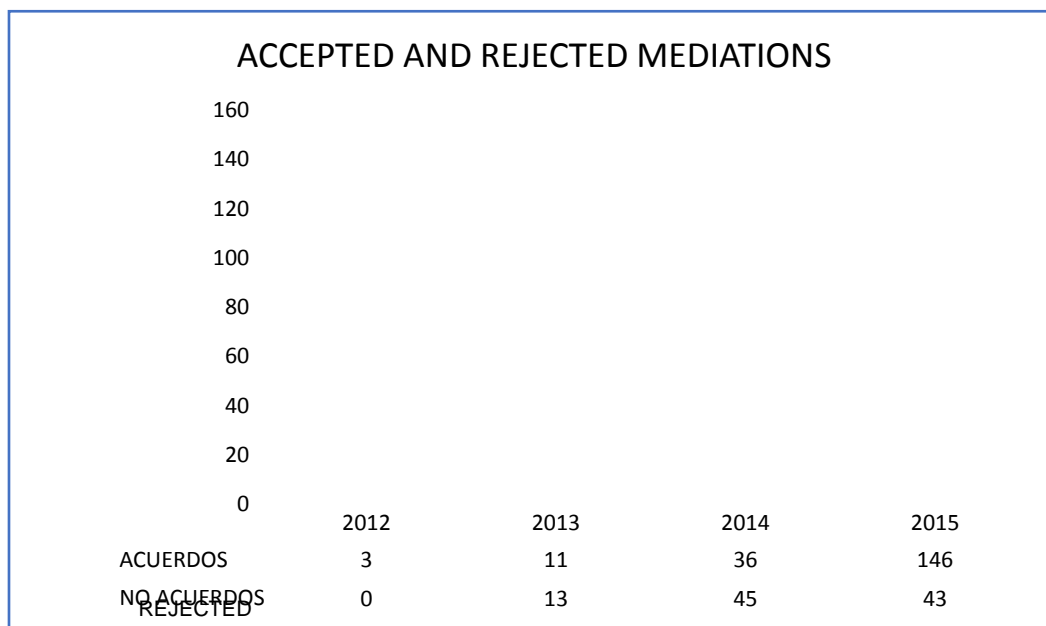
Interlocutory decisions to date		
Year	Number	Difference
2012	1	
2013	30	29
2014	23	-7
2015	13	-10

Statistics of the DNDA Arbitration and Mediation Center

MEDIATION PROCESS

- **Figure 40**

- **Figure 41**



- **Figure 42**

	2012	2013	2014	2015
APPLICATIONS	4	36	172	368
ACCEPTED	3	11	36	146
REJECTED	0	13	45	43
RECORDS OF ABSENCE	1	7	70	71
RETURNS	0	5	21	35
WITHDRAWALS	0	0	0	73

In 2015, the DNDA registry office processed 86,354 applications for registration and granted 69,599 formal registrations of works.

**REGISTERED WORKS AND THEIR MONTH ON MONTH CONTRIBUTION
TO THE REGISTRY, 2015**

- **Figure 43**

2015			
Month	Applications	Registrations	Pending
January	5,169	3,226	1,943
February	8,500	6,457	2,043
March	7,766	6,814	952
April	8,388	6,094	2,294
May	7,992	7,004	988
June	7,419	6,187	1,232
July	7,207	6,135	1,072
August	6,346	5,747	5,99
September	7,600	6,057	1,543
October	6,631	5,928	703
November	7,090	5,541	1,549
December	6,246	4,409	1,837
Total	86,354	69,599	16,755

The various categories of works registered in 2015 and the contribution of the various categories on total registration are shown in the table below.

- **Figure 44**

Participation 2015		
Type of registration	Number	%
Contract and other documents	1,812	3%
Phonograms	6,137	9%
Artistic works	9,086	13%
Audiovisual works	511	1%
Published literary works	854	1%
Unpublished literary works	33,695	48%
Musical works	14,532	21%
Software	2,972	4%
Total	69,599	100%

- **Figure 45**

Program for dissemination of copyright and related rights (in-person and virtual activities), 1990-2015.

Year	No. of courses	Time	No. of attendees
1990	13	58	600
1991	24	128.2	600
1992	23	97.5	760
1993	11	56	299
1994	20	127.1	693
1995	34	205.8	1,329
1996	23	124.2	955
1997	25	158.5	1,346
1998	31	101.6	1,594
1999	17	45.4	936
2000	52	115.4	1,838
2001	58	146.6	2,522
2002	67	231.5	5,040
2003	75	195	3,818
2004	63	207.5	3,180
2005	81	228.5	4,866
2006	80	219.2	7,175
2007	91	208	3,535
2008	94	311.5	4,916
2009	99	298.6	5,565
2010	132	368.4	7,753
2011	146	498.6	8,175
2012	236	614.3	13,582
2013	218	580.3	10,535
2014	295	642	10,504
2015	162	854	9,230
Total	2,170	6,241.4	111,346

ECUADOR'S APPLICATION TO HOST A WIPO OFFICE

1. INTRODUCTION

In this era of globalization and huge technological advances, intellectual property has become extremely important in what has been termed the "information age". Information, technology and intellectual property in general have become more important than tangible goods for driving development, knowledge and, above all, the pursuit of well-being for humanity.

In this ever-changing world, there are countless challenges to the protection of intellectual property. For this reason, WIPO plays a pivotal role through its efforts to address these challenges in the various fields of intellectual property, while always seeking to encourage creativity and innovation.

That is why it is extremely important for the network of WIPO external offices to bring WIPO services and cooperation closer to its Member States, the stakeholders in each country and, above all, individuals wishing to apply for these services. Furthermore, it is convenient to locate offices in different parts of the world to meet the commitments of WIPO headquarters so that users do not need to resort to contacting headquarters to access the services and systems on offer.

For this reason, Ecuador believes it is an excellent location for an external office and is therefore pleased to submit its candidacy to this end for the attention of the WIPO General Assembly.

This application begins with a brief description of Ecuador and the progress on social issues it has achieved in recent years. It subsequently sets out ongoing developments in education, knowledge generation and research that are engendering new paradigms of intellectual property protection, driven by a strong political will which seeks to transform Ecuador into a producer of ideas. Finally, the application explains the facilities available for the installation of an external office in Ecuador and the benefits this would entail in for Latin America.

2. ECUADOR: A COUNTRY WITH GREAT POTENTIAL

The Republic of Ecuador is ideally located in the northwestern region of South America. Geographically, it is composed of continental and maritime territory plus adjacent islands, territorial waters and the Galapagos Archipelago. It is also bisected by the equator; thus it has territory in both hemispheres.

The mainland of Ecuador is divided into three areas are: La Costa, La Sierra and Oriente. Quito, the capital, was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO on September 18, 1978 – the first city in the world, along with Krakow, to receive such recognition. The Galapagos Islands are an archipelago in the Pacific Ocean located 1,000 kilometers off the coast of Ecuador. UNESCO declared the islands a World Heritage Site in 1978.

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

Ecuador has an area of 283,561 square kilometers and a population of approximately 16 million inhabitants, the most populous country in South America. It is the country with the greatest diversity per square kilometer and one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, with countless animal and plant species. Ecuador has 49 protected areas, accounting for 19.3 per cent of its territory, including Yasuni National Park, which contains more tree species than the United States and Canada combined. Yasuni is also home to 100,000 species of insects per hectare. The Ecuadorian Amazon contains one third of all the birds in the entire region and 10 per cent of the plants on the planet.

Ecuador's official language is Spanish (there are also thirteen recognized indigenous languages) and its official currency is the US dollar, which makes for a dynamic economy by facilitating the exchange of goods and services with other countries of the world.

One of the main sources of national income is tourism, thanks to which the country has become a major destination of global renown. Ecuador receives about 1.3 million foreign tourists annually, making it one of the regional leaders in international tourism destinations. This is due largely to the many tourist awards received. For example, Quito was designated "South America's Leading Destination" at the World Travel Awards (WTA) 2015 for the third consecutive year, also winning fourteen other tourism awards.

Ecuador's privileged geographical position is also combined with facilities for connections and transfers to all parts of the continent and the world, with quality infrastructure that allows access to the entire region. It is worth highlighting Quito airport which, according to data provided by the Airports Council International, ranked 9th in the classification of 84 airports around the world in the category of 5 to 15 million passengers. In the José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport in Guayaquil, a new terminal of 53,000 sq. m, considered the best in Latin America and the world, has been constructed and is used by more than four million passengers a year.

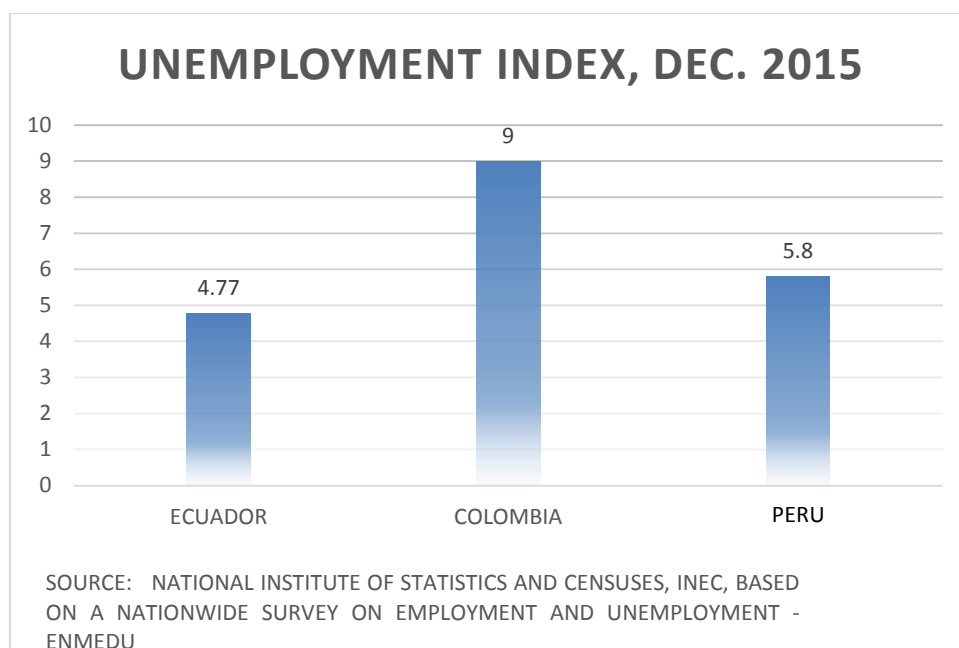
As to roadways, in recent years Ecuador has seen huge development with the construction of several freeways and highways throughout its entire territory, reaching investment of more than 8.225 million US dollars by 2015. Currently, the country has an almost completely paved road network. The most important routes are the Pan-American Highway, which runs through the central highlands from north to south and connects the country with its neighbors Colombia and Peru; the Ruta del Espondilus or Ruta del Sol, which allows travel throughout the Ecuadorian coastline; and the Amazon backbone, which runs from north to south along the Ecuadorian Amazon, linking most of its cities. Other routes of great importance are the Manta-Tena road; the Guayaquil-Salinas highway; the Alobag-Santo Domingo road; the Riobamba-Macas road, the National Unity bridge complex in Guayaquil, the bridge over the Napo River in Orellana; the bridge over the Esmeraldas River and the Bahia-San Vicente Bridge, the longest on the Pacific coast of Latin America. According to the World Economic Forum (2014), the roads in Ecuador are the second best in South America. The leader in this category is Chile, with Ecuador coming second with a score of 4.6 (in a global survey in which the worst ranks as 1 and the best ranks as 7) and is ranked 50th worldwide, according to the 2013-2014 global competitiveness report of the World Economic Forum. That is why, thanks to the road network, people can tour various parts of the country in a few hours.

As for its seaports, it is important to note that 70 per cent of exports and imports transit through the port of Guayaquil, located south of the city; the port also welcomes cruise passengers arriving from different countries. Following modernization, Manta Port can now berth deep-water cruise ships. Another important port is Posorja in the Gulf of Guayaquil, mostly for cargo. Puerto Bolivar in Machala is used primarily for agricultural exports such as bananas, shrimp and cocoa. Esmeraldas Port is mainly used for industrial exports of oil, gas and petroleum products.

Finally, it is important to note that Ecuador being a small country in size but endowed with all the above facilities, in-country travel times are relatively short, even accounting for topographical constraints. The transfer from the province of Sucumbios to the province of Guayas (Guayaquil) is 11 hours and 25 minutes by road, thanks to the short distances and the road network. In addition to the overland route, travelers can fly from Guayaquil to Galapagos (San Cristobal) in 1 hour and 55 minutes. That means that the four regions of Ecuador (coast, mountains, east and Galapagos) can be covered in one day, precisely in 13 hours and 35 minutes, a feat that can only be achieved because of a combination of short distances between regions, the availability of flights to the Galapagos Islands and first-class roads. The natural regions have a much broader background. The climate varies from region to region, as does the diversity of peoples, cultures, landscapes, culinary tourism and biodiversity, significantly marked by all these factors.

In social matters, Ecuador has reduced poverty in the country by almost 13 per cent in just eight years, significantly improving household incomes, which has led to the construction of a more equal and cohesive society. Despite the international financial crisis, the country has continued to grow and is one of the three Latin American countries with the largest reductions in poverty. From 2006 to 2013, poverty was reduced from 37.6 per cent to 27.6 per cent and extreme poverty fell from 16.9 per cent to 8.6 per cent. The projection is that by 2017, extreme poverty will be down to 3 per cent. This is reflected in an improvement in the human development index. In the ranking of countries, Ecuador is currently at no. 88 (in 2014, it was at no. 98). With respect to inequality in 2015, the Gini coefficient stood at 0.476 nationally; having improved significantly in recent years in the quest for perfect equality.

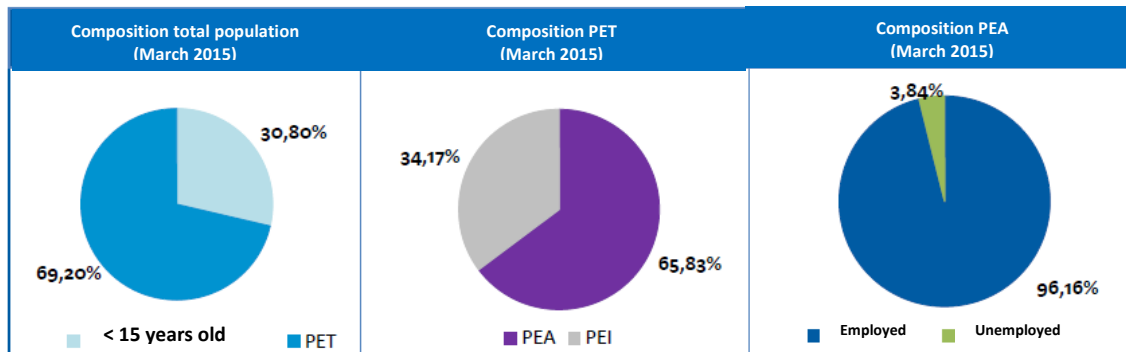
So far in 2016, Ecuador is one of the countries with the lowest rates of unemployment in the region, according to the latest National Survey of Employment and Unemployment, published in December 2015 by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC), which recorded a rate of 4.77 per cent that month. Compared to countries in the region, Ecuador is below the Latin American average of 5 per cent. Colombia recorded a high level of unemployment at 9 per cent. Peru has 5.8 per cent, according to data recorded by these countries until September 2015. (Source: Public News Agency of Ecuador and South America, ANDES).



Data from the National Survey on Employment and Unemployment (ENMEDU), December 2015

According to the National Survey on Employment and Unemployment (ENMEDU), published in December 2015, the employment data from the peak period of the year were as follows:

- 69.20 per cent of the total population is of working age;
- 65.83 per cent of the population of working age is economically active; and
- of the economically active population, 96.16 per cent is employed.



PET=Population of working age

PEA=economically active population

PEI=economically inactive population

In the quarter to March 2015:

- The population of working age (PET) was 11.2 million people.
- The economically active population (EAP) was 7.3 million people.
- The economically inactive population (PEI) was 3.8 million people.

This reduction of inequality and poverty has been accompanied by access to rights: the increase in enrollment at all levels of education, progress in and completion of education, increased access to social security and health.

In addition, there have been major changes in traditional concepts. For example, Ecuador is a pioneer in that its Constitution enshrines the concept of universal citizenship, understood as an evolution of the traditional concept of citizenship, aiming for free movement without borders – a person is not regarded as illegal because of his or her immigration status. This new principle has erased the line between nationals and foreigners, allowing foreigners to hold high office in the public sector, since an individual's skill are more important than his/her country of origin.

This change in philosophy has also helped make Ecuadorian society cosmopolitan and internationalized, open to the world in search of cultural exchange, always with a deep respect for the convictions and beliefs of others. Currently, the foreign population is 1.3 per cent of the total population and this percentage is increasing every day, thanks to all the facilities afforded to foreigners who come to live in the country.

Ecuador has unprecedented political stability. The current government has been in power for more than nine years, a first in the recent history of Ecuador.

Among Ecuador's achievements is the eradication of precarious employment, the establishment of real wages, the highest in Latin America, and an end to labor outsourcing, a form of exploitation of workers.

On labor issues, a living wage allows families to rise out of poverty using their incomes, and the policy states that companies cannot declare profits until they have paid a living wage to all their workers.

Another characteristic of the country worth highlighting is its safety. Quito is one of the capitals with the lowest murder rates in Latin America, on a par with La Paz, Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile. As at October 2015, the rate was 5.1 per cent. The “civil safety” policy which is implemented throughout the country has led to a drop in murder rates in Ecuador. The purpose of the policy is to plan, prevent and take appropriate action to address safety issues in each neighborhood or community, through an organized civil exercise. The exercise involves all sectors: civil society, private businesses, government bodies and the National Police. As a result of this policy, in 2012, for example, the murder rate was 12.4 per 100,000 inhabitants; in 2013, it dropped to 10.9; and in 2014 it fell further to 8.4. In 2015, it edged even lower, to 6.4 per 100,000 inhabitants. Hence, Ecuador is one of the 8 safest countries in the Americas, after Canada, Chile, the United States, Argentina, Suriname, Bermuda and Uruguay. At the global level, Ecuador is on a par with countries such as the United States, Peru, Paraguay and Brazil.



Map showing the most and least peaceful countries in the world

3. ECUADOR: A COUNTRY COMMITTED TO KNOWLEDGE

One of the key goals of Ecuador in recent years has been to move from the economics of “finite resources” to that of “infinite resources”. This means that it seeks to be more of an exporting country than an importing country, so as to build an economy based on knowledge and creativity born of the talent of its citizens. Natural resources are finite and perishable but Ideas, innovation, creativity and culture have, in principle, only ethical limitations.

The proposal seeks to move from an approach of cognitive capitalism to a “social economy of knowledge”. Given that knowledge is normally viewed as a public good, it is not prey to the exclusion and rivalry that characterize private goods. It is an infinite resource that can be distributed freely and easily in the appropriate conditions. Ecuador’s choice has been translated into practice by the change in the production model and the associated industrialization processes.

Hence, Ecuador is undergoing a process of profound change in its “System of Science, Technology and Innovation and Ancestral Knowledge”, seeking the endogenous development of knowledge in the country. The new system aims to: generate, adapt and disseminate scientific and technological knowledge; recover, strengthen and enhance ancestral knowledge; and develop technologies and innovation to boost domestic

production. The challenge of this system is to find not only a model of potential and ongoing relationships between science and technology, but also to harness common knowledge and skills for science, technology and – especially – innovation, beyond a purely productive approach, and incorporating social relevance; and to foster the co-creation of value for a truly comprehensive network of governmental and nongovernmental institutions, production units and the academic community.

In these efforts, Ecuador is concentrating on two systems: education and innovation, seeking to ensure that the ultimate goal of innovation is not profit maximization but the creation of an economy that will satisfy needs, safeguard rights and build individual, collective and territorial capacity.

Accordingly, the following subsystems have been developed as part of social innovation: human talent; research; financing and infrastructure for science and innovation; and management of property rights.

The institution charged with implementing changes in higher education, science and technology and innovation is the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT) created by the Law on Higher Education (LOES) of 2010.

The higher education system has been strengthened to graduate professionals with a high capacity for integration into the productive system and who can generate knowledge from academia and use it to develop of scientific and technological research that can be applied and implemented by the productive sector, with a focus on the needs that drive the Good Life in Ecuador. The results are already visible. For example, by 2015, there was an increase of 220 per cent in the number of universities that publish in Scopus as compared to 2010.

A first step in this process of strengthening education was the assessment and classification of all Ecuadorian universities into 5 categories according to their level of performance. As a result of this evaluation, 26 universities were identified as not meeting the quality standards: academics, academic efficiency, research, organization and infrastructure. A subsequent evaluation found that 14 of the 26 universities did not meet the conditions for academics, lecturers and infrastructure governing operation as an institution of higher education. These universities were closed.

In addition, significant resources have been allocated to higher education and scientific research:

- **Scholarships:** Ecuador awards the largest number of scholarships a year in relation to its population (2.27 per 10,000 people) in Latin America. From 2007 until the end of 2015, it awarded a total of 11,501 scholarships for undergraduates and graduates to study abroad. After completing their studies, 3,385 fellows have returned to Ecuador and 99 per cent are working in the country. Thirty-five per cent work in public or private universities; 20 per cent in private companies linked to the production and service sectors; 18 per cent in the health sector and the remaining 27 per cent in public research institutes, in autonomous bodies and as auto-entrepreneurs. There are currently 14,276 trainees abroad. Of that number, 11,334 are state-funded and 2,942 are funded by universities, to which they can return as lecturers. The Organic Law on Higher Education (LOES) has influenced this trend. The Ecuadorian government grants the following scholarships through SENESCYT:

- (A) *Globo Común* scholarships: higher education with high academic standards at the international level, with the aim of strengthening Ecuadorian talent in various areas of knowledge;
- (B) Scholarships for graduates: provides scholarships for training of Ecuadorians to

- study at the quaternary level (master's, doctorates and medical specialties);
- (C) Research Grants 2015: helps to fund quaternary studies in universities and study abroad for Ecuadorian natural persons, so that they can become researchers in Ecuador's public research institutes, and for people wishing to join the research projects of universities, polytechnics and Public Research Institutes;
 - (D) University Lecturer Grants: grants for doctoral studies in universities and study abroad, to raise the academic level of national universities and polytechnics and to transform them into research centers that can boast international-quality education;
 - (E) Postdoctoral Fellowships: provide grants for research stays to people who are finalizing their doctoral studies, are part of a national research project, and seek to strengthen their research and scientific capabilities;
 - (F) Scholarships for the High Performance Group (HPG) aim to provide scholarships to the best-rated high school students to study in the best universities worldwide;
 - (G) Financial Aid: aims to financially support Ecuadorians who wish to pursue higher education but lack the necessary financial resources or are in vulnerable situations.

- **Investment in Education:** With regard to investment in higher education as a percentage of GDP (currently 2.2 per cent of GDP), it is important to note that never before has the Ecuadorian State had invested so much in higher education. Since 2007, the State has allocated 9.601 million US dollars to higher education.

- **Strengthening universities, technical and technological institutes:** The previous system made for inefficient resource distribution favoring lower-quality universities and discriminating against better-quality and larger universities. Nowadays, resources are distributed based on the following criteria: quality, academic excellence and efficiency.

- **Evaluation and accreditation of universities:** The process of external evaluation follows these stages: documentary evaluation, site visit, preliminary report corrections phase, appeals phase and public hearings. The institutional evaluation model treats institutions of higher education as structured and functional academic units.

- **Increasing lecturers'/researchers' salaries:** the regulation of lecturer's careers and salary scales Teachers currently in force in Ecuador has increased the remuneration of lecturers in universities and public polytechnics. Previously, the salary of a senior lecturer was 1,281 US dollars. Currently, the minimum salary of a senior lecturer is 2,967 US dollars and the maximum is \$ 6,122 US dollars.

In addition to the above, the State created 4 new universities of excellence: the Yachay University for Research on Experimental Technology; the Amazon Regional University, Ikiam; the National University of Education; and the University of Arts, which are now essential pillars of the social, productive and cognitive transformation of the country, a milestone in the history of the higher education system.

- **Yachay University for Research on Experimental Technology:** it was created with the aim of generating scientific research, developing technology and producing and disseminating knowledge, to address social needs in an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary environment, in order to train creative and innovative professionals with a high sense of humanity who would proactively contribute to the development of Ecuador and the region. This university was established in the City of Knowledge, the first city planned for technological innovation and knowledge-intensive business. It is aimed at developing corporate capacity in order to strengthen the national technological base, strengthen the social economy of knowledge and promote the development of science.

- **Ikiam Amazon State University:** it aims to train specialized human talent in life sciences, earth sciences and the science of human settlements; create and transfer knowledge associated with the renewable and nonrenewable natural heritage so as to contribute to the establishment of the knowledge society nationally and internationally. Located in the Amazon, Ikiam was created as an integrated system of science, technology and innovation that meets the changing needs of the productive matrix in Ecuador.

- **University of the Arts:** it aims to train professionals in the arts to be in full command of their field and to become an international benchmark for the quality of its offer of artistic training, research, development, production and dissemination and a guarantor of the full exercise of the cultural rights of Ecuador.

- **National University of Education:** established to contribute to the development of human talent in the educational system. It is recognized as a national and international reference for the training of teachers and other education professionals with a commitment to ethics and who are able to participate in the transformation of the education system with culturally relevant and scientifically sound solutions.

Another project currently under way is the “Prometheus Project”. This initiative of the Ecuadorian government seeks to strengthen research, teaching and knowledge transfer on specialized topics by linking researchers and high-level lecturers (living abroad) to universities, polytechnics, public research institutes and other institutions (both public and co-funded) in the development of research and teaching projects in priority sectors.

Another important aspect of education is the creation and implementation of the “Millennium Educational Units” program. In 2005, Ecuador joined 147 countries to sign the Millennium Declaration, containing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to be achieved by 2015. In the field of education, the outstanding goals are to ensure that boys and girls alike complete primary education, and thus achieve equal access of boys and girls to all levels of education and eliminate inequality, focusing efforts on gender parity in primary and secondary education. In Ecuador, the achievements of the “Millennium Educational Units” program so far are as follows:

- Constructed: 59
- Under construction: 54
- Planned for construction: 212

Location criteria: the possible locations of new Millennium Educational Units have been selected based on the following technical criteria:

- focus on historically neglected sectors;
- meet urban and rural student demand; and
- improve academic quality and local conditions.

Locations are prioritized according to the following factors:

- poverty level of the population;
- lack of availability of educational services; and
- low academic performance in national tests (SER).

This set of reforms seeks to create the most favorable academic and intellectual environment for academic research, culture, science, critical thinking and cutting-edge knowledge.

The economic effort in the form of scholarships, student loans, etc. would have very little impact on the strategy of creating a new paradigm for the growth of Ecuador if the country

does not move from an outdated intellectual property system to a system that makes for free access to intellectual property.

This system of knowledge management that Ecuador intends to establish will enable and encourage the development of creative activity and socio-economic innovation, facilitate technology transfer, democratize access to knowledge/culture and make a clean break with cognitive dependence, generating added value. This process is extremely important for a country with huge genetic resources and traditional knowledge and with great potential, given its geographical location, for the development of creativity and research in all branches of knowledge. As mentioned above, Ecuador stands out as one of the most biodiverse countries in the world; it therefore seeks to preserve the natural and ancestral heritage on which research is conducted. Moreover, it seeks to harness the great wealth inherent in research on biological and genetic resources, ensuring that the benefits derived from this research are shared equitably.

Thanks to the political will of all stakeholders, especially the government, the National Assembly is currently debating the bill on the Organic Code of the Social Economy of Knowledge, Creativity and Innovation, known as *Ingenios*, which seeks to create the legal and institutional framework for making the transition from the primary economy that the country currently has to an economy whose main feature would be new wealth-generating activities based on knowledge and human talent. In this wise, the bill seeks to promote knowledge and entrepreneurship, while guaranteeing the protection of rights of creators. This is a global first in legislation.

The *Ingenios* Code is a project for collaborative construction, i.e., collaborative creation between citizens and institutions through information technologies. Thus, for the first time in the region and in Ecuador, the project design phase saw the involvement of civil society through the implementation of a tool for collaborative participation online, thereby allowing the general public to contribute a number of recommendations and comments on the text using the “mediawiki” software. The results were encouraging, with over 1,800,000 visits and more than 38,000 edits as from publication of the text. The *Ingenios* Code wiki was a forum that allowed citizens to directly edit the text of the proposed draft law.

In this process of national transformation, the Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI) plays a key role because it is responsible for the registration of trademarks and patents for innovation being generated by Ecuadorian companies, universities, researchers and other national and international actors. It is also one of the institutions responsible for promoting the benefits of using intellectual property systems. This process seeks to position knowledge as a key activity within society that must be protected and promoted through public policies, programs and projects on intellectual property.

The new system involves freedom of research as the basis of all scientific activity while respecting ethics, nature, the environment and using and increasing ancestral and local knowledge. Accreditation and scientific research are established, such that the labor needs of researchers can be addressed by an appropriate regulatory framework. This purpose is consistent with the main aim of WIPO’s external offices: “lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual property system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all”. In addition, with regard to intellectual property, the new system is based on two main pillars. The first is a dialogue of knowledge, which implies the promotion of everyday knowledge and traditional knowledge, while always seeking to ensure that they are compatible with the scientific knowledge that is being created. The second pillar is, fittingly, a modern intellectual property system consistent with current and future needs, with enhanced recognition of rights that were not covered by the previous system. This pillar also involves creating incentives for the generation of patents and intellectual works in universities.

Within this new system, the IEPI is additionally empowered to become not only a registry, but an institution responsible for dissemination, promotion and assistance to sectors interested in intellectual property issues. Additionally, the IEPI will have a direct link with the systems of higher education and innovation in science and technology through the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT), which is responsible for coordinating and directing policies on these issues.

That is why the central work of a WIPO external office in Ecuador would be precisely to participate as a central player in the development of creativity and innovation, protecting human initiatives and bringing the benefits of such development closer to the general public.

4. ECUADOR: A COUNTRY THAT WISHES TO HOST A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE

Rationale

To achieve this transformation, such that national intellectual property systems are harmonized with international systems, it would be desirable to locate a WIPO external office in Ecuador. This office would be important for several reasons, which are explained below.

Firstly, it would provide ongoing support in the implementation of WIPO-administered global intellectual property systems. In addition, it would strengthen the capabilities of the IEPI in the implementation of WIPO-administered international IP systems and its quest to bring the services offered by WIPO to stakeholders at the national level.

Secondly, the establishment of a WIPO external office would not be for the exclusive benefit of Ecuador. If this application is accepted, this would be the first and only Spanish-speaking external office in the region and it would strengthen technical capabilities and assist in achieving the set objectives. Accordingly, given the geographical location of Ecuador, which allows for greater proximity with both the northern and southern countries of the continent, this would facilitate the development of outreach and promotion activities for intellectual property, WIPO and international IP systems in Latin America and the Caribbean. In this sense, the external office would help ensure that WIPO's plans and programs being developed in Ecuador and other countries in the region are effectively implemented in coordination with the external office.

Another attractive aspect of this proposal is that linking with the academic, innovation and science and technology sectors through SENESCYT would facilitate the implementation of technological surveillance, the transfer of technology to sectors identified above and technological pairing. The fact that the guiding principle of public policies for innovation and development also underpin the work of the IEPI is of the utmost importance, as it will develop and implement projects in this area quickly and directly compared with other countries of the region.

As to the relationship with the rest of the continent, Ecuador is seeking to intensify and deepen South American integration through the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and other integration initiatives in the region, such as the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) and the Southern Common market (MERCOSUR).

Infrastructure

With regard to the infrastructure necessary for the operation of a WIPO external office, the cost of an office of about 95 sq. m in the main financial and commercial district of Quito is approximately 175,000 US dollars per year, including all expenses for the services necessary for its operation. It is important to note that the IEPI has its offices in this area and it would

be advantageous for a WIPO external office to be located in the same district to facilitate coordination between the two offices. The cost of furnishing the office to employ 5 people is approximately 20,000 US dollars, including all necessary equipment and tools. As to staffing, 5 employees are proposed: a director, an expert, two P5 staff members and an employee on a short-term contract.

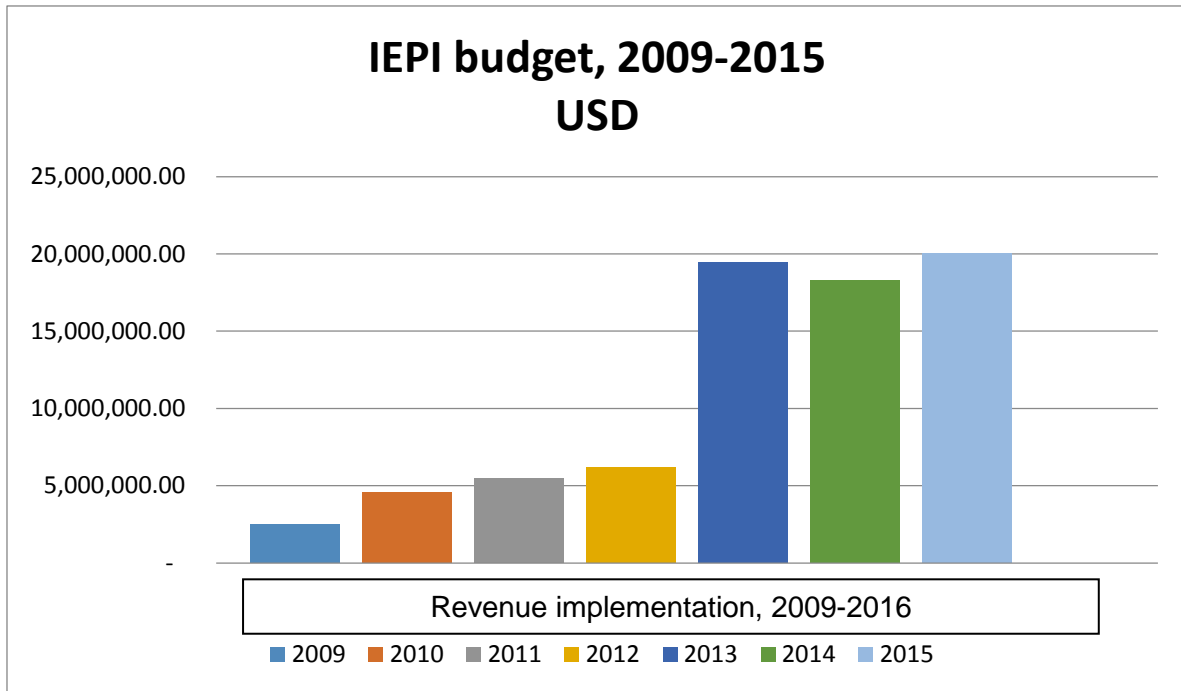
Projected expenditure	Year 1
Rental and utilities	\$ 175,000
Equipment and Tools	\$ 20,000
TOTAL	\$ 195,000

Approximate budget implementation of a regional office WIPO (year 1)

Ecuador is prepared to contribute to this expenditure, with the exception of the salaries and remuneration of the personnel described above, in order to obviate the risk that the establishment of this office could be impracticable for WIPO from the financial point of view and constitute an additional burden for the Organization.

Additionally, it is possible for the office to be located in Quito, in the district previously mentioned. It would be in one of several buildings in which the IEPI operates or it could be located in the Yachay City of Knowledge, where the IEPI also has an office of 100 sq. m that could be made available for the external office. The Yachay City of Knowledge is two hours by road from Quito Airport and just two hours from the border with Colombia.

From a financial standpoint, it is possible that once the external office is established in Ecuador, a fund could be constituted from public and private contributions. Such a fund would be administered by the office and facilitate management within the framework of the set goals and objectives. It is important to note at this juncture that the IEPI is self-managed, i.e., the budget of the National Office largely depends on the fees collected for applications filed. The number of applications has been increasing recently, so a percentage of that income could be earmarked for the operation of the office and for funding activities as from 2017. Below is the IEPI budget in recent years:



Security

In Ecuador, both public institutions and international organizations may contract the services of security companies. These companies are regulated directly by the Ministry of the Interior, which is responsible for monitoring, formulating, implementing and evaluating public policy in this sector in order to guarantee the internal security and governability of the State, with due regard for democracy and civil participation, so as to contribute to well-being. The IEPI has the following security mechanism in its Quito offices.

1. Three 24-hour security posts in the *Forum 300* building (main building) and one in the *Siglo 21* building.
2. Seven 12-hour posts: six in the *Forum 300* building and one in the Alpallana building.
3. The total monthly cost for security is 26,538.58. The cost of each security post is 1,393.84 US dollars for a 12-hour post and 2,787.66 US dollars for a 24-hour post.

It is important to note that the operations center of the security company providing the service is five minutes away from the IEPI offices. This means a quick response to emergencies, which have fortunately not occurred in the IEPI office so far.

The buildings are also equipped with a camera system for monitoring the buildings and offices. Visitors must register at reception and show their national identity cards, which are retained and exchanged for a magnetic card that allows access only to the office or floor where they are expected. After the visit, the identity document is returned in exchange for the magnetic card. All IEPI staff also have magnetic card allowing access through the main entrance and to the car park and elevator, which grants access only to the floors the IEPI occupies.

Finally, the Police also provide assistance to all public institutions and international organizations. It would be highly advisable to consider entering into a new agreement with the Police for more surveillance than is normally available for such institutions, so as to offer even greater security to members of the external office staff.

Needs

We believe that both Ecuador and Latin America would benefit greatly from the establishment of a WIPO external office located, as explained above, in a strategic position making for proximity to most countries continent (Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia and Panama), especially in the implementation of technical assistance and capacity building for each of the national intellectual property offices, promoting WIPO systems and services and strategies that bring intellectual property closer to interested sectors.

Objectives

The objectives of the external office in Ecuador would be as follows:

WIPO global services

1. promoting WIPO global services; and
2. supporting WIPO's permanent customer service.

Services to the private sector

3. providing service to users and applicants of the PCT, Madrid, and Hague systems, databases and the Arbitration and Mediation Center; and
4. work with the private sector in Ecuador and the region for global cooperation projects.

Regional activities of WIPO and the UN

5. assist headquarters in the implementation of activities in the region; and
6. cooperate with UN organizations represented in Ecuador and the region.

5. CONCLUSION

1. The geographical location of Ecuador, together with its currency and language, would facilitate the implementation of activities that a WIPO external office plans and undertakes in the region.
2. Similarly, ease of travel will allow easy movement of people from all over the continent to this office.
3. On the political front, the Ecuadorian government is keen to host the WIPO external office and is willing to contribute the necessary resources for its operation.
4. The advances in knowledge and education discussed above show that Ecuador is becoming a producer of ideas. It would be important to have the means to facilitate and promote the protection of the knowledge that is being generated.
5. Finally, the proposed objectives for the office demonstrate that the benefits of applying WIPO systems for searches and dispute settlement would accrue not only to Ecuador, but also to all the countries of Latin America.

Egypt Proposal to Host a WIPO External Office

Further to the Notes Verbales (CHAN: 007 dated 7 January 2011) and CHAN: 035 dated 23 February 2016), and with reference to C.N. 3641 dated 13 November 2013 addressed by the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organisation to Member States requesting submissions to host one of the External Offices for the biennium 2016/2017, and in accordance with the ‘Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices’ as contained in A/55/INF/11, the Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organisation, and other International Organisations in Geneva, has the honour to reiterate the official request previously submitted by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt that a WIPO External Office be established in Cairo to serve Egypt and other Member States from the region in predefined areas of Intellectual Property and Development, including technical cooperation, capacity-building, and IP service provision.

As per Section A (paragraph 3) of the aforementioned Guiding Principles, attached is a formal proposal for submission, through the Director General for consideration by the PBC.

The GoE hereby avails itself for further discussion of this request.

I. Global Context:

World Leaders adopted in September 2015 the Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030. A number of the globally agreed goals on this agenda have either direct or indirect linkages with the Intellectual Property Regime as a contributor and sometimes driver for development. Goal 9 on “Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure” tackles the role of investment in these areas as an engine for economic growth and development. Likewise, Goals 3 on good health and wellbeing, 4 on quality education, 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, and 13 on climate action can be positively impacted by an intellectual property system that fosters innovation and creativity for development purposes as per the development levels and needs of Members of the international community.

As such, and being one of the UN Specialised Agencies, WIPO’s field work, to be carried out through its network of External Offices, should be guided by and work in tandem with various actors within and outside the UN system towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

II. Regional Context:

African heads of States and Governments adopted at the African Union Summit in January 2015 the Agenda 2063, painting the future face of Africa based on 7 defined African Aspirations, the first of which envisions “a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development”, encompassing “well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation for a knowledge society”.

(Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, p. 3). Under Aspiration 5, aiming at an “Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics”, Africa’s cultural assets in terms of “heritage, folklore, languages, film, music, theatre, literature,...”, and its “creative arts and industries will be celebrated...and contribute significantly to self-awareness, well-being and prosperity”. (Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, p. 9).

Based on those aspirations, African leaders committed themselves to their attainment, and issued a call for action towards a knowledge society driven by science, technology, innovation.

III. National Context:

In tandem with the previously highlighted international and national developments, Egypt officially launched its National Sustainable Development Strategy 2030.

The Strategy is pinned upon a number of axes, one of which focuses on Innovation, Knowledge, and Scientific Research, towards the establishment of a creative, innovative, and knowledge society. A number of goals address related issues, including the goals of raising the number of nationally-generated patents both domestically and internationally, advancing Egypt’s ranking on the global innovation index, enacting well-adapted intellectual property laws, as well as issuing legislations to govern science, technology and innovation, including the transfer of technology. Accordingly, national policies and programmes are being put in place to support innovation, ranging from financing, through providing incentives for investment, and up to supporting industry and job creation.

In the same vein, Egypt launched its National Strategy for Science, Technology, and Innovation 2030. The Strategy aims at establishing a functional science and technology base that generates knowledge and drives innovation, feeding into sustainable development. The process of implementation will move on two tracks: First, creating an enabling environment for innovation in the field of scientific research, including through fostering the use of the intellectual property regime. In addition, the Strategy targets encouraging investments in science and technology, linking up to industry, development plans, and societal needs, and creating partnerships with relevant actors and stakeholders. Second, knowledge generation, and transfer and localisation of technology.

It is to be noted that Egypt prioritises the fields of energy production from renewable sources, water management, health, agriculture and food security, environmental protection and preservation of natural resources, ICT, education, and the tourism industry.

IV. Intellectual Property in Egypt:

1. Legislative and Legal Infrastructure:

a. Egypt's New Constitution 2014:

The Constitution of Egypt adopted by a popular referendum in January 2014 sets the tone for the establishment of a knowledge economy, placing emphasis on fostering scientific research, innovation, and creativity as per Article 23.

It specifically dedicated an Article (Article 69) on Intellectual Property Protection committing the State to 'protect all types of intellectual property rights in all fields, and establish a specialized agency to uphold such rights and their legal protection as regulated by Law.' Article 227

stipulates that 'The Constitution and its preamble and all its provisions constitute an integral text and an indivisible whole, and its provisions constitute one coherent unit.' Accordingly, Article 69 is seen within a wider context of Constitutional provisions placing obligations on the State in the areas of the right to health (Article 18), the right to education (Articles 19 and 20), the right to a clean and safe environment (Article 46), the right to culture (Article 48), that includes ensuring access, supporting competition (Article 27), freedom of scientific research and sponsoring researchers and inventors (Article 66), freedom of artistic and literary expression, including sponsoring of creative artists and authors and protecting their productions (Article 67).

Based on the above, the Constitution has drawn linkages and established the balance required between private rights and the public interest. This comes in line with the premise that intellectual property regimes should be adapted to the development levels and needs of each country, whereby protection and enforcement balance out with access and consumer protection and anticompetitive practices.

b. Legal Framework:

The main legal framework governing intellectual property rights in Egypt is Law no. 82 for 2002 on Intellectual Property.

2. Institutional infrastructure:

- Law no. 82 for 2002 designates national authorities responsible for its implementation, within their respective fields of work and mandate, namely:

The Egyptian Patent Office (Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Ministry of Scientific Research), Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Ministry of Information (abolished and replaced by the Radio and

Television Union), Ministry of Trade and Industry, Trademark and Industrial Designs Office (Ministry of Internal Trade), Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice.

- The National Committee on Intellectual Property:

Established by a Prime Ministerial Decree in 2007, under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Membership composed of the afore-mentioned national authorities, in addition to the Ministry of Environmental Affairs, and the Regional Institute for Intellectual Property (Faculty of Law, Helwan University).

- The Regional Institute for Intellectual Property, granting diplomas and graduate studies to Intellectual Property practitioners and law students.

- National Academy on Intellectual Property (under construction): envisioned to serve a two-pronged purpose: training and capacity building for intellectual property practitioners, and granting graduate academic degrees in intellectual property studies.

3. Cooperation with WIPO:

- Drawing from its interest in advancing the Intellectual Property Rights agenda, from a development perspective, Egypt is keen to sustain and advance cooperation with WIPO in upscaling its institutional and academic infrastructure as well as fostering cooperation and sharing of experiences with countries of the region.

- Latest notable areas of cooperation include the following:

a. Cairo hosted in 2013 the Second Interregional South-South Innovation Conference.

b. Establishment of the National Academy on Intellectual Property, under the ambit of the WIPO Development Agenda. This project has finalised two phases that

provided Training of Trainers Modules on various intellectual property aspects. Some of the beneficiaries of the project are registered on WIPO's roster of trainers for cooperation with other countries.

c. An ongoing project to upgrade the Egyptian Trademark Office.

d. Establishment of a network of Technology, Innovation Commercialisation Offices.

e. Pending requests cover the areas of copyright collective management.

f. A study on Intellectual Property and the Information and Telecommunications Sector in Egypt.

- Potential areas of cooperation may also include:

a. Support to the creative industries with a view to transforming them into intellectual property assets feeding into the economy.

b. Exploring means and ways to enhance absorptive capacity in innovation, taking into consideration that innovation covers a wide spectrum of areas including research and development, targeted investments, trade, competition policy, etc.

c. South-South cooperation initiatives.

V. Egypt as a Hub for Field Offices representing Regional Organisations and UN Entities:

Egypt hosts a multiplicity of country and regional field offices, representing entities from within and outside the UN system, serving either the Arab or the African region, in addition to catering to national policy priorities.

The network of UN Offices in Egypt includes 26 Offices, 15 out of which serve as regional offices. UN Agencies functioning through regional and country offices in Egypt include for example the Rome-based Agencies (FAO, WFP, and IFAD), UNESCO, UNIDO, ITU, UNAIDS, WHO, UNICEF,

UNEP, to name a few. In addition, Egypt hosts around 14 Arab entities, and 6 African entities, most notably the African Development Bank, the African Export-Import Bank, and the Regional Investment Agency under COMESA.

This wide network provides a wealth of expertise at the country and regional levels as well as a well-established experience in conducting relations with such international entities.

Memoranda of Understanding and Host Country Agreements govern the privileges, immunities, mandates, and scope of work of each of those offices on mutually agreed terms.

VI. Logistical Aspects:

Egypt enjoys a leading supportive infrastructure in the region, including the following:

- 1. Conference services, with diversified meeting venues.**
- 2. Long-term experience in hosting national, regional, and international events, and major conferences. It is to be noted that in the midst of its political transition following the 25th of January Revolution, Egypt hosted in 2013 the Second Interregional South-South Innovation Conference.**
- 3. Robust information and telecommunications services.**
- 4. Leading provider of airline services, with a regional network of flights covering almost all of Africa and other regions of the world, facilitating access to most economical routes.**
- 5. Egypt's central geographical location places its airports as the most convenient transit routes of most international airlines across continents. This same location provides a wider spectrum of access to both**

land and sea transport facilities. Furthermore, air travel in Egypt benefits from a well-connected network of charter flights.

6. Globally-connected banking services and facilities.

7. Healthcare facilities.

8. Well-trained human resources, including in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

VII. Rationale, Scope and Mandate:

1. Drawing from the above contextual presentation, and being conscious of African priorities and development aspirations, and its areas of competitiveness, Egypt is well-placed to host a WIPO External Office to serve countries of the African continent, on a demand-driven needs basis, and in accordance with their national levels of development.

2. Scope of work and mandate should cover intellectual property and development, as per the WIPO Development Agenda recommendations, in particular in reversing the brain drain to brain gain, serving African aspirations as outlined in Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want, and in line with the Global Sustainable Development Agenda. Activities should ensure that intellectual property rights protection and enforcement ‘contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology, to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare, and to a balance of rights and obligations.’ (TRIPS, Article 7). In addition, African priorities in the area of the preservation and protection of their traditional knowledge and traditional cultural

expressions should be met with a view to accentuate the African comparative advantage and raise Africa's competitiveness in this domain, channelling the outcomes towards achieving sustainable development.

- 3. A detailed mandate and scope of operations should be developed based on further discussions over a host-country agreement.**

**Proposal for a WIPO External Office
National Registration Center
El Salvador**

Pursuant to the letter dated 19 February 2016, the Republic of El Salvador declared its interest in hosting a WIPO External Office on the premises of the National Registration Center, next to the National Intellectual Property Academy in the city of San Salvador.

The expression of interest is valid for the 2016/2017 biennium. However, there is sufficient leeway to maintain the interest during the 2018/2019 biennium.

El Salvador is a developing country that has been building a policy and regulatory framework to foster the use of intellectual property (IP) as a tool for its people, in order to develop a more productive and educated country.

Accordingly, in light of the proposal set out below, it would disseminate and facilitate the provision of WIPO services, promoting inter-agency and South-South cooperation and raising awareness of international treaties such as the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.

Similarly, the location of a WIPO office in El Salvador would, among other things, enhance lateral cooperation among countries of the Central American region and serve as a link to other international agencies and/or IP offices in Central American, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean, which could provide specialized technical assistance. It would strengthen and promote the protection of IP rights and public intellectual property policy strategies, benefiting our people and the territories within the ambit of the External Office.

The powers of the National Office (Intellectual Property Registry) would be maintained. However the National Intellectual Property Office located in the National Registration Center would collaborate in WIPO IP outreach and awareness-raising programs and would increase awareness, understanding and respect in relation to intellectual property.

Therefore the proposal is submitted together with justification for the suitability of our application as follows.

Diplomatic privileges and treatment

A proposal will be submitted for consideration to the Chancellery of the Republic of El Salvador to afford the director of the WIPO External Office privileges that are no less favorable than those the director may enjoy at WIPO headquarters, that is, the prerogatives granted to personnel of diplomatic missions in the country, including the director's spouse and minor children. All this will be in accordance with current regulations for the resident diplomatic corps in El Salvador.

In accordance with international law as applicable in respect of diplomatic missions established in the country and in keeping with our relevant legislation, the premises of the WIPO External Office shall be inviolable; such inviolability shall encompass its records, property and assets.

Exemptions from income tax and other taxes

The Ministry of Finance of El Salvador will submit for consideration a proposal that WIPO diplomatic staff be exempted from taxes on salaries, emoluments and allowances paid by WIPO, among other exemptions, all in accordance with the tax legislation of El Salvador and related laws.

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

Permits allowing the WIPO staff member holding the post of Director to import a vehicle and household goods in accordance with the relevant laws, enshrined in the relevant national and international legislation, will be processed and submitted for consideration to the appropriate authorities.

Security of WIPO officials

The necessary steps will be taken to guarantee the protection of WIPO officials, by signing memoranda of understanding with the National Civil Police to provide adequate protection.

Immigration

Steps will be taken so that through the appropriate ministry, the government of El Salvador will facilitate the entry, stay and exit of persons invited into El Salvador by the WIPO office for official purposes, in compliance with Salvadoran immigration laws.

Authorizations to allow spouses and dependants of WIPO officials working in El Salvador will be processed provided they meet the relevant legal requirements.

Administrative and other related matters

Costs relating to medical insurance and civil liability insurance for motor vehicle use will be borne by WIPO, in accordance with applicable national legislation.

Geographical ambit of the Office

Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean
The geographical location of El Salvador makes it a hub in Central America and the Caribbean, strengthening communication and seamless connections between WIPO and this geographical area.

Tasks and activities to be developed

Foster closer cooperation to promote intellectual property development, strengthening cooperation between the countries of Central America, the Caribbean and the Dominican Republic.

Widen the scope of intellectual property to meet capacity-building needs and enhance cooperation for Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean.

Promote WIPO treaties and global services, such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Hague Agreement concerning the international registration of industrial designs and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled, among others.

Encourage and promote use of the WIPO mediation and arbitration service, strengthening institutional projects of the National Registration Center of El Salvador relating to an Arbitration Center and alternative dispute resolution at the regional level.

Assist states in Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean with intellectual property matters, particularly as regards cooperation and institutional capacity-building.

Encourage support and strengthening of collective for copyright and related rights management bodies in Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean.

Promote the establishment of a regional IP academy for Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean.

Assist with the use of intellectual property for fostering technology transfer and support technology and innovation centers, strengthening the regional CATI-CARD network.

Other activities approved in the WIPO Program and Budget.

Annex: summary table of proposal

Application	Location	Application period	Specific activities (regional and value-added)	WIPO contribution	CNR contribution	Budget
National: El Salvador	San Salvador: premises of the National Registration Center (CNR), next to the National Intellectual Property Academy.	2016/2017 biennium However, with flexibility, this can be extended to the 2018/2019 biennium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster closer cooperation to promote intellectual property development, strengthening cooperation between the countries of Central America, the Caribbean and the Dominican Republic. • Widen the scope of intellectual property to meet capacity-building needs and enhance cooperation for Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean. • Promote WIPO treaties and global services, such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Hague Agreement concerning the international registration of industrial designs and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled, among others. • Encourage and promote use of the WIPO mediation and arbitration service, strengthening institutional projects of the National Registration Center of El Salvador relating to an Arbitration Center and alternative dispute resolution at the regional level. • Assist states in Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean with intellectual property matters, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Office director • A professional staff member to manage and implement program activities • Others to be determined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local administrative staff • Provision of External Office premises • Support for IT, mechanical, electrical services, human resources and administrative expenses necessary for the functioning of the office. 	The CNR will submit a detailed financial proposal for hosting the WIPO office. The financial document is at the authorization stage.

			<p>particularly as regards cooperation and institutional capacity-building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage support and strengthening of collective for copyright and related rights management bodies in Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean.• Promote the establishment of a regional IP academy for Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean• Assist with the use of intellectual property for fostering technology transfer and support technology and innovation centers, strengthening the regional CATI-CARD network.• Other activities approved in the WIPO Program and Budget.			
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Government of India
Proposal by India for hosting new WIPO's External Office in its National Capacity

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Original version in English



Government of India

Proposal by India for hosting new WIPO's External Office in its National Capacity

I. Introduction:

1. In accordance with the 'Guiding Principles regarding WIPO External Offices' as contained in A/55/INF/11, the Government of India has notified the Chair of the General Assembly and Director General its wish to host a new External Office in India, in its national capacity. A letter dated 28 December 2015 to this effect was written by Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Commerce & Industry, Government of India, Her Excellency Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman to the Director General WIPO (copy of the letter is enclosed herewith).
2. This formal proposal of India, in accordance with the extant Guiding Principles regarding the WIPO External Offices, to host a new External Office in India in its national capacity, is submitted through the Director-General for consideration by the Program and Budget Committee (PBC) during the current biennium i.e. 2016/2017.
3. WIPO has a limited network of External Offices. These offices are located in Singapore (2005), Japan (2006), Brazil (2010), China (2014) and the Russian Federation (2014). With the exception of Singapore, which covers the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Region, the coverage of the other WIPO Offices is national in character i.e. limited to the countries in which they are located.
4. The overall objective of India seeking to host an External office is to develop a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of India, WIPO as well as other relevant stakeholders. WIPO opening an External

- Office in India would also enhance the quality of service of WIPO, and also promote its unique role as a Global Service organization.
5. The opening of a WIPO External Office (EO) in India would add value, efficiency and effectiveness to the program delivery in a coordinated manner. The proposed EO would complement the work undertaken at the WIPO's Headquarters in Geneva. This will be done keeping in mind that there is no duplication of work, and there is an optimization of WIPO resources. Such an office will be cost effective responding to the growing need for IP services in India; hence playing an important role in the overall economic development of the country and strengthening India's knowledge-based economy. The proposed office will form an integral part of WIPO's Results-Based Management (RBM) and regulatory framework.
 6. An External Office in India would also reinforce WIPO's core functionality in following ways:
 - i. Promotion of, and support for, WIPO's Global Intellectual Property (IP) Systems,
 - ii. Effective delivery of technical assistance and capacity building activities,
 - iii. Promotion of WIPO's treaties, and
 - iv. Implementation of effective communication and outreach strategies.

II. Rationale for establishing an External Office in India

7. India has chartered a path to develop knowledge-based economy with high level of emphasis on innovation and technology upgradation. Following pointers would set out the rationale for establishing a new External Office in India.
8. India is the second most populous country in the world and also emerged as the fastest growing economy in the world in 2015. The 2015 Global Innovation Index report has chosen India as an example of an innovation achiever in Central and Southern Asia in the group of lower-middle-income countries. The report presents India as a representative 'innovation achiever' by providing a narrative of how the country has shaped its innovation policy over the years and a perspective on what has worked for India.

9. India is at the top in Global Innovation Index(GII) Rankings for Central and Southern Asia. India is among the 8 innovation achievers in the World outperforming their peers on the overall Global Innovation Index score during 2011–14. The Government of India is making concerted efforts to update the data regarding various parameters, which will enhance India's position in the overall rankings of the GII Index.
10. The 'Make in India' programme of the Government of India has given a fillip to manufacturing in India. It aims to foster an innovation ecosystem in India and would help India in achieving world leadership in knowledge economy and technology.
11. The 'Startup India' mission has unleashed entrepreneurial energy among start-ups, as young and bright minds are raring to move ahead. Giving a spur to IPRs of startups, the Government of India has launched a scheme to facilitate IPR protection to startups for patents, trademarks and designs from the stage of filing to final disposal (including grant or registration) of the IPR applications.
12. The 'Digital India' Initiative provides a platform for people to display their talent and share ideas on spectrum of topics. The digital revolution has also kicked in innovations, and more and more innovations are expected in India in the sectors like education, agriculture, healthcare and environment in the near future. As a result, the number of IP filings is likely to increase at an exponential level.
13. Technology innovation will have a disruptive impact on outdated traditional models, bringing in welcome changes in tune with the times. Innovation is happening in several sectors in India from pharmaceuticals, automotive, energy, healthcare to media, governance and education. India is at the forefront in terms of IT and IT enabled services. India has received immense praise for service innovation in the past few years; at the same time it aspires to harness the power of product innovation to significantly contribute to increasing demand for Global IP Services.
14. India is working on leveraging the demographic dividend and bridge the innovation gap between the developing countries and the developed world. Real, sustainable economic development and growth in India will come from indigenous innovations, technologies, products and services.

15. India will soon come out with its National IPR Policy that shall weave in the strengths of the Government, research and development organisations, educational institutions, corporate entities including MSMEs, start-ups and other stakeholders in the creation of an innovation-conducive environment. Thus, even as India is already witnessing a spurt in IPR filings for patents and trademarks, it is poised at the cusp, ready to take the leap in all aspects related to IPRs.
16. Overall IP filings and, particularly domestic filings, in India has been consistently on the rise. For example, patent filings by residents have increased from 18.45% in 2005-06 to 28.22% in 2014-15. EO can motivate and encourage domestic applicants for patents in India to file more and more international applications through PCT by providing interactive support, necessary guidance and access to resources. This will also result in enhancing WIPO's financial resources.
17. In Trademarks, filings have been going up over the years, and crossed the figure of 2,00,000 in the year 2013-14; this year, the figure is expected to easily cross 2,50,000. Indian filings have been around 95% of total filings over the last few years. Large number of these Indian applicants, who remain confined to domestic protection, can be motivated to protect their trademarks internationally through WIPO mechanism of Madrid system that has shown encouraging results in India, if direct facilities and resources are available from the proposed EO of WIPO in India.
18. India, through substantial reduction of fees for IPR filings by MSMEs, has already facilitated IPR protection for MSME sector which contributes in a big way for India's industrial progress by providing innovative products and services. Many departments of Government of India have initiated specific programmes to boost IPR promotion among MSMEs which would perfectly complement the WIPO objective set out for MSMEs, if EO is established in India.
19. Thus, in both the short and long terms, it would be a win-win situation for both India and WIPO by locating a new EO in India.

III. Proposed Functions of External Office in India:

20. Based on preliminary assessment, we envisage that the External Office in India could undertake the following functions:

- i. One of the main functions of WIPO is to provide Global IP Services. Overwhelming proportion of the total financial resources of the WIPO comes from these services. Executing Technical Assistance for Developing Countries and Least Developed Countries is another key function of WIPO. WIPO derives around 96% of its revenue from fees for services rendered under its Global IP Systems Viz. Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Madrid System for Marks, the Hague System for designs, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Centre, etc. The PCT and Madrid contribute to about 77% and 16% of the total revenue of WIPO. As India is a member of both PCT and Madrid Systems, a WIPO office in India would build a conducive environment for creating more interest in these Systems, thus resulting in more IP filings and consequent increase in the income of WIPO.
- ii. An essential part of the services that WIPO provides in respect of its Global IP Systems consists of information and assistance services to users of the Systems. For example, in 2015 the PCT Information Service within the PCT Legal Division of WIPO received 11,192 total inquiries (emails, calls and faxes), that is, an average of 932 inquiries per month or 45 per day. 47% of those inquiries in 2015 came in by phone, so approximately 438 per month. The origin of phone calls could be determined in 2015 for 91.7% of calls. Of the 5,458 calls received in 2015 for which we could determine their origin, 456 calls (8.35%) were from Asian countries. External Office in India can perform a vital service in supporting the Organization's Global IP Systems in the Asian time zones at a very affordable manner.
- iii. A WIPO External Office would provide a valuable addition to WIPO's general customer response network. If a person calls the general number of WIPO before business hours in Geneva, the call could be automatically received and answered, in India.

- iv. External Office in India would be able to provide technical support in relation to various technical assistance programs administered in the Global Infrastructure Sector of WIPO such as the establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) that make available patent information and other scientific and technical information to IP Offices, universities and research institutions throughout India and other developing countries. Providing intensive technical support through an External Office in India may be much more cost efficient through experts attached to the proposed External Office, rather than through the deployment of experts from the Headquarters.
- v. The proposed EO could save substantial cost for WIPO for carrying out various Capacity Building activities such as organisation of Conferences, Training seminars, WIPO Summer Schools, technical training for patent or trademark examiners, study visits and training at Indian Patent offices. This is bound to reduce budgetary requirements of WIPO, especially for travel and other logistical arrangements.

IV. Objectives of the proposed External Office in India

21. Following are the objectives of the proposed EO in India:
 - i. **Promote WIPO's Global Services** such as the PCT and Madrid systems, and also coordinate with Government for accession to other Systems in the coming years;
 - ii. **Provide efficient and timely services** to users and applicants of the PCT, Madrid systems, global databases such as PATENTSCOPE, as well as the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center services;
 - iii. **Collaborate** with Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion(DIPP), Indian IP offices including that of Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trademarks and GIs as also Registrar of Copyrights, Indian Industries, Business houses, Industry Associations and Chambers of Commerce to develop and promote WIPO's global partnership projects such as WIPO GREEN and WIPO RE:SEARCH;

- iv. **Coordinate** with Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and the Indian IP offices including that of Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trademarks and GIs as also Registrar of Copyrights, and assist WIPO HQ in undertaking activities for the development of the WIPO knowledge database “IP Advantage”;
- v. **Cooperate with the United Nations agencies present in India** to organize outreach program activities as part of inter-agency cooperation;
- vi. **Assist the HQ in coordinating with IP experts** and policy makers from India in order to share India’s experience in the use of IP systems for innovation through the participation of such experts in meetings; and
- vii. **Support WIPO’s Round-the-Clock service** during the allotted time frame.

V. Linkage between WIPO Strategic Goals & Objectives of proposed EO in India:

WIPO Strategic Goals	Objectives of proposed EO in India
II Provision of Premier Global IP Services	Yes
III Facilitating the Use of IP for Development	Yes
VII Addressing IP in Relation to Global Policy Issues	Yes
VIII A Responsive Communications Interface between WIPO, its Member States and All Stakeholders	Yes
IV Coordination and Development of Global IP Infrastructure	Yes

VI. Value Addition by the proposed External Office in India

22. India believes that establishment of a new External Office in India would add immense value to WIPO's current setup, by way of following advantages:
- i. It will create a strong communications interface with the local stakeholders in India and the same cannot be created by occasional visits and missions. EO is likely to contribute towards intense cooperation between WIPO & Government of India to meet demands from users of WIPO services;
 - ii. It will help result in considerable savings on travel expenditure, as there would be less number of missions that the WIPO HQ teams need to make for undertaking various activities in India;
 - iii. The presence of EO in India will help in holding of more activities such as seminars and workshops, thus strengthening capacity-building and provision of technical assistance activities in India;
 - iv. WIPO's geographical coverage will become more comprehensive and global with enhancement of its global customer network by providing WIPO's services which WIPO HQ alone cannot achieve; and
 - v. EO in India would constitute an integral part of a WIPO global office network as a means of providing timely and efficient services to stakeholders both in India and outside.
23. Overall, the beneficiaries of WIPO Services in India will have higher degree of satisfaction and accomplishment of work, thus enhancing the image and reputation of WIPO as the premiere Global IP Service Provider.

VII. Needs of IP Users in India

24. **Patent Applications:** Number of Patent applications filed in India has increased from 17,466 in 2004 to 45,802 in 2015, a jump of 162%. India's ranking has also improved from 11 to 7 over the period of last 10 years in terms of filing applications. This upward trend is likely to continue as the number of applications increase. It

may also be pertinent to mention that almost 75% of the applications are filed by foreign applicants.

25. **Membership of PCT:** The opportunities afforded by globalization and the digital revolution mean that many more Indian companies are aspiring to gain a foothold in global markets. WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) offers them a cost-effective and efficient way to protect their cutting-edge technologies in about 148 countries.
26. India became a member of the PCT in 1998. In that year, just 14 international applications were filed by Indian inventors under the PCT; by 2014 that figure had risen 100 times to 1,428. To ensure that Indian companies benefit fully from India's membership of the PCT, the Patent Office of India is actively embracing and promoting the use of PCT-related services to expand access to a broader range of cost-effective services that simplify and streamline the process of protecting patents internationally.
27. **International Search Authority:** In October 2013, the Indian Patent Office became an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA) under the PCT, joining 16 other countries in fulfilling that role. Indian companies now have easier access to local high-quality IP services in addition to those already available from other ISAs with acquiring ISA/IPEA status. With its own patent database and access to others around the globe, this offers top quality patent search and preliminary reports at extremely competitive prices. 1173 requests for ISR and 30 requests for IPEA have been received in ISA/IN till 31st December 2015.
28. **Madrid Protocol:** With the accession of India to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks in July 2013, Indian companies also have access to a simple, cost-effective and user-friendly means of protecting their brands in global markets. The Madrid System has become a gateway to global markets for Indian applicants and also opens the door to foreign companies seeking to establish operations in the Indian market. Till 31st December 2015, 20,094 international applications designating India were received at the India's Trademarks Registry, and the number is likely to increase manifold in coming years.

VIII. Financial Sustainability/ Budget Neutrality

29. Government of India has offered gratis suitable premises for the proposed office. The Commerce and Industries Minister of India has already conveyed this to DG, WIPO (copy of letter enclosed). It will also provide basic furniture and equipment, as also appropriate security arrangements to operationalize the office. Once the decision to establish an EO in India is taken, privileges and immunities similar to those accorded to other UN Specialized Agencies will also be considered.
30. **Resources and Cost Efficiency:** A major benefit of establishing an EO in India would be the financial and in-kind contribution made by the Indian Government. The gratuitous provision of the premises will remove WIPO's long-term liability as far as premises are concerned. Then, India would facilitate as also work in tandem with WIPO to operationalize the office and use it to further the cause of IPRs in India and the entire region.

IX. Geographic Aspects/ Locational Aspects:

31. The time difference between India and the WIPO HQ in Geneva is four-and-a-half hours in winter and three-and-a-half hours in summer. As a result, currently only few hours of the standard work day overlap between these two locations is possible. This has been placing a significant constraint on timely and efficient communications between WIPO HQ and Indian institutions. Presence of a WIPO EO in India would address this serious drawback in the engagement of WIPO with India.
32. Presently there is only one External Office in the Asia and the Pacific Region i.e. Singapore. The presence of this EO in Singapore has no direct benefit to India, as it caters at best to the ASEAN region only. As the demand for IP services in India is rising exponentially, the proposed EO in India would be well placed to fulfill the growing demand from India's IP regime, and also benefit the overall objectives of the WIPO.

X. Conclusion

33. India is fully committed to establish a robust, streamlined, cost-effective and transparent IP ecosystem to serve the needs of its innovative and rapidly expanding economy, in particular with a strong emphasis on knowledge-based economy. Opening an External Office in India will provide a strong push towards these efforts and in return, WIPO is also bound to benefit with more revenues from increased filings, enhanced global reach, boost in IP awareness and availability of cost effective services from India.
34. Establishing national External Office in India has a sound scientific rationale as well as grounded on financial prudence for both India and WIPO. There would be a significant value addition to the functioning of WIPO and IP promotional activities without posing any strain on its financial resources.
35. In conclusion, it will be a win-win situation for India and WIPO if a new national External Office is established in India. The Government of India, therefore, looks forward to an early consideration in the Program and Budget Committee (PBC) of its proposal and to recommend to the WIPO General Assembly to take an expeditious decision to establish a national EO in India during the current biennium 2016-17.

TRENDS IN PERFORMANCE OF IPO IN INDIA

1. Trends in Patents

1.1 Data on Patent applications, examination, grant and disposal

Year	Filed	Examined	Granted	Disposal (Granted+ Abandoned+ Withdrawn + Refused)
2007-08	35218	11751	15261	15795
2008-09	36812	10296	16061	17136
2009-10	34287	6069	6168	11339
2010-11	39400	11208	7509	12851
2011-12	43197	11031	4381	8488
2012-13	43674	12268	4126	9027
2013-14	42950	18306	4225	11672
2014-15	42763	22631	5978	14328
2015-16 (April- December)	35447	13012	4481	11228

1.2 Data on patent applications filed, granted and in force

Year	No. of applications filed		Number of requests for examination Filed	No. of Examinations (FER) Issued	Number of Patents Granted		Patents in Force	
	Total	By Residents			Residents	Non-Residents	Residents	Non-Residents
2005-06	24505	4521	21926	11569	1396	2924	4486	11933
2006-07	28940	5314	20645	14119	1907	5632	3473	13593
2007-08	35218	6040	22146	11751	3173	12088	7966	21722
2008-09	36812	6161	30595	10296	2541	13520	6158	24664
2009-10	34287	7044	28653	6069	1725	4443	6781	30553
2010-11	39400	8312	31493	11208	1273	6236	7301	32293
2011-12	43197	8921	33811	11031	699	3682	7545	32444
2012-13	43674	9911	36247	12268	716	3410	8308	35612
2013-14	42951	10941	37474	18306	634	3592	7464	35168
2014-15	42763	12071	34958	22631	684	5294	7561	35695
2015-16 (Apr-Dec)	35447	9216	26318	13012	669	3812	7421	36871

1.3 Patent applications filed by residents and non-residents through various routes for last 10 years

Applicants	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Residents	4521	5314	6040	6161	7044	8312	8921	9911	10941	12071
Non Residents										
Ordinary	1008	693	834	681	826	816	1031	1144	1228	1461
Convention	3509	3969	4453	4264	2986	3728	4280	4184	3704	3174
National Phase Applications under PCT	15467	19768	23891	25706	23431	26544	28965	28435	27078	26057
GRAND TOTAL	24505	28940	35218	36812	34287	39400	43197	43674	42951	42763

2. Trends in TRADE MARKS

Year	Filed	Examined	Registered	Disposal (Registered+ Abandoned+ Refused+ Withdrawn +)
2007-08	123414	63605	100857	
2008-09	130172	105219	102257	126540
2009-10	141943	25875	54814	76310
2010-11	179317	205065	115472	132507
2011-12	183588	116263	51735	57867
2012-13	194216	202385	44361	69736
2013-14	200005	203086	67873	104753
2014-15	210501	168026	41583	83652
2015-16 (April-December)	207923	145831	48462	68923

3. Trends in DESIGNS

Year	Filed	Examined	Registered
2007-08	6402	6183	4928
2008-09	6557	6446	4772
2009-10	6092	6266	6025
2010-11	7589	6277	9206
2011-12	8373	6511	6590
2012-13	8337	6776	7252
2013-14	8533	7281	7178
2014-15	9382	7459	7171
2015-16 (April-December)	8035	5589	5972

4. Trends in GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

Year	Filed	Examined	Registered
2007-08	37	48	31
2008-09	44	21	45
2009-10	40	46	14
2010-11	27	32	29
2011-12	148	37	23
2012-13	24	30	21
2013-14	75	42	22
2014-15	47	66	20
2015-16 (April- December)	15	192	2

निर्मला सीतारमण
NIRMALA SITHARAMAN



वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
भारत
MINISTER OF STATE (Independent Charge)
COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
INDIA

D.O.No.4/11/2013-IPR-VI/1569,
Dear Director General,

28-December, 2015

Please except my congratulations on the successful conclusion of the 55th Series of Meetings on the Assemblies of Member-States of WIPO earlier this month. My deep appreciation for you and your able team may also be placed on record for jointly hosting the exhibition on 'Geographical Indications of India' on the sidelines of the WIPO General Assembly. This event, jointly hosted by the Government of India and the WIPO gave us an unique opportunity to showcase not only India's GIs but also to highlight the flagship "Make in India" programme launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in September, 2014.

As part of India's commitment to promote innovation, protecting IPRs and to meet the developmental challenges in a balanced manner, we are striving to develop a new IPR policy in the country. A number of flagship projects launched by India, including "Make in India" and 'Digital India', have a significant IP component. It is believed there would be substantial mutual benefit – both to India and WIPO – if WIPO were to establish a new External Office (EO) in New Delhi. My predecessor had already conveyed India's interest in 2014 in hosting a new EO.

A suitable premises for the new External Office of the WIPO in New Delhi would be provided for gratuitous use. Privileges and immunities similar to those accorded to other UN Specialised Agencies will also be considered once the decision to establish the EO is taken.

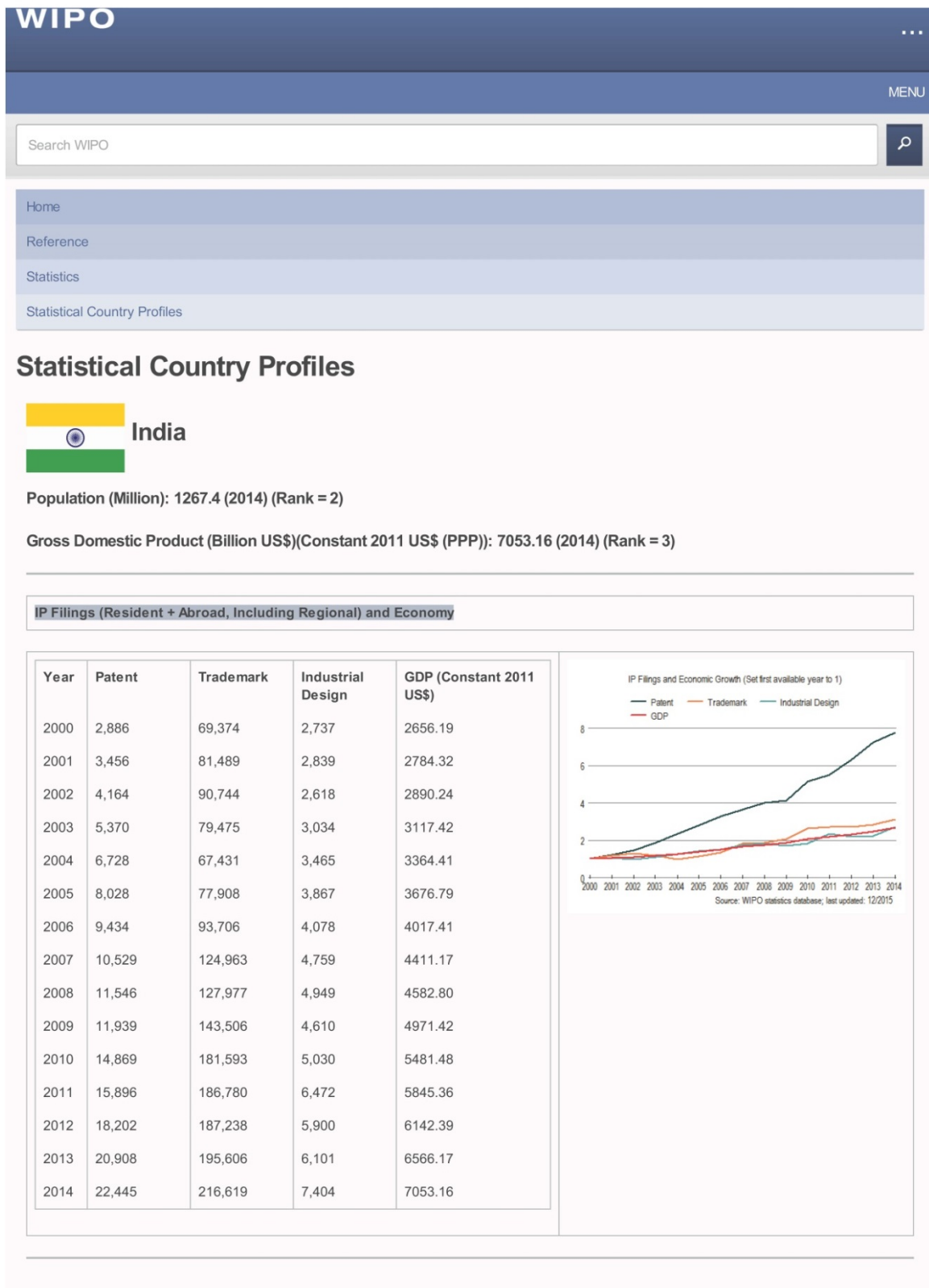
The Member-State driven processes, as defined in the Guiding Principles, would be examining proposals for opening of new Eos during the next biennium 2016-2017. It is hoped that our proposal to open a new External Office in India would find suitable reflection among the proposals to be considered by the WIPO. I look forward to your continued cooperation and support in realization of this project.

Yours sincerely,

(Nirmala Sitharaman)

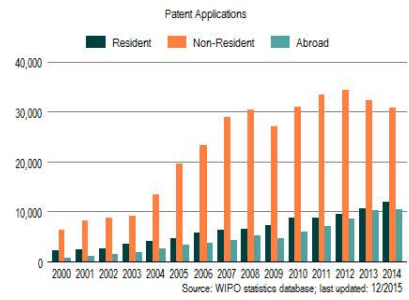
tc issued
18/12/15

Mr. Francis Gurry,
Director-General,
World Intellectual Property Organisation,
Geneva.



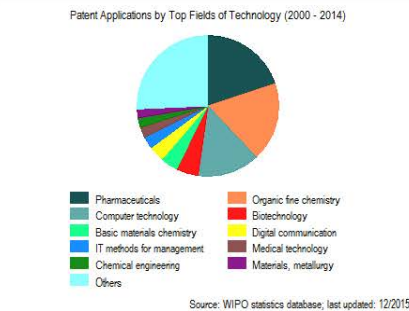
Patent Applications

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000	2,206	21	6,332	15	680	25
2001	2,379	20	8,213	14	1,077	22
2002	2,693	18	8,772	14	1,471	21
2003	3,425	17	9,188	13	1,945	20
2004	4,014	15	13,452	8	2,714	20
2005	4,721	14	19,661	8	3,307	20
2006	5,686	13	23,242	7	3,748	20
2007	6,296	14	28,922	7	4,233	20
2008	6,425	13	30,387	7	5,121	20
2009	7,262	14	27,025	7	4,677	19
2010	8,853	11	30,909	6	6,016	19
2011	8,841	11	33,450	6	7,055	19
2012	9,553	11	34,402	6	8,649	17
2013	10,669	11	32,362	6	10,239	14
2014	12,040	11	30,814	7	10,405	15



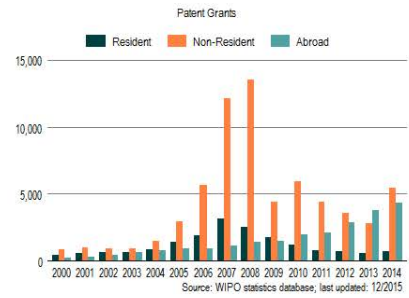
Patent Applications by Top Fields of Technology (2000 - 2014)

Field of Technology	Share
Pharmaceuticals	19.91
Organic fine chemistry	18.10
Computer technology	14.31
Biotechnology	5.03
Basic materials chemistry	3.88
Digital communication	3.59
IT methods for management	2.77
Medical technology	2.45
Chemical engineering	2.19
Materials, metallurgy	2.06
Others	25.71



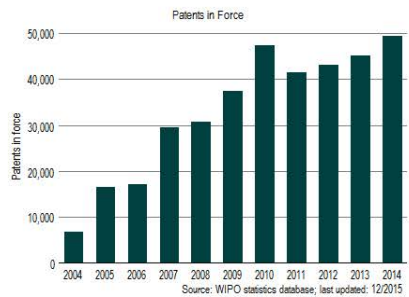
Patent Grants

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000	402	27	861	26	182	29
2001	529	25	1,020	28	288	27
2002	619	23	921	28	425	23
2003	615	27	911	28	621	21
2004	851	21	1,466	17	766	21
2005	1,396	19	2,924	16	888	21
2006	1,907	18	5,632	11	919	22
2007	3,173	13	12,088	7	1,119	22
2008	2,541	14	13,520	7	1,394	21
2009	1,725	18	4,443	12	1,460	22
2010	1,208	23	5,930	10	1,926	19
2011	776	26	4,392	13	2,104	19
2012	722	24	3,606	15	2,861	19
2013	594	27	2,783	17	3,806	18
2014	720	26	5,433	11	4,342	18



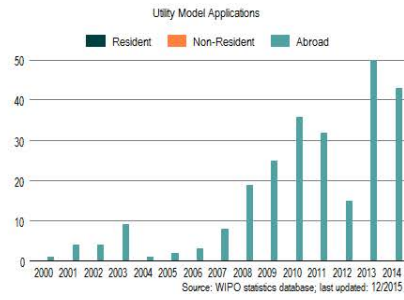
Patents in Force

Year	Patents in Force	Rank
2004	6,857	29
2005	16,419	22
2006	17,066	21
2007	29,688	21
2008	30,822	22
2009	37,334	21
2010	47,224	19
2011	41,361	20
2012	42,991	19
2013	45,103	22
2014	49,272	22



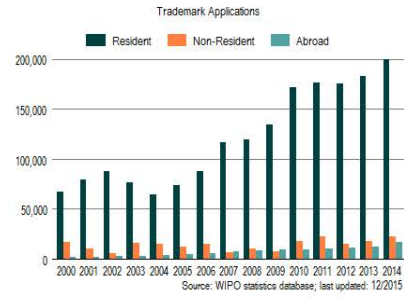
Utility Model Applications

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000					1	39
2001					4	35
2002					4	45
2003					9	40
2004					1	55
2005					2	48
2006					3	42
2007					8	40
2008					19	34
2009					25	32
2010					36	27
2011					32	31
2012					15	39
2013					50	29
2014					43	31



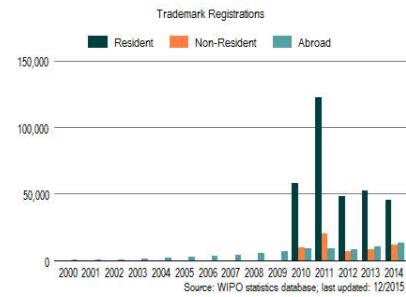
Trademark Applications

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000	67,262	9	17,013	15	2,112	35
2001	79,746	6	10,490	29	1,743	39
2002	88,190	5	5,930	45	2,554	37
2003	76,801	6	15,450	9	2,674	40
2004	63,906	8	15,090	11	3,525	37
2005	73,308	7	12,361	17	4,600	36
2006	88,210	5	15,209	15	5,496	39
2007	117,014	4	6,500	44	7,949	36
2008	119,371	3	10,801	24	8,606	37
2009	134,403	3	7,540	29	9,103	34
2010	172,120	3	17,805	13	9,473	35
2011	176,386	3	22,161	9	10,394	35
2012	176,044	3	14,806	17	11,194	35
2013	183,172	3	17,597	14	12,434	36
2014	200,137	3	22,098	12	16,482	31



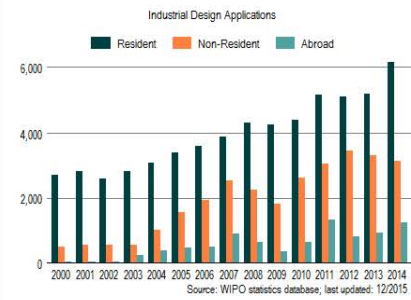
Trademark Registrations

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000					970	35
2001					757	36
2002					804	42
2003					1,532	44
2004					2,032	38
2005					3,080	38
2006					3,474	40
2007					4,030	41
2008					5,564	40
2009					6,679	37
2010	58,117	7	9,695	19	9,321	34
2011	122,440	3	20,503	6	8,859	35
2012	48,014	9	7,177	30	8,580	37
2013	52,117	9	8,153	27	10,561	32
2014	45,718	12	11,775	19	13,069	31



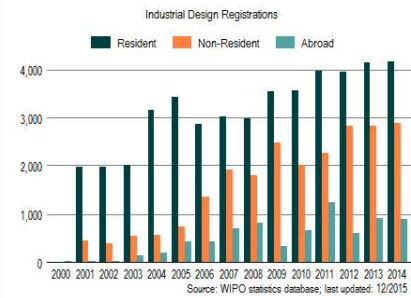
Industrial Design Applications

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000	2,708	8	499	45	29	39
2001	2,810	9	540	40	29	47
2002	2,591	10	533	39	27	43
2003	2,816	10	541	42	218	34
2004	3,093	11	1,009	16	372	36
2005	3,407	10	1,542	11	460	35
2006	3,584	10	1,937	10	494	38
2007	3,873	9	2,529	9	886	36
2008	4,308	9	2,249	9	641	39
2009	4,267	9	1,825	8	343	44
2010	4,416	9	2,622	8	614	41
2011	5,156	9	3,060	8	1,316	36
2012	5,100	9	3,445	8	800	43
2013	5,182	9	3,315	8	919	43
2014	6,168	10	3,141	8	1,236	40



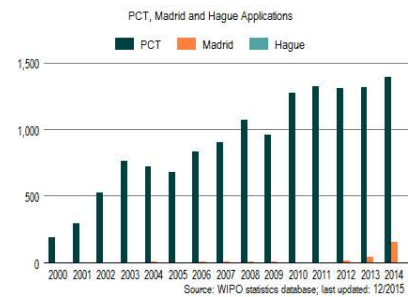
Industrial Design Registrations

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000					17	40
2001	1,969	10	457	43	15	52
2002	1,974	12	390	44	21	40
2003	2,004	10	543	39	126	36
2004	3,166	10	562	29	195	40
2005	3,439	9	736	16	434	36
2006	2,877	10	1,373	10	430	36
2007	3,026	9	1,902	10	709	37
2008	2,985	10	1,787	9	826	36
2009	3,552	7	2,473	8	339	44
2010	3,562	8	2,005	8	657	40
2011	3,971	8	2,266	8	1,239	35
2012	3,959	8	2,819	8	612	42
2013	4,156	8	2,819	8	921	41
2014	4,179	8	2,878	8	901	42



International Applications via WIPO Administered Treaties

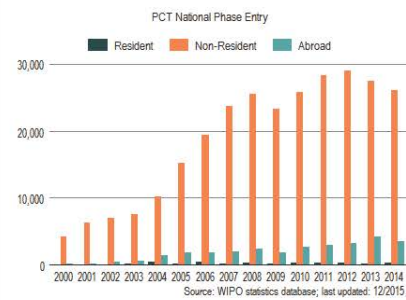
Year	PCT System	Rank	Madrid System	Rank	Hague System	Rank
2000	190	26				
2001	295	23	2	60		
2002	525	22	1	60		
2003	763	19	1	68		
2004	724	19	5	60		
2005	679	20				
2006	833	20	3	72		
2007	904	20	3	71	2	20
2008	1,073	19	7	67		
2009	960	20	5	68		
2010	1,276	17	1	94		
2011	1,323	18	1	89		
2012	1,309	19	15	59		
2013	1,320	17	41	55	1	46
2014	1,394	17	153	37		


PCT Top Applicants (Publication Year = 2014)

Applicant	Publication	Rank
COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH	117	192
RANBAXY LABORATORIES LIMITED	37	624
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED	34	680
WOCKHARDT LIMITED	31	754
HETERO RESEARCH FOUNDATION	27	870
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	24	966
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD.	24	966
LUPIN LIMITED	21	1087
PIRAMAL ENTERPRISES LIMITED	20	1146
CADILA HEALTHCARE LIMITED	18	1242

PCT National Phase Entry (Direct and via Regional Office)

Year	Resident	Rank	Non-Resident	Rank	Abroad	Rank
2000	27	22	4,172	13	63	31
2001	8	25	6,343	10	159	28
2002			7,049	10	379	23
2003	207	16	7,510	10	563	20
2004	384	17	10,287	10	1,366	20
2005	173	21	15,171	8	1,788	19
2006	349	18	19,411	7	1,829	21
2007	212	22	23,679	7	1,920	22
2008	237	23	25,469	7	2,341	21
2009	209	23	23,222	7	1,866	21
2010	225	23	25,698	7	2,569	21
2011	216	25	28,240	6	2,942	21
2012	247	24	29,071	6	3,292	20
2013	172	27	27,420	6	4,141	19
2014	258	26	26,082	6	3,542	20



Source: WIPO statistics database. Last updated : 12/2015

The statistics are based on data collected from IP offices or extracted from the PATSTAT database (for statistics by field of technology). Data might be missing for some years and offices or may be incomplete for some origins. The data relating to population and gross domestic product (GDP) are from the UN Statistics Division and the World Bank.

A resident filing refers to an application filed in the country by its own resident, whereas a non-resident filing refers to the one filed by a foreign applicant. An abroad filing refers to an application filed by this country's resident at a foreign office.

Where an office provides total filings without breaking them down into resident and non-resident filings, WIPO divides the total count using the historical share of resident filings at that office.

IP filings and Economy lists patent, trademark and industrial design filings worldwide by applicants from this country (resident + abroad).

One filing at the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP) or the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) is treated as equivalent of multiple abroad filings at each member state, whereas one filing at the European Patent Office (EPO) or the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) is counted as one abroad filing due to lack of information on designation.

Contact information: Economics and Statistics Division, WIPO. Tel.: +41-22-338-91-11, email: ipstats.mail@wipo.int.

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Proposal

For the Establishment of the WIPO External Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Considering the guide for the establishment of the WIPO External Offices in its Member States adopted by the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2015, the needs, objectives, proposed scope of activities and facilities available for the establishment of the above-mentioned Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran are as follows:

Historical and Geographical Characteristics of IRAN:

1- The Islamic Republic of Iran is a large country in the Middle East and West Asia, between the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, and the Caspian Sea, comprising a land area of 1,648,195 km² (18th-largest in the world), has a population of about 80 million. It is bordered by Iraq to the west, Turkey, Azerbaijan's Naxcivan enclave, Armenia, and Azerbaijan to the northwest, Turkmenistan to the northeast, Afghanistan and Pakistan to the southeast. Iran has long been of geostrategic importance because of its central location in Eurasia.

2- Iran has 5,000 years of fascinating history, and is home to one of the world's oldest continuous major civilizations. It is home to one of the world's oldest civilizations, beginning with the formation of the Proto-Elamite and Elamite kingdoms in 3200–2800 BC. The Iranian Medes unified the area into the first of

many empires in 625 BC, after which it became the dominant cultural and political power in the region. Iran reached the pinnacle of its power during the Achaemenid Empire founded by Cyrus the Great in 550 BC, which at its greatest extent comprised major portions of the ancient world, stretching from parts of the Balkans (Thrace-Macedonia, Bulgaria-Paeonia) and Eastern Europe proper in the west, to the Indus Valley in the east, making it the largest empire of the ancient world. The empire collapsed in 330 BC following the conquests of Alexander the Great. The Parthian Empire emerged from the ashes and was succeeded by the Sassanid Dynasty in 224 AD, under which Iran again became one of the leading powers in the world, along with the Roman-Byzantine Empire, for a period of more than four centuries.

3- Iran is an important regional power in the Middle East that has the largest natural gas reserves in the world and the fourth largest oil reserves ever explored and in this respect, has a significant role and influence in international energy market and security. Iran has long been of geostrategic importance because of its central location in Eurasia.

4- The Islamic Republic of Iran shares language, culture and religion with its neighboring countries and Persian language, in addition to Iran, is the official language in Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Needs and objectives of the establishment of the WIPO External Office:

1- Due to the unique capacities for intellectual productions in our country and the impressive achievements of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of intellectual property at regional as well as international levels, to the extent that Iran is ranking first in recent years in the region. These achievements have been attained

substantively due to the national emphasis on protection of the development of science, technology and intellectual productions in the 20 years Development Prospective Document (Horizon 2020), the Comprehensive Scientific Roadmap of the Country, the Rules of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Five Years Economic Development Plans which led to quantitative and qualitative growth of students, researchers and universities.

2- In order to achieve these goals and the emphasis given in the mentioned documents to development and promotion of IP in our country, the State Organization for Registration of Deeds and Properties of the Islamic Republic of Iran (Intellectual Property Center) as the competent authority for the registration of industrial properties and the national focal point of the Islamic Republic of Iran at WIPO has notified publicly and privately the importance of IP, especially during the last 15 years.

3- In this regard, in addition to organizing joint programs and events with WIPO, it has organized more than 300 workshops and seminars around the country in cooperation with the Science and Technology Parks, Province Chambers of Commerce, universities and other relevant authorities and agencies.

4- In this regard, it must be added that for the scientific growth and development of the country and in order to benefit from intellectual productions, the Science and Technology Parks which have an important role in commercialization of the ideas, have had a very rapid growth so that we have now almost in all provinces the Science and Technology Parks. The State Organization for Registration of Deeds and Properties of the Islamic Republic of Iran for raising awareness of intellectual property among the public and private, in addition to the national IP training, has had the international IP training, including the workshop for the examiners of the industrial property office of Afghanistan and recently, has received a request from

IP Office of Tajikistan concerning the training of the examiners of IP office of this country by Intellectual Property Center of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

5- Iran has had an excellent cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and hosted the third session of the coordinating committee of ECO on IP in Tehran this year. In this session, the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed the organization of the IP workshop in Persian and English for participants from all ECO Member States that was adopted in the session of the ECO Regional Planning Council.

6- Considering the above-mentioned activities and due to more than 90 years of experience of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the registration and protection of IP and the most prominent IP position that Iran stands in the region, the countries of the region have a positive approach to IP pool of expertise in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

7- However, due to the above-mentioned capacities and promotion and development of IP in the Islamic Republic of Iran and needs and applications for the national and international registration and protection of industrial properties during the recent years that have significantly increased, as indicated clearly in the statistics published by WIPO, the patents, trademarks and industrial designs applications have significantly increased in 2013 and 2014, and the Patent Office and Industrial Design Office of Iran is in the list of the top 20 offices of the Member States of WIPO because of the increasing rate of the applications and also in 2014, Iran ranked first in the region in this regard.

8- It is worth to be mentioned that the increase in applications has been due to the promotion of the public awareness of IP and creation and development of the culture of respect for IP in our country and also providing the strong legal

infrastructures, including the up-to-date and comprehensive rules and regulations in the field of industrial property and adhering to the IP Conventions during the last 10 years, including the international registration systems, namely the Madrid Agreement and Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks (The Madrid System), the Lisbon System for the International Registration of Appellations of Origin (the Lisbon System) and recently, The Patent Cooperation Treaty (the International Patent System).

9- Therefore, due to the increase in applications, needs based on the exploitation and commercialization of these properties have increased and it is obvious that the establishment of the WIPO External Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran, considering the description of its activities, could promote increasingly IP and ensure the advance of the goals of the World Intellectual Property Organization in Iran more than ever.

10- Iran is a founding member of the UN, ECO, NAM, OIC, and OPEC. Offices of international organizations represented in Tehran are as follows:

UN, UNODC, UNFPA, ECO Cultural Institute, ECO Secretariat, FAO, Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States Secretariat, IOM, ISESCO, UNIDO, UNIDO South-South Center, UNIC, UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Habitat, UNESCO, UNAMA, UNAMI, WFP, WHO, UNHCR, UNOCHA, Secretariat of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, ICRC.

11- Given the privileged scientific position of Iran and since several Iranian universities have the Master of intellectual property rights; the establishment of WIPO External Office in Tehran can play a key role in advancing the goals of the World Intellectual Property Organization in Iran.

Proposed scope of activities of the WIPO Iran Office:

- 1- Local support services for WIPO'S Global IP Systems. One of the principal activities of this office after its establishment in the Islamic Republic of Iran is the close cooperation with the National Office(Intellectual Property Center) in helping the better and more effective enforcement of the systems of the World Intellectual Property Organization, including the Madrid, Lisbon and PCT systems of which the Islamic Republic of Iran is a Member, and also providing the registration services to applicants by the above-mentioned systems in cooperation with the International Bureau of WIPO;
- 2- The provision of technical support in relation to the various technical assistance programs administered in the Global Infrastructure Sector of the Organization;
- 3- General capacity building and other development cooperation activities.
- 4- The provision of technical assistance and advice to the owners of the intellectual properties in order to exploit the IP for the development of the country and also the transfer of technology. It must be mentioned that the Islamic Republic of Iran has some joint projects with WIPO, including the carpet project and the start of implementation of technology and innovation support centers (TISC) project;
- 5- Assisting in the commercialization of IP and facilitation of communication between industry and authorities of the intellectual productions;
- 6- Responding to the daily-increasing importance of innovation and creativity and the role to be played by IP in a knowledge-based economy in Iran.

Facilities available for the establishment of the WIPO External Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran:

1- The State Organization for Registration of Deeds and Properties of the Islamic Republic of Iran which is, in accordance with the Article 52 of the Law on Registration of Patents, Trademarks and Industrial Designs, the competent authority for Industrial Property and the National Focal Point of the Islamic Republic of Iran at WIPO and the Unions of the relevant conventions, ensures provision of all the facilities for the establishment of the WIPO External Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran. There is a separate suitable building of 500 square meters just next to the seat of the Intellectual Property Center in Tehran that will be allocated to this purpose and could be expanded in later stage, if need will be.

2- Regarding the administrative expenses of this Office, according to the Article 63 of the Law on Registration of Patents, Trademarks and Industrial Designs, it is possible to use 50 percent of the foreign exchange earnings from International Registrations Systems of Industrial Property for the promotion and equipment of the Office. The State Organization for Registration of Deeds and Properties of the Islamic Republic of Iran ensures provision of all the expenses and needs of the WIPO External Office in Iran, according to its legal authority, through using basic and other revenue sources.



HOSTING OF WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES PROPOSAL BY KENYA

1.0 PROPOSAL BY KENYA TO HOST A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE

In line with the resolution of the WIPO General assembly held from 5th – 14th October 2015 that WIPO open three External Offices during the 2016/2017 and 2018/2019 biennia, subject to approval by WIPO General assembly; and that priority would be given to Africa; and member states were encouraged to submit their expression of interest in hosting external offices, **Kenya hereby tenders its proposal to host a WIPO External Office.**

This proposal is to support **the expression of interest already submitted to WIPO on 16th February 2016 in letter ref: MUNG/WIPO/VOL.XII/(17)**, upon necessary national consultations in Kenya.

Kenya will avail for the WIPO External Office the necessary office space in any of the following locations:

- a) The UN diplomatic enclave in Giriri, Nairobi.
- b) Within the Nairobi Central Business District.
- c) In the industrial area.

A WIPO External Office located in Kenya would be easy and convenient to utilize by other regional WIPO members owing to Kenya's:

- Central location in the eastern seaboard of Africa.
- Connectivity to the regional countries especially by air transport whereby Nairobi is less than four hours flight from most African capitals.
- Regional economic hub status.

2.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR KENYA HOSTING A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE.

2.1 Observance of the Principles Governing the Establishment of WIPO External Offices.

Given Kenya's political, economic and social stability, its cordial relationship with WIPO, and its commitment to international/regional cooperation, hosting of the WIPO External Office by Kenya will provide an enabling environment for the observance of the core principles governing establishment of WIPO External Offices, that is:

- a. Adding value, efficiency and effectiveness to program delivery in a coordinated manner so as to complement the work being undertaken by WIPO Headquarters and to avoid duplication;
- b. Responding effectively and adequately to local priorities, specificities and felt needs;
- c. Being cost effective; and
- d. Forming an integral part of WIPO's Results-Based Management and Regulatory Framework.

2.2 Facilitation of Functions of the WIPO External Office.

Given Kenya's elaborate IP system (policy, legal and institutional frameworks) as indicated above, hosting of the WIPO External Office by Kenya will facilitate optimal performance of the functions of the WIPO External Office, especially:

- a) Collaboration of WIPO External Office with National IP Offices to Support and Advance WIPO's Program Delivery;
- b) Enhancement of Innovation and Creativity;
- c) Promotion and Support for WIPO's Global Intellectual Property System;
- d) Delivery of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Activities;
- e) Raising Awareness, Understanding and Respect for Intellectual Property;
- f) Assistance for Using IP as a Tool for Promoting Development and Transfer of Technology;
- g) Provision of Policy and Technical Support to National IP Offices to Increase use of IP

2.3 Benefits to the Region from Kenya's hosting the WIPO External Office.

In line with the core principles governing establishment, and the functions, of the WIPO External Offices, several benefits will accrue to region, to enhance its IP system and facilitate its effective and efficient utilization by the society, inter alia:

- i. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building (enhancement of policy, legal, and institutional frameworks including human resource training and development);
- ii. Creation of Public Awareness in IP (facilitating its full utilization and respect of the IP system);
- iii. Enhancement/Development of National and Institutional IP policies (promoting IP-based development and facilitating IP management and technology transfer) ; and
- iv. Creation of direct and indirect jobs.

3.0 KENYA'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY BACKGROUND

3.1 Political, Economic and Social Stability

Kenya is developing country located in East Africa with a population of 45.5 million, which increases by one million a year. Kenya has made significant structural and economic reforms that have

contributed to sustained economic growth in the past decade. Her development challenges include poverty and inequality, and vulnerability of the economy to internal and external shocks.

Political Context

Devolution is rated the biggest gain from the August 2010 constitution, which ushered in a new political and economic governance system. The new system is transformative and has strengthened accountability and public service delivery at local levels. The government's agenda is to deepen implementation of devolution and strengthen governance institutions, while addressing other challenges including land reforms and security to improve economic and social outcomes, accelerate growth and equity in distribution of resources, and reduce extreme poverty and youth employment.

Economy

Kenya's economy grew by an estimated 4.9% in the first quarter of 2015, compared to 4.7% in the same period in 2014, according to Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. Agriculture, infrastructure, financial services and ICT contributed to the growth, but manufacturing and tourism declined. The economy grew by 5.4% in 2014 and by 6% in 2015, supported by lower energy costs, investment in infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing and other industries. A stable macroeconomic environment, continued investment in infrastructure, improved business environment, exports and regional integration will help sustain the growth momentum.

The government has also maintained fiscal and monetary discipline, despite increasing pressure from the devolution process and rising public sector wage bill. Total public debt has increased but remains sustainable, while inflation and interest rates remained stable. The stock exchange weakened due to net foreign investor sales, while the Kenya shilling weakened against the US dollar and other major currencies.

With the increased competitiveness of the manufacturing sector which will be a key driver of growth, exports and job creation, Kenya is emerging as one of Africa's key growth centers and is also poised to become one of the fastest growing economies in East Africa.

3.2 Kenya-WIPO Relationship

Kenya is a founding, and active, member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Kenya is party to the main international treaties/agreements on IP administered by WIPO.

3.3. Kenya's IP System

Kenya recognizes the Intellectual Property (IP) system as an important tool for trade, incentive for investment and thus a catalyst for national growth in this world's liberalised economy. Consequently, as a commitment to regional / international co-operation, Kenya is actively involved in formulation and implementation of regional/international policy on IP system, and is party to the main regional/international treaties/agreements on IP. Nationally, Kenya has factored IP into its Constitution and other developmental frameworks under Vision 2030.

Kenya has conformed to the requirements of the TRIPS Agreement and has IP legislation providing for protection of virtually all main types of IPRs: patents, utility models, industrial designs, technovations, and trademarks (including service marks and geographical indications), copyright and related rights, and plant breeders' rights. Development of the National IP Policy and National Policy on Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Traditional Cultural Expressions, 2009 is being finalised.

3.3.1. Kenya's Membership to International IP Treaties/Arrangements

As a commitment to regional / international co-operation, Kenya is actively involved in formulation and implementation of regional/international policy on IP. Kenya is party to the main international treaties/agreements on IP including the following.

1. **Paris Convention** for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883);
2. **Nairobi Treaty** on the Protection of the Olympic Symbol (1981);

3. **Madrid Agreement** Concerning the International Registration of Marks (1891) since 26th June 1998;
4. **Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement** Concerning the International Registration of Marks (1989) since 26th June 1998;
5. Patent Co-operation Treaty (**PCT**) of 1970 since 1994;
6. **Lusaka Agreement** establishing ARIPO of 1976;
7. **Harare Protocol** for the Protection of Patents and Industrial Designs of 1982
8. **WIPO Treaty** Establishing WIPO of 1970;
9. International Union for the protection of New Plant Varieties (**UPOV**); and
10. Agreement on Trade-Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (**TRIPS Agreement**) of 1995.

3.3.2 Kenya's Membership to Regional IP Treaties/Arrangements

As a commitment to regional co-operation, Kenya is actively involved in formulation and implementation of regional policy on IP. Kenya is party to the main regional treaties/agreements on, or impacting on, IP including the following:

1. **Lusaka Agreement** establishing ARIPO of 1976;
2. **Harare Protocol** for the Protection of Patents and Industrial Designs of 1982;
3. Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, 2007 (**EAC Treaty**);
4. Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community Common Market, 2010 (**EAC Common Market Protocol**)
5. Treaty for the Establishment of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern African (**COMESA Treaty**).
6. African Union Model Legislation for the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders, and for the Regulation of Access to Biological Resources, 2000 (**AU Model Legislation**).

3.3.3 Kenya's Signatory to Regional/International IP Treaties/Arrangements

Kenya is signatory to the various regional/international treaties/agreements on, or impacting on, IP including the following:

1. Swakopmund Protocol on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Folklore, 2010 (**Swakopmund Protocol**);
2. **Singapore Treaty** on the Law of Trademarks, 2006; and
3. **Copyright Law Treaty**.

3.3.4 Kenya's Constitution vis-a-vis IP

The Constitution obligates the State to support, promote and protect the IPRs of the people of Kenya. It includes IP in its definition of "property" and apportions IPRs as the role of National Government.

It further clarifies that the State shall (a) promote all forms of national and cultural expression through literature, the arts, traditional celebrations, science, communication, information, mass media, publications, libraries and other cultural heritage; (b) recognise the role of science and indigenous technologies in the development of the nation; and (c) promote the intellectual property rights of the people of Kenya (c) protect and enhance intellectual property in, and indigenous knowledge of, biodiversity and the genetic resources of the communities.

The Constitution obligates Parliament to enact legislation to (a) ensure that communities receive compensation or royalties for the use of their cultures and cultural heritage; and (b) recognise and protect the ownership of indigenous seeds and plant varieties, their genetic and diverse characteristics and their use by the communities of Kenya.

3.3.5 Kenya's IP Policy Frameworks

Two national policies are being developed:

(a) National Intellectual Property Policy and Strategy (NIPPS) that aims to strengthen the management and administration of its intellectual property system and to encourage innovation and creativity in Kenya. NIPPS is informed by vision 2030, Kenya's long term development plan, the new constitution and existing national development policies including the STI policy, trade policy, industrialization policy, agricultural sector development strategy, energy policy, seed policy and herbal products industry policy, among others.

In line with its objectives, NIPPS covers:

1. Promotion of creativity and innovation for the creation of intellectual capital for sustainable development;
2. Strengthening of the legal framework for protection of IPRs;
3. Strengthening of the institutional framework for administration and management of IPRs;
4. Promotion and facilitation of commercial exploitation of IPRs and technology transfer;
5. Strengthening of the legal and institutional frameworks for enforcement of IPRs;
6. Development of adequate human resource capacity (technical and legal) for the administration, protection, commercialization and enforcement of IPRs;
7. Creation of public awareness on IP issues for the general public and identifiable groups;
8. Development and promotion of IP Services industry; and
9. Promotion of research on IP related issues.

NIPPS is presented in two parts: National IP Policy and National IP Strategy. The national IP policy will be implemented in tranches of five-years strategic plans. The National IP Strategy (2013-2018), will be the first tranche and will address a total of 37 strategic issues which were identified during the IP audit. For this, 42 programs and projects have been formulated.

NIPPS is at the 6th draft stage awaiting final validation workshop and its subsequent adoption.

(b)National Policy on Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Traditional Cultural Expressions, 2009 whose goal is to enhance the recognition, preservation, protection, and promotion of sustainable use of Traditional Knowledge (TK), Genetic Resources (GR) and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs) in Kenya. Its objectives include preservation, protection and development of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and traditional cultural expressions for multiple applications and use; documentation, use and dissemination of the same; acknowledgement, protection and

benefiting of the sources and/or custodians equitable sharing of accrued benefits. It is guided by sound principles including respect; full disclosure; Prior Informed Consent; Equitable Benefit Sharing; access; and sustainable use. The respective bill is being developed.

This Policy and anticipated legislation therefore will enhance mainstreaming of TK, GR and TCEs into national development planning and decision making processes at all levels with a view of ensuring that Kenya's rich cultural heritage, which is imbedded in TK, GR and TCEs, contributes to Kenya's development goals.

The Policy is at its final draft awaiting final adoption.

3.3.6 Kenya's IP Institutional Arrangement

As regards administration of IPRs:

- (i) Industrial Property Rights is the mandate of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (**KIPI**) currently under the Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development (MoIED), established by the Industrial Property Act, 2001. The Act also mandates KIPI to promote innovative and inventive activities, to disseminate industrial property information to the public, to screen technology transfer agreements and licenses and to offer training in industrial property rights;

- (ii) Copyright and Related Rights are administered by the Kenya Copyright Board (**KECOBO**) currently under the State Law Office, established by the Copyright Act, 2001. The Act also mandates KECOBO to direct, co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of laws and international treaties and conventions to which Kenya is a party and which relate to copyright and other rights recognised by the Act and ensure the observance thereof; license and supervise the activities of collective management societies as provided for under the Act; devise promotion, introduction and training programs on copyright and related rights, to which end it may co-ordinate its work with national or international organisations concerned with the same subject matter; organise the legislation on copyright and related rights and propose other arrangements that will ensure its constant improvement and continuing effectiveness; enlighten and inform the public on matters relating to copyright and related rights; maintain an effective data bank on authors and their works; and deal with ancillary matters connected with its functions under this Act; and

- (iii) Plant Breeders Rights are administered by the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (**KEPHIS**) currently under the Ministry of Agriculture, established by the Seeds and Plant Varieties Act, Cap 326 of the Laws of Kenya.

Enforcement of IPRs is coordinated, or done, by the following statutory institutions:

- (i) The Anti-counterfeit Agency (**ACA**), established by the Anti-counterfeit Act, 2008. The Act mandates ACA to enlighten and inform the public on matters relating to counterfeiting; combat counterfeiting, trade and other dealings in counterfeit goods in Kenya in accordance with this Act; devise and promote training programmes on combating counterfeiting; co-ordinate with national, regional or international organizations involved in combating counterfeiting; carry out any other functions prescribed for it under any of the provisions of this Act or under any other written law; perform any other duty that may directly or indirectly contribute to the attainment of the foregoing; and
- (ii) The Kenya Copyright Board (**KECOBO**).

Other institutions mandated by law to undertake, in the course of performance of their main statutory functions, IP enforcement and dispute resolution activities include Industrial Property Tribunal (**IPT**), established by the Industrial Property Act, 2001; Kenya Bureau of Standards; Weights and Measures; and Kenya Revenue Authority.

These institutions have developed, in line with National Vision 2030, respective strategic plans to guide, monitor and evaluate achievements in order to realise their respective statutory mandates.

Currently, KIPI, KECOBO and ACA are being merged into one IP Institution to enhance easy support, promotion and protection of IPRs.

3.3.7 Kenya's IP Legislation

Aspects of intellectual property rights are protected in Kenya under various pieces of legislation, the main ones being the following:

- (i) The Industrial Property Act, 2001 covers Industrial Property Rights, that is patents, utility models, industrial designs and technovations;
- (ii) The Trade Marks Act, Chapter 506 of the Laws of Kenya, covers trademarks, service marks, collective marks, certification marks and geographical indications;
- (iii) The Copyright Act, 2001 covers copyright and related rights comprising literary (books, poems, etc.) and artistic (paintings, music, etc.) works as well as audio-visual works, sound recordings and broadcasts;
- (iv) The Seeds and Plant Varieties Act, Cap 326 of the Laws of Kenya covers plant breeders rights, which comprise of new plant; and
- (v) The Anti-Counterfeit Act, 2008 provides for coordinated-enforcement of IPRs.

In addition, pieces of legislation, establishing the other institutions mandated by law to undertake IP enforcement activities including Kenya Bureau of Standards, Weights and Measures, and Kenya Revenue Authority, also apply. Kenya has drafted a "Bill" aimed at improving the protection system for geographical indications, other than that provided for under the Trade Marks Act.

3.3.8 Utilization of IP System by Kenyans: Institutional IP Policies

Given the elaborate IP System in Kenya, Kenyan institutions (especially those involved in R&D including the academia) are internalizing its utilization for institutional and national development through development on institutional IP policies. Although most public research and development institutions and universities have developed their institutional IP policies, still much has to be done to facilitate their implementation and proper use. There is need to

develop capacity in those institutions that have developed IP policies to facilitate implementation, and assist those that have not yet, to develop and facilitate implementation of the same.

3.3.9 Utilization of IP System by Kenyans: Public Awareness in IP

Despite the elaborate IP System in Kenya, its utilization for national development by Kenyans, although improving with time, is relatively low. For example the number of applications and grants, especially from the Kenyan innovators, is significantly low compared to countries like South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia with which Kenya benchmarks on economic development. The level of commercial exploitation of intellectual property rights is also relatively low. This situation has been attributed to, in part, low level of public awareness that has been identified as the main challenge facing the promotion of IP generation, protection, commercialization and enforcement as well as technology transfer. Although various IP institution have outreach programs and have made efforts to create public awareness, more need to be done in disseminating the information through various systems including print and electronic media.

Signed:



**Amb. (Dr.) Stephen Ndung'u Karau, MBS, OGW, COL. (RTD)
Ambassador/Permanent Representative,
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the
United Nations in Geneva and other International
Organizations in Switzerland**

PROPOSAL BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO HOST AN EXTERNAL OFFICE OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

I. General framework

In order to advance the work of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the implementation of its programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, it is considered necessary to have an external office through which WIPO can enhance its cooperation with the countries of the region. Mexico proposes that the external office be established in its territory.

Latin America and the Caribbean are home to 641 million people, about 9% of the world's population. The region accounts for 7% of the world economy. Therefore, it is a large and dynamic market that requires capacity-building in Intellectual Property (IP) to promote investment and develop innovation.

Within WIPO, Latin America and the Caribbean have expressed the need to establish an external office in the region to facilitate activities and cooperation with WIPO, in particular the implementation of programs and projects to promote and build respect for IP and innovation, thereby contributing to the economic development of the region. WIPO recorded this interest in document A/51/INF/6, dated September 18, 2013, in which the WIPO Secretariat refers to the application of the group of Latin America and the Caribbean for a second external office in the region that could be established in a Spanish-speaking country.

The proposal of the Government of Mexico is submitted in accordance with the "Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices", adopted by the Assemblies of WIPO Member States during the fifty-fifth series of meetings (Geneva, October 5-14, 2015). This proposal seeks to offer added value to enable the effective implementation of programs in a coordinated manner complementary to the work at WIPO headquarters.

In this light, Mexico expresses its interest to host an external office which contributes to the work of WIPO, addresses the needs and priorities of the countries of the region and supports WIPO's efforts to promote and protect IP rights. The office would fulfill the following purposes:

1. support the work of WIPO in Latin America and the Caribbean;
2. improve coordination between WIPO and the countries of the region;
3. promote cooperation between WIPO and national offices responsible for IP and copyright;
4. keep abreast of IP assistance needs in the region;
5. implement projects timely and efficiently to promote understanding, respect and strengthening of IP; and
6. promote technical assistance and the sharing of knowledge and best practices in the region.

II. Rationale

The external office in Mexico could offer the following benefits:

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

- It could enhance cooperation mechanisms and programs according to the needs of the countries of the region.
- It could promote the use and development of the PCT, Madrid, The Hague and Lisbon systems.
- It would endeavor to increase awareness, understanding and respect for intellectual property. To this end, it would conduct outreach activities that meet the needs of each country in the region, taking into account previous experience and best practices. Starting from Mexico, there would be an improvement in the impact of outreach programs promoted by WIPO, for example, through activities to mark World Intellectual Property Day every April 26.
- It would contribute to stimulating creativity through the various awards that WIPO gives to inventors, creators, entrepreneurs and children and would have a positive effect on IP and copyright, thereby advancing WIPO's work.
- It would help to support the WIPO Academy, encouraging cooperation with academic IP institutions in the region and the organization of training courses. Such courses include the WIPO Summer School in Mexico, which every year welcomes some 35 students from different countries. In this way, WIPO's academic programs could be strengthened and the number of benefitting students would increase with courses in Spanish and English.
- It would buttress the dispute settlement mechanism for users of the IP system, through WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center.
- It would be operating in a time zone complementary to that of WIPO headquarters, given the day-to-day work that requires cooperation with WIPO and the services provided under the treaties it administers. Thus, WIPO's various procedures, programs and activities would be streamlined, leading to an increase in the number of users of the international IP system in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Mexico external office could help creators and innovators gain a better knowledge and understanding of trademarks, patents and industrial designs systems, enhancing the services offered by WIPO and increasing the number of users who already perform creative and innovative activities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

From Mexico, the WIPO external office could achieve the following:

- Generally and without limitation, it could focus its work on achieving compliance with the Strategic Goals: Goal I (balanced evolution of the international normative framework for IP); Goal II (provision of premier global IP services; Goal III (facilitating the use of IP for development, taking into account the objectives of each country); and Goal VI (international cooperation on building respect for IP) and the relevant indicators in Programs 3 "Copyright and Related Rights"; 9 "Africa, Arab, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Least Developed Countries" and 20 "External Relations, Partnerships and External Offices" of the Program and Budget.
- Attend to users of global IP services provided by the Madrid, PCT, Hague and Lisbon systems and strengthen cooperation activities for the development of the region in accordance with Strategic Goal II.
- Provide legal advice on the different forms of IP protection, such as trademarks, patents and industrial designs.

- Assist with the development of national strategies and plans for innovation and IP and contribute to building the capacity of national IP institutions in coordination with WIPO Headquarters, with due regard for Program 20 of the Program and Budget.
- Support the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center in spreading services for settling international commercial disputes through arbitration and mediation.
- Organize training for government officials responsible for developing public policies on IP and for IP rights management and protection professionals.
- Encourage the use of IP as a tool for promoting development and technology transfer.
- Enable WIPO to see first-hand the needs of IP users in the region, facilitating the development of ad hoc mechanisms to contribute to the growth of the region.
- It would make for easier identification of the areas and the type of support required by Latin America and Caribbean countries as regards the legal framework and functioning of national IP offices. This would impact WIPO's work in the area of advice for drafting laws on patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications and IP enforcement.

Mexico has the advantage of being located in North America, sharing a border with the United States, Guatemala and Belize. This makes for easy access to countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Large Mexican cities have adequate connections with the region. Additionally, Mexico has coasts in the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans, which has fostered a closer relationship with Caribbean and Asia-Pacific countries.

The Mexico external office would have the geographical proximity to provide advice to national offices in the region, making WIPO's work more efficient and avoiding duplication.

Mexico has a population of about 119.5 million people (2015 inter-census survey, INEGI), which is a considerable target population for the activities of a WIPO external office.

Mexico offers an international environment with 115 accredited foreign missions from around the world, 21 of them from Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the presence of 44 international and regional organizations. In addition, the external office would benefit from the presence in Mexico of the Intellectual Property Attaché of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), who serves as representative for the Central American and Caribbean region. It is considered that this favorable environment would increase WIPO's interaction and visibility through the external office.

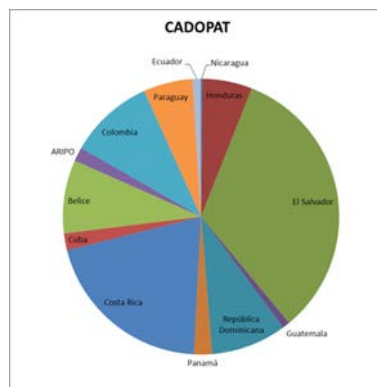
III. Contribution of Mexican institutions to facilitating the work of the Mexico external office

Having regard to sub-paragraph 7(i) of the guiding principles, the WIPO external office in Mexico would cooperate fully with the Mexican Industrial Property Institute (IMPI) and the National Copyright Institute (INDAUTOR) and benefit from the experience gained in its relationship with other countries through agreements and memoranda of understanding (MOUs).

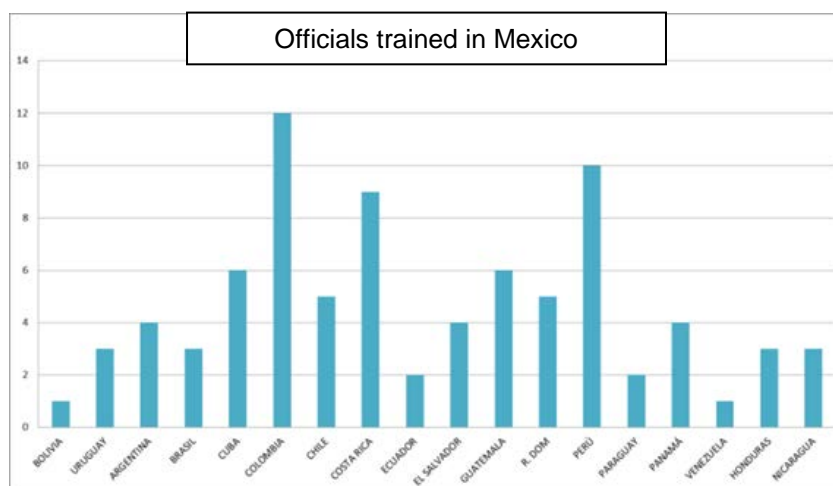
IMPI has garnered 22 years of experience since it was created as an agency of the Ministry of Economy and has helped to foster the development of other IP offices of the region. This has given it first-hand knowledge of other countries' systems and enabled it to identify their needs, propose corrective action and strengthen their offering at the national, sub-regional

and regional levels. Through IMPI, Mexico has carried the following activities in the region, which the Mexico external office could perform:

- **Support System for the Management of Patent Applications for the Central American countries and the Dominican Republic (CADOPAT).** Since 2006, IMPI has supported 13 IP offices in Latin America, the Caribbean and other regions through the CADOPAT system, a mechanism for sharing patent examination results. To date, it has managed more than 1,700 applications submitted by beneficiary offices. The greatest support has been given to El Salvador, Costa Rica, Colombia, Belize and the Dominican Republic.



- **Organization of regional internships, seminars and meetings to share experience and best practices seeking to strengthen the institutional framework of the region's national IP offices (IPOs).** IMPI participated in the organization of various training programs in Mexico from 2013 to 2015, covering topics such as trademarks, patents and enforcement of IP rights. Forty-four IMPI officials have participated in such programs as presenters. Officials from other countries in the region that benefited from these activities were primarily from Colombia, Peru, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala and Chile, as shown in the following graph:



- **IMPI Expert Missions.** From 2013 to 2015, 17 IMPI officials, recognized by WIPO as experts on certain IP issues, participated in cooperation activities that involved travel to other national IPOs in the region, to provide training and share experience. Thirteen of

these activities were conducted with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay).

- **Exchange of information and advice.** This has benefitted officials from the national IPOs to provide training and training multipliers, mainly in patent search and examination, on the PCT system and international trademark classifications. Mexico is in constant communication with the national IPOs of Latin America and the Caribbean to share its experience in different areas of IP, including the design of public IP policy.
- **Support for the Spanish translation of the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification) and the International Classification of Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification).** This translation is very useful in processing trademark applications as it significantly accelerates processing. It is shared with Spanish-speaking offices in the region.
- IMPI has signed 43 MOUs relating to IP cooperation, of which 15 have been signed with national offices of Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay).
- IMPI also has experience on copyright infringements in trade, which could be exploited by WIPO through the external office for sharing with interested countries.

Since 1996, the National Copyright Institute (INDAUTOR) is the administrative authority responsible for protecting and promoting copyright; promoting creativity; managing and monitoring the public copyright register; acting as custodian of Mexico's cultural heritage and promoting international cooperation and exchange with institutions responsible for the registration and protection of copyright and related rights.

INDAUTOR's responsibilities include the registration of works, transfer contracts and licenses; authorizations to collecting societies; reservation of rights for the exclusive use of magazines or periodicals, names of individuals or groups engaged in artistic activities and characteristic human figures, both fictional and symbolic, and obtaining an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) for periodicals.

In 2015, the Institute recorded 48,606 works, 4,316 contracts, 8,379 reservations, 3,325 legal advisories on copyright, 29,891 ISBN and 1,985 mediation hearings for dispute resolution. It also participated in 187 national and international fora, including courses, workshops and conferences to train, disseminate and promote copyright and related rights.

INDAUTOR has designed, developed and implemented information systems to streamline management procedures and services, including the following:

- The CitAutor system, which gives high-volume users personalized attention, setting the date, time and number of procedures beforehand, without affecting other users.
- A system by which users check their online transactions, focusing on transparency in service. In 2015, about 6,000 checks were recorded.
- A databank of legal consultations to facilitate the immediate release of information regarding administrative enforcement of the Federal Copyright Law and its Regulations. In 2015, INDAUTOR had more than 2,000 consultations.

- The “Computer Kiosk” program, which allows requests to be completed and printed before being submitted to the corresponding desk, attended to more than 2,600 users in 2015.

INDAUTOR seeks to promote a culture of respect for copyright and afford legal certainty to the legitimate owners of those rights. To that end, it undertakes the following activities:

- It incorporates a chapter on “Civics and Ethics” to foster respect for copyright in free textbooks from the Ministry of Public Education (print run of almost 3 million copies).
- It prepares and disseminates brochures in Braille for visually impaired people, in order to make the information services and procedures of INDAUTOR accessible.
- It publishes brochures on the copyright and the registration of works in indigenous languages.
- It organizes “*Manitas a Obra*”, a national children’s drawing contest which allows children to express their ideas and protect their works.
- It implements the “*Guía Autorín*” program for minors on the essential concepts of copyright law and the requirements for the registration of works.
- It distributes the educational table game “*Mi Primer Obra, mi Primer Registro*” to encourage registration of works created by children. It was replicated by the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Panama.
- It organizes a competition for the best thesis on copyright.

INDAUTOR has participated in the exhibition at WIPO headquarters during the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement and shared its experience with WIPO Member States.

The Government of Mexico will make available to WIPO the experience of IMPI and INDAUTOR in outreach comprising the organization of conferences, roundtables and debates on various IP issues to support the work of the Mexico external office.

IV. Other Institutions

There is a very active IP community in Mexico that includes, among others, the Mexican Association of Intellectual Property; the National Association of Business Lawyers, A.C. (IP Committee); the International Chamber of Commerce (IP Committee) and the Mexican Bar Association, A.C. (Copyright Committee and International IP Affairs Committee).

In academia, various prestigious international universities have curricula on IP. They include the National Autonomous University of Mexico, the National Polytechnic Institute, the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico, the Pan American University, Anahuac University and the La Salle University.

The presence of associations and academic institutions would ensure the availability of IP professionals who could be involved in training activities organized by the external office. Also, the presence of such institutions would guarantee participation in events to promote or strengthen capacities in intellectual property with a view to promoting development (Program 20).

Similarly, the country has several centers focused on technological development, such as the National Center for Genetic Resources of the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock (INIFAP), which is the second institution in Latin America and the Caribbean recognized as International Depository Authority (IDA) for the Collection of Microorganisms and whose experience could be exploited by the external office.

The research centers in Mexico would facilitate the efforts of the WIPO external office to conduct *in situ* exercises that allow linkages between the scientific and academic sectors, as well as outreach, training and encouragement of innovation and creativity.

V. Mexico and WIPO

Mexico has been a member of WIPO since 1975. It has participated in various WIPO committees. Mexican officials have chaired various WIPO bodies, including the Assemblies of the Berne, Paris and Madrid Unions, the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty and the WIPO Conference. They have also served as vice-presidents in the Committee of Experts of the Nice Union, the Diplomatic Conference on the Lisbon System and the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents.

Under the Federal Copyright Law of 1996, Mexico has legal frameworks in line with the international agreements to which it is party; such frameworks could be shared with the countries of the region through the Mexico external office.

Mexico's international activities relating to IP are very dynamic. Mexico is party to 20 of the 25 treaties and agreements administered by WIPO, reflecting its commitment and experience in IP and copyright:

TREATY	SUBJECT	DATE
Paris Convention	Protection of industrial property	September 7, 1903
Rome Convention	Protection of performers, producers of phonograms and broadcasting organizations	May 18, 1964
Lisbon Agreement	Protection of appellations of origin and their international registration	September 25, 1966
Berne Convention	Protection of literary and artistic works	June 11, 1967
Phonograms Convention (WPPT)	Protection of phonograms	December 21, 1973
WIPO Convention	Membership in the Organization	June 14, 1975
Brussels Convention	Distribution of program-carrying signals transmitted by satellite	August 25, 1979
Nairobi Treaty	Protection of the Olympic symbol	May 16, 1985
Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)	Patent processing cooperation	January 1, 1995
UPOV Convention	Protection of plant varieties	August 9, 1997
Vienna Agreement	International classification of the figurative elements of marks	January 26, 2001
Locarno Agreement	International classification of industrial designs	January 26, 2001
Nice Agreement	Classification of marks	March 21, 2001
Budapest Treaty	International recognition of the procedures for the deposit of microorganisms	March 21, 2001
Strasbourg Agreement	International patent classification	October 26, 2001
Copyright Treaty (WCT)	Protection of copyright	March 6, 2002
Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)	Performance and phonograms	May 20, 2002
Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual	Audiovisual performances	June 26, 2012 (signed only);

Performances

ratification process ongoing

Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement

International registration of marks

February 19, 2013

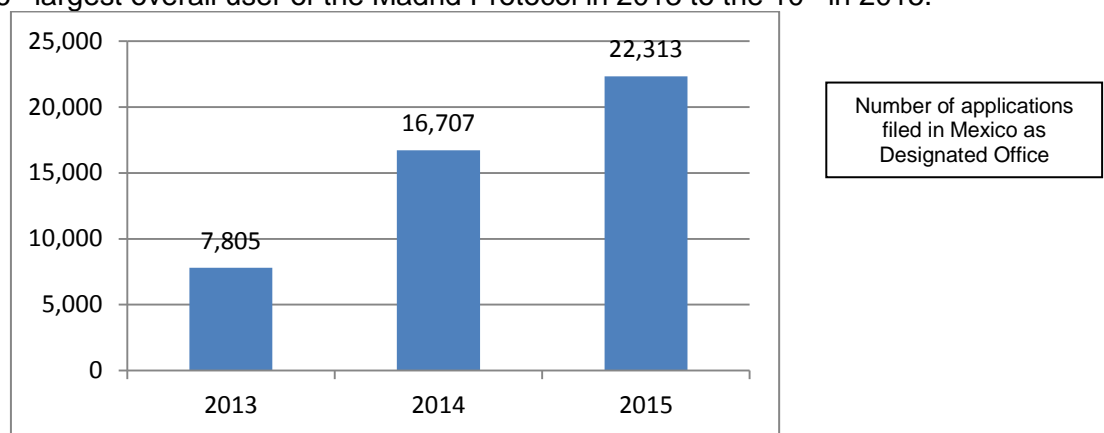
Marrakesh Treaty for visually impaired persons

Obligatory limitations and exceptions for persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled

July 29, 2005 (ratified but not yet in force)

Mexico acts as receiving office of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and designated office of origin for the Madrid System, which has given it extensive experience in the operations of these systems.

Mexico is a recent signatory to the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Protocol). Since that instrument entered into force in Mexico on February 19, 2013, there have been a total of 46,825 requests. Mexico went from the 16th largest overall user of the Madrid Protocol in 2013 to the 10th in 2015.



Mexico has offered its support to WIPO to promote the accession of more countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to the Madrid system. The presence of the external office in Mexico would allow the Organization to replicate the success that the Madrid Protocol has had in our country.

It can be seen that Mexico's experience in relation to international IP treaties would allow it to cooperate with the external office to:

- (i) promote the accession of new countries to WIPO-administered treaties to national IPOs in Latin America and the Caribbean; and
- (ii) facilitate the implementation of such treaties and their administration.

Additionally, through IMPI, Mexico maintains close cooperation with some of the most important national IPOs at the international level: the European Patent Office; USPTO; the Japan Patent Office; the State Intellectual Property Office of China; and the Korean Intellectual Property Office, which could be useful for a WIPO external office.

VI. Financial and fiscal sustainability

In line with the guiding principles on WIPO external offices, Mexico's proposal is guided by the need to rationalize resources in establishing external offices and ensuring their financial and fiscal sustainability. Hence, the establishment of a WIPO external office in Mexico would

not involve expenses on the part of the Organization in terms of infrastructure, facilities and equipment. This is because Mexico will provide WIPO with the following:

1. A physical space of about 96 square meters in the IMPI headquarters building for 2 offices, 1 meeting room and 4 cubicles, in an appropriate and easily accessible area. The cost of renting this space, which Mexico would cover, amounts to 50,000 Swiss francs per year.
2. Office furniture and computer equipment for use by staff of the external office.
3. Private telephone line.
4. Basic stationery items for the work of the office.

The following shared services would be provided:

1. satellite and digital connection;
2. videoconferencing room and equipment;
3. multipurpose auditorium;
4. security services
5. parking spaces for vehicles of external office staff and visitors;
6. administrative services;
7. maintenance and cleaning services; and
8. technical support.

The WIPO office staff would enjoy the same privileges and immunities as international civil servants, in accordance with the laws and regulations in Mexico.

Additionally, through Mexico's Funds-in-Trust at WIPO (FIT-MX) there can be joint funding of cooperation activities and technical assistance offered by WIPO in Latin America and the Caribbean. Thus, Mexico's efforts as a supplier and recipient of cooperation could multiply WIPO cooperation in the region through the external office.

A WIPO external office in Mexico would allow its officials quicker and better travel to different countries in the region, with consequent savings on travel and daily subsistence allowances compared to travel by officials resident in Geneva who have to participate in seminars, conferences and activities to promote IP.

VII. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, establishing a WIPO external office in Mexico would achieve the following:

- meet the need for a regional office in Latin American and the Caribbean;
- complement the work of the network of existing external offices;
- provide WIPO with first-hand knowledge of the needs of the region's IP users;

- facilitate the implementation of activities and projects initiated at WIPO headquarters, in line with strategic and program priorities;
- stimulate capacity-building on copyright issues
- serve as a platform to facilitate increased dissemination of treaties and global IP services such as the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems and thereby increase revenue;
- address the need for maximizing innovation and creativity in the region and the contribution of IP in a number of countries that require a stronger presence of WIPO and its programs;
- facilitate greater involvement of IP authorities in WIPO's work;
- take into account the financial sustainability criteria referred to in the guiding principles;
- significantly reduce costs arising from transatlantic travel and increase the presence of WIPO in the field;
- benefits may be derived from the experience of IMPI and INDAUTOR;
- the support of other actors, including universities, collective management organizations and journalists to improve knowledge of IP for development.

In sum, a WIPO external office in Mexico would meet the requirements set out in Program 20: (1) add value, efficiency and effectiveness to program delivery in a coordinated and complementary to the work at headquarters; (2) different functions in response to local priorities and specificities; (3) cost-effectiveness; and (4) being an integral part of WIPO's results-based management and regulatory framework, all with a view to improving the productivity and efficiency of the network of external offices.

Also, the work of the WIPO external office in Mexico could entail best practices and lessons learned that can be shared with headquarters and other offices within the network.

Mexico views a WIPO external office as a service center in Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate the use of IP to leverage development and promote global IP services. The Government of Mexico expresses its willingness to expand or clarify the information contained in this proposal and hopes to have the support of the Program and Budget Committee as well as of all the Member States of the Organization.

Kingdom of Morocco



Proposal to host a WIPO external office in Morocco

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original French-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and French versions, the French version shall prevail.

Introduction

I. Application to host a WIPO external office

II. Objectives of the WIPO external office in Morocco

- 1. Contribution to the implementation of WIPO programs**
- 2. Collaboration between the Government of Morocco and WIPO**
- 3. Relay for WIPO actions in Africa**
- 4. Development of intellectual property skills**

III. Advantages of the Kingdom of Morocco

- 1. Strategic geographical location**
- 2. Political stability and favorable environment**
- 3. National economic growth**
- 4. Infrastructure and logistics**
- 5. National intellectual property system**

IV. Proposal from the Government of Morocco to host the WIPO External Office

- 1. Provision of premises**
- 2. ICT infrastructure**
- 3. Privileges and immunities granted to the office**
- 4. Ease and freedom of communication**

Annexes

Introduction

For a long time, the Kingdom of Morocco has been a key partner of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO): it was one of the first African countries to join WIPO and to comply with the principles and mechanisms established to manage and monitor the philosophy underpinning intellectual property (IP). Moreover, it subsequently became a confirmed supporter of the treaties and agreements administered by WIPO to promote the development of a global IP system.

Within the region, the Kingdom of Morocco has unique advantages that enable it to accomplish any missions that WIPO may assign to the country through its external office.

I. Application to host the WIPO external office

The Government of Morocco hereby officially proposes to host an external office of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

This proposal has a dual objective, namely:

- to consolidate the establishment of an enabling environment for IP rights and promote the use of IP to boost creativity and economic and social development; and
- to lend value-added to WIPO and, in coordination with the Organization, contribute to the implementation of its programs to develop an IP culture, with a view to enhancing the efficiency and performance of such programs nationally and regionally.

The Government of the Kingdom of the Morocco will spare no effort in providing support and assistance to the WIPO external office to ensure that it fulfills its mission and meets the Organization's expectations. It will provide the means necessary to support the WIPO External Office in its duties of promotion, consolidation, awareness-raising and enforcement of IP principles and norms.

II. Objectives of the WIPO external office in Morocco

The duties and actions of the WIPO external office in Morocco will focus on four main areas, namely:

- 1. Contribution to the implementation of the WIPO strategy:** The objective is to ensure the execution of WIPO awareness programs, in tandem with the role of protecting and managing IP assets as a strategic development mechanism, as well as issues relating to IP rights violations. It also entails taking advantage of regional communication coverage to raise awareness of the role, activities and services of WIPO and initiate promotional action in conjunction with global IP systems (including the PCT, the Madrid System and the Hague System).
- 2. Collaboration between the Government of Morocco and WIPO:** The goal is to adopt a collaborative approach that covers all aspects of IP rights protection, development and application, working with all stakeholders, national and regional institutions involved in IP issues and other specialized United Nations agencies and inter-governmental organizations active in Morocco. The second challenge is to support implementation of the national IP strategy. In this regard, a WIPO external office in Morocco will facilitate the sharing of data, experiences and best practices and the organization of joint activities to ensure the successful implementation of this strategy.
- 3. Relay for WIPO actions in Africa:** The external office will serve as a WIPO relay office

that supports both Morocco and the developing and least developed countries (LDCs) in Africa, through projects included in WIPO programs to build the capacities of national offices by providing technical support to enhance utilization of the IP system.

4. **Development of intellectual property skills:** This entails supplementing the training program developed by the Moroccan Academy of Industrial and Commercial Property (AMAPIC) to contribute to the development of human capital in various IP fields and promote the use of IP for technical and socio-economic development.

III. Advantages of Morocco

1. **Strategic location:** Morocco enjoys a unique geo-strategic position, being located between Africa, Europe and the Arab world. This location is a natural advantage bolstered and enriched by a policy of openness, based on partnerships as well as free-trade and international cooperation agreements.
2. **Political stability and attractiveness of Morocco:** Morocco enjoys stability and political, economic, social and environmental security, as evidenced by its ability to withstand the financial crisis and the Arab spring. This has enhanced its attractiveness as a privileged destination for investments. This factor is supported by the assessments of several international bodies and institutions.
3. **Economic growth:** The consolidated macroeconomic indicators of Morocco's economy show a real GDP growth rate of 4 per cent for the 2009-2014 period (one of the highest in the MENA region), inflation contained at less than 2 per cent, an annual average increase of nearly 7 per cent in Moroccan exports with diversification of exported products and targeted markets, reflecting a structural transformation of the Moroccan economy, and a stable currency. In addition to these growth prospects, our bold investment policy has positioned Morocco as the largest African investor in West Africa, second largest on the African continent and the third biggest recipient of foreign investments in Africa in 2014 (according to the study "Attractiveness Survey Africa 2015", conducted by the firm Ernst and Young). This performance is underpinned by a policy of openness and sectoral strategies aimed at, *inter alia*, the establishment of a business environment that can support growth, stimulate investment and ensure the emergence of efficient ecosystems.
4. **Infrastructure:** Morocco has modern infrastructure that has gained international recognition, according to "Global Competitiveness 2015", which ranks the Kingdom as 1st in North Africa, 3rd in Africa and 6th in the Arab world. This ranking covers transport sector infrastructure like roads, highways, railways, ports and airports, as well as energy and telecommunications infrastructure. Furthermore, the Kingdom has reception facilities that place it among the most developed tourist destinations in the world and enable it to host world-class events.
5. **National intellectual property System:** Morocco's IP system is governed by laws that are consistent with international standards and is managed by two State institutions, namely the Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) and the Moroccan Copyright Office (BMDA). Their strategic vision, achievements and partnership activities are detailed in the annexes.

IV. Proposal from the Government of Morocco to host the WIPO External Office

The Moroccan Government is ready to support WIPO in facilitating the deployment and optimizing the operation of its external office in Morocco. In this regard, contributions could be provided in the following areas:

1. **Provision of premises:** The Moroccan Government undertakes to provide to WIPO, free of charge and pursuant to a specific agreement, premises with all the elements and means needed for it to perform its duties under the best conditions. The premises will be as follows:

- **Newly**-constructed property with a surface area of approximately 350 m² and several rooms. The capital expenditure, maintenance and round-the-clock security expenses of the premises shall be borne by the Government of Morocco.

- **These** premises are situated near commercial centers and government institutions and services, adjoining the business districts. This will enable the external office to generate innovative and promising synergies at several levels with different partners. - The site is equipped with modern IT infrastructure that meets the prerequisites for high connectivity (redundant Internet connections, computer rooms, telecommunications equipment) while ensuring a very high level of security and reliability that protect the system against cyber-attacks and intrusion (latest firewall technologies, anti-virus solutions). The WIPO External Office will also have access to the locally available training rooms and video-conference platforms.

2. **Privileges and immunities granted to the Office:** The immunities and privileges granted to WIPO external office staff will be similar to those accorded to staff of specialized United Nations agencies based in Morocco. The legal status of the WIPO external office in Morocco will be defined an agreement between the Government of Morocco and WIPO.

3. **Ease and freedom of communication:** Regarding official communication and the dissemination of all WIPO documents and publications, the WIPO external office may employ all appropriate means of communication, and has the right to use codes and to send and receive correspondence by courier or in sealed pouches that enjoy the same inviolability accorded to diplomatic couriers and pouches, in accordance with existing practices for United Nations representations in Morocco.

ANNEX: NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM

National industrial and commercial property system

1. Legal framework: The legal and regulatory framework of intellectual property in Morocco is the result of developments over the last 100 years (1916-2016), as influenced by constant changes in the protection of industrial property rights worldwide. In addition to its national legislation, Morocco, which is a WIPO Member State, is also a signatory to several conventions and agreements on, *inter alia*, international instruments for the protection of industrial property rights.

2. National strategy for the development of industrial and commercial property (PIC):

The PIC 2016-2020 strategy is designed to harness industrial and commercial property to Morocco's development and emergence in keeping with the goals outlined in national sectoral strategies. This strategy is based on a legal system that guarantees maximum legal security while aligning itself to the highest international standards. It also seeks to implement new mechanisms for the utilization and protection of rights. Furthermore, it seeks to strengthen the role played by WIPO through local activities that promote all the components of Morocco's economic fabric and the provision of diversified and adapted services.

3. Registration activities and indicators: Registration activities have been on the increase especially for trademarks (11,000 new trademarks per year) and industrial designs (1,400 applications per year). Although the number of applications for patents has stabilized at 1,000 over the last five years, it should be noted that there has been a revolution in the quality of applications filed in Morocco.

This performance is also reflected at the international level by the positive trend in Morocco's indicators, as reflected in the indicators published by WIPO in December 2015: Morocco is 67th for national patents and first in Africa for resident patent applications per unit of GDP, 46th for national trademarks and 9th in the category of countries with equivalent income, 22nd for industrial designs and 7th in the world for design filings per unit of GDP.

4. National and international cooperation: OMPIC has developed a network of stable and solid partnerships with the national institutions and agencies dealing with industrial and commercial property issues. The objective of these partnerships is to consolidate local activities that promote various components of Morocco's economic fabric.

Furthermore, through its strategy of openness, OMPIC is implementing a broad-based program of international cooperation with regional organizations and the national offices of different countries: WIPO, the European Patent Office, the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), France, Spain, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, China, Agadir Agreement countries (Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Jordan), etc.

At the regional level, the South-South cooperation in industrial property is marked by activities implemented with the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), which essentially involving experience-sharing programs and joint participation in activities on training and promotion of industrial property in Africa.

5. Example of projects

Network of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISC): This network currently has 43 agencies operating in R&D and innovation, with 58 focal points throughout Morocco. Its

mission is the technological development of enterprises and the operationalization of research results.

“ArabPat” platform: This is a platform for the publication and sharing of patent documentation by the patent offices of Arab countries, initiated as part of cooperation among Agadir Agreement Member States (Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and supported by the EPO, WIPO and OMPIC.

“Namadij” Project: This is a pilot project initiated by WIPO on industrial designs to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises that create designs to make strategic use of the IP system.

National system of copyright and related rights

1. Legal framework: The BMDA, a collective management organization created by Decree No. 2.64.406 of 8 March 1965 and placed under the supervisory authority of the Ministry of Communication, “is the sole authority responsible for collecting and distributing copyright in all its existing and future forms”. Thus, it:

- protects and manages copyrights and related rights as defined in Law No. 2-00 on copyright and related rights;
- ensures the collective management of copyright and related rights;
- initiates legal action to defend the moral and property interests of creators;
- establishes violations of the law by sworn officers of the BMDA;
- seizes phonograms, videograms and any other usable recording media, as well as any material used for unlawful reproduction;
- represents Morocco in international organizations dealing with artistic and literary property;
- ensures reciprocal representation of BMDA and similar foreign copyright bodies;
- coordinates with public authorities; and
- organizes advocacy and awareness campaigns to ensure a better understanding of intellectual property rights.

The law on copyright and neighboring rights was amended between July 1970 and May 2014. These developments attest to Morocco’s interest in copyright and related rights in particular and IP in general. These reforms support the efforts of international bodies and agencies, especially those dealing with IP, particularly WIPO.

2. National strategy for development of copyright and related rights to improve rights perception:

- application of private copying provisions from March 2016;
- launch of a draft text to improve the status of the BMDA, composed of a board of directors in which rights holders are represented;
- progress on a draft decree to set up the inter-ministerial commission to combat counterfeiting and piracy;
- enhancement of rights collection throughout the country;
- national census of operators and users of BMDA services;
- strengthening of campaigns to combat piracy and counterfeiting;
- sector study for the development of the sector;
- contribution to strengthening of the relations of the BMDA with national institutional and professional partners;
- enhancement of the capacity of the human resources of the BMDA through training and further training; and
- implementation of an awareness program targeting authors and performers applying for BMDA membership ahead of the imminent application of the law on private copying.

3. Cooperation

The BMDA has always enjoyed close relations with WIPO. In this regard, they have undertaken many joint activities, including the training of BMDA teams and the program launched in 2012 to implement the “Wipocos” computer platform. The BMDA also enjoys partnerships with other copyright organizations and societies in the world, including the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), the Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers of Music (SACEM), the Civil Society of Multimedia Authors (SCAM), and the Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers (SACD). Partnerships projects with societies of authors in some African countries are being considered.



PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)
FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE IN NIGERIA
IN THE 2016/17 BIENNIUM

Geneva, 2016.

**Proposal for the Establishment of
A WIPO External Office in Nigeria within the 2016/17 Biennium**

Brief Introduction to Nigeria

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is situated in the West African sub-region of Africa. Nigeria is Africa's largest economy; the 22nd largest global economy (2015); has a population of over 182million (including 65% youth) and is the 7th most populous nation in the world. The country is culturally diverse and comprises 500 ethnic groups (the three largest being Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba); more than 700 languages, with English as the Official language. Nigeria is a secular democracy comprised of six geo-political zones within 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Nigeria's economic revenue is primarily generated from vast ecological and mineral resources, especially crude oil. The official currency is the Naira (NGN).



Administration of Intellectual Property in Nigeria

2. Nigeria's Intellectual Property (IP) framework is administered by line Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government. The Industrial Property aspect is managed by the Commercial Law Department of the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, through its Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry (Registry); copyright is overseen by the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), under supervision of the Federal Ministry of Justice; the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) regulates broadcasting through issuance of operating licenses and general oversight of broadcast operations; while the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology oversees Technology Transfer/acquisition and scientific examination of research cooperation in Nigeria. Other Government MDAs have related specific and/or cross-cutting duties but maintain appropriate synergy with both the Registry and NCC through broad-based inter-agency collaboration and strategic partnerships.

Rationale for the Establishment of a WIPO External Office in Nigeria

3. Nigeria had long expressed its desire to host a WIPO External office in a letter dated 25 September, 2009, from the Director General of NCC to the Director General of WIPO. Subsequent to the adoption of *Guiding Principles for the Establishment of WIPO External Offices* (Guiding Principles) at the 2015 WIPO General Assemblies - which prioritized Africa and laid out the framework for establishing new External Offices - Nigeria responded to Circular Note 3641 of 13 November 2015 from the Director General, reiterating its desire to host an External Office by a Note Verbale dated 23 February 2016, and affirmed readiness to host the Office within the 2016/17 biennium.

4. In recent years, Nigeria has pursued a diversification of its economy to encompass knowledge-based resources supported by innovation, culture and creativity. The exponential growth of the country's financial, communications, science and technology, services and entertainment sectors played a significant role in this new policy direction. Nigeria has one of the fastest growing telecommunications and creative markets in the world, including space-based communications monitoring - *NigComSat-1*, which was Nigeria's third satellite and Africa's first communication satellite.

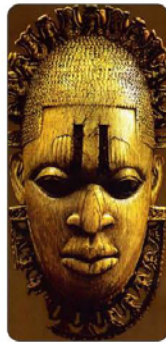
5. Also, creative industries now constitute one of the fastest growing sectors of the global economy. Africa is well noted for its long and vast tradition of innovative and creative content. In that context, Nigeria has distinguished herself in the arts over the years, due to her immense diversity of people and culture. Nigeria is home to Nollywood, the largest film industry in Africa and the second largest in the world in terms of output. Nollywood produces about 180-200 low budget home videos monthly (approximately 2200-2400 movies per annum) which is viewed by

over 300million people in Africa and around the world. Nollywood has an annual revenue stream of \$250–600million, with an annual investment rate of \$40–\$100million.

6. Nigerian music, film, literature and art resonates across Africa and around the world, facilitating a cumulative annual output of approximately \$2billion across film, music, Performing Arts, Fashion, Visual Arts, Advertising, TV and Broadcast, Arts and Antique, and Publishing – the total of which contributes 1.42% to the country’s GDP. Nigeria’s creative environment is also replete with literary giants whose works are renowned, such as late Professor Chinua Achebe, author and educationist, author of *Things Fall Apart* (1958) and *Arrow of God* (1964), with the former having sold over 8 million copies in 50 languages around the world and making him the most translated African writer; Professor Wole Soyinka, author, poet and playwright, whose works include *The Lion and the Jewel* (1959) and *Trials of Brother Jero* (1960), to mention a few. Prof. Soyinka was also the recipient of Africa’s first Nobel Prize in Literature (1986).



Professor Wole Soyinka,
Nigerian Playwright,
Poet and author



Renowned Ivory Mask
of the Benin Kingdom



Late Professor Chinua Achebe,
Nigerian author and educationist.



Popular Nigerian
Music Artist
Tuface Idibia



Afrobeat legend,
Fela Anikulapo-Kuti



Famous Nollywood Actress,
Omotola Jalade-Ekeinde



Cultural Dance



Nok Art from the Middle Belt of Nigeria (North Central)



Dancers at the annual Eyo Festival of Lagos



Oil painting by Oresegun Olumide



Oil painting by Oresegun Olumide



Intricate Nigerian hair style



Art by Nike Art Gallery



Fela

7. In contemporary times, Nigeria's vibrant creative industry is driven by the youth. This dynamic, and the sector's exponential growth potential has incentivized continuous domestic and international investment in the creative industry, including the establishment of a Sony Music Entertainment Office in Nigeria on 25 February 2016, with a projection to expand its operational presence across Africa as part of a long-term strategy for key markets.

8. The rapid growth of the creative sector and challenges associated with harnessing its potentials profitably has engendered the growth of collective management of copyright in Nigeria. Nigeria presently has three approved Collective Management Organizations (CMOs). The three different CMOs represent authors and right holders in the music and sound recording industries; authors and right owners in the literary and publishing sector; and right holders in the vibrant audiovisual industry (including Nollywood) respectively. The establishment of these management structures promises to galvanize the industry into more positive engagement with user communities and increasing the prospects of revenue earnings to right owners and greater dissemination of works.

9. As part of the efforts to strengthen the promotion, protection and enforcement of IP rights, the Registry and NCC have carried out reform initiatives with the key objective of repositioning Nigeria's innovative and creative industries for greater growth; strengthening their capacity to compete more effectively in the global marketplace; as well as enable Nigeria to fully satisfy its obligations under the various International IP Instruments to which it has either signed, ratified or indicated interest to ratify.

10. In acceding to relevant international instruments, Nigeria has been guided by the thrust of its domestic and foreign policies within the framework of common development concerns. Nigeria has also had long standing cooperation and engagement with WIPO, including visits of three Director Generals of WIPO, Messrs. Arpad Bogsch, Kamil Idris and Francis Gurry. Nigeria was recipient of a WIPO Gold Medal in 1996, a recognition of the country's contribution to global IP issues and her domestic copyright policies and practices. Nigeria has also Chaired WIPO Committees and continually engaged in the organization's negotiations; participated in a number of WIPO Expert Missions aimed at strengthening the copyright regime in other developing countries, particularly in the African Sub-region; and hosted/collaborated with WIPO on important events at the national, regional and international level. A few of these include:

- i. The African Regional Workshop on Reprography Jointly Organized by WIPO, IFRRO and Nigerian Government (Ibadan, 1995);
- ii. WIPO Workshop on teaching of Intellectual Property in Africa (September 1999);
- iii. Intellectual Property Workshop for Women Entrepreneurs in Africa (Abuja, August 2000);

- iv. African Regional Consultative meeting on Protection of Broadcasting Organizations, and Audiovisual Performances (Abuja, October 2010).



Former Chief of General Staff and Vice Chairman of the Provisional Ruling Council, Lt. General Oladipo Diya, Meeting with WIPO Delegation to the National Workshop on Copyright and Broadcasting Organized by NCC in collaboration with WIPO, Lagos 1995.

11. Nigeria is a WIPO Member State and is party to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, Universal Copyright Convention (UNESCO), Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations, and the WTO TRIPS Agreement. Nigeria has signed all the WIPO administered Copyright Treaties (WIPO Copyright Treaty; WIPO Performances and Phonogram Treaty; Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances; and the Marrakesh Treaty on Exceptions and Limitations for the Blind, Visually Impaired or otherwise Print Disabled Persons (Marrakesh Treaty)), a demonstration of intent, for which the NCC is currently engaged in the requisite processes for ratification and domestication of all the signed instruments in Nigeria.



DG, NCC, Afam Ezekude (R) in a warm handshake with Director-General World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO, Dr. Francis Gurry at the Diplomatic Conference

12. In the Industrial Property field, Nigeria has an annual estimate of 35,000 Trademark registrations, 8000 (domestic and foreign) patent applications and 450 industrial design registrations. Nigeria's Industrial Property landscape has enormous potential for prolific growth if effectively harnessed and technically enabled. Current innovation drive in this field is principally focused on tertiary institutions and other knowledge resources that engage approximately 146 Universities, 125 Polytechnics, 120 Colleges of Education, over 300 Research and Development (R&D) establishments (including 38 Technology Transfer Offices in tertiary Institutions and research Institutes across the Country), Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), science and innovation hubs/centers, ICT villages, the large broadcasting sector, and the political leadership.

13. The Registry and NOTAP have collaborated severally with WIPO and other Stakeholders to raise awareness, advance and strengthen performance in this sector. These include meetings, technical cooperation partnerships, capacity building initiatives, establishment of a Technology Innovation and Support Center in Abuja, and a new development plan with WIPO to address some identified issues such as assisting SMEs and R&D centers in the use and protection of IP, training for IP Examiners, opposition and enforcement officials, and the PCT and Madrid Union

systems, to mention a few. The Registry is also currently pursuing large scale automation and digitization of its records and services, while for assured authenticity and to curb against counterfeiting and infringements, the Registry collaborates with the national currency minting press, Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Plc., to issue protected certificates.

14. In relation to other instruments specific to Industrial Property, Nigeria is party to the Paris Convention for the protection of Industrial property; the Nice Agreement concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the purposes of the Registration of Marks; the Patent Cooperation Treaty; the Patent Law Treaty; and the Trademark Law Treaty. Like the Copyright sector, Nigeria is also engaged in processes for the ratification of relevant industrial property instruments to which it is has signed or has expressed an interest to ratify.

Infrastructural Certitude and other Relevant Factors

15. Nigeria has four main international airports in the Central (Abuja), North (Kano), West (Lagos) and South (Port-Harcourt) of the country. 20 domestic airlines and 28 regional and international airlines traverse the Nigerian airports, including all the major international carriers. The airports are easily accessible at approximately 30 minutes' drive from the city center, with a vast geographical coverage of frequent flights around Africa and the rest of the world. Nigeria, the Federal Capital Territory of Abuja in particular, offers a conducive working environment with available and affordable telephone communication and broadband services; vibrant banking and financial systems; good medical and education facilities; a well-connected network of all-season roads, rail, inland waterways, maritime national/international transportation; affordable water supply, electricity, tourist and recreational centers, renowned hotels and living quarters. This has made the city an attractive option for various international events, both at inter-governmental and non-governmental levels, including the hosting of Summits.

16. Having long engaged in the hosting of major sub-regional, regional and international conferences and offices, a remarkable number of United Nations organizations and regional offices are domiciled in Nigeria, including the United Nations Headquarters Building in Abuja and the ECOWAS Secretariat, to mention a few. Specific to WIPO, Nigeria has hosted and/or collaborated with WIPO to host important events at the national, regional and international level. Though Nigeria's use of WIPO's global IP systems is unfortunately far from its optimal potential vis-à-vis existing content in the country, it is considered as largely commensurate with the level of development of Nigeria's IP capacities.

Scope and Envisaged Role of a WIPO External Office in Nigeria

17. WIPO's External Office network has become integral to the delivery of the organization's services and objectives, serving both platforms of enhancing WIPO Services and

promoting and disseminating IP as a valuable socio-economic tool, particularly Strategic Goal III – *Facilitating the Use of IP for Development*. The External Office would also add value to efforts towards evolution of the International Normative Framework for IP, enhance participation in the Global IP Services, facilitate international cooperation on Building Respect for IP, strengthen the interface between IP in relation to Global Policy Issues in the country, as well as facilitate in the implementation of relevant development agenda recommendations. A WIPO External Office in Nigeria would also have the capacity to serve neighbouring African countries and beyond, if and when agreed.



18. In view of the foregoing, Nigeria is particularly positioned to host a WIPO External Office and enable the organization maximize benefits, giving due regard to the potential

multiplier effect a successful cooperation will bring to the organization, Nigeria and the African continent in general. Some of the needs and capacity gaps to address would include:

- Collaboration with national IP Offices to support and advance delivery of WIPO's programs and national IP development objectives, including assistance with legal and regulatory frameworks;
- Raising awareness, understanding and respect for IP;
- Enhancement of innovation and creativity, including by promoting effective use of IP Services;
- Undertaking specific development oriented activities to promote and build respect for IP;
- Facilitate broad dissemination of IP knowledge;
- Provision of capacity building and technical support to national IP Offices/Stakeholders to increase use of IP;
- Promoting effective rights management;
- Facilitate human and institutional capacity-building;
- Leveraging the close proximity to undertake targeted outreach and forge closer relationships with stakeholders;
- Facilitate sustainable partnerships and connection of local content to global value chains; as well as promote/strengthen linkages between University/Research Institutes and Industries/private entrepreneurs;
- Assist in harnessing the potential of culture and creativity for national/regional development;
- Sharpen the visibility of creative works to consolidate on the already established international recognition of the creative industries as major indices of development;
- Facilitate knowledge and understanding of IP protection in the digital Environment; and
- Assist with data development.

19. The establishment of a WIPO External Office in Nigeria will no doubt enhance the needed capacity to build knowledge-based economies through increased access and use of IP information. It would also draw transformative attention to IP issues and provide added impetus to the leaders' political will and commitment to mainstreaming IP into economic and development plans - with emphasis on culture, science, technology and innovation systems.

What Nigeria has to Offer

20. Nigeria is a thriving hub, partner and collaborator in international activities, with 119 diplomatic Missions abroad, 134 foreign diplomatic missions/trade posts in Nigeria, United Nations and Specialized Agencies outposts in Nigeria, sub-sub-regional and regional offices, multinationals and international organizations. To incentivize establishment of a WIPO External Office in the country, Nigeria will provide:

- A ready market and support system for the implementation of relevant WIPO Strategic Goals and Programs, and Development Agenda Recommendations;
- Government approved 400sq meter large office space in the secure Diplomatic Maitama District of the Capital City, Abuja, and in close proximity to several key institutions and social amenities. The large office space is in a prime location, and could also serve a multi-purpose role for the External Office, including training activities, conference services, knowledge events and more;
- Skilled human resources; and
- Accordance of standard Diplomatic and Consular Immunity for the Staff.



Export House – Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC). Proposed site of the WIPO External Office in Nigeria

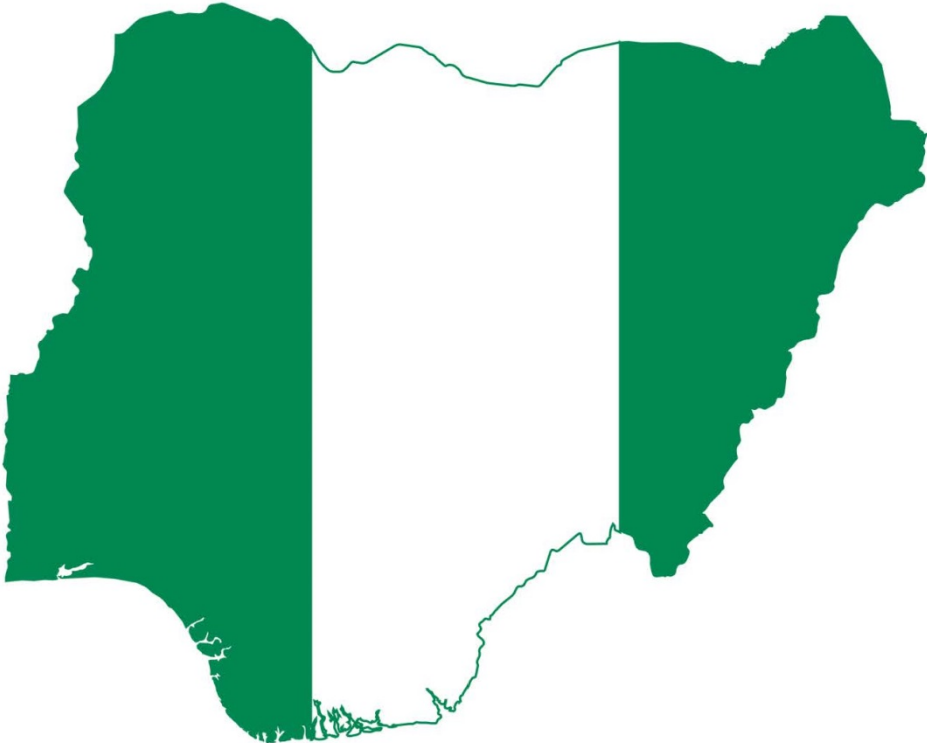
Conclusion

21. Nigeria's large population is predominantly made up of the youth with a considerable lack of IP awareness, but most placed to utilize the IP system positively *and* in an uninformed manner. The economic and content rich landscape of Nigeria is a very viable market to exploit and harness for growth and development. Thus, the establishment of a WIPO External Office in Nigeria would without doubt serve as a mutually beneficial strategic investment.

22. Finally, hospitality is an African bedrock, and Nigeria is home to the most welcoming, happiest and optimistic people in the world. A recent study in the UK's New Scientist Magazine informs that out of more than 65 countries evaluated, the happiest people in the world live in Nigeria.

23. Nigeria: Good People, Great Nation.





PROPOSAL: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXTERNAL OFFICE IN PANAMA

1. BACKGROUND

Today, intellectual property (IP) is one of the issues of great interest to the international community. The issue has taken on a life of its own and is considered important by the relevant authorities. It now offers many benefits, such as an appropriate and advanced legal framework, not only to comply with international commitments, but also to effectively protect the interests of our rightholders.

WIPO has been developing policies for a regional approach through the creation of several external offices. It has active representation in Singapore, China, Japan, and Brazil, the latter being an external office whose remit is limited almost exclusively to coordinating activities and promoting IP in the host country. When the location of these offices and their functions are considered, it is immediately obvious that the Latin American and Caribbean region does not have a WIPO regional support office that seeks to maximize the benefits that are available to countries in other locations. Latin America is an important WIPO bloc and should have a regional office.

Following commitments at the multilateral and bilateral levels, the intellectual property regime in Panama has been modified, such that the country has drafted modern laws tailored to its commitments and national situation. In this vein, IP and plant variety laws were modified and a new copyright law was passed, strengthening Panama's IP legal arsenal.

Our system seeks to protect and encourage innovation in sectors that traditionally do not benefit from intellectual property, such as indigenous groups, with a *sui generis* law to protect traditional knowledge and folklore. Furthermore, we have drafted norms to protect Panamanian genetic resources used in research. Panama has also sought to add value to appellations of origin that may help the transformation of economic activity for vulnerable sectors and populations. Finally, the country has tailored compliance standards to address the new IP challenges faced by Panama and the rest of the region.

At present, Panama boasts IP laws and an efficient system for the enforcement of these laws which are among the most comprehensive in the region. However, in Panama, as in most of the region, further development of institutions, human resources and equipment through targeted technical assistance is necessary.

Panama has specialist institutions and qualified IP experts, including the Special Prosecutor for Intellectual Property and Information Security Crimes, with the rank of Senior Prosecutor, an IP department in the Colón Free Zone, the National Customs Authority and the Technical Judicial Police. Likewise, it has a Superior Court which hears IP disputes and an Interagency Intellectual Property Commission. These institutions oversee the harmonization, coordination and monitoring of IP policies and design protection and enforcement policies and guidelines that serve as a suitable deterrent against IP rights violations.

It is noteworthy that the laws passed as from 1994 to govern all areas of IP and modernized in 2012 have been applied daily by the competent authorities. The commitment of the Republic of Panama to strengthening IP rights contributes to its positive image among investors. This has boosted domestic and foreign investment in industries and services that are intensive IP consumers and producers. Moreover, research centers have increased in number and there is more research in national universities.

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original Spanish-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and Spanish versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

2. ADVANTAGES OF PANAMA AS REGIONAL WIPO HEADQUARTERS

Panama has historically been a hub for almost all activities related to trade and human development. The country has a high level of financial, commercial and legal security in Latin America, allowing it to attract foreign investment and enjoy a prosperous and internationally recognized business climate. Its advantages have been recognized by the United Nations and it has been designated the regional headquarters of the UN. Panama hosts regional offices of 20 UN agencies, including the following:

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Children's Rights and Emergency Relief Organization (UNICEF)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- UN Women
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Human Rights (OHCHR) Regional Office for Central America.
- United Nations Department of Security
- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional Office – Americas
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Project
- Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Panama
- World Food Programme – Regional Office (WFP)

Other international organizations, based in Panama include the following:

- International Labour Organization - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
- International Organization for Migration - Administrative Center
- Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB)
- Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization, Panama Office
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Regional Office (OCHA)

Panama is classified as a stable and safe country, including urban areas, with appropriate indicators for establishing offices of this nature. It is a strategic communications and transport hub. Its advantages include the Panama Canal; modern ports in two oceans complemented by logistics; and an air hub linking the country nonstop with all countries in the region, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and through these, with the entire planet.

Some time ago, Panama adopted a strategy for locating and guiding international organizations under the City of Knowledge project. To date, a large number of organizations already have established and functioning headquarters.

The location of a WIPO office in Panama is justified by the positive impact that this would have on the whole of Latin America. For example:

- a. Thanks to its geographical position, it offers the possibility of better targeting of WIPO cooperation and technical assistance to all the countries of Latin America. It can also coordinate cooperation between these countries.
- b. It is possible to establish Panama as a center for technical training in IP for the countries of the region, thereby enabling both WIPO and the national office to economize resources.
- c. It would strengthen the regional culture of respect and use of IP.
- d. It can serve as a springboard for establishing master's and doctorate IP programs adapted to regional and national needs and offered in regional languages.

- e. The Organization would be able to reduce its efforts to promote and disseminate other international instruments not ratified by some Latin American countries and subsequent implementation.

Moreover, establishing a WIPO office in Panama would have a positive impact on the country:

- improved training of Panamanian human resources;
- strengthening a culture of respect and use of IP at the national level;
- increased employment and growth incentives for Panamanian human resources on IP issues;
- strengthening the country's IP institutions and its relationship with WIPO;
- good atmosphere and improved country image with regard to respect for IP, both key to attracting investments that generate jobs and wealth; and
- a platform to establish master's and doctoral programs in IP issues in the country's universities and a positive impact throughout the region.

3. ENVISAGED ROLE OF THE WIPO OFFICE IN PANAMA

The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean would be the base for providing legal and technical assistance to countries in the region, including in the following services.

- serving as a forum for the exchange of ideas and experience at the regional and sub-regional levels;
- adapting regulatory and legislative IP policy frameworks to the needs and characteristics of each country;
- promoting national innovation and IP strategies, consistent with national goals and development plans;
- human resources capacity-building to ensure the ability to cope with the wide range of requirements for the effective use of IP for the development of the region's countries;
- establishing programs and mechanisms adapted to countries' needs and strengthening mechanisms for technical cooperation among countries and between WIPO and countries;
- improving access to and use of IP information by IP institutions and the general public to promote innovation and creativity;
- improving the technical infrastructure and knowledge of IP offices and other IP institutions, making for better services (cheaper, faster and higher quality) to their stakeholders;
- promoting WIPO-administered international instruments to encourage accession and ratification by countries of the region;
- assisting with the creation and promotion of an efficient network of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and sub-regional networks;
- working with the different groups in countries of the region that are working to strengthen and promote IP;
- working closely with various governments and both existing and future sub-regional standing ministerial advisory mechanisms – among other tasks, it would be possible to coordinate cooperation activities aimed at raising awareness on IP and enhancing the IP capacity of the region's countries; and
- working closely with other WIPO external offices to implement various activities aimed at building a culture of respect and use of IP worldwide.

Thus, a WIPO regional office in Panama would contribute significantly and efficiently to the achievement of the objectives set out in paragraph 7 of the Guiding Principles Regarding WIPO External Offices:

- collaboration with the national IP office to support and advance the Organization's program delivery;
- enhancement of innovation and creativity, including by promoting effective use of IP services;

- raising awareness, understanding and respect for IP;
- the delivery of customer services to users of global IP services, including treaties and conventions administered by WIPO;
- assistance for using IP as a tool for promoting development and transfer of technology;
- the provision of policy and technical support to national IP offices to increase the use of IP; and
- if approved by the PBC, any other activities which are beneficial to WIPO Member States.

4. FACILITIES AND ADVANTAGES OF ESTABLISHING THE WIPO OFFICE IN PANAMA

Panama has special economic zones whose fiscal and migratory benefits could be attractive for the establishment of the WIPO regional office. In addition, the country has the City of Knowledge, which serves as the regional headquarters of many international organizations, including the United Nations.

The City of Knowledge is composed first and foremost of its users, whose achievements define the success of the project. The City of Knowledge is unique in that it also offers a living environment and community services, with recreational, cultural, corporate and conference activities and facilities used daily by more than 5,000 people. These facilities are a friendly and safe environment adapted to productive and creative activities. Moreover, there are plans to construct a center to house UN agencies with a presence in Panama, which would adjoin and benefit from these facilities.

5. SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF PANAMA TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXTERNAL OFFICE

In its commitment to become a hub for international organizations, the Government of Panama offers the benefits set forth in Cabinet Decree No. 280 of October 13, 1970 to diplomatic and consular missions, their foreign members and representatives of international organizations, including the following:

- freedom of communication for official purposes, correspondence, diplomatic and mail bags;
- immunity from jurisdiction; and
- exemption from social security provisions.

At the request of the interested party, these benefits may be reviewed and the fiscal and migratory benefits for the specific area in which the institution seeks to become established (Panama Pacific, City of Knowledge or any other area) may be presented.

The Republic of Korea's Proposal to Host a WIPO External Office

1. Introduction: Providing a Regional Base for Development Projects and the fulfilment of current needs

The Republic of Korea wishes to host an External Office in order to meet the current demand for WIPO services and function as a regional base for launching further development projects. This will enable us to share with less developed countries Korea's experience with using IP to generate economic growth and transform itself from international aid recipient to international aid donor.

2. Purpose and Activities of Proposed WIPO Korea Office

(1) WIPO Korea Office as a Hub for Development Projects

In 2004, the Korea Funds-in-Trust was established to strengthen the global IP system by promoting economic, social, and cultural development in places with limited resources. Over the past 12 years, the Republic of Korea has contributed about 10.5 million Swiss francs (equivalent to 10.8 million US dollars) to this fund, 1.3 million Swiss francs (equivalent to 1.4 million US dollars) of which were contributed last year alone. Thanks to the Korea Funds-in-Trust, the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) has held yearly appropriate technology (AT) competitions in a total of eight countries since 2011. Through these competitions, we were able to discover under-utilized technologies that could be used to enhance the quality of life for people in less developed countries. The Korea Funds-in-Trust also supported last year's WIPO Inter-Regional Workshop for Heads of Copyright Offices on Capacity Building, which took place in Seoul and was co-hosted by Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MCST). This workshop helped build partnerships among the fifteen participating countries via exchanges of copyright-related information. Furthermore, through other funding sources, KIPO has implemented a variety of IP-sharing projects that afford AT to less developed countries and support them in automating their IP administration systems.

By establishing a WIPO Korea Office to serve as the hub for international development projects, we can more effectively turn the under-utilized technology of developed countries into essential technology used for helping less developed countries achieve economic sustainability. A WIPO Korea Office would be immensely beneficial in allowing us to implement bigger projects and longer-term strategies, as well as in enabling us to coordinate all of our efforts through a single channel.

(2) WIPO Korea Office as a Hub for Global IP Education

The Korea Funds-in-Trust, in addition to other funding sources such as the Korea International Cooperation Agency fund, supports annual IP education courses for less developed countries. Such courses include the KIPO-WIPO-KAIST-KIPA Advanced International Certified Course (AICC), the Workshop on Patent and Trademark Law & Examination, the Study Visit to the Republic of Korea for National IP Strategies and Outreach Activities, the WIPO Summer School on IP, the WIPO-SNU MIP Program, and the WIPO-QUT LL.M. Program.

Moreover, we have produced IP education content tailored to people in various walks of life. Such content includes IP PANORAMA, a multimedia IP education platform for SMEs; "Getting Creative with Pororo," a series of animated IP education videos for children; IP Xpedite, an audio-visually enhanced version of WIPO's Distance Learning-101 (DL-101); IP IGNITE, an educational platform for learning the basics of international IP law and treaties; "Invention Savers Jin," a mobile game for educating today's youth on the foundational principles of invention; and "Teaching Materials on Respect for Copyright," a carefully designed educational tool aimed at young people aged 10-15.

The WIPO Korea Office will serve as a hub for global IP education by providing online and offline customized education courses operated via proven teaching methods and qualified instructors. Korea has accumulated a great deal of experience in this regard, and we wish to use it for enhancing the IP capabilities of other countries throughout the world.

(3) WIPO Korea Office as a Provider of Around-the-clock Customized Services

In 2014, KIPO received the fifth largest amount of PCT applications of any IP office, as well as the fourth largest amount of patent applications. This shows that Korea has great interest in IP protection, and that the Korean demand for WIPO services is very high.

However, the eight-hour time difference between Korea and WIPO's Geneva headquarters poses a significant barrier to efficient communication. The fact that there is virtually no overlap between the working hours of Korea and Switzerland often results in delays in problem resolution. Another obstacle is the language barrier. Most Korean users experience serious difficulty in communicating with WIPO headquarters in English. As it stands, Korean is the fifth most commonly used language in PCT applications, and it is officially recognized as a PCT publication language.

The WIPO Korea Office will provide around-the-clock service not only to Koreans but also international companies doing business in Korea, allowing them to take advantage of WIPO services face-to-face during Korea's core working hours.

When KIPO was appointed as an International Searching Authority and applicants were then able to submit PCT documents in Korean, the number of PCT application submissions drastically increased. In this regard, a WIPO Korea Office would likely spur an increase in demand for PCT, Madrid, and Hague services by promoting these systems and thereby generating greater revenue for WIPO.

3. The Republic of Korea's Support for a WIPO Korea Office

(1) Fully Supported by the Korean Government to Ensure Financial Sustainability

As the location of KIPO's branch office, as well as a multitude of other IP-related public institutions (i.e., the Korea Intellectual Property Association, the Korea Institute of Intellectual Property, etc.) and patent law firms, Seoul is a likely candidate for hosting the WIPO Korea Office. All office rent and operational costs will be covered by the Korean government, and WIPO will experience no additional financial burden apart from regular personnel expenses.

(2) The Korean Government's Focus on IP

Especially important is the fact that, ever since 2013, Korea has adopted "Creative Economy" as its core national agenda in order to enable the principles of creativity and innovation to drive the national economy by facilitating start-ups and opening up new jobs and markets. Moreover, our National Assembly strengthened Korea's position as a global IP powerhouse by establishing the national Patent Hub Committee, whose job is to turn Korea into a global patent hub. Thanks to "The Culture Creation and Convergence Belt," the Korean government's ambitious project to nurture the burgeoning content industry, both creators and the general public have placed an increased emphasis on the importance of copyright-related information and educational opportunities.

4. Conclusion

As a former recipient of foreign aid, Korea understands the hardships that less developed countries face in boosting economic growth and providing better lives for their citizens. It is in this regard that Korea wishes to share with them its experiences and know-how in hopes that they might achieve a similar degree of economic self-sustainability and overall prosperity. The

establishment of a WIPO Korea Office would be instrumental in helping us make this dream a reality.

Annex: Figures and Tables

1. KIPO's IP Sharing Projects – Appropriate Technology

Year	Country	Project Outcomes
2010	Chad	Sugarcane Charcoal Manufacturing Technology
2011	Nepal	Soil Brick Technology
	Cambodia	Water Purifier
2012	Guatemala	Cooking Stove
	Nepal	Bamboo Housing
2013	The Philippines	Enhanced Oil Extractor
	Papua New Guinea	Irrigation Bicycle Rope Pump
2014	Ghana	Honey Extractor
	Vietnam	Decentralized Water Treatment
2015	Mongolia	Mechanized Extraction/application of Natural Dyes
	Myanmar	Drainage System

2. KIPO's IP Sharing Projects – IP Automation System

Year	Country
2010-2011	Mongolia
2011-2013	Azerbaijan
2013-2015	ARIPO, Vietnam, Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, Paraguay, Mongolia, Myanmar

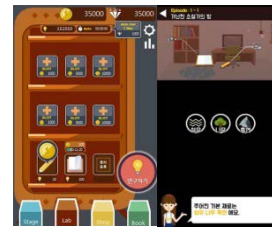
3. KIPO-developed IP Education Contents



Getting Creative with Pororo (for toddlers)



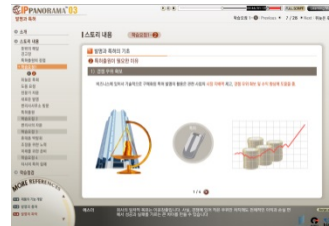
Invention Saver Jin (for children)



Invention City (for teenagers)



IP Xpedite (for IP Experts)

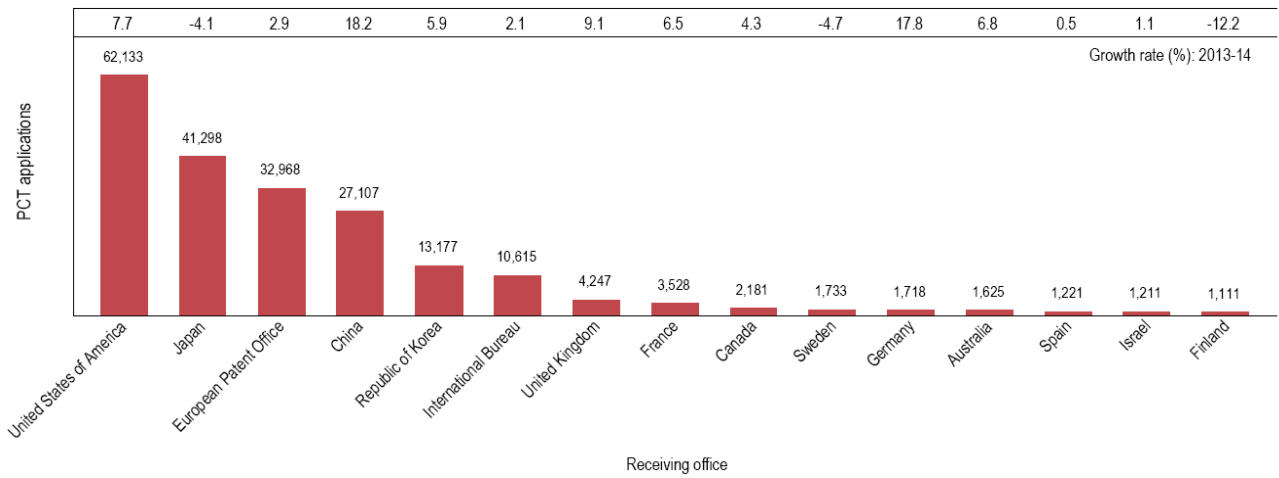


IP PANOMARA (for SMEs)



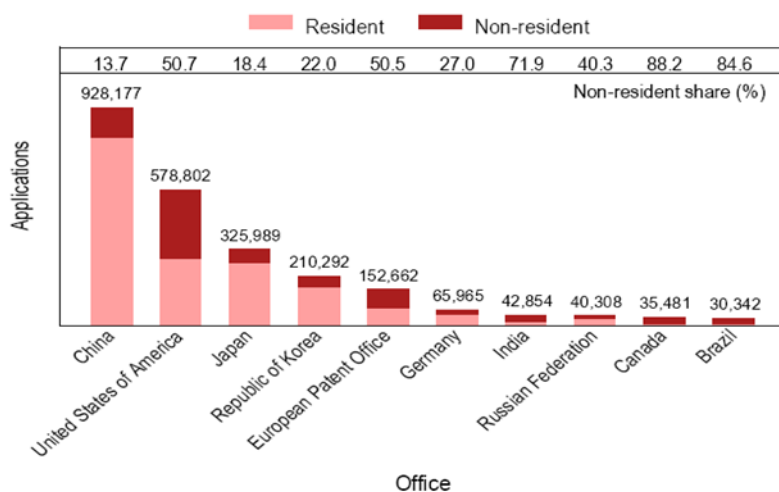
IP IGNITE (for university students)

4. PCT Applications for the Top 15 Receiving Offices, 2014



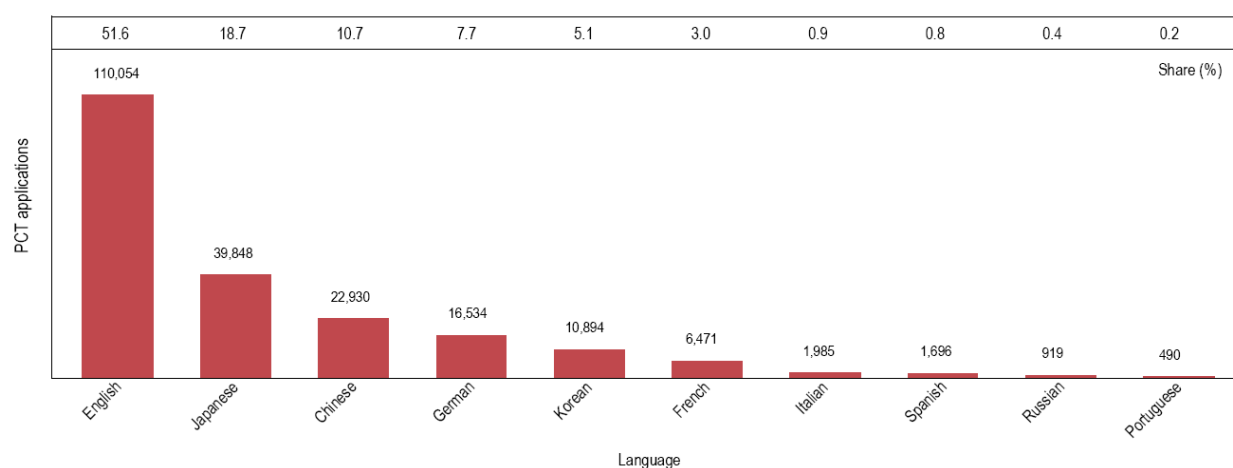
* Source: PCT Yearly Review (WIPO, 2015) Figure A.1.2.1

5. Patent Applications for the Top 10 Receiving Offices, 2014



* Source: World Intellectual Property Indicator (WIPO, 2015) Figure A8

6. PCT Applications for the Top 10 Filing Languages, 2014



* Source: PCT Yearly Review (WIPO, 2015) Figure C.1.2.1

THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA



**Proposal by Romania
to host a sub-regional
WIPO external office from
the 2016 - 2017 biennium**



Bucharest 1920 - Athénée Palace Hotel



Bucharest 2016 - The National Library

CONTENT

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- I. Central-European and Baltic States Region
 - II. Romania
 - III. Rationale for the WIPO External Office
 - IV. Proposed Mandate
 - V. Scope of Activities
 - VI. Added Value
 - VII. Financial and Budgetary Aspects
 - VIII. Privileges
- Annex 1

INTRODUCTION

Since 2010, the Government of Romania has expressed its readiness to host a WIPO External Office on various occasions.

On 6 December 2013, H.E. Mr. Victor Viorel Ponta, Prime Minister of Romania, sent a letter to the WIPO Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, expressing the intention of Romania to host a WIPO External Office.

On 10 February 2016, a new formal notification from H.E. Mr. Dacian Ciolos, Prime Minister of Romania, was submitted to the Director General of WIPO and the President of the WIPO General Assembly. The letters refer to the application for hosting a WIPO External Office (EO) in Romania, starting with the biennium 2016-2017. The Government of Romania submitted the following proposal on 29 February 2016.

Romania considers that the functioning of a **sub-regional External Office** in the Central European and Baltic States region will be beneficial both for WIPO and the Group's Member States and will not prejudice in any way the rights and the conduct of relations by any other Member State in the region with WIPO HQ or the rights of any country with regard to regular WIPO program activity, especially at the national level, including the delivery of any legal or technical assistance to those countries directly from WIPO HQ.

In our assessment, the added-value of the WIPO External Office would consist in the proximity to the beneficiary/recipient of assistance (government, organizations, companies or individuals), which would stimulate their involvement upstream in the drafting of policies and would allow for a better responsiveness to their specific needs.

At the submitting date, support letters for the proposal of the Government of Romania have been received from a group of 5 countries from the region (Albania, Georgia, TFYR of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and the Republic of Serbia).

I. CENTRAL-EUROPEAN AND BALTIC STATES REGION

CEBS membership

The Central-European and Baltic States (CEBS) region is composed of the following 18 countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Population

In terms of demographic data, the CEBS member states count around 133 million inhabitants (close to the Russian Federation population – of 146 million).

Economy

Emerging from decades of socialist centrally-planned economy, starting with the early 1990s, most of the countries in the region decided to transition to free market systems and undertook reforms to open their economies to investment and trade, which in turn led to higher economic growth.

Many members of the CEBS region were among the fastest growing in the world (4% to 5% GDP growth) before the global economic and financial crisis occurred in 2008, benefiting from the fact that they had highly educated, but still inexpensive labor force.

GDP dynamics

The countries from the region have succeeded in regaining the momentum after the end of the recession. They have recorded a steady GDP growth over the last five years (see *Table no. 1*) and they are expected to show healthy growth in the next year (up to 3% or 4 % GDP growth¹).

Table no. 1

GDP (Billion US dollars) (Constant 2011 US\$ (PPP)) in CEBS countries - based on the "WIPO Statistics Database"

Country	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Albania	27.31	28	28.46	28.86	29.41
Bosnia & Herzegovina	35.17	35.51	35.08	35.95	36.40
Bulgaria	110.9	112.27	112.82	114.03	115.97
Croatia	88.31	88.06	86.13	85.32	84.98
Czech Republic	294.44	300.22	297.80	295.71	301.60
Estonia	28.91	31.30	32.75	33.28	33.98
Georgia	26.44	28.35	30.10	31.10	32.58
Hungary	220.62	224.60	221.28	224.66	232.82
Latvia	38.07	39.97	41.90	43.67	44.70
Lithuania	64.29	68.22	70.84	73.15	75.31
T F Y R of Macedonia	23.50	24.05	23.94	24.58	25.50
Republic of Moldova	13.98	14.88	14.77	16.16	16.91
Montenegro	8.46	8.73	8.51	8.79	8.93
Poland	811.39	850.09	865.56	880.40	910.07
Romania	341.92	349.82	351.06	363.34	369.73
Serbia	89.69	90.95	90.02	92.34	90.66
Slovakia	131.75	135.32	137.48	139.44	142.80
Slovenia	58.13	58.49	56.95	56.38	57.86

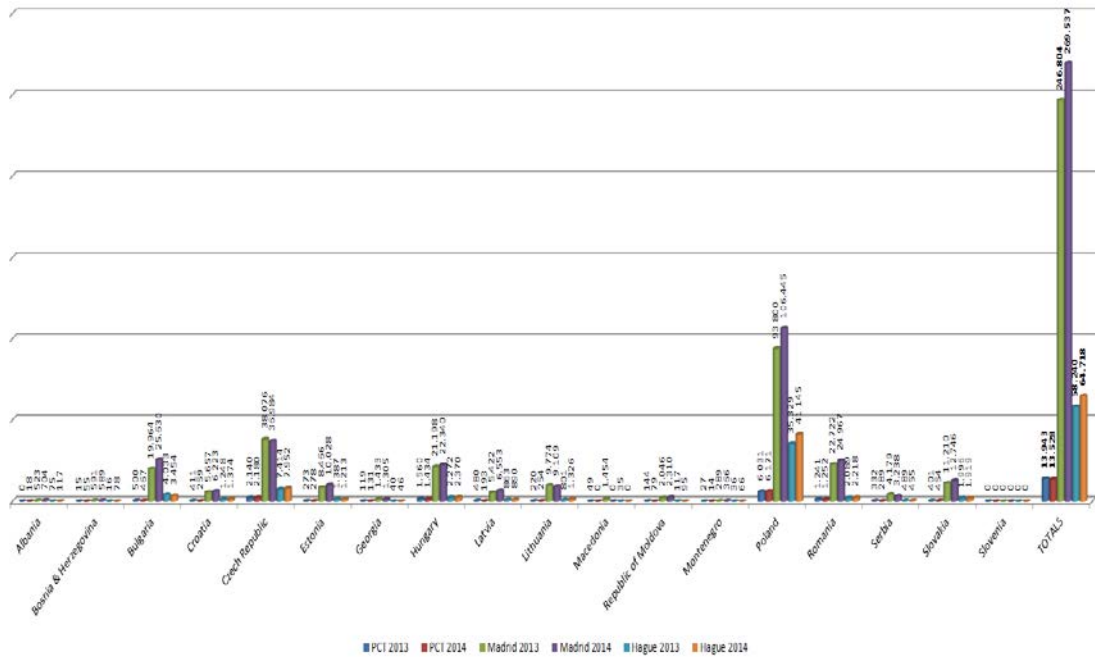
¹ European Commission winter 2016 economic forecast,
See: http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/eu/forecasts/2016_winter_forecast_en.htm

When it comes to **intellectual property filings**, the overall results are encouraging, despite notable decline of patent applications in some countries (see *Table no.2*). The majority of the CEBS member states registered growth over the last years in terms of filings for trademarks and industrial designs.

Table no. 2

Country	PCT		Madrid		Hague	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Albania	-	18	523	704	75	117
Bosnia & Herzegovina	15	55	591	589	16	78
Bulgaria	500	467	19,964	25,630	4,033	3,454
Croatia	411	259	5,657	6,223	1,248	1,374
Czech Republic	2,140	2,180	38,076	36,984	7,414	7,952
Estonia	273	278	8,466	10,028	1,387	1,213
Georgia	119	131	1,433	1,305	40	46
Hungary	1,560	1,434	21,198	22,340	2,272	2,370
Latvia	480	193	5,422	6,553	863	890
Lithuania	220	254	9,774	9,109	801	1,326
T F Y R of Macedonia	49	-	1,454	-	35	-
Republic of Moldova	144	79	2,046	2,310	117	95
Montenegro	27	14	289	366	36	66
Poland	6,031	6,171	93,800	106,445	35,329	41,145
Romania	1,241	1,252	22,722	24,967	2,089	2,218
Serbia	332	289	4,179	3,238	489	455
Slovakia	401	454	11,210	12,746	1,996	1,919
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	13,943	13,528	246,804	269,537	58,240	64,718

Data gathered from the statistics published on WIPO's website, www.wipo.int. The above table represents a compilation for the years 2013 and 2014, demonstrating the current potential for filing applications under PCT, Madrid and Hague Agreements coming from the member states of the CEBS Group.



The CEBS member states have the necessary infrastructure in place to cater for the interests of Intellectual Property (IP) applicants. They have adopted national legislation on intellectual property and they have set up national institutions specifically tasked with IP matters.

The majority of the CEBS member states have two separate institutions, one dealing with industrial property rights and the other with copyright. In a number of countries, there is a single authority dealing with both industrial property rights and copyright. The total number of such institutions in the CEBS member states counts for 28.

II. ROMANIA

Location

Romania is located in the Eastern part of Central Europe, north of the Balkan Peninsula. Its neighboring countries are Hungary, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria and Serbia. On the southeast it borders the Black Sea. The country is one of the largest in the Central European region and covers an area of approximately 238,390 square kilometers.



Climate

Romania benefits from a temperate-continental climate, with four distinct seasons, the annual average temperature depending on latitude and ranging from 8°C in the North and 11°C in the South, with temperatures of 2.6°C in the mountains and 12°C in the plains.

Population

According to the final data of the 2011 census, Romania has a population of approximately 20.12 million citizens. About nineteen ethnic groups (such as Hungarians, Germans, Roma, Poles, Slovaks, Ukrainians, Russians, Turks, Greeks, Armenians, Italians, etc.) have been living here for centuries.

Political system

Following the Second World War, Romania fell under the influence of the Soviet Union and, from 1948 to 1989, had a communist government and a centrally-planned economy.

In December 1989, a popular revolt led to the downfall of the communist government. A variety of political parties were then established and free elections were held.

On 21 November 1991, a new Constitution establishing Romania as a parliamentary democracy was adopted by the Romanian Parliament and subsequently approved by popular referendum. The Constitution formally separates the legislative, executive and judicial powers of the state.

The Constitution was amended in 2003, in anticipation of Romania's accession to the European Union, without altering the basic principles on which the political system of Romania was based.

[The President of Romania](#) is the head of the Romanian State and is elected by popular vote for a five-year term. Upon election, the President can no longer be a member of a political party. The President nominates the Prime Minister and formally appoints the Government. The President is also the President of the Romanian Supreme Council of Defense and the commander-in-chief of the Romanian armed forces.

[The legislative power](#) is vested in the Romanian Parliament, a bicameral body, consisting of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. Parliamentarians are directly elected for four-year terms.

[The Government](#) exercises the executive power of the State. It comprises the Prime Minister and his cabinet. In practice, the largest party or coalition of parties in the Parliament forms the Government. Each cabinet appointment is subject to the approval of the President and to a vote of confidence in the Parliament.

Internal political stability and a constant orientation towards the values and practices of the democratic states have led to a broad international recognition of the democratic nature of the Romanian political system.

[The judicial authority](#) is entrusted with the High Court of Cassation and Justice and a series of other courts established by law. According to the Constitution, the Constitutional Court is not deemed to be part of the judiciary. The Constitutional Court determines matters of constitutional significance.

Romania, a UN [member](#) since December 1955, has shown a strong and long-lasting commitment to the values of multilateralism. As such, we consider that a

International relations

rapidly changing world needs a strong and balanced UN, which is able to respond to all future challenges.

Over the past decades, Romania has been active within the United Nations system and has deployed significant efforts aimed at maintaining and enhancing international peace and the development and promotion of the democracy, human rights and rule of law.

Since 2004 Romania is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. On 1st January 2007, Romania also became a full-fledged Member State of the European Union.

As a member of the European and Euro-Atlantic family, Romania liaises and cooperates with its partners, thus further enhancing the cohesion and coherence of the UN bodies, as key prerequisites for an effective multilateral system.

Another key component of Romania's foreign policy is her active contribution to the activities of other international fora, such as the Council of Europe (CoE), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Romania is also seeking to develop and intensify its relations with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), aiming to obtain full-fledged member status in the near future.

Romania has also a manifest interest in fostering, in the EU vicinity, a common space of stability, security and progress, in deepening relations between the EU and its Eastern and Southern neighbors, based on common interest and values, while attaching a special attention to the Black Sea region.

A series of important initiatives have been launched in Europe with Romania's support, such as the Black Sea Synergy and the EU Strategy for the Danube Region. These initiatives are meant to strengthen cooperation and establish partnerships in areas such as: human rights, migration management, security improvement, frozen conflicts, environment, regional development and energy. At the same time, Romania firmly believes in regional cooperation, being a founding member of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and of other regional formats.

Romania maintains diplomatic relations with 185 UN member states, with the Holy See and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and has a diplomatic office in Palestine. All in all, it has a broad foreign representation network (142 diplomatic missions abroad).

Benefiting from a proper climate and a diversified environment, endowed by mountains (the Carpathians), hills, plains and the Danube Delta, Romania's territory has been permanently inhabited since primordial times, the oldest humanoid in Europe, which dates from approximately 2 million years ago, being discovered in Bugiulesti/Valcea County.

The existence of areas such as the Carpathian Mountains, still possessing some of the largest virgin forests in Europe, or the Danube Delta, a land in the middle of the waters, have directly led to the preservation of genetic resources as well as ancient knowledge and cultural expressions.



Romania's historical, natural and environmental conditions brought an important contribution to increasing the inventiveness and creativity of the people living in the region.

In the field of science and inventions, a very short list of worldwide famous names comprises Stefan ODOBLEJA (laid the foundations of cybernetics, creator of psycho cybernetics and father of generalized cybernetics), Nicolae Constantin PAULESCU (discoverer of insulin in 1922), Traian VUIA and Aurel VLAICU (aviation pioneers), Henri COANDA (invented the jet engine in 1910, utilized by modern airplanes), Petrache POENARU (inventor of fountain pen in 1827), Ana ASLAN (discovered the anti-aging effects of procaine and pioneer of gerontology and geriatrics), George CONSTANTINESCU (creator of Theory of Sonics), Stefania MARACINEANU (the first scientist who identified the phenomenon of artificial radioactivity), Emil PALADE (Nobel Prize for his contributions to cell biology).

Similarly, a brief list of Romanian creators that achieved international recognition features Constantin BRANCUSI (sculpture), Mihai EMINESCU (poetry), George ENESCU and Dinu LIPATTI (composers), Mircea ELIADE, Eugen IONESCU and Herta MULLER (writers), Nicolae GRIGORESCU (painter), Hariclea DARCLEE, Maria TANASE and Angela GHEORGHIU (singers), Ion VOICU and Gheorghe ZAMFIR (performers).

In the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Romania has included so far Calusul (ritual dance derived from ancient purification and fertility rites), Doina (traditional way of singing and orally transmitted), Colindul (Christmas-time ritual where groups of male perform festive songs) and Horezu ceramics (the drawn traditional motifs combine decoration and color and define its personality and uniqueness).

The official language is Romanian, a language of Latin origin, sharing many features with other languages of the same origin such as French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and Swiss Romande. Languages of international circulation are also spoken in Romania and according to a study performed in 2010 by the "*Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie - OIF*" there are 4,756,100 French speakers in the country. Therefore, the OIF decided Romania to host the regional Bureau for Francophonie. In conformity with the 2012 Eurobarometer findings, English is spoken by 31% of Romanians.

Language and communication skills

Romania is the 2nd largest market in Central Eastern Europe (CEE) after Poland. It is one of the most dynamic economies in Europe with direct access to the Black Sea (Port of Constanta).

Economy

For foreign investors, Romania is an attractive destination. According to official data from National Bank of Romania, the foreign direct investment in Romania went up by approximately 18% in the first 11 months of 2015 compared to the similar period of 2014, reaching 2,883 billion EUR.

GDP in Romania has registered an increase of 3.7% y-t-y in the first nine months of 2015. According to EC, the forecasted y-o-y GDP growth in Romania is of 4.2% for 2016.

Transportation

Being situated in the geometrical center of Europe, Romania has a well-established transport network, connecting it by train, roads and water with the neighboring countries as well as with the most important cities in Europe and world by air. Meanwhile, Romania represents one of the main industrial and transportation hubs of Eastern Europe.



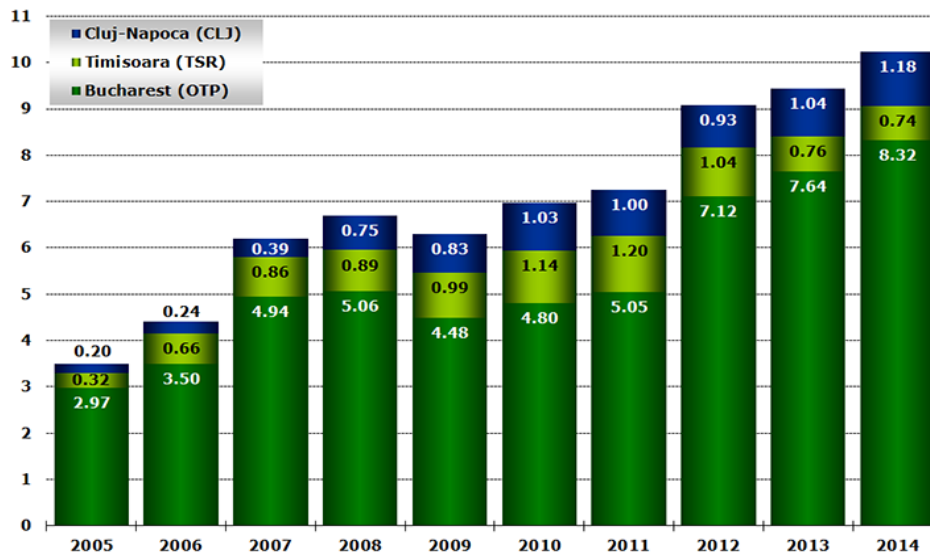
Bucharest International Airport – “Henri Coandă” is an important domestic and international hub connecting the capital city of Romania with almost all capitals in Europe and also with many important cities in Europe and Middle East. The airport is located outside the urban area of Bucharest, in Otopeni, Ilfov County at 16, 5 km distance from Bucharest downtown. It operates 38 airlines, 11 of them on domestic destinations. For foreign destinations there are 51 scheduled flights and 7 regular charters. Shuttle buses are available to the main hotels, and taxis are plentiful and very inexpensive.

The Romania’s most important cities are also connected with the capital by air (see the map below).



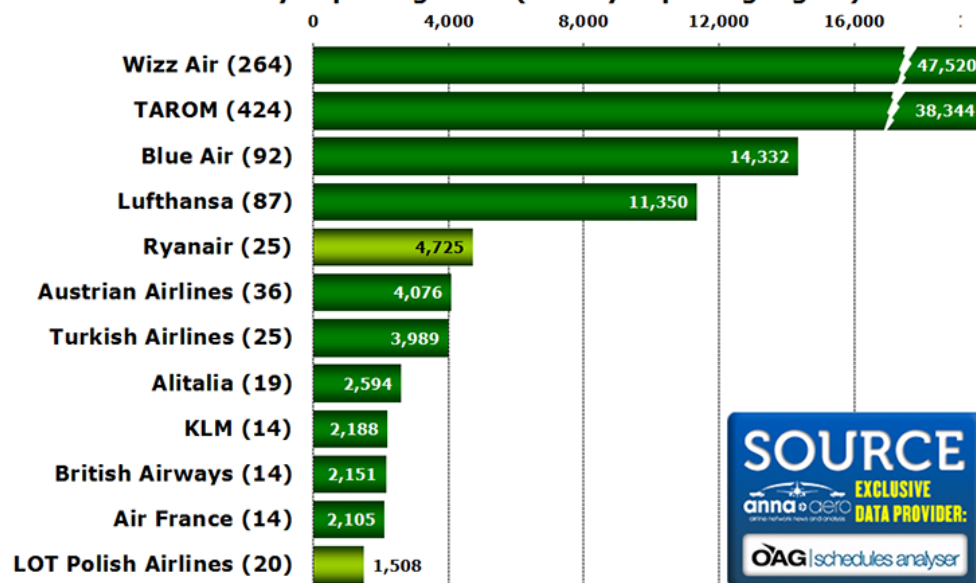
In the last 10 years, the number of passengers travelling to/from or inside Romania has increased in a significant way. As of March 2015, the top 12 carriers serving the Romanian market account for 92% and 93% of all weekly seats and flights respectively.

Romanian major airports 2005-2014 Annual passengers (millions)



Source: Individual Airports 2005-2014.

Romania's top 12 airlines Weekly departing seats (weekly departing flights)



Source: OAG Analyser for w/c 10-16 March 2015.

Bucharest, as host of a sub-regional WIPO external office

History

Bucharest, which means 'City of joy', was born in the Middle Age as a modest and peaceful shepherd settling, that quickly evolved into a market town. It is located on the banks of the *Dambovita River*, in the southeast of Romania.

In the 15th century, it became the capital of "*the Land of the Wallachs*", under the controversial rule of Vlad the Impaler, who would later come to be known in history as the ruthless "*Prince Dracula*". In the centuries that followed, the city

was repeatedly occupied by foreign armies that were trying to extend either their territory or influence.

In the 19th century, it became the first and only capital of the United Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, the start-up state from which soon the Kingdom of Romania developed. The King's governance was a cornerstone towards a period of enormous development that left behind many landmarks of great value, making the city earn the nickname of "*Little Paris*" or "*The Paris of the East*".

Economy

Around 10% of Romania's population resides in Bucharest, yet the city's workforce is responsible for producing around 20% of the country's GDP, and a quarter of all industrial production. Consequently about a third of all national taxes in Romania are paid by either Bucharest citizens or by companies who are located in the area.

With more than 2 million residents, Bucharest is the largest city between Berlin and Athens, and is the 6th largest capital in the European Union.

Since Romania became a full-fledged member of the European Union, Bucharest has benefited from a substantial amount of EU investment. Despite Bucharest's economy being affected to some extent by the financial crisis of 2008, foreign investment soon picked up again and the economic trend remains firmly positive. It has become the most affluent city in Romania and makes a critically important contribution to the country's general economy.

The fastest areas of growth in Bucharest's economy are the industry, service, property and construction sectors. Most large Romanian companies choose to locate their headquarters in the capital city, as do many medium and small size businesses.

Information technology and communications provides another aspect to Bucharest's economic growth and various important software companies with offshore delivery centers are based there, along with the Bucharest Stock Exchange.

Culture and arts

Romania's capital city is home to 37 museums, 22 theaters, 2 opera houses, 3 concert halls, 18 art galleries and a wealth of libraries and bookstores.

Many of these are housed in buildings that are attractions in themselves, sporting architectural styles influenced by both eastern and western cultures.

Communication should not be a problem for foreign visitors, as many residents also speak either English, French, Spanish or Italian.

Conference facilities

Bucharest has more than 25 convention centers. Facilities for large meetings include the Parliament Palace, the Exhibition Centre - RomExpo, the conference center of the Chamber of Commerce and the World Trade Centre. In recent years, for example, Bucharest hosted the 11th Francophone Summit (September 2006) and the 20th NATO Summit (April 2008).

Historical buildings, such as the Romanian Athenaeum, the National Museum of Art, the Cantacuzino Palace, the Military Club and the Patriarchy's Palace, can host functions for up to 800 guests.

Leading hotels offering generous meeting facilities include: JW Marriott Grand Hotel, Athénée Palace Hilton, InterContinental, Crowne Plaza and Pullman. A more detailed description of Bucharest facilities could be found in Annex no. 1.

Tourism

Bucharest is one-of-a-kind capital city no tourist should miss when discovering Europe. It is a surprising mix of cultural influences, offering excellent relaxation opportunities and enriching experiences for the business or simply inquisitive traveler.

Contrasting on every cornerstone, “Little Paris” has a manifold identity, reflecting its rich and controversial history through the wild juxtaposition of the timeless aristocratic values, a strong mark of the totalitarian heritage in recent history and the bustling, cosmopolitan lifestyle of the present.

Tourism is growing as foreign visitors discover a taste for Bucharest’s temperate weather, the *mélange* of modern and historical attractions, an extremely attractive cost of living, excellent transport system and delicious food.

International agencies in Bucharest

Bucharest hosts the UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO and OIM country offices and the Regional Bureau of Francophonie for Central and Eastern Europe.



III. RATIONALE FOR THE EXTERNAL OFFICE

As described in Chapter I, the countries in the sub-region are performing well economically, as they have recorded steady GDP growth over the last five years. Yet, such positive economic results are not fully mirrored when it comes to the number of IP applications. More efforts are needed to reverse any descending trend and further consolidate positive data with regard to IP applications.

The potential of the countries in the sub-region, in many areas relevant to the intellectual property field, is significant. They show a remarkable propensity to digital environment and Internet. According to Brainbench statistics, countries from the region are situated in the top 10 worldwide regarding skills in computer technical support, technical help desk, network technical support, computer electronics, telecommunications, LAN/WLAN communications, network design, ASP.NET, HTML, PHP, web development concepts and many others. They are also leaders in Europe and on top positions in the world in terms of Adult ICT literacy rate.

Good economic results

The great potential of the sub-region

Top 30 Adult ICT literacy rate (%) | 2015 or most recent

RANK	COUNTRY	ECONOMY VALUE
1	Latvia	99.9
2	Estonia	99.8
3	Azerbaijan	99.8
4	Lithuania	99.8
5	Poland	99.8
6	Kazakhstan	99.8
7	Tajikistan	99.8
8	Ukraine	99.8
9	Georgia	99.8
10	Russian Federation	99.7
11	Slovenia	99.7
12	Armenia	99.7
13	Kyrgyz Republic	99.5
14	Moldova	99.4
15	Croatia	99.3
16	Italy	99.2
17	Cyprus	99.1
18	Hungary	99.1
19	Trinidad and Tobago	99.0
20	Romania	98.8
21	Montenegro	98.7
22	Uruguay	98.5
23	Taiwan, China	98.4
24	Bulgaria	98.4
25	Mongolia	98.4
26	Serbia	98.1
27	Spain	98.1
28	Argentina	98.1
29	Macedonia, FYR	97.8
30	Israel	97.8

Source: World Economic Forum - based on The Global Information Technology Report 2015, page 301

See: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GITR2015.pdf

As regards Internet speed, the Internet Society official rankings list several countries from the CEBS region on top positions in the world (see Table no. 3, based on November 2014 NetIndex Data; for more information, see: http://www.internetsociety.org/map/global-internet-report/?qclid=COaytPi2_8oCFWLnwgodtpUNQA#download-speed-fixed)

Table no. 3

Average download speed in Mbit/s

Position	Country	Download Speed	Upload Speed
1st	Singapore	97.67	78.69
2nd	Hong Kong, China	96.12	89.25
3rd	Romania	62.53	31.85
4th	Sweden	49.25	27.66
5th	Lithuania	47.93	45.64

6th	Switzerland	46.32	8.7
7th	Netherlands	44.03	19.03
8th	Iceland	43.4	36.95
9th	Latvia	42.03	38.07
10th	Denmark	41.76	31.01

The great potential of the region as regards research and innovation is definitely demonstrated by the construction of the **Extreme Light Infrastructure-Nuclear Power** (ELI-NP) Research Centres², being set in Măgurele town, near Bucharest and built on three pillars, including the world's most powerful laser, generating 10% of the sun's power on a square centimeter.



The ELI - nuclear physics facility

Two other facilities are dedicated to the study of **secondary sources** in the region, in Dolni Brezany, near Prague/Czech Republic, and to the **attosecond pulses** in Szeged/Hungary.

Therefore, from 2017 ELI-NP project will create in the region one of the most important laboratories in the world, to consistently investigate a very broad range of science domains, from new fields of fundamental physics, new nuclear physics and astrophysics topics, to applications in material science, life sciences and nuclear materials management.

Not the least, over the last years, the innovative work of representatives of specialists from the sub-region was acknowledged within prestigious trade fairs and international competitions worldwide. A considerable number of inventions

² See: <http://www.eli-np.ro/>

received the gold medals and highest prizes and distinctions in international exhibitions of inventions.

The creative industries play an important role in the region (see *Table no. 4*).

Table no. 4

**Economic Performance of Copyright-Based Industries of Countries from the Region
(According to WIPO Studies³)**

Country / Year of the Study	Total contribution (in national currencies)	Percent of national production output	Percent of national GDP	Jobs Generated
Bulgaria (2008)	2124823.77 EUR	4.5%	2.81%	104.814
Croatia (2010)	19.2 billion Kuna	4.7%	4.3%	62.930
Hungary (2004)	HUF 3.412 billion	9.64%	6.6%	278.000
Latvia (2004)	832 Million EUR	-	4.4%	41.225
Lithuania (2010)	5.390 million LTL	5.4%	4.93%	57.354
Republic of Moldova (2015)	3.327.948 Lei	3.98%	3.31%	39.280
Romania (2010)	-	3.89%	5.55%	180.450
Serbia (2014)	1104266.23 EUR	4.61%	4.00%	90.493
Slovenia (2011)	4.2 billion EUR	5.8%	5.1%	54.506

Based on the creativity, talent and skills of individuals and with a great potential in creating jobs and generating prosperity through the production and management of IP, these industries include advertising, architecture, art, handicraft, design, fashion, film, video, photography, music, visual arts, television and radio, publishing, software, video games and electronic publishing. Most of the studies in the field emphasize the faster growing potential of the creative industries than other sectors of the economy. Moreover, according to a recently published World Economic Forum study⁴, creativity will be on the third place in Top 10 skills by 2020, while in 2015 it was situated only on the tenth position.

SMEs represent a majority significant component of the private industry in the countries of the sub-region and they represent a potential powerhouse for economic growth. While during the first decade of transition they were more concerned with maintaining the value of their assets as compared to producing a profit, later on they started to become more dynamic, investing in growth and modernization. With rising GDP per capita and higher labor costs, the ability of the countries in the sub-region to attract foreign direct investment will inevitably decrease. Encouraging innovation among the SME sector, therefore, is particularly important in order to offset the loss of current advantages.

Counterfeiting and piracy still register disturbing rates in the region⁵ (see the 2 graphics below). There is recognition among countries of the region that “this

see: <http://www.wipo.int/copyright/en/performance/>

⁴ See: <http://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/the-10-skills-you-need-to-thrive-in-the-fourth-industrial-revolution>

⁵ See: <http://www.ccapcongress.net/archives/Regional/Files/Bucharest%20Declaration.pdf>.

Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Congress on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy - the "Bucharest Declaration" of 12 July 2006

poses significant threats to global trade, national economic growth, consumer health and safety and is a leading cause in the growth of organized crime and corruption (...) and that attacking the trade in counterfeit and pirated goods at the national, regional and global levels should be elevated as a top priority”.

GLOBAL TRENDS IN UNLICENSED SOFTWARE USE

Commercial Value of Unlicensed Software Use (in Billions)

Asia-Pacific		\$21
Central & Eastern Europe		\$12,8
Latin America		\$10,9
Middle East & Africa		\$8,4
Western Europe	\$5,3	
North America	\$4,3	

Source: BSA/The Software Alliance - The Compliance Gap, Global Software Survey pg.7, June 2014

As the aspiration for more competitive economies can be fulfilled through research, development and innovation, as well as technology transfer, it is only natural for countries in sub-region to seek for improving their overall IP performance. They also need to continue combating counterfeiting and piracy, as more respect for IP will lead to greater economic growth.

While the large majority of the countries in the sub-region have joined the WIPO Systems, in particular the PCT, Madrid and Lisbon Systems, the full potential of the IP Systems in the region has not yet been fully achieved.

In relation to WIPO, the countries in the sub-region have asked for support with respect to the following:

- the development of tailored, long-term, results-oriented national IP strategies and plans aligned with national economic and cultural goals;
- developing research and innovation and reaping the benefits of the IP system, with a special focus on SMEs;

[Footnote continued from previous page]

- the further development of the creative industries;
- promoting excellence for CMOs in transparency, accountability and governance;
- improving the fight against counterfeiting and piracy;
- increasing awareness of WIPO services and activities among a broader audience in the countries;
- enhancing the interaction between WIPO and all IP stakeholders from the countries;
- establishment of a common, reliable and broadly utilized platform for sharing various experiences in the IP field, facilitating better knowledge, awareness, and coordination between different IP stakeholders.

V. PROPOSED MANDATE

The External Office in Bucharest/Romania would act as a WIPO Service Center for the sub-region, similarly to the other five existing WIPO External Offices.

Its overall objective would be to bring the Organization closer to the member States and stakeholders in the sub-region, in order to stimulate the promotion of innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of the countries, through a balanced and effective international intellectual property system.

As an integral part of the Organization, the External Office is supposed to contribute to the achievement of the Expected Results and to the achievement of the WIPO Strategic Goals⁶, by working with the majority of Programs at Headquarters.

More specifically, it will contribute, in coordination with the Headquarters, to the following **Strategic Goals** and their relevant **Expected Results**:

Strategic Goal I: Balanced Evolution of the International Normative Framework for IP

- Tailored and balanced IP legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks **(I.2.)**

Strategic Goal II: Provision of Premier Global IP Services

- Wider and more effective use of the PCT system for filing international patent applications **(II.1.)**
- Wider and more effective use of the Hague system, including by developing countries and LDCs **(II.4.)**
- Wider and more effective use of the Madrid System, including by developing countries and LDCs **(II.6.)**
- International and domestic intellectual property disputes are increasingly prevented or resolved through WIPO mediation, arbitration and other alternative dispute resolution methods **(II.8.)**
- Wider and more effective use of the Lisbon system, including by developing countries and LDCs **(II.10)**

Strategic Goal III: Facilitating the Use of IP for Development

- National innovation and IP strategies and plans consistent with national development objectives **(III.1.)**

⁶See: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/about-wipo/en/budget/pdf/budget_2016_2017.pdf

- Enhanced human resource capacities able to deal with the broad range of requirements for the effective use of IP for **development** in developing countries, LDCs and countries with economies in transition **(III.2.)**
- Strengthened cooperation mechanisms and programs tailored to the needs of developing countries, LDCs and countries with economies in transition **(III.4.)**
- Increased capacity of SMEs to successfully use IP to support innovation **(III.6.)**

Strategic Goal IV: Coordination and Development of Global IP Infrastructure

- Enhanced access to, and use of, IP information by IP institutions and the public to promote innovation and creativity **(IV.2.)**
- Enhanced technical and knowledge infrastructure for IP Offices and other IP institutions leading to better services (cheaper, faster, higher quality) to their stakeholders and better outcome of IP administration **(IV.4.)**

Strategic Goal V: World Reference Source for IP Information and Analysis

- Wider and better use of WIPO IP statistical information **(V.1.)**
- Wider and better use of WIPO economic analysis in policy formulation **(V.2.)**

Strategic Goal VI: International Cooperation on Building Respect for IP

Strategic Goal VIII: A Responsive Communications Interface between WIPO, its Member States and All Stakeholders

- More effective communication to a broad public about intellectual property and WIPO's role **(VIII.1.)**
- Improved service orientation and responsiveness to inquiries **(VIII.2.)**
- Effective engagement with Member States **(VIII.3.)**
- Open, transparent and responsive interaction with non-governmental stakeholders **(VIII.4.)**

The External Office will also address the specificity of the region, namely the need to exploit the full potential of the IP system, and local priorities (use of IP by SMEs, enforcement of IP rights, developing new and innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships, topic-based cooperation in the region in order to support sustainable development and the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda etc.).

It will also establish cooperation with various regional organizations (the European Union, the European Patent Office and the Office for the Harmonization in the Internal Market), the private sector, academia and NGOs, as well as with some other international organizations (e.g.: the INTERPOL, World Customs Organization).

V. SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

Broadly speaking, in order to achieve the mandate presented above, the External Office would engage in the following type of activities: provide support services for WIPO's Global IP Systems; deliver capacity building activities in order to facilitate the use of IP for development; promote WIPO treaties, including the most recently adopted ones; provide more effective communications to a broad public, through a targeted outreach and closer relationships with stakeholders; support the creation of fora for exchange of experiences, lessons learned and best practices between countries in the sub-region.

Capacity building programs will be demand-driven and adapted to different country needs. Institutional capacity required to administer, manage and use [intellectual property](#) is to be consolidated through WIPO dedicated programmes.

Collaboration with national IP Offices

Such collaboration will take place based on the specific requests of the national IP offices, in order to facilitate the implementation of national objectives in the IP field (elaboration of IP strategies, design of public awareness campaigns, etc.).

The international filing and protection systems of industrial property rights, as set up by WIPO, allow the applicants to take advantage of geographically extended protection. The External Office would provide training to stakeholders (SMEs, researchers in universities, etc.) in the use of the [PCT](#), [Madrid](#), [Hague](#) and [Lisbon](#) systems and WIPO's alternative dispute resolution services.

Moreover, an increased level of awareness by copyright owners of the need to establish a profitable copyright management climate can be achieved. As collective management organizations are often criticized, the External Office could assist them in implementing the TAG project, which can contribute to a better functioning of the legal creative market and provide benefits for both right holders and users.

Raising awareness, understanding and respect for IP activities will focus on:

Raising awareness, understanding and respect for IP activities

- Public education, by using (among other means and ways) the large array of communication means such as the Internet, social media channels, TV spots, radio adverts, flyer distribution, etc.;
- Cooperation with public and private organizations to combat counterfeiting and piracy, engaging with the networks of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, with the Police and Gendarmerie forces, with Customs offices, attorneys, lawyers and judges (such activities could include, for example, the public destruction of pirated and counterfeit products);
- Assistance offered to national IP offices, such as for the elaboration of modern, attractive and complex packages designed for high-school and university curricula of IP courses;
- Coordination to undertake national and regional training programs for all relevant stakeholders;
- Exchange of information on enforcement issues between national authorities. The Office could act as a liaison point, supporting the establishment of a network for IP enforcement policy in the region, bringing together representatives of public and private organizations.
- Organization of special events to celebrate the World Intellectual Property Day on April 26th, each year.

Promotion of WIPO treaties and agreements

The External Office would be called upon to encourage and provide assistance in the ratification and accession process of WIPO treaties and conventions by countries in the region, including the most recent WIPO treaties in the field of copyright and industrial property (namely the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Blind Persons, Visually Impaired or Print Disabled, as well as the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications). Since most of the countries in the region have not yet ratified the latest international legal documents, raising awareness, understanding and knowledge on the granted rights and the related obligations would be beneficial to the decision-makers.

Delivery of customer services to users of global IP services

The External Office would carry out activities aimed at filling any information gaps and promoting a better understanding and knowledge as regards IP, in general, and WIPO's services, in particular. Moreover, the proximity to the users would allow direct benefits via supplying fast, complete answers, fully adapted to the regional realities and to their inquiries.

Assistance for using IP as a tool for promoting development and technology transfer

The External Office would assist countries in the region to make effective use of the IP system in the context of their specific economic circumstances, as well as the promotion of their national plans of actions according to the 2030 Development Agenda. In more concrete terms, it could:

- Help the national authorities to address, from the IP perspective, the challenges that countries in the region are facing, such as climate change, food security, public health and the protection of biodiversity;
- Assist relevant authorities (e.g. ministries of research) in designing policies supporting research and innovation;
- Grant support for SMEs, research institutions and universities in order to obtain and protect IP rights and on IP evaluation and commercialization, including by creating and disseminating tailored information products;
- Offer consultancy in establishing new Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in the region.

Provision of policy and technical support to national IP offices

In a permanently changing environment, due to the fast-paced development of new technologies and business models, new policies may be needed to cope with latest developments. The External Office could share best practices in order to assist countries in developing new policies.

WIPO statistical information and economic analysis

The External Office could assist national IP offices and other institutions (relevant ministries) in increasing the use of the WIPO statistical information, data basis and economic analysis in policy formulation.

Human capital

The External Office could work with the WIPO Academy and other organizations and institutions in the region (the European Union, EPO, OHIM, etc.) in order to provide training to practitioners in the IP field.

Networking

The Office could create its own portfolio of contacts, including all stakeholders in the IP field, and encourage public-private partnerships, in order to stimulate cooperation in the field of protection, promotion and respect of IP.

Activities mentioned above may be undertaken through a variety of events: conferences, seminars, round tables at national and sub-regional, events providing constructive platforms for dialogue and exchange of relevant information; training sessions; public campaigns; IP contests; exhibitions; study visits; book releases; dissemination of promotional materials; public destruction of counterfeited and pirated products, etc.

Many of these activities can use modern means of communication, with broad range of exposure and impact, such as the Internet.

An ample advertising of WIPO will raise the level of awareness of all interested parties and of civil society in terms of its noble purposes, activities and services offered in the region.

ADDED VALUE

Romania is confident that the External Office in Bucharest will bring added value both to the Organization and to the countries in sub-region.

The Office will contribute to a better promotion of WIPO, as an international organization specialized in the IP field, as well as of its values and services. It will also enhance the Organization's responsiveness to the specific needs of the region, which may be conducive to more trust in the IP system.

For the countries in the region, in general terms, the added value of a sub-regional EO would consist in the proximity to the beneficiary/recipient of assistance (government, organizations, firms or individuals), which would stimulate their involvement upstream in the drafting of policies and would allow for better IP results.

In concrete terms, the foreseen benefits of the WIPO Bucharest/Romania Office are the following: a clear political message about the commitment of the CEBS member states to the further development of their intellectual property system; a more dynamic IP filing activity and a better return in the field; an enhanced coordination in fighting against counterfeiting and piracy (which will have a positive impact on the economic, social and cultural data); a more accurate assessment of the impact of IP policies and evolution of the IP system in the sub-region; a more enhanced cooperation of countries in the sub-region.

The External Office will also ensure cost effectiveness, both for WIPO and countries in the sub-region, as a more dynamic IP activity in the region will be achieved through less costs than if the same level and dimension of activities had been provided by the Headquarters.

Moreover, there will be savings in travel costs for the participants from the region in various events to be organized by the Bucharest Office (many countries from the region still do not have direct flights from capitals to Geneva and would be geographically located nearer to the Office's headquarters).

VII. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS

Romania considers that the establishment of the WIPO External Office for the sub-region will not impose any additional financial burden on Member States, other than the approved budget allocation.

The Government of Romania will grant a similar set of facilities as offered by those Member states already hosting other External Offices. According to our estimates, the costs related to the operation of the Office will not hamper the financial and budgetary sustainability of the WIPO External Offices network.

The Office will benefit from the whole support of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks and the Romanian Copyright Office in the carrying out of its activities. In this respect, as an *in-kind* contribution, OSIM will be ready to make available its network of 17 regional centers, distributed across the country (see *the map below*).

The network of regional IP Centers is in place since 1999 and it is currently located in 5 universities, 8 local Chambers of Commerce, 2 SMEs owners'

Annex 1

BUCHAREST – How to get to, how to travel in, accommodation facilities and attractions



HENRI COANDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Address: *Calea Bucurestilor 224*

Tel: (21) 204.12.00 or 204.12.10

Web: www.otp-airport.ro

Transportation between H. Coanda International Airport and City Center:

Express Bus 783 offers daily service to the city centre, with stops at **Baneasa Airport**.

The bus leaves from the international departures terminal every 15 minutes (every 30 minutes after 8:30pm and during weekends), from 5:30am until 11:00pm. The journey to downtown takes approximately 40 minutes.

Public transportation between H. Coanda International Airport and the main train station (*Gara de Nord*):

- **By Bus**

Express Bus 780 offers daily service to the main train station (*Gara de Nord*) with stops at:

Henri Coanda Airport - Baneasa Airport - Piata Presei Libere - Clabucet - **Gara de Nord** - Str. Fluviului.

The bus runs every 30 minutes from 5:15 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. seven days a week. It leaves from the international arrivals terminal; the journey to the train station takes 40 minutes to 60 minutes.

- **By Train**

Henri Coanda Express Trains offer daily service from Balotesti (0.5 miles from the airport) to the main train station (*Gara de Nord*) with one stop at Mogosoaia. Trains run hourly from 5:56 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; the journey from the airport to the train station takes about one hour and 10 minutes.

Note: Tickets can be purchased at the CFR booth International Arrivals Terminal.



BUCHAREST BANEASA - AUREL VLAICU AIRPORT

Address: Sos. Bucuresti-Ploiesti 40

Tel: (21) 232.00.20 or 9713

Web: www.baneasa-airport.ro

The airport is located in the North side of Bucharest city on National Road DN-1 (that leads to Prahova Valley).

Advantages: it is located 8.5 km distance from the city centre, 1.5 km distance from World Trade Centre Complex, only 8 km distance from the hotels:

Intercontinental, Hilton, Parliament.

The distance between Bucharest

Băneasa - Aurel Vlaicu International Airport and the city center could be ridden in about 10 minutes.

Public transportation between Baneasa airport and city centre:

- Bus #131 to downtown Bucharest
- Bus #205 to the main train station (*Gara de Nord*)

Getting to Bucharest by train

To check international trains schedule to/ from Bucharest please visit:

<http://www.RomaniaTourism.com/Transportation.html#ByTrain>

To check schedules and fares for all other trains / domestic routes please visit :

www.infofer.ro

Note: For Bucharest please select Bucuresti Nord (Bucharest North) or “Gara de Nord”
Bucharest’s main station, **Gara de Nord**, is located 5 kilometers from downtown and is a major rail centre with daily connections from/to cities throughout Europe and main cities in Romania.

Address: Blvd. Garii de Nord 2

Tel: 9521

International trains

There are daily trains from/to **Athens, Belgrade, Budapest, Istanbul, Kiev, Moscow, Prague, Sofia, and Vienna**. Trains from/to Western European cities run via Budapest.

Public Transportation

Bucharest’s public transportation network includes:

- bus (*autobuz*), tram (*tramvai*), trolley bus (*troilebuz*) and subway (*metrou*).
Buses, trams and trolley buses operate - between 5:00am and 11:59pm. The subway operates - from 5:00am until 11:00pm. Tickets must be purchased beforehand and validated upon boarding. Travelers may be asked to show the validated ticket during the trip. Tickets or passes can be purchased at any kiosk displaying the RATB logo.
- The subway (Metrou) is best for travel to longer distance and for getting to the city centre; metro trains operate between 5:00am and 11:00pm. There are four subway (Metrou) lines (M1, M2, M3 and M4) that covers the city quite extensively. Subway stations are indicated with the letter “M” (blue, on a white board). The metro is usually a cheap and easy way to get around even though there are surprisingly few stops in the city center, since the system was originally built to transport workers and commuters from outlying neighborhoods through the city to peripheral industrial areas. If you’re staying outside the city center, or even if you want to travel within it, the Metro can be a very fast and convenient way of traveling to your destination, avoiding the traffic jams and crowds that frequently characterize surface transport.

The network is arguably frequent and fairly comfortable, reliable and easy-to-use. Surprisingly for some, it is by far the safest way to travel through the city. Since 2002, Bucharest Metro has embarked on a comprehensive modernization plan, including the replacement of old train-sets with state-of-the-art Bombardier Transportation trains and the renovation of stations and tracks in collaboration with Alstom.

Accommodation facilities

Total Capacity:

- 6000 bedrooms with the city centre
- 650 bedrooms with the Conference Centre area
- 1500 bedrooms within a 10 minutes walk of congress venue
- 2200 bedrooms within a fifteen minutes walk of congress venue

Prices:

5 stars hotel = 120-250 EURO/ night

4 stars hotel = 80-150 EURO/ night

3 stars hotel = 50-100 EURO/ night

Range of accommodation from budget to four–five star/boutique



JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel 5*

The Marriott Bucharest offers finest European elegance and comfort with 402 deluxe rooms, 6 restaurants, a convention center, a health club and spa, a shopping gallery and the Grand Casino. The classical building located next to the Parliament Palace is frequented by heads of state and royalty. This “city within a city” houses everything the most demanding travelers may expect: a luxurious health club and spa providing for optimal relaxation after a busy day, enhanced services, 6 restaurants offering gourmet cuisine and facilities to handle all banquet needs with meeting room

suitable for board meetings and presentations.

Web: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/buhro-jw-marriott-bucharest-grand-hotel/>



Crowne Plaza Bucharest 5*

Fresh, contemporary and welcoming, **Crowne Plaza Bucharest** offers a reassuring blend of global standards, first-class accommodations and facilities. This luxuriously furnished hotel is complemented by an outstanding reputation for individual and friendly service and ensures personal comfort 24 hours a day.

Hotel Rooms: 164, Hotel Chain: Crowne Plaza

Hotels & Resorts.

Web: <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/bucharest/buhrm/hoteldetail>



Radisson Blu Hotel Bucharest 5*

Situated on the main street, Calea Victoriei, across from the former Royal Palace, the **Radisson Blu Hotel**, is ideal for exploring the rich local area. A 20-minute drive from Henri Coanda International Airport and 15

minutedrive from Baneasa International Airport, the hotel makes travel easy for guests and offers airport pick-up and drop-off service upon request. With metro stations only a short walking or driving distance, the hotel's idyllic location in Bucharest city centre affords guests optimal proximity to both Romania's best business and shopping districts.

Web: <http://www.radissonblu.com/hotelbucharest>



InterContinental Bucharest Hotel 5*

InterContinental Bucharest is one of the city's favorite international high-rise hotels, a distinction owed to its ideal location, fine appointments and impeccable service. Within walking distance are business and shopping boulevards, embassies and the Metro. The National Theatre, four significant museums, the old city featuring the famous Lipscani Street and Cișmigiu Gardens are just a few minutes away. Overlooking Bucharest's center, this 5-star hotel is situated at University Square. It offers accommodations with private balconies, free Health Club access and a Piano Bar with live music. Hotel Rooms: 257, Hotel Chain: Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts.

Web:

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/intercontinental/en/gb/locations/bucharest>



Epoque Hotel Bucharest 5*

Epoque Hotel is a unique concept business boutique hotel in Bucharest downtown. The suite-only concept is destined to fit the exclusive tastes of independent travelers of business and leisure who cultivate a deeply individual, original and inspirational traveling philosophy. Hotel Epoque is the only hotel in Romania member of World hotels, the world class network of independent hotels that reunites an exclusive collection of leisure and business properties worldwide. Hotel Epoque signs "Retreat in the heart of the city", promising a private oasis of serenity, right in the heart of Bucharest, near Cismigiu Park.

A place of privilege and uniqueness, Hotel Epoque is a personal journey. You can now follow our two characters for a sample of their Epoque experience.

Web: <http://www.hotelepoque.ro>



Pullman Hotel Bucharest 4*

Ideally located within the World Trade Center complex in the commercial center of the city, the **Pullman Bucharest** is only 5 minutes from central Bucharest and 15 minutes from the airport.

The hotel offers 203 modern rooms, including 15 spacious suites. Perfect for business or leisure, you will benefit from facilities able to accommodate up to 800, and a fully equipped fitness center and spa.

Web: www.pullmanhotels.com/gb/hotel-1714-pullman-bucharest-world-trade-center/index.shtml

Ramada Majestic Bucharest

The Ramada Majestic Bucharest the heart of Bucharest, in the business, and shopping center of the Romanian right on Calea Victoriei, the most the oldest main streets of the city, the excellent services provided by a helpful staff. The comfortable rooms boast free and all necessary amenities. Ramada ideal choice for business or tourists, range of meeting rooms as well as a spa to unwind after a busy day. The sauna is free of charge. Hotel Rooms: 111, Hotel Chain: Ramada.

Web: <http://www.majestic.ro>



Hotel 4*

Hotel is located in financial, cultural capital. Located elegant and one of hotel offers and dedicated internet access Majestic is the offering a wide and fitness center at your disposal



Ramada Hotel & Suites Bucharest North 4*

Positioned in the northern part of the Capital, within 10km from the Henri Coanda International Airport, in the midst of business centers and a few minutes away from the city center, in the proximity of the Romexpo Fairgrounds and the Baneasa Business Area, Ramada Bucharest Parc offers a perfect atmosphere and accommodation for business travelers, combined with the best facilities for business meetings.

Ramada Bucharest Parc hotel offers 267 modernly

designed rooms with all comforts and facilities for business travelers; 180 single room (queen size bed), 79 twin room, 8 apartments.

Web: <http://www.ramadanorth.ro>



Novotel Hotel Bucarest 4*

Novotel Bucarest city center is your perfect choice for either a business trip, short break or city break. Ideally located right in the heart of the city, the 4-star hotel offers not only an exceptional location, but also a unique blend of classical architecture and modern, functional design. Enjoy the restaurant, bar and summer terraces and unwind in the Wellness Centre. Free WIFI, 5 fully equipped meeting rooms, private underground parking.

Hotel Rooms: 258, Hotel Chain: Novotel.

Web: <http://www.novotel.com/gb/hotel-5558-novotel-bucharest-city-centre/index.shtml>



Ambassador Hotel 3*

The impressive **Ambassador Hotel** enjoys a central location, 330 yards from the Romanian Athenaeum and the National Museum of Art of Romania. Wi-Fi is available for free in all rooms. The hotel has 209 rooms out of which 8 are apartments, 4 studio flats, 41 single rooms, 156 doubles equipped with bathrooms, TV cable, minibar, internal and international phone line, free wireless internet. Most of the rooms offer a panoramic view of the city center. An elegant bar, a casino, a fitness center, a sauna and lots of stores are located on site.

Web: <http://www.ambasador.ro/>



Ibis Bucharest Parliament House Hotel 3*

The **Ibis Bucharest Parliament House** hotel is close to the Parliament House the largest convention center in the city. Close to the financial district and 20 km from Otopeni Airport, the hotel has 161 air conditioned rooms and 6 meeting rooms for organizing seminars and conferences. In addition to a restaurant, a bar open 24 hours and paid parking, the hotel offers free Internet access in the room for guests on a business trip.

Web: <http://www.ibishotel.com/gb/hotel-5938-ibisbucuresti-palatul-parlamentului/index.shtml>

City Highlights



ROMANIAN ATHENAEUM

Perfect for private concerts and events. Considered one of the architectural jewelry of Romania, the building of the Romanian Athenaeum from Bucharest is the "Cultural Society Romanian Athenaeum's result, founded in 1865 by an enthusiastic group formed of Constantin Esarcu, V. A. Ureche, C. Rosetti, N. Kretulescu, Al. Odobescu and others.

The architect Albert Galleron conceived the plans, in neo-classical style, and in 2 years the building was almost done, being inaugurated on 14 February 1888.

Practically, the construction hardly ended in the 30's of the XX century. From the outside, the Romanian

Athenaeum is formed from a peristyle of six columns in Ionic style, giving the impression of a Greek temple, under which there are, in medallions, the faces of five voivodes of Romania: Neagoe Basarab, Alexandru cel Bun, Vasile Lupu, Matei Basarab and King Carol I. A team of architects gave the dome's initial former and engineers after Galleron handed over the project. The inside is maybe more impressive than the outside. In the entrance hall there are four winding stairs surrounding some marble columns of Carrara and decorative sculptures. The auditorium (28 meters in diameter and 16 meters high) having a special acoustics, seats 600 in the stalls and another 52 in loge seating. However, what really moves you in a special way is the 70 meters long fresco and high of 3 meters, realized round about.



TRIUMPHAL ARCH

It is situated in the northern part of Bucharest. The Triumphal Arch was built in 1922 and it is made of wood and plaster. This arch was built, as a celebration for The Great Union, after the victory of the Romanian armies in the World War I. This wooden arch was replaced by a stone arch somewhere between 1935 and 1936 (this was architect Petre Antonescu's work). The southern façade is beautifully ornamented with two bronze medallions that present the faces of King Ferdinand and Queen Maria. On the northern façade, there are two other medallions on

which two symbols are carved: "Manhood" and "Faith". "Manhood" presents a warrior with a sword (work belonging to I. Jalea) and "Faith" is symbolized by a young man with a cross and was created by C. Baraski. The victories above these silhouettes are created by the sculptors D. Onofrei and C. Medrea. The names of the battles from World War 1 are carved (Marasesti, Oituz etc) on the pillars of the Triumphal Arch.



"GRIGORE ANTIPA" NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

"Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History possesses a great patrimony that includes zoological, paleontological, ethnographic, minerals and rocks collections. Thanks to the researches done by specialists from abroad and Romania, the donations and acquisitions, the collections of the museum have constantly developed, so that today there are more than 2 million items. It is the largest and oldest museum of this kind among all the Danubian countries, including more than 3000.000 exhibits. The richest and most important collection of butterflies in the world can be found here.



MUSEUM OF THE ROMANIAN PEASANT

It is situated in Bucharest on Kiseleff Street, Number 3, near the Victory Square. The museum was built between 1912-1941, according to the architect N. Ghica- Budesti's plans. The museum holds ceramics collections, traditional clothes, woven materials for the inside of the house, wooden items, furniture pieces, iron items, wall carpets, all of these being placed according to the main areas of our country and their traditions. There is also a shop here where you can buy various souvenirs. In the inner yard of the museum which leads to Ion Mihalache Boulevard, there is a wooden church, which is a historical monument belonging to the 17th century (the church was shifted here in 1992).



ROMANIAN NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

It is the most important Romanian museum and it contains historical valuable items that have been discovered on the Romanian territory since prehistoric times till contemporary times. It contains more than 50,000 original pieces and documents belonging to various fields. Among the exhibits with great historical value, we may mention "The brood hen with golden chickens" (it dates from the 4th century AD-attributed

to the Visigoth king, Athanaric), pieces from the famous “Pietroasa Treasure”, that weigh almost 19 kg, and also a copy of Trajan’s Column” from Rome.



BOTANICAL GARDEN

Situated in Cotroceni neighborhood from Bucharest, “Dimitrie Brandza” Botanical Garden of the University from Bucharest is an institution of culture, education and research. It was founded in 1860 during AL.I. Cuza’s reign. Nowadays, it has an area of 17, 5 ha and it is organized into sectors: outdoor sectors, populated by annual and perennial plants, (the decorative sector, the sector of rare plants, the sector of Mediterranean flora, the sector of Dobrujda flora, “Italian Garden” Sector, the collection of iris flowers, the sector of useful plants and the systematic sector), exhibit greenhouses that shelter the special compounds for plants belonging to different regions

of the planet (palm trees, orchids, exotic ferns, tropical and subtropical plants, succulent plants, cactus plants, bromeliid) and production greenhouses.



CANTACUZINO PALACE

It was built according to architect I.D. Berindei’s plans in the French Baroque style (1956). “George Enescu” Memorial Museum was inaugurated in Cantacuzino Palace and after 1990 it became a national museum. Beside the violin that Enescu received when he was 4, one can find here the scores of his works, diplomas and medals that he won, the most important one being the medal of the French Legion of Honor. The edifice (declared an architecture monument) has four levels: a basement that represents the base of the building, a ground floor with circle arch-shaped windows and with banisters made of stone, a floor with straight windows equipped with forged iron balconies and an attic

richly ornamented skylights. The interior is decorated with monumental paintings realized by G.D.Mirea, Costin Petrescu, Arthur Verona, Nicolae Isidor Vermont and sculptures realized by Fr. Storck and Em. W. Becker. Its façade is dominated by the entrance, neatly unhooked, preceded by ample stairs made of marble, “defended” by two stony lions. The Palace served as the residence of the Ministries’ Council, just before the World War II was about to burst.



COTROCENI NATIONAL PALACE

The Cotroceni ensemble stands alone in the Bucharest and national architectural scenery through its various components, each one with different functions and destinations.

Its uniqueness is reflected in the lay architecture that dominated the Cotroceni ensemble: the palace, the pavilion, the annexes, the manege, the gardener’s house, the greenhouses, the monastery, the chapel of the asylum for orphan girls, the funerary monuments (those of princess Maria and of the Davila family), a large garden (part of it would later become the Botanical

Garden). By a law issued in 1990, the old wing of the ensemble was opened to the public as Cotroceni National Museum, envisioned as an insight into past ages.

Cotroceni is also hosting the Office of the President of Romania. The Palace is the only official residence in Romania that has been used for over 4 centuries.



GHIKA PALACE

Ghika Palace - history The Ghika Palace is one of the oldest Bucharest palaces. Situated closed to the

crossroad of Lacul Tei Boulevard and Doamna Ghica Street, the Ghika Palace encloses the south side of lake

Plumbuita. The Palace is built in the well-known neoclassical style of the Italian architecture, with a touch of French Renaissance, according to the western trends of the 19th century. Along the years, Ghika Palace kept its initial shape, and during the 1978 it was heavily restored.

Nowadays, the Ghika Palace combines historical elements with modern ones, having a very up-to-date surveillance system, a fire-alarm, complete heating, Internet and telephony, as well as a parking lot of its own. What really makes this palace unique is the huge green garden surrounding the palace, the Palace's Gardens and thus assuring a quiet and peaceful environment all around the place. This is indeed a historical piece of architecture speaking about a long gone period in Romanian history, a troublesome past and a vivid tradition.



MOGOSOIA PALACE & BRANCOVENESC MUSEUM

Located in the village of the same name on the shore of Mogosoia Lake, this palace reflects the Brancovenesc architectural style, featuring traditional Romanian staircase balconies, arcades and columns. Built by the Walachian Prince Constantin Brancoveanu between 1698 and 1702 as a summer residence, the palace features a beautiful Venetian style loggia on the facade facing the lake and a balcony with intricate Brancovenesc-style carvings overlooking the main courtyard. Today, the palace houses the Brancovenesc

Museum with exhibits of valuable paintings, wood and stone sculptures, gold and silver embroideries, rare books and precious manuscripts. Inside the complex, there is also a church built in 1688 and decorated by a team of Greek artists. The original interior murals have been well-preserved, including a painting showing Constantin Brancoveanu with his wife, Maria, and their four sons and seven daughters, all wearing royal dress.



BRAGADIRU PALACE

Situated in the heart of Bucharest, the Bragadiru Palace is located in Sector 5, near the Palace of the Parliament. It is at walking distance from the Piata Regina Maria, Flower Market and Marriott Grand Hotel. Over the years, the Bragadiru Palace has accommodated an amazing array of events, from intimate dinner parties of 50 or more guests to grand cocktail parties with dancing of up to 400 guests. However, most events range from 100 to 250 guests.



The VILLAGE MUSEUM

The Village Museum is one of the first ethnographic museums in the world and the second ethnographic museum placed outdoors in the world, next to Ethnographic Museum from Stockholm. Aiming at offering the best view of the life of the peasants, of their originality, of their remarkable artistic sense, the museum tries to recreate the intimate ambient of every house and succeeds in doing this, presenting to visitors elements specific to traditional households: barns, stables, fences made of wood, twigs or adobe, the simple or imposing gates, the inside of the house with the specific furniture

pieces, working tools, traditional vessels, carpets and other woven items.



The ROYAL PALACE – THE NATIONAL ART MUSEUM

Inaugurated in 1950, The National Gallery shelters the works of many famous painters, like Theodor

Aman, Nicolae Grigorescu, Stefan Luchian, Nicolae Tonitza, Theodor Pallady and sculptors: Dimitrie Paciurea, Constantin Medrea, Ion Jalea and the famous Constantin Brancusi. The patrimony of the museum contains 4000 engravings and sketches belonging to several Romanian and foreign artists.



The hall consists of three galleries and two collections of decorative art.

The European Art Gallery is situated in the Kretulescu wing and has been recently reopened. The paintings of the most representative painters of Europe can be seen here, painters from the Renaissance period till the first decades of the 20th century. Beside the painting collection of the Romanian Royal House, the masterpieces of the European Art can be as well admired: “Madonna

with child” by Domenico Veneziano, “Haman begging Esther for forgiveness” by Rembrandt, “Man with ring” by Jan Van Eyck , “Camille” by Claude Monet, “The age”, “The kiss”, “The Spring” by Auguste Rodin etc.

The Old Romanian Art Gallery: is situated at the first floor of Stirbei Sector and contains 9500 masterpieces, which are exposed in 7 halls. These items conjure up the cultural life from Walachia, Moldavia and Transylvania. In three of the 7 halls, you can see laic and cult items made of precious metals; jewelry and costume accessories belonging to 14th-19th centuries.

The Modern Romanian Art Gallery: there are 8479 paintings and 1817 sculptors and it is situated at the second floor of the Stirbei Sector. One of the galleries is exclusively dedicated to the sculptor **Constantin Brancusi** and it exposes works from his youth and later years: “Torture”, “Child Head”, “The Slumber”, “Prometheus”, “Prayer”.

The decorative art collection used to be part of the Universal Art Gallery, alongside the European painting and sculpture and an assembly of Oriental Art items. The collection consists of nearly 10000 items of European Art, including Romanian Art as well, being the most important collection in Romania and exposes Romanian tapestry works, furniture pieces, ceramics, a collection of clocks and also silver ware items done in Augsburg, Berlin or Nurnberg.

The Oriental Art collection gained its autonomy in 1990 and it contains the most representative set of items from The Islamic Orient, China and Japan that have ever existed in a Romanian museum. There are almost 400 carpets, woven items, paintings, ivory items, Chinese and Japan porcelains, wooden sculptures, weapons and textiles.



OLD CITY CENTER – HISTORIC CENTRE

The cobblestone streets between Calea Victoriei, Bulevardul Bratianu, Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta and the River Dîmbovita still comprise Bucharest’s most atmospheric area and increasingly are home to an alternative culture of clubs, bars, trendy coffee houses and restaurants - most lively when they spill onto the cobbled streets during summer. At its heart is the 15th-century Curtea Veche (Old Court), attributed to Vlad Tepes, which contains a few walls, arches, tombstones and one restored Corinthian column. Next door is Bucharest’s oldest church, the 16th-century Biserica Curtea Veche.

Just east of here is the oldest inn, Hanul lui Manuc, Strada Franceza 62-64, which is still an inexpensive hotel with a basement restaurant and courtyard cafe-bar.

North of here is Strada Lipscani, an old merchant street where everything from bridal gowns and handmade hats to cheap jeans are sold. Near its east end is a small alley called Hanul cu Tei, filled with antique shops. A block south of Strada Lipscani to the west is Strada Stavropoleos where the remarkable Biserica Stavropoleos can be visited. This church, completed in 1724, could easily qualify as the city’s

most beautiful, not least because its frescoes and icons have recently been restored and it is surrounded by a peaceful cloister garden filled with various antiquities and 19th-century tombstones. The church was designed by Constantin Brancoveanu (1688-1714), a Wallachian prince known for his religious architectural achievements.



Regular festivals & events

- Bucharest International Film Festival (*April*)
- International Music Festival “Jeunesses Musicales” (*May*)
- Bucharest International Music Festival “EuropaFest” (*May*)
- Bucharest of Old Festival (*May*)
- ‘GayFest’ Gay Pride Festival (*May*)
- Bucharest ‘ArtPhoto’ Image & Photography Festival (*May - June*)
- Bucharest “D’Ale Bucurestilor” Street Music Festival (*June*)
- Craftsmen’s Fair (*June - July*)
- Bucharest City Challenge - Car Racing (*August*)
- George Enescu Music Festival (*September- every two years*)
- International Furniture and Interior Design Fair / BIFE-TIMB (*September*)
- Romania Tennis Open - an ATP event (*September*)
- Winter Gifts Arts & Crafts Fair - Museum of the Romanian Peasant (*December*)

PERMANENT MISSION OF TUNISIA IN GENEVA

PROPOSAL OF TUNISIA TO HOST A WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICE FOR THE 2016/2017 BIENNIUM

The Nobel peace laureate for 2015, Tunisia offers wonderful opportunities thanks to its strategic location in the region and to its intellectual property skills and expertise.

In Tunisia, intellectual property rights are enshrined in the new Constitution, Article 41 of which states: “intellectual property is guaranteed”.

Tunisia has acceded to 14 WIPO-administered international treaties.

It is ranked 1st in North Africa and 2nd in the entire African continent, after South Africa, in the Innovation Index, according to statistics published by WIPO for 2015. It is also one of the top 50 most innovative countries, according to the Bloomberg Innovation Index 2016, which studied 80 countries. It ranks 46th globally, with a score of 51.18.

The envisaged functions of the WIPO office in Tunisia

- support services for the PCT System;
- support services for the Madrid System;
- support services for the Hague System;
- support services for the Lisbon System;
- support services for genetic resources and traditional knowledge; and
- support services for copyright and related rights.

It is worth noting that literary and artistic property are protected in Tunisia, particularly in the new Tunisian Constitution which enshrines intellectual property rights, which encompass literary and artistic rights. Article 41 of the Constitution states: “intellectual property is guaranteed”.

Tunisia has also adhered to the various WIPO-administered IP conventions.

Furthermore, awareness-raising in regard to literary and artistic property is an important aspect of the activities of the Tunisian Society for and Related Rights (OTDAV), with a view to achieving a clearer understanding and better use of copyright and related rights and building respect for these rights.

Accordingly various activities were organized in 2014 and 2015, including the following.

- A campaign to raise awareness of the importance of respecting literary and artistic rights, which included the production and broadcast of an audiovisual spot for the general public, was launched and meetings were organized in cooperation with IP associations and with educational and cultural establishments.
- With the cooperation of WIPO, a seminar for Tunisian journalists and communicators on literary and artistic property and journalism was organized.
- OTDAV published press releases in Arabic and French newspapers, reminding exploiters of works of their moral and financial obligations.
- Committees of member colleges were set up pursuant to the provisions of the internal rules and regulations of OTDAV. Member colleges are composed of authors and creators in various artistic specialties and, under the OTDAV rules and regulations, they are responsible for making proposals and suggestions with a view to promoting literary and artistic property rights and contributing to the evaluation of IP programs and initiatives.

This document has been translated into English on the basis of the original French-language version. For this reason, in case of discrepancies or differences of interpretation between the English and French versions, the French version shall prevail.

- Focal points for literary and artistic property were set up. Among other tasks, the focal points are responsible for contributing to the promotion of copyright, targeting regional governments and delegations for culture.

The Tunisia regional office might be tasked with the following duties:

- ✓ cooperating with African countries and with the Pan-African Intellectual Property Office, whose headquarters is to be located in Tunisia pursuant to an African Union decision in 2013;
- ✓ awareness-raising, promotion, innovation, creativity and support services within the framework of the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems;
- ✓ supporting development and capacity-building activities;
- ✓ research and collective management; and
- ✓ offering arbitration and mediation to various parties.

These functions may be performed by three staff members: one international staff member appointed by WIPO and two local staff members.

Privileges and immunities granted to the office

Tunisia is prepared to facilitate the establishment of a properly functioning regional office, in addition to granting the necessary privileges and immunities provided for in the Stockholm Convention establishing WIPO and those provided for in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies signed in New York on November 21, 1947.

These privileges and immunities will be included in the agreement reached between WIPO and Tunisia, in accordance with Articles 12(1) and 12(3) of the Stockholm Convention establishing WIPO.

Tunisia is willing to grant the following privileges and immunities to the WIPO office:

- recognition as a juridical personality;
- the inviolability of its premises, its archives and in general any documents intended for official use belonging to them or held by them;
- the property and assets of the office shall be immune from search, requisition confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative judicial or legislative action;
- archives and, in general all, documents belonging to them or held by them are inviolable, wherever located;
- communications facilities;
- the WIPO office will enjoy the privileges and immunities granted to specialized agencies of the United Nations system; and
- staff members will enjoy the privileges and immunities granted to staff members of specialized agencies.

Premises available for hosting the WIPO office in Tunisia

Tunisia will make available to WIPO, free of charge, office space of 160 m² in the center of Tunis. This location meets the criteria put forward by the Secretariat for choosing the location of the external office in Africa. It is one of the safest and most secure locations in Tunisia and is 7.5 km from the Tunis Carthage International Airport.

**PROPOSAL and AIDE MEMOIRE
ON HOSTING AN EXTERNAL OFFICE IN REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

Country background

1. The Republic of Turkey has a population of around 78 million with a total surface of 780,580 sq. km spanning on two continents – Europe and Southwestern Asia, between the Black Sea, the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea, and having borders with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Bulgaria, Greece, Syria, Iraq and Iran.

2. Turkey has a young population (average age of 28 years - 27% younger than 15, 67% between 15 and 64 years, and less than 6% older than 64 years), over 68% of the population lives in cities.

Turkey was one of the first countries to become a member of the Council of Europe in 1949, and was also a founding member of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 1961 and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in 1973. Turkey signed a Customs Union agreement with the EU in 1995 and was officially recognized as a candidate for full membership on 12 December 1999, at the Helsinki summit of the European Council. Turkey's application to accede to the European Union was made on 14 April 1987 and negotiations started on 3 October 2005.

3. Turkey is a member of many international organizations, including WIPO, WTO and EPO, OECD, all UN specialized agencies.

4. Turkey is a member of the EPO since November 1, 2000. The Turkish Patent Institute is one of the most active members of the EPO.

Based on statistics published by WIPO, Turkey is among top countries in terms of IP applications and activities. Turkey ranked 6th and 7th in terms of Designs and Marks respectively regarding the IP filling activity by origin in 2014.

Economy Overview

5. Turkey's economy is increasingly driven by its industry and service sectors, although its traditional agriculture sector still accounts for about 30% of employment. An aggressive privatization program has reduced state involvement in basic industry, banking, transport, and communication, and an emerging cadre of middle-class entrepreneurs is adding dynamism to the economy. Turkey's traditional textiles and clothing sectors still account for one-third of industrial employment, despite stiff competition in international markets that resulted from the end of the global quota system. Other sectors, notably the automotive, construction, and electronics industries, are rising in importance and have surpassed textiles within Turkey's export mix. Oil began to flow through the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline in May 2006, marking a major milestone that will bring up to 1 million barrels per day from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean market. Several gas pipelines also are being planned to help move Central Asian gas to Europe via Turkey, which will help address Turkey's dependence on energy imports over the long term.

6. Turkey's economic performance over the last decade resulted in an average annual real GDP growth rate of 4.7%. In addition, R&D expenditure in Turkey went up by 18.8% in 2014 to reach USD 6.1 billion, and it is expected to account for 3% of the country's GDP by 2023. In relation to the economic performance and policies established to foster innovation and R&D activities, IP system in Turkey has shown a significant development. According to the IP indicators published by WIPO, resident patent applications have grown around 20 times in the last 15 years, and Turkey improved its ranking from 45th to 15th in this period.

7. Turkey is also a member of G20. Turkey held presidency of G20 in 2015.

Current Situation of the IP system and IP Awareness in Turkey

8. In 2008 the Turkish Government announced an action plan that IPR Protection is one of the main concerns for the economic development of Turkey. That declaration triggered a new development of the IPR system.

9. National policy documents such as the *Specialized Commission Reports* and the 7th, 8th and 9th *Five Year Development Plans* comprise since 1995 statements concerning the need for setting-up training and education in IP programs not only in the university law faculties, but also in other related departments such as economics, management, engineering, arts and social sciences.

10. These policy documents emphasize mainly the need for more professional and academic staff in the field of IP, as well as the relatively low level of public awareness for IP matters and propose to be taken appropriate measures.

11. There are several coordination and supervisory bodies of the Government that deal in one or another way with intellectual property rights and with IP education.

12. The Coordination Board for Improvement of the Investment Environment has been continuously concerned with securing the appropriate climate for both domestic & international investors. This Coordination Board has been dealing with IPR related issues directly, as well as in its related technical IP committee. With the involvement of the private sector, NGOs and the most influential businessmen and tradesmen in Turkey, specific actions with timetables, performance indicators and responsible government bodies' action plans have been prepared. These action plans have been evaluated by the Steering Committee, which is composed also of NGOs and private sector representatives, before being sent to the Board of Ministers.

13. One of the Technical Committees of the Coordination Board for Improvement of the Investment Environment is the IP Committee. Each Technical Committee has its own action plan within the general statements and objectives of the Board. The 2010 Action Plan of the IP Committee provided for an action aimed at IP education in universities and proposed IP courses to be obligatory in the relevant departments.

14. In 2009 the Cabinet adopted a Ministerial Decision to establish the Turkish Design Council. A draft paper on Strategy was prepared and its discussion began in a Council meeting and will be finalized in near future.

15. The Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights Coordination Board was established with a circular of the Prime Minister. Its objective is, *inter alia*, to coordinate the relevant governmental bodies in order to increase the effective enforcement and implementation of IPRs.

16. Undersecretaries of Ministry of Industry and Trade and Ministry of Culture and Tourism head the Council of the Board. The Council of the Board is composed of not only representatives of the government entities, but also of representatives of the private sector, including the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges, which is the highest body representing the private sector.

17. In 2015, a comprehensive Intellectual Property Strategy Paper and an Action Plan was adopted, which foresees four priority development areas concerning capacity increase, IP commercialization, awareness and legislative development. These objectives are to be met under 51 actions. Simultaneously, a more specific paper on Geographical Indications Strategy and Action Plan was adopted in 2015, foreseeing development of an effectively functioning registration system through increased capacity and legislative enhancement.

An External Office In Turkey Will Bring Lots of Benefits

18. Turkey has a constantly growing economy for the last decade. The average annual real GDP growth rate is 4.9% between 2002-2013. This has been one of the best figures attained in the world.

19. Turkey has well established institutions, government agencies and universities. It has more than 160 universities with at least one in each city. Many governmental and private research institutions have been operating in various cities of Turkey. The link between universities and the industry have been strengthened through various tools.

20. Being an EU candidate country and the process for becoming a full member has been a constant motivation to update and better its legislation, implementation thereof, including IP related ones.

21. In this general framework, Turkish Patent Institute has an important role to play in undertaking work related to the industrial property. In such a fast growing economy with increasing volume of trade, industrial property rights and their applications have had a huge impact on the competitiveness and innovation. Beyond proper application of the relevant laws in industrial property rights, the spread of knowledge among the relevant circles are critically important. In this regard, TPI has put its utmost effort in every possible way to enhance the IP knowledge domestically and internationally to the extent possible particularly with the countries in Central Asia, the Middle East and Balkans.

22. Turkey is a bridge between west and east. It is one of the most active countries in his region and beyond not only in terms of its trade volume but also in terms of its cultural and social interactions with its neighbours. IP is no exception to that, not only with the EU countries but also with Central Asian countries through the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and the members of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) as well as Balkan and Black Sea countries via Organization for the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) with which it has close ties and relations. Both in ECO and the OIC, Turkey has brought forward IP related agenda items for the first time and has proposed project proposals related to IP to maintain and strengthen the cooperation between ECO and OIC Member States. For that, various conferences were held in Turkey, the first one in Turkey and other countries. Given its location, it has close contacts with the countries in Central Asia, Balkan and the Middle East also through its memberships of international organizations such as ECO, BSEC and OIC to which the countries from the region are also member.

23. It is strongly believed that establishment of an EO in Turkey would provide many benefits within its mandate and also complement the WIPO's and TPI's efforts of firstly on the dissemination of the IP knowledge, raising awareness, respect for IP and further enhancement of innovation and creativity by promoting effective use of IP services.

24. The foreseen EO in Turkey will supplement the activities of the TPI, as well. The very first mandate of the EO will be to ensure the raising of knowledge on IP matters with all its aspects and delivery of programs in cooperation with the TPI. Currently TPI has been running programs mainly for the dissemination of knowledge such as regular training, Hezarfen project, University valley project and Technology Transfer Platform. The EOs' contributions would be adding value with its experience and international perspective to all already running programs and for the newly created ones.

25. Turkey is one of the frequent users of the Madrid, Hague and the PCT Systems and it is expected that regular trainings on these Global Systems sometimes with tailored approach adapted to the needs of the business community by the EO would further increase the use of Global IP systems in Turkey.

26. In this regard, it is believed that the foreseen EO in Turkey will have a regional dimension not only because of Turkey location between Asian and Europe also for the close cultural and social ties with the countries in the region. Thus, it is always possible to organize regional workshops/seminar through the EO for the benefit of the countries in the region.

27. In addition to the supporting and promoting the WIPO's Global Intellectual Property Systems, delivering technical assistance and capacity building activities and awareness enhancing activities, it is envisaged that the IP related educational activities would be given more importance by the EO in Turkey. The level of educational activities and endeavours related to the IP subjects in Turkey, even though has been increasing in recent years, not in a level commensurate with desired level. The very same situation is true for the countries in the region, either. Thus, for example, the intensification of cooperation with the WIPO Academy in this regard would be immensely vital and would prove to be helpful in the very structuring phase of the EO in Turkey.

28. The main part of the work undertaken by the EO in Turkey would be complementary to the program delivered by the WIPO Academy in many respects and would not duplicate the already initiated programs/services such as WIPO Distance Learning Courses and launching an master program on IP Law at a selected university in Turkey. First and foremost, since it will be more capable of determining and identifying the specific needs and requisites having the advantage of being in the field where the actual needs arises, the EO would work like an interface mostly between the WIPO Academy and the beneficiaries would be served in a more efficient and effective way without any duplication with the WIPO's related programs. The EO, being in constant contact with the domestic actors such as universities, Technology Transfer Offices and other relevant educational institutions in Turkey, would possess deeper knowledge on the priorities and needs of the stakeholders. This would secure to be able to respond the needs in more comprehensive and effective manner without any duplication. Being in the field and working with the stakeholders directly would inevitably be more cost effective for many reasons. No doubt, it will be much more effective and cost efficient to reach the targets identified in the programs with their performance indicators in WIPO's Program and Budget if the priorities and needs are identified locally by the EO.

29. Turkey is one of the member state of WIPO which is underrepresented in terms of WIPO Staff. Turkey has pointed her inequitable geographical representation in many fora in WIPO. Having an External Office would well ameliorate geographical representation of Turkey within the WIPO.

Conclusion

30. Turkey has been benefiting from the programs and assistance offered by WIPO. There has been no difficulty in establishing connection with the WIPO personnel. The activities carried out in cooperation with WIPO through the programs have resulted in success and satisfaction. However, there is always room for the improvement of the programs designed and delivered by WIPO. The programs usually designed by the relevant divisions in WIPO such as Arab Bureau, some European Countries and Asian countries. When designing the programs including tools for delivery such as workshops, training modules, and assistance delivery, the very essence needs of the countries could not be entirely addressed or estimated given the fact that many countries are the potential beneficiaries and a central approach to contain all of their priorities and needs of each different country prove to be difficult. In the current situation where there is only limited number of EOs for certain countries, this challenge could only be solved effectively with intense communication between WIPO personnel in the relevant division and by traveling to the field/country where the delivery of the program is projected. These challenges could be overcome in a cost efficient and effective way through an EO in the country where the programs to be delivered and implemented.

31. It is believed that the more clearly the mandate is defined, the better the integration with the WIPO and with the TPI will be. In a broader sense, the general field of activity of the EO will be education related to the IP. However, that does not necessarily mean that other WIPO related activities will not be pursued or implemented. Global IP Systems related activities will be carried out regularly, as well. Once the Member States and WIPO decide on the mandate of the EO in Turkey in consideration of the advantages it provides, the required human resources, financial

resources, physical infrastructure and the location (either Ankara or Istanbul) where the EO can best fulfil its mandate would be jointly decided with the WIPO's services.

32. In line with the adopted "Guiding Principles regarding WIPO External Offices", the EO in Turkey would be an integral part of WIPO's results-based management and regulatory framework. Once the EO is established and operational, its performance and activities will be monitored and evaluated on the performance indicators and targets, and reported to the PBC which will, in turn, transmit its recommendations to the General Assembly, as appropriate.

33. Turkey attaches great importance to host international organizations, international and multinational companies. Istanbul in particular occupies a unique hub for its geographical proximity and ease of travel to many regions. Turkey, therefore, aims to build under one UN principle, a UN Home that complies with the UN Standards in Istanbul. In this regard, UN FPA/EECARO, UNDP/IICPSD, UNDP/RCS, among others are already located in Istanbul. UN Women and UNICEF regional offices are also to be located in Istanbul. FAO subregional office is to be established in Ankara. Turkey's location as well as her logistic and financial support to the offices of international organisations based in Turkey has constituted an incentive for those institutions to prefer Turkey for their headquarters and/or regional bureaus. In this respect, it goes without saying that, if so decided, the WIPO External Office would also benefit from this support.