

Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)

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REPORT ON WIPO'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND ITS ASSOCIATED TARGETS

prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its eighteenth session, held from October 31 to November 4, 2016, the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) requested the Secretariat to present an annual report at the Committee's first session of the year on the Organization's contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its associated targets.
2. This is the third annual report submitted to the CDIP pursuant to that request. Previous reports under this item have been submitted to the nineteenth session (document CDIP/19/6) and twenty-first session (document CDIP/21/10) of the CDIP.
3. As requested by the CDIP, this report provides an update of the SDG-related:
 - (a) activities and initiatives undertaken individually by WIPO;
 - (b) activities undertaken by WIPO as part of the UN System; and
 - (c) assistance provided by WIPO to its Member States at their request.

WIPO and the SDGs

4. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs¹ is the most ambitious development agenda in human history, incorporating efforts for economic, social and environmental development. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, heralding it as the international community's collective roadmap to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people live in peace and prosperity. Building on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals, Agenda 2030 draws up a universal plan that takes into account the differing national realities, capacities, policies and priorities of developing and developed countries. It recognizes that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, while acknowledging that the scale and ambition of the new agenda requires a revitalized Global Partnership that brings together governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations (UN) system and other actors to mobilize all available resources.

5. The 17 SDGs and 269 targets that make up the 2030 Agenda, together with the Global indicator framework adopted in 2017 by the UN General Assembly, make no direct reference to intellectual property (IP). However, as a specialized Agency of the United Nations, WIPO is fully engaged in the implementation of the Agenda 2030 within the term of its mandate.

6. WIPO is contributing to the SDGs in various ways and, in particular, by promoting a balanced and effective IP system that encourages innovation and creativity and supports the flow of knowledge and technical expertise within and among countries. Intellectual property is a critical component for innovation, as it helps set the incentive structure for the world's innovators who create the new technologies and processes that improve lives. In this way, it is clear that innovation will be key to the success of the SDGs. Only through human ingenuity and innovation will it be possible to develop new solutions that: eradicate poverty; boost agricultural productivity; ensure food security and good nutrition; increase access to energy and improve energy efficiency; fight disease; improve education; protect the environment; accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy; increase productivity; and boost business competitiveness.

7. Of all the SDGs, Goal 9 is most closely aligned with WIPO's mission, which is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual property (IP) system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. Innovation is also essential in achieving SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and SDG 13 (climate change). In a wider policy setting, innovation can also assist in achieving SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 15 (life on land). Other SDGs are also achievable within an innovation policy framework, notably SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production).

8. In the CDIP, the discussion on the possibility of establishing a permanent agenda item on SDGs concluded at its twenty-first session, held from May 14 to 18, 2018. The discussion was based on a proposal by the Delegation of Brazil made at the eighteenth session of the Committee, held from October 31 to November 4, 2016, as part of Member States' inputs on

¹ SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 10: Reduced Inequality; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 14: Life Below Water; SDG 15: Life on Land; SDG 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions; SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal.

SDGs relevant to WIPO's work (document CDIP/18/4, Annex IV). At the twenty-first session of the CDIP, Member States decided that "any discussion on SDGs in the CDIP sessions shall be undertaken under agenda item on "Intellectual Property and Development"." The topics discussed under the agenda item "IP and Development" are intended to provide an opportunity to share experiences and best practices deployed by Member States and by WIPO in various fields of IP. Member States have proposed possible topics for discussion under the said agenda item (documents CDIP/21/8 Rev. and CDIP/22/17). Some of these topics address SDG 9 and are relevant to other SDGs. The Committee also decided to maintain a Roster of proposals of topics to enable Member States to make proposals in the future.

9. The first topic under the agenda item "IP and Development" was discussed at the twenty-second session of the CDIP (November 19 to 23, 2018) and was entitled "Women and IP" (SDG 5). The discussion included a briefing by the WIPO Secretariat on the Organization's policies and activities to empower women in the field of IP. That briefing was followed by a discussion in which Member States shared their experiences and practices in enhancing policies that enable a larger participation of women in the field of IP.

10. At its twenty-second session, the CDIP approved a proposal by the Delegation of Mexico (document CDIP/22/16 Rev.) on Women and IP.² That proposal highlighted the importance of incorporating a gender perspective into the promotion of inclusive economic growth, and the key role that gender-responsive policies can play in achieving sustainable socio-economic development. The said proposal recognizes the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recalls SDGs 5 and 9. The decision calls for the following action: (i) to compile comparable and disaggregated international data on the gender of IP rights owners and creators; (ii) to share methods and procedures for the collection of gender-disaggregated data, the use of indicators, monitoring and evaluation methodologies, and economic analysis of gender gaps related to IP; (iii) to continue gender mainstreaming in WIPO programs and policies, including the implementation of WIPO's Policy on Gender Equality; (iv) to continue through the WIPO Academy to empower women through its range of IP training and capacity-building programs; and (v) to assist Member States in implementing measures and programs to encourage the involvement of women and girls in IP.

A. ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN INDIVIDUALLY BY THE ORGANIZATION

11. Supporting the development of a multi-faceted, diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystem is a pre-requisite for achieving the SDGs. The international legal framework for intellectual property includes the 26 international treaties administered by WIPO and the IP laws of its Member States. A robust IP legal framework is the cornerstone of an effective global innovation ecosystem and is the foundation of an enabling environment that encourages entrepreneurs to invest in developing solutions to the technological challenges facing humanity and spurring creators to develop exciting new forms of cultural expression.

12. The WIPO Development Agenda guides WIPO's contribution to the implementation of Agenda 2030. WIPO's Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium mainstreams development and the SDGs across the Organization's Strategic Goals. The 2018/19 Results Framework also highlights the Strategic Goals and Expected Results that contribute to the SDGs. Each Strategic Goal details a wide range of SDG-contributing programs and activities, which are undertaken by relevant sectors of the Organization.

13. WIPO receives many requests for assistance from developing and least developed countries (LDCs), in particular. In response, the Organization helps these countries develop

² The final version of the proposal as adopted by the Committee is contained in document CDIP/22/16 Rev. 2.

national strategies to support the creation, development, management and protection of IP assets. It also provides legal advice on ways to update national IP laws to ensure they keep pace with the realities of a rapidly evolving, technology-driven world and legal best practice – all keys to the achievement of the SDGs.

14. Through its Member State-approved programs, services and platforms, the WIPO Secretariat supports Member States in creating the conditions for innovation and creativity to thrive and responds to their requests for assistance in optimizing the IP system to achieve the economic, social and cultural development on which the success of the SDGs hinges.

Information on the economics of IP

15. WIPO contributes to a deeper understanding of the workings of an effective innovation ecosystem through a number of analytical reports. In 2018, the Organization produced two such reports, namely, the 2018 Global Innovation Index (GII) and the World Intellectual Property Indicators 2018 (WIPI).

16. The GI is a detailed quantitative tool that helps governments benchmark their innovation performance and better understand how to stimulate innovative activity for the purposes of economic and human development. The GI 2018 ranked 120-plus economies according to a complex set of indicators covering the entire range of innovative activity, arranged in pillars: Innovation Inputs, or those elements of the economy that embody innovative activities, including institutions, human capital and research, infrastructure, market sophistication, and business sophistication; and Innovation Outputs, which capture actual evidence of innovation and include knowledge and technology outputs and creative outputs.

17. The GI supports the achievement of SDG 9. The thematic discussion of the 2018 GI report focused on “Energizing the World with Innovation,” which also provided important perspectives on SDG 7. In particular, the report documents how demand for energy is reaching unprecedented levels as a result of an expanding global population, rapid urbanization, and increased industrialization. It highlights technological and non-technological innovations that are critical to energy production and increased efficiency in energy consumption – such as through smart cities and smart grids. Above all, it argues that the creation of successful innovation ecosystems plays a key role in achieving SDG 7.

18. The 2018 GI was launched in New York and coincided with the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The GI was presented at this Forum as part of the panel discussion on advancing science, technology and innovation for the SDGs. The 2019 GI will focus on “Creating Healthy Lives - The Future of Medical Innovation”, of direct relevance to SDG 3. GI 2019 will shed light on the role that medical innovation will play in determining the future of healthcare in countries at different stages of development.

19. The WIPI annual report provides authoritative analyses of IP activity and related trends around the globe. The 2018 edition covers filing, registration and maintenance of patents, utility models, trademarks, industrial designs, microorganisms and plant variety protection, and geographical indications. For the first time, the 2018 edition looked at the creative economy through publishing data. Policymakers, IP and innovation stakeholders, researchers and others can rely on the WIPI to track the latest IP trends worldwide and take decisions accordingly.

20. Like the GI, the WIPI supports the achievement of SDG 9. The WIPI 2018 (which covers IP data for 2017) shows record levels of demand for IP rights around the world. For example, innovators across the globe filed 3.17 million patent applications in 2017, up 5.8% for an eighth consecutive year. Active trademark registrations worldwide also increased by 9.7% in that year. These data show that demand for IP protection is rising faster than the rate of global economic growth. The report also shows that Asia continues to strengthen its position as the region with

the greatest activity in patent filings. Offices located in Asia received 65.1% of all applications filed worldwide in 2017, primarily driven by growth in China which received the highest number of patent applications in 2017, a record total of 1.38 million. The WIPI patent data show that computer technology, electrical machinery and digital communication are the most dynamic fields of technological innovation.

WIPO's Databases

21. WIPO hosts a range of global IP databases which support innovation. These include:

- (a) PATENTSCOPE, which provides access, free of charge, to over 70 million patent documents. It includes WIPO Translate, which offers state-of-the-art machine translation in nine language pairs for users who do not have access to translation services in order to understand results in languages they do not understand. This wealth of patent information is available to support technology transfer and technological development;
- (b) The Global Brands Database provides access to over 36 million records relating to internationally protected trademarks, appellations of origin and armorial bearings, flags and other state emblems as well as the names, abbreviations and emblems of IGOs;
- (c) The Global Design Database enables free and simultaneous searches of more than 10 million industrial designs registered under the WIPO-administered Hague System and/or in participating national collections;
- (d) WIPO Lex, the leading reference on IP laws worldwide, is a global database that provides free-of-charge access to legal information on IP such as treaties administered by WIPO, other IP-related treaties, and laws and regulations of the Members States of WIPO, the UN and WTO;
- (e) Pat-INFORMED provides the global health community with access to relevant information about the patent status of a drug in a particular country; and
- (f) IP Statistics Data Center, a world leading reference for IP activities, the Center provides IP professionals, researchers and policymakers worldwide with access to reliable IP statistics to promote better understanding of trends in policy, business and technology worldwide.

WIPO's Platforms

22. A number of WIPO's platforms support innovation by enabling national IP offices to leverage innovative technologies to better respond to business and policy trends and deliver improved services to their clients. These include:

- (a) The WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs): More than 740 TISCs in 78 countries provide innovators with access to locally-based, high-quality technology information and related services. TISCs help innovators exploit their potential and create, protect, and manage their IP rights. Services offered by TISCs include access to online patent and non-patent resources and IP-related publications, assistance in searching and retrieving technology information, training in database search, on-demand searches, monitoring technology and competitors, basic information on industrial property laws, management and strategy, and technology commercialization and marketing. In 2018, WIPO received seven new requests from Member States for the establishment of TISC networks following the signing of a Service Level Agreement. Additionally, TISC training to establish and/or reinforce services and their sustainability

were carried out in 26 Member States at their request. A further new service offered by Program 14 is WIPO Technology Trends Reports and users are given an overview of particular technologies in each annual report to assist users who may not have access to all the resources needed and also the methodology used in the related searches is given to assist users with limited knowledge and access. The first edition of the Technology Trends Reports focused on “Artificial Intelligence”;

- (b) WIPO’s Industrial Property Automation System (IPAS), a modular automation administrative system, which is used in 84 Offices from developing countries to automate their IP business and administrative processes. IPAS is one of the key components of the global IP infrastructure provided by WIPO, along with a set of modernization services, to offer a comprehensive sustainable automation solution to requesting IP offices from developing countries with diverse levels of development, resources, capacity, skills and infrastructure;
- (c) The WIPO Centralized Access to Search and Examination (CASE) system which enables participating patent offices to securely share search and examination documentation related to patent applications with a view to improving the quality and efficiency of the patent search and examination process undertaken at local and regional patent offices; and
- (d) The WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS) which allows secure electronic exchange of priority documents between participating intellectual property offices. The system enables applicants and offices to meet the requirements of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for certification in an electronic environment.

23. These practical tools developed by WIPO help improve access to the IP system and the technological and business intelligence that it generates.

Partnerships for the SDGs

24. WIPO also contributes to the strengthening of the global innovation ecosystem through a number of partnerships, as recommended by SDG 17. Such partnerships include WIPO GREEN, WIPO Re:Search, the Accessible Books Consortium, the Access to Research for Development and Innovation, the Access to Specialized Patent Information, and the Inventor Assistance Program.

25. WIPO GREEN supports global efforts to address climate change by making expertise and green technologies available. It helps promote innovation and diffusion of environmentally sustainable technologies and contributes to initiatives that seek to solve global/regional environmental challenges. Specifically, it identifies particular green technology needs and matches them with corresponding technologies registered in the WIPO GREEN online database and network. WIPO GREEN supports the achievement of many SDGs, including SDGs 2, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, and 17.

26. In 2018, with support from the Government of Australia, WIPO GREEN implemented a two-phased matchmaking project in Southeast Asia to identify and promote sustainable solutions for clean air, agriculture, energy and water needs in the region, facilitating connections between technology seekers and providers in Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Phase two of the project, the in-person matchmaking event, was held during the Asian Development Bank’s 2018 Asia Clean Energy Forum in Manila, the Philippines, and was attended by 85 participants from 26 countries, including entrepreneurs, investors, companies, public sector organizations, and green technology incubators. The project generated 153 connections and has already resulted in three concrete technology deals in the areas of rural electrification, dew-water harvesting, and desalinization technologies.

27. With a view to encouraging innovation and the deployment of green technologies to address the specific needs and priorities of individual countries, WIPO co-organized with the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), in February 2018, in Xi'an, a seminar on IP and sustainable development. WIPO's contribution to the SDGs and the WIPO GREEN platform were highlighted during that event. In October 2018, WIPO participated in the Green Technology Bank Summit Forum held in Shanghai, People's Republic of China. In a keynote address at that event, WIPO shared its experience in promoting innovation and diffusion of green technologies.

28. WIPO Re:Search is another important partnership which aims to accelerate the discovery and development of medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics, for patients affected by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), malaria, and tuberculosis, as stipulated in SDG 3. WIPO Re:Search supports the mobilization of innovation and IP to improve global health by fostering collaborations between the private and public sectors and by catalyzing the development of medical products for those diseases, through innovative research partnerships and knowledge sharing among leading pharmaceutical companies and other participating private and public sector research institutions. The Consortium generated 18 new research and development collaborations to address neglected tropical diseases, tuberculosis and malaria. Nearly half the world's population is at risk of contracting malaria, a potentially fatal disease that carries particular risks for pregnant women and young children. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that the economic impact of malaria in Africa, the continent most affected by the disease, is US\$12 billion each year.

29. In 2018, a number of malaria-focused WIPO Re:Search collaborations were showcased at global events. In July 2018, in Melbourne, Australia, WIPO Re:Search participated in the first Malaria World Congress, promoting malaria-focused WIPO Re:Search collaborations and the Australia Funds-in-Trust (FIT2) Fellowship Program during a dedicated session at the Congress. Seizing this opportunity, in cooperation with IP Australia, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the WIPO Re:Search Partnership Hub BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH), WIPO also organized a WIPO Re:Search Colloquium, bringing together FIT2 fellows and host institutions to present their malaria research and share reflections on their experience with the FIT2 fellows program. FIT2 fellows from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Tanzania participated in the event.

30. On September 27, 2018, on the margins of the WIPO Assemblies, a side event examined key WIPO Re:Search brokered collaborations advancing the fight against malaria. The event brought together top Malaria researchers from Australia, Indonesia, and the United States. The new WIPO Re:Search Resource Platform, an interactive on-line resource to facilitate information sharing in the fight against neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis was also launched at that event .

31. The Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) is a private/public partnership led by WIPO that helps in the practical implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled. It is proving to be a very successful example of effective international cooperation, bringing together all the relevant state and non-state actors with a unity of purpose. The ABC includes organizations that represent people with print disabilities, libraries for the blind, standards bodies, and organizations representing authors, publishers and collective management organizations.

32. The ABC's goal is to increase the number of books worldwide in accessible formats - such as braille, audio, e-text, large print – and to make them available to people who live with print disabilities. Its activities are strategically aligned with a disability-inclusive 2030 Agenda: they support SDG Goal 4 (Quality Education) and are consistent with articles 9 and 24 of the

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) regarding accessibility and education.

33. Since June 2014, the ABC has established projects in 14 developing and LDCs countries to provide training and technical assistance in accessible book production, and funding for the production of accessible educational materials in national languages. The ABC has funded the production of over 6,600 educational titles for primary, secondary and university students. The ABC Global Book Service is an on-line catalogue that enables organizations serving people who are print disabled (known as authorized entities) to search and make requests for accessible digital books. This Service allows participating authorized entities to supplement their collections from their counterparts in other countries free of charge. Forty-seven authorized entities from around the world have joined the Service so far.

34. The Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) partnership aims to increase the availability of scientific and technical information in developing countries. By improving access to scholarly literature from diverse fields of science and technology, ARDI seeks to reinforce the capacity of developing countries to participate in the global knowledge economy and supports researchers in those countries in creating and developing new solutions to technical challenges faced on a local and global level. Currently, through ARDI, over 100 publishers provide access to around 30,000 journals, books, and reference works for 121 developing countries and territories.

35. The Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) program is another public-private partnership administered by WIPO. This partnership is made possible through the cooperation of leading patent information providers. Through ASPI, eligible patent offices and academic and research institutions in developing countries can receive free or low-cost access to sophisticated tools and services for retrieving and analyzing patent data.

36. The Inventor Assistance Program (IAP) is an innovative program that seeks to make the IP system more accessible to inventors and small businesses in developing countries. The IAP matches financially under-resourced inventors of promising new technologies and ideas with qualified IP counsel, who provide free-of-charge legal assistance on how to file a patent to protect their inventions.

37. WIPO also invests time and resources in developing practical services that enable users of the IP system – individual inventors and businesses large and small – to protect their assets in global markets, so that their businesses can develop and drive national economic growth. WIPO's filing and registration services make it easier for inventors, researchers and businesses to protect their IP assets (e.g. technology, brands, designs, etc.) in multiple countries.

Patents and Technology

38. WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) system assists applicants in seeking protection internationally for their inventions, helps patent Offices with their patent grant decisions, and facilitates public access to a wealth of technical information relating to inventions. By filing one international patent application under the PCT, applicants can simultaneously seek protection for an invention in a very large number of countries. The PCT's role in facilitating public access to technical information relating to patents and as a conduit for technical assistance to developing countries in the development of their patent systems, the PCT contributes, indirectly, to the implementation of SDG 9, particularly in terms of fostering and supporting innovation.

39. The IP system, and the PCT, in particular, can help support the flow of knowledge and technical know-how within and between countries, by making available information on innovative processes, and by providing the legal basis upon which partnerships and collaborations can occur among stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem. Indeed, this very

role is written into the Preamble to the Treaty. It refers to the PCT's role "to facilitate and accelerate access by the public to the technical information contained in documents describing new inventions."

40. WIPO's PATENTSCOPE database (<https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/search.jsf>) is the means by which WIPO carries out this dissemination function. In 2018, between 4,000 and 5,000 new PCT applications disclosing the contents of the world's inventions were uploaded on PATENTSCOPE every week. PCT Article 50(3) indicates that "the information services provided by the International Bureau shall be operated in a way particularly facilitating the acquisition by Contracting States which are developing countries of technical knowledge and technology, including available published know-how."

41. Very recently, the PCT Regulations were amended to require all designated Offices to report to the International Bureau on all PCT applications entering the national phase before that Office. This requirement has a specific benefit for developing countries, in that if a particular PCT application does not enter the national phase within the prescribed time limit, that application loses its legal effect in that country. The content of the published application then becomes part of the public domain and anyone within that country can make use of the described invention.

42. As regards the PCT's technical assistance objective, the Treaty provides for technical assistance for developing countries "in developing their patent systems individually or on a regional basis" (Article 51(3)(a)). The Treaty also provides that technical assistance shall comprise, "among other things, the training of specialists, the loaning of experts, and the supplying of equipment both for demonstration and for operational purposes" (Article 51(3)(b)).

43. WIPO works to assist all nations, particularly developing and LDCs, to use the IP system to promote economic, social and cultural development. WIPO's extensive activities in support of development goals are guided by the strategic goals and objectives agreed by Member States in the Program and Budget of the Organization. These technical assistance programs include PCT-specific activities, such as training for Office staff in PCT-related matters, user seminars, assistance in adapting national legislation to PCT requirements, and supply of IT equipment, jointly developed and implemented by the Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Sector and the PCT Sector of WIPO. Furthermore, the PCT system offers discounts of 90 per cent to the international filing fee and certain other International Bureau fees for international applications filed by natural persons from developing countries and any applicants from LDCs. Some International Searching Authorities also offer discounts on search and preliminary examination fees.

44. In 2018, the International Bureau organized or participated in 50 PCT-related events for the benefit of developing and LDCs, such as PCT seminars and workshops mainly for Office staff, potential users of the system and other stakeholders. The events were held in 47 countries and at WIPO headquarters, and were attended by more than 4,400 participants from 84 countries. Further detailed information on coordination of technical assistance under the PCT can be found in the document presented to the 2018 PCT Working Group "Coordination of Technical Assistance Under the PCT" (http://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/pct/en/pct_wg_11/pct_wg_11_22.pdf)

45. In many developing countries, qualified IP practitioners who can advise inventors and scientists in protecting their innovation are scarce. Drafting a high-quality patent application is a skill-based competency that can only be developed through practice. In this context, the WIPO patent drafting training activities enhance capacity and skills so that inventors can protect their inventions in a manner that meets their business needs. Filing a high-quality patent application is a first step in actively using and benefitting from the patent system. WIPO's patent drafting training program is an interactive training module that contains many practical drafting

exercises. Progressive and flexible modules allow it to adapt to the specific needs of the beneficiary country. Collaboration with other WIPO projects, such as the Enabling IP Environment (EIPE) project and the Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) project has been strengthened to ensure continuous training is available to the right set of trainees. This approach also supports the progressive development of this skill-based competency for those who directly assist local inventors, universities and SMEs.

46. In 2018, two regional and sub-regional workshops were held in Africa and Central America and eight national workshops were held in different regions. In addition, four Mentoring Programs were held, benefitting participants from countries in Africa, Asia and Central America.

47. In the same spirit, the Inventor Assistance Program (IAP) helps to foster innovation (SDG 9) and reduce inequalities (SDG 10) by connecting under-resourced inventors in developing countries with patent specialists. Innovation, protected by patents, can be a tremendous catalyst for economic growth (SDG 8). Patents can represent the first step towards the establishment of a successful enterprise and can open the doors to further investment and business opportunities. Therefore, it is imperative that the patent system be as widely accessible as possible. However, access to the system comes with a cost and a need for knowledge about how to use the system. Many inventors attempt to navigate the patent system on their own and often fail for reasons that have nothing to do with the quality of their inventions. Often they do not adequately meet the formalities associated with submitting a patent application or to formally evaluate the merits of their invention. Consequently, their applications are often rejected, even if some of the underlying innovations may prove important. The IAP provides a springboard for these concepts and matches volunteer patent specialists who offer their services free of charge, with under-resourced inventors, to prosecute their patent applications before a national office and other selected jurisdictions, and live from their creativity.

48. The Arbitration and Mediation Center (WIPO Center) is an important element of the Global IP Services provided by WIPO in promoting a balanced and effective international IP system to foster innovation and creativity. The WIPO Center offers a range of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) options – notably mediation and arbitration, as well as domain name dispute resolution – to facilitate time and cost-effective dispute resolution between private parties. The WIPO Center also undertakes policy initiatives to promote and enable the use of ADR and to assist rights holders in protecting their IP on the Internet.

49. In 2018, the WIPO Center organized a range of activities and made available a number of resources to assist WIPO's contributions to implement SDGs 9 and 17, as they relate to ADR. Such efforts include consultations with national IP Offices and officials; meetings with visiting member state delegations; training events for industry, legal, academic and other IP stakeholders; engagement with IP and technology associations and Internet bodies; and presentations to universities and other student visits; as well as a many publications and freely available online resources, all of a practical and legal nature. Broadly, ADR can empower parties by enhancing their control over the dispute resolution process. Its consensual nature often results in a less-adversarial experience, allowing parties to begin, continue, or enhance profitable business relationships with each other. In offering these benefits, ADR contributes to optimal development and use of IP assets in the economy. To a certain extent, it also helps unburden national court systems and is seen as a best practice, including in e-commerce. In 2018, 61 mediation, arbitration, and expert determination cases were filed with the WIPO Center, involving parties from 23 countries, plus another 95 "Good Office" requests. Also in 2018, over 3,450 domain name cases were filed with the WIPO Center, involving parties from 109 countries, and covering 5,662 domain names.

The Madrid System

50. Under the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, a single international trademark registration can have effect in as many as 118 countries covered by the 102 Members of the system. The Madrid System facilitates and widens access to international trademark protection, which contributes to the goal of promoting inclusive and sustainable development by fostering development-oriented policies that support productive activities – particularly in high-value sectors that rely on branding to add value to goods and services, areas of development often sought in developing and LDCs seeking to diversify their economies (SDG 8).

51. As stated in the 2013 World IP Report on Brands-Reputation and Image in the Global Marketplace, “[b]randing generally complements innovation. [...] Empirical studies have shown that firms that invest in branding are more likely to recover the investments they have made in innovating than those that do not.” Trademark protection is essential for preserving and capitalizing on the most identifiable feature of brand equity and value. Enterprises of all sizes seeking to position their products or services in international markets stand to benefit from the simple and cost-effective procedure for international trademark protection offered by the Madrid System, which thus also contributes to the goal of promoting innovation (SDG 9).

52. The Madrid System lowers the barriers for obtaining international trademark protection by harmonizing the formalities and lowering the cost of obtaining that protection. Brand owners need only file one application to obtain an international registration for their marks. An international registration has the effect of an application filed with the Trademark Offices of the Members of the Madrid System designated in the international application.

53. By filing one international application, brand owners avoid filing individual domestic applications, in various languages, and, possibly, having to meet different formal requirements and incurring in costs such as, for example, translation, legalization or legal representation. The fee due for each designation is not higher than the brand owner would have to pay for a domestic registration. Moreover, the fee due to WIPO is reduced by 90 per cent for brand owners from LDCs. The international registration has the effect of a domestic registration if protection of the mark is not refused.

54. The Madrid System also lowers the cost of maintaining all the rights acquired by virtue of an international registration. Renewal and other recordings in the International Register also have effect in all Members of the Madrid System designated in the international registration where protection has not been refused.

55. Under Program 6 of its Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium, WIPO has undertaken a number of initiatives that further contribute to the achievement of SDG 8 by raising awareness and simplifying the management of the international registration system procedures.

56. WIPO regularly contributes, upon request, to the organization of national events in Members of the Madrid System to promote the System’s better use. To increase the reach of its dissemination activities, WIPO has launched a series of free online seminars on the international trademark registration procedure, which have been conducted in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Furthermore, WIPO has made available online tutorials for all its online solutions.

57. WIPO has also made available a number of online solutions designed to support brand owners during the international registration cycle and to facilitate access to information on registered marks:

- The Global Brand Database provides for text and image search functions through over 36 million records from multiple sources for trademarks, appellations of origin and official emblems.
- The Madrid Goods and Services Manager, available in 20 languages, gives access to more than 100 thousand indications of goods and services, properly classified under the international (Nice) classification.
- The Member Profile Database provides information on the procedures before the Offices of the Members of the Madrid System.
- Madrid Monitor allows general users to follow up on the status of international applications and requests for recording and gives them access to monitoring and alert tools.
- The Madrid Portfolio Manager gives holders access to their international trademark portfolio, allowing them to renew their international registrations and file requests for recording.

58. Upon request, WIPO contributes to the organization of technical assistance and capacity building activities in the Offices of current and prospective Members of the Madrid System. Technical assistance may include, for example, support in building or integrating solutions for the exchange of electronic communication with the International Bureau of WIPO or an organizational and operational capacity and needs assessment. Capacity building activities may include *in situ* training workshop and participation in training workshops at WIPO headquarters.

59. WIPO provides legislative advice to prospective and current Members of the Madrid System, upon request, advising on the compatibility of their legislation with the Madrid Protocol, drafting implementing provisions or explaining the legal framework of the system.

60. Finally, WIPO has developed online solutions, such as Madrid E-Filing and the Madrid Office Portal, to support Offices of the Members of the Madrid System to efficiently manage procedures under the Madrid System.

The Hague System

61. Under the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, a single international application may contain up to 100 industrial designs and have effect in as many as 87 countries covered by the 70 Members of the Hague System. The Hague System facilitates and widens access to international design protection which contributes to the goal of promoting inclusive and sustainable development by promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, in particular, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation (SDGs 8 and 9).

62. Industrial designs are that aspect of an article that makes it aesthetically appealing and attractive, thereby adding to the commercial value of a product. In comparison with other IP rights, industrial designs are relatively simple and inexpensive to develop and to protect, even for individual designers, in both industrialized and developing countries. An effective system for the protection of industrial designs helps the owner to ensure a fair return on the owner's investment and injects creativity in the industrial and manufacturing sector of a country. Under the Hague System, individual designers, small and medium size enterprises or large international companies may benefit from the simplified application process and reduced costs for seeking to obtain and preserve their industrial design rights in international markets.

63. The Hague System enables design owners to obtain protection for their designs with a minimum of formalities and expense. In particular, they are relieved of the need to make separate national applications thus avoiding the complications arising from procedures and languages, which differ from one State to another. Most international applications are filed directly with WIPO via an e-filing interface. An international registration has the same effect as an application filed with the IP Offices of the Members of the Hague System designated in the international application. The international registration has the effect of a domestic registration if the designated IP Office has not refused the protection in its territory within the prescribed time limit.

64. At the time of filing of an international application, no legal representation is needed. Furthermore, the fees for the international application due to WIPO are reduced by 90 per cent for design owners from LDCs as well as standard designation fees due to designated Hague Members.

65. The Hague System also lowers the cost of maintaining the rights acquired by virtue of an international registration. The maintenance of protection and management of rights are facilitated by the central management of the Hague System; renewal and other recordings in the International Register have effect in all the designated Members where the protection is not refused.

66. Under Program 31 of its Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium, WIPO has taken a number of steps to further contribute to achieving SDGs 8 and 9 by raising awareness of the Hague System and enhancing its user-friendliness. The Organization regularly contributes, upon request, to the organization of national events in Members of the Hague System to promote its better use and to increase its user circles. To assist users and potential users of the System, WIPO has organized webinars and made available a tutorial for the E-filing interface and its demo version as well as other information materials, including a very comprehensive *“Guide for Users”*. Moreover, *“Guidance on Preparing and Providing Reproductions in order to forestall possible refusals on the ground of insufficient disclosure of an industrial design by Examining Offices”* has been made available in six languages, namely, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

67. WIPO has also made available a number of online solutions to support design owners during the international registration cycle and to facilitate access to information on registered designs. These include:

- An E-filing interface to provide users with a modern, easily accessible means to file international applications, which automatically alerts users of the declarations or specific requirements, set by a given designated Hague Member. In addition to filing an application, applicants may pay the fees due, communicate with WIPO, or manage their application portfolios using the interface;
- The Global Design Database enables free, simultaneous searches of over 10 million industrial designs registered under the Hague System and / or in participating national collections;
- The Hague Member Profiles Database offers a portal to the practices and procedures of the Hague System members, declarations made by them and references to their domestic legislation;
- The Contact Hague Service allows users of the system to request a priority document or submit a request for recording of a change, or anyone to ask a question;

- The E-renewal interface allows holders to renew their international registrations online.

68. Upon request, WIPO contributes to the organization of technical assistance and capacity building activities in the Offices of current and prospective Members of the Hague System. Technical assistance may include support in building or integrating solutions for the exchange of electronic communication with the International Bureau of WIPO. Capacity building activities may include *in situ* training workshop and participation in workshops at WIPO headquarters.

69. WIPO provides legislative advice to prospective and current Members of the Hague System, upon request, advising on the interoperability of their legislation and IP Office procedures with the System's legal framework and procedures.

70. The *International Designs Bulletin* is published in electronic format every Friday on the WIPO website, and IP Offices may download it in XML format to their own databases.

71. To support IP Offices of the Members of the Hague System in efficiently managing procedures under the Hague System, the prospective and current Members are actively encouraged to participate in the WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS), which allows priority documents to be securely exchanged between participating IP Offices.

Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

72. In line with SDG 3 and SDG 17, WIPO continued its cooperation with the WHO on International Nonproprietary Names for Pharmaceutical Substances (INNs). Notably in 2018, the two organizations negotiated and concluded a cooperation agreement that enables the exchange of information contained in the WHO INN Global Data Hub and the WIPO Global Brand Database (GBD).

73. Trademark examiners in WIPO Member States may now search the GBD for INN names in an accessible format and by using different filters that facilitate the textual comparison between INNs and verbal marks. With the help of this new tool, they will be able to fulfill the public interest in keeping these names free and available for use by pharmacists and medical practitioners around the world, thus preventing medication errors.

74. At the other end, information on existing trademarks that have been properly granted for use on pharmaceutical products is key in avoiding counterfeiting in this crucial area for global health and well-being. National Pharmacopeia Commissions and Experts in the naming of pharmaceuticals can also use the trademark data in the GBD to avoid proposing or recommending new INN names that may cause confusion with existing trademarks, therefore contributing to enhanced pharmacovigilance and more reliable medicines.

The Lisbon System

75. Under the Lisbon System for the protection and the international registration of appellations of origin – and geographical indications upon the entry into force of the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement – a single international registration can have effect in all Members of the Lisbon System (currently 29 countries). The Lisbon System facilitates and widens access to an international protection mechanism to national or regional appellations of origin (AOs) and geographical indications (GIs), which is in line with the goal of promoting inclusive and sustainable development, productive employment and decent work for all, by achieving higher levels of economic productivity, including through a focus on value added and labor-intensive sectors, as well as the promotion of local culture and products (SDG 8).

76. AOs and GIs are used to identify products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities, characteristics and/or a reputation that are due to that origin and therefore serve as powerful marketing tools to add commercial value to the products that they identify. This is increasingly true in a global market where consumers seek higher assurances about the quality, authenticity and traceability of products; AOs and GIs have been developed and implemented, as IP rights, to bring this information to consumers. In addition, AOs and GIs are collective rights that can be used by all those producers that meet recognized and mutually agreed standards of production for a specific origin-based product. An effective system for the protection of AOs and GIs helps producers obtain a fair return on their continuous investment and effort, often over several generations, in building the reputation of traditional origin-based products. Because of the collective dimension of these IP rights and the fact that they often give value to traditional and emblematic products of a particular region, the protection of local AOs and GIs has the potential to enhance the reputation of the region in which they originate. Such protection also contributes to a region's economic and social development by producing spill-over effects such as the creation of new employment opportunities (e.g. local tourism).

77. Under the Lisbon System, small-scale farmers, artisans, SMEs or even larger companies, may collectively benefit, as beneficiaries of the AO or GI, from the simplified application process and reduced cost for protecting their AOs and GIs in foreign markets. In particular, the beneficiaries of an AO or a GI are exempt from having to submit separate national applications, thus avoiding the complications arising from the existence of different procedures and languages between States. The international application is filed directly with WIPO, in principle via the Competent Authority of the country of origin of the AO or GI. The international registration of an AO or GI under the Lisbon System assures its protection – according to the standards set in the Lisbon Agreement and its Acts – in those Members of the System that have not refused the protection in their respective territory within the prescribed time limit. The protection lasts, for as long as the designation is protected in the country of origin, without any need for renewal. In addition the effect of the registration will extend to new Members that might join the System in the future under the same conditions.

78. By filing one international application with WIPO, beneficiaries of an AO or GI avoid having to file individual domestic applications, in various languages, and, possibly, having to meet different formal requirements and incurring additional costs such as, for example, translation, legalization or legal representation costs. Under the Lisbon Agreement, only one application fee has to be paid to obtain protection in all the Members of the Lisbon System. With the entry into force of the Geneva Act, Lisbon Members would be able to receive individual fees to cover the costs of their examination; however, those fees cannot be higher than those the beneficiaries of an AO or GI would have to pay for a domestic registration. Moreover, the Geneva Act will introduce a reduction of the applicable fee due to WIPO of 50 per cent for beneficiaries of an AO or GI from LDCs.

79. The Lisbon System also lowers the cost of maintaining all the rights acquired by virtue of an international registration. The maintenance of protection and management of rights are facilitated by the central management of the Lisbon System; no renewal fees apply, and other recordings in the International Register also have effect in those Members of the Lisbon System that have not refused protection.

80. Under Program 32, including the Lisbon System, of the Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium, WIPO has undertaken a number of initiatives, which will further contribute to achieving SDG Goals (in particular SDG 2, 5, 8 and 12), such as:

- (a) Upon request, WIPO regularly contributes to the organization of, or the participation in, national or regional events in current and prospective Members of the Lisbon System to explain the strategic development and use of AOs and GIs to foster local and sustainable development and the benefits of the Lisbon System in securing their

protection internationally, as well as to promote the use of the System by local communities and producers.

- (b) Upon request, WIPO contributes to the organization of technical assistance and capacity building activities for relevant authorities and interested stakeholders of current and prospective Members of the Lisbon System. Technical assistance may include an organizational and operational capacity and needs assessment. Capacity building activities may also include *in situ* training workshops and assistance in the implementation of pilot projects for the development of sustainable AOs and GIs.
- (c) Also upon request, WIPO provides legislative advice to prospective and current Members of the Lisbon System. More particularly, the Organization provides advice on the compatibility of their domestic legislation with the Lisbon Acts (1967 Act and Geneva Act), provides assistance in drafting the implementing provisions or in explaining the legal framework of the System.

81. In 2018, the Lisbon Registry received requests for technical assistance and capacity building activities from WIPO Member States, which can directly contribute to SDGs 2, 5, 8 and 12, as they aim at assisting competent authorities and interested stakeholders (local communities and producers) in identifying, developing and protecting GIs and AOs, in order to support the integration of local communities and producers in the economy. Such technical cooperation involves the development of GI quality schemes, as a prerequisite of the protection of AOs and GIs. These schemes contribute to adding value and helping sustain the reputation of those origin-based products. This, in turn, contributes to the creation of new job opportunities, fosters sustainable local development and stabilizes populations in their region of origin. As women are often involved in the production of these traditional origin-based products, the implementation of the requested activities can also have a positive impact in promoting gender equality and women empowerment (SDG 5).

Copyright and Creative Industries Sector

82. The active implementation of the Development Agenda is a key priority and a major component of the technical assistance delivered to developing and LDCs to help them achieve the SDGs. In that context, WIPO works with governments and private stakeholders to develop human resources, share knowledge, build the partnerships, and lay the groundwork to level the play field and shape an international copyright system that functions efficiently and enables a positive environment for advancing the SDGs.

83. Consequently, during 2018, WIPO organized various regional, sub-regional, and national activities both on public policy matters and to develop local capacities for assisting Members States in:

- Setting an operative and modern copyright administration and structure that creators and creative industries require for prospering, essentially in the digital environment;
- Facilitating the use and flow of new technologies and business models within and between countries, comprising South-South cooperation; and
- Including and implementing relevant SDGs as part of their copyright policies and strategies, in particular SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities).

84. The creation of the Publishers Circle fulfills one of the commitments made at the Regional High Level Conference on the Publishing Industry in Africa and its Role in Education and Economic Growth organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Cameroon in November 2017. The aim is to support educational publishing as a priority, but in no way to exclude trade publishing. This initiative supports SDG 4 and SDG 17. It aims to foster new forms of cooperation and joint projects with public and private partners who are committed to achieving concrete results with the common goal of helping to develop a viable, globally connected and effective publishing sector in Africa/Asia. It constitutes a fundamental part of bringing the operational and human dimension to a global and holistic action plan that WIPO has been implementing since 2017 together with the Member States. The plan, which encompasses, *inter alia*, a committed national book policy and a strong copyright framework, is intended to create incentives to establish the conditions for a better education and access to heritage and culture in Africa/Asia. In 2018, the Charter of the Publishers circle was signed by 47 governments, international organizations and publishers who are wishing to engage in active public private cooperation to achieve the goals outlined in the Charter.

85. The WIPO Standing Committee on Copyrights and Related Rights (SCCR) has been considering the topic of limitations and exceptions for educational and research institutions for the past few years. As part of action plans on the subject through 2019, the SCCR has requested a study on limitations and exceptions to copyright in online distance education. The study would help demonstrate the potential that online courses have in making education affordable and accessible to a wider range of students from every region and at every level of economic development. The study will also investigate the role played by online distance courses for lifelong learning opportunities.

86. The SCCR has also requested a typology for the categorization and organization of limitations and exceptions for educational activities. This topic will be one of several topics at three regional seminars and a conference to be held in 2019. The SCCR is also considering the topics of limitations and exceptions for libraries, many of which play an important role in supporting quality education and lifelong learning. The project supports SDGs 4 and 17.

87. The project on “Strengthening and Development of the Audiovisual Sector in Burkina Faso and Certain African Countries” aims to create the economic conditions and infrastructure to support investments and economic returns in the sector, and to support activities of small- and medium-sized enterprises in the audiovisual sector and the development of local culture. It supports SDGs 8 and 9.

Knowledge and Technology Transfer

88. Knowledge and technology are a major tool to combat poverty. They can foster economic growth and development, and help create employment opportunities. The application of scientific and technical information and knowledge in industry, trade, agriculture, health, education and services is critical. The Transfer of Appropriate Technology for the benefit of LDCs is designed to contribute to the national knowledge and skills capacity transformation of the beneficiary countries in the management, administration and utilization of technical and scientific information with a view to building their appropriate technology bases and meeting nationally identified development needs.

89. The specific objectives of the transfer of appropriate technology include:

- (a) To facilitate greater use of appropriate technical and scientific information in addressing nationally identified needs for the achievement of the development goals;
- (b) To transform national knowledge, skills and build institutional capacity in the use of technical and scientific information for identified development needs; and

- (c) To coordinate the retrieval of appropriate technical and scientific information and provide appropriate expertise in those technical areas for the application of the appropriate technology in a practical and effective manner.

90. Key aspects of the transfer of appropriate technology entail knowledge transfer, skills development, human capital formation, technological capacity building and the consideration of social and cultural transformation, taking into account gender-balance implications of the use of the identified technologies through the joint interaction with a National Expert Group (NEG) and focal organizations in the beneficiary countries.

91. In total, 12 Appropriate Technology Transfers have been made in six beneficiary countries, namely; Bangladesh, Nepal and Zambia being the beneficiaries of the first phase and Ethiopia, Rwanda and Tanzania beneficiaries of the second phase. A national project on appropriate technology is being implemented in Uganda. In addition, in 2018, national Projects on the Transfer of Appropriate Technology for development based on need analysis have been launched in Mozambique. Preparation is being made to launch the project in Senegal.

92. WIPO is currently undertaking a number of initiatives to create a center of excellence on the use of Appropriate Technology including the documentation of success stories, and the preparation of a manual as a guide on the use of Appropriate Technology for development. WIPO is also training technology leaders and a critical mass of university senior officials, officials from national science and technology institutions in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia.

93. The transformation of beneficiary communities and individuals in rural areas and cities through technology learning, employment generation no matter how small it is, is an overarching objective of the Transfer of Appropriate Technologies with linkages to SDG 1. The Transfer of Appropriate Technologies aim to promote additional employment opportunities in each of the specific sectors and are therefore related to SDG 8. The Transfer of Appropriate Technologies focus on building national innovation capacity and promote the use of science, technology and its application for development and are also directly related to the implementation of SDG 9. The process of Transfer of Appropriate Technologies also entails knowledge- building and skills in the use of technical and scientific information to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development at the community and national levels. This is related to SDG 4.

94. Gender considerations are also taken into account both in the context of the application of the technologies, which are transferred, and in terms of equitable participation in the national institutions established as one of the deliverables with direct linkages to SDG 5. The application of the specific Appropriate Technologies at the national level supports SDG 12, such as Solar Coffee Dryer for Ethiopia; SDG 6 through the solar water distillation technology for Rwanda and SDG 2 through the Appropriate Technology on Aquaculture in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Tanzania.

95. In addition, the application of the technologies are based on close cooperation and collaboration with national governments and institutions including universities and research centers, ministries of science and technology, industry, agriculture, health, environment, commerce as well as intergovernmental organizations both in LDCs and developing countries. In particular, a close partnership has been forged with *Universiti Putra Malaysia* (UPM), one of the leading entrepreneurial universities in the region, in the area of technological capacity building, which focuses on technology learning on how appropriate technology works in practice for the development of communities and countries on a sustainable basis. All these forms of cooperation are in line with the achievement of SDG 17.

96. Other selected partnerships are also contributing to the attainment of the SDGs. Among these, it is worth mentioning the partnerships created through the WIPO Match platform, in line with SDG 17, in particular:

- Partnership between WIPO and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB): Signing of an official MoU between WIPO and IsDB on November 21, 2018;
- Partnership between WIPO and the United Nations for the integration of the WIPO Match platform within the Online Platform of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM), with the objective to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. (SDGs 9 and 17). The TFM aims at facilitating meaningful and sustained capacity and technical assistance for developing countries on technology development, transfer and deployment as core activities, while also facilitating coordination of activities implemented by different UN agencies;
- South-South Cooperation experience between the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the Directorate General on Intellectual Property (DGIP Indonesia) with the free sharing of existing software (from DGIP) for the registration of copyright works for ARIPO.

97. Another contribution to the implementation of the SDGs may be found in the development and implementation of an innovative WIPO Development Agenda project aimed at identifying possible synergies between IP, tourism and sustainable development. The project, implemented between 2016 and 2018 in four pilot countries, has raised awareness among tourism stakeholders, both at the policy-making and tourism industry levels, of the importance of effectively integrating IP in policies and strategies driven by tourism-related innovation and business practices. In the course of the project, WIPO worked closely, among others, with the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), to introduce the IP agenda into the UNWTO vision for sustainable tourism, and in producing a joint publication on *IP, Tourism and Sustainable Development*.

WIPO Regional Bureaus

98. WIPO continues through its Regional Bureaus to support Member States efforts in leveraging IP for their economic and social development. Several regional and sub-regional meetings, workshops, seminars and training sessions have been organized upon request from Member States and other partners on various issues related to IP and development, including on IP and Innovation, Trade, Public Health, Energy, Gender Equality, Economic Development, and more.

99. The Regional Bureau for Africa has undertaken projects with its partners in the African Regional intellectual property organizations (ARIPO and OAPI) aimed at promoting a conducive policy environment for encouraging research and public-private partnerships between Universities and R&D institutions and Industry. Apart from a sub-regional policy dialogue which raised awareness and built stakeholder capacity on the crucial nexus between Industry and Research Institutions, in 2017, the Regional Bureau worked in collaboration with ARIPO to develop *Guidelines for the Elaboration of Institutional IP Policies (IIPPs) by Universities and R&D Organizations in African countries*. These Guidelines were launched in May 2018, and adopted by both ARIPO and OAPI Member States. Pilot projects for the development of IIPPs will be launched this year in five qualifying institutions from five African countries.

100. The Bureau also completed two projects on IP and branding in Mozambique and Cabo Verde. The capacity of SMEs engaged in two different areas of business (meat production and

wine respectively) in the two countries was developed using IP tools to enhance the viability of their products.

101. These activities contribute to the implementation of SDG 9, by supporting government efforts in fostering research and innovation in R&D institutions and promoting value addition to commodities for business competitiveness.

102. In support of the SDGs, the Asia and the Pacific (ASPAC) Bureau has been implementing two enabling environment-level projects which address the broader system in beneficiary countries where the individual stakeholders and institutions interact to facilitate the desired change of technology development and increased entrepreneurial activities leading to job creation and innovation. The two projects are: (a) An Enabling IP environment (EIE) to Strengthen Business Competitiveness through Brands and Designs; and (b) An Enabling IP environment for Technology Innovation Support. The specific activities of each project are enumerated below:

(a) EIE: Brands and Designs:

- Stakeholder engagement and identification of products or services suitable for branding and design;
- Capacity-development in the area of branding and designs (including geographical indications);
- Establishment of a “Hub and Spokes” structure to increase the IP-related service for branding and design;
- Technical assistance in the creation and protection of brands and designs, including filing of IP registrations and management thereof;
- Identification of local service-providers capable of providing expertise in marketing, advertisement and other business needs to integrate competitiveness strategies with IP.

(b) EIE – Technology Innovation:

- Stakeholder engagement through university visits and identification of university generated technologies for special attention and assistance;
- Capacity-development in the area of IP-based technology transfer;
- Capacity-development in the area of patent drafting and searching (use of technology and scientific information in patent databases);
- Remote mentoring program for selected technologies and technology transfer offices of universities;
- High-Level discussions with decision-makers (presidents and vice-presidents of universities and heads of government entities) on technology transfer.

103. WIPO, through its Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, has undertaken work to support countries in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region on the development of National Intellectual Property Strategies (NIPS). The Strategies have been formulated at the request of countries, using the methodology developed by WIPO. The aim of

the formulated strategies is to encourage and facilitate the effective creation, development, management and protection of IP at the national level and to serve as a tool for the establishment and consolidation of an ecosystem for innovation. The strategies address all areas of innovative activities in the country and are aligned with SDG 9. However, as IP is not limited in its scope, it encompasses other relevant SDGs.

104. Furthermore, The Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean organized, or participated in, the following events which support SDGs 5, 7 and 9:

- Sub-regional Meeting on IP, Innovation and Gender Equality, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, November 12 to 14, 2018. As in 2017, the Bureau organized this meeting in cooperation with the Government of Uruguay. The main objective was to discuss strategies for incorporating gender equality in the management, policies and activities of the IP Offices. This was the second meeting undertaken by the LAC Bureau following two main lines of action, namely: (i) how to link the existent or foreseen gender-oriented public policies with IP in Latin America; and (ii) how to include gender equality in the management of IP Offices. In this line, a third edition of this meeting will be organized together with the Government of Peru in the third quarter of 2019 to make a balance on the conclusions agreed in Uruguay.
- International Convention on Science and Technology, held in La Habana, Cuba on March 6 and 7, 2018. The LAC Bureau participated as a speaker in the panels on the following topics: (i) The role of IP in innovation and development; and (ii) Gender perspective and IP in WIPO programs and policies.
- Seminar on Innovation and IP in the field of Energy, organized by the LAC Bureau at the request of the Government of Chile, held at the WIPO Headquarters on November 7, 2018. The seminar, opened to all WIPO Member States, aimed to generate an exchange of ideas and experiences on the role of IP in the context of energy innovation.
- Contribution to the IP Day celebrations in Belize, Cuba and Jamaica, which topic in 2018 was "Woman and IP". The LAC Bureau contributed by financing one speaker to each country to participate in different panels. These three activities addressed SDG 5.
- Contribution to a joint initiative of WIPO, the Korean Patent Office (KIPO) and the Korean Women Inventor Association (KWIA). The Bureau financed the participation of a speaker from the Jamaica Business Development Cooperation (JBDC) in the Korea International Women's Invention Exposition and as a participant in the WIPO-KIPO-KWIA International Workshop, held in Seoul, Korea from June 28 to July 3, 2018.

105. The Regional Bureau for Arab Countries has undertaken the following activities in line with SDGs 4, 5 and 9:

- Conclusion and Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property on the *Regional Extended Training Program for Intellectual Property Offices in Arab Countries in Arabic* on March 12, 2018. The purpose of this MoU is to establish a general framework for cooperation between both parties to organize training programs for representatives from Morocco and other Arab countries who are employed by industrial property Offices, universities, research centers, and bodies responsible for the enforcement of industrial property rights. The training program aims at developing the skills of the beneficiaries and improve their effectiveness in managing and evaluating immaterial assets (patents, trademarks, as well as industrial designs).

- Conclusion and signing of a Technical Cooperation Agreement with the Public Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (RIYADA) in Oman. As RIYADA is considered a one-stop shop in Oman to instill a culture of entrepreneurship and further enable the role of SMEs in the country, the MoU intended to help embed IP in the programs of RIYADA so that SMEs get exposed to IP at an early stage of their training and begin using the IP system to add value to their businesses.
- Conclusion and Signing of a MoU between WIPO and the United Arab Emirates' Ministry of Economy on the establishment of a Funds-In-Trust for IP activities in LDCs and developing countries. The MOU was signed on September 26, 2018. This FIT seeks to contribute to the efforts exerted by WIPO in promoting the SDGs, in particular SDG 9, by prioritizing the promotion of economic and commercial activities based on IP, the relationship between IP and technological development, the development of creative industries, the use of IP by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and IP training and education.
- Coordination of the provision of legislative comments on Industrial Property Law. The objective was to provide comments on National Industrial Property Law in order to assist the national authorities of the beneficiary countries to achieve economic development through applying the international IP norms and standards in their national systems.
- Organizing a one day session on "Encouraging Innovation and Creativity of Women for Economic Development", on the margins of the 8th Regional Meeting of Directors of Industrial Property Offices, Cairo, Egypt, April 12, 2018. This activity aimed at highlighting ways and means of encouraging and enhancing the contribution of female inventors and entrepreneurs in achieving economic development.
- Regional Workshop for Selected Countries on Technology and Innovation Support Centers(TISCs), in cooperation with the Innovation and Technology Support Section, Casablanca, November 27 to 29, 2018. The aim of this Workshop was to share TISC project implementation experiences among TISC national focal points from seven Arab countries – Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, and Oman (Tunisia and Saudi Arabia were also invited but not able to participate) – and to identify opportunities to develop new cooperation approaches, schemes and activities among TISCs at the regional level.
- The Signature of a MoU between WIPO and the League of Arab States (LAS) to further strengthen the cooperation between the two organizations in the field of IP for the benefit of the Arab countries members of LAS. The objective was to further develop the cooperation between WIPO and LAS on industrial property issues to provide the needed IP technical assistance for the benefit of the said members.
- Regional Meeting on IP and Youth, in collaboration with the LAS, Cairo, November 7 to 8, 2018. The objective was to provide the necessary information on the different aspects of IP issues which could assist Arab youth in developing their own skills and projects through using IP tools. It also highlighted the interaction between IP and economic development in the Arab region.
- Meeting on SMEs for Selected Arab Countries, in cooperation with SMEs and Entrepreneurship Support Division, Beirut, March 27 to 28, 2018. It aimed to impress upon policy makers and SMEs intermediaries the importance of effective management of IP for business competitiveness as well as to encourage efforts towards providing IP support to SMEs.

- Meeting for Selected Arab Countries on the role of IP in Achieving Economic Development, Cairo, October 30 to November 1, 2018. The objective was to underline the synergies between how different forms of IP protection could possibly affect national and regional economic development and highlighted the relationship between Gender, IP and economic development. It addressed SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure). The meeting included a special session on “*Gender, IP and Economic Development*”.
- Sub-Regional Meeting on Industrial Design for Selected Arab Countries, in cooperation with the Law and Legislative Advice Division, Beirut, December 6 to 7, 2018 (with special focus on fashion and jewelry). Its objective was to raise awareness on the importance of industrial designs and to outline the different means of protection of designs, particularly in the field of fashion and jewelry industries.
- Assistance to countries in their formulation of national IP strategies. In line with the Development Agenda Recommendations and guiding principles, the Arab Bureau continued to provide the required assistance for the development of national IP strategies/ national development plans, using WIPO guidelines. This ensured the identification of coherent and concrete activities with clear and well-defined objectives in compliance with the level of development of the recipient country and its national development goals and strategic priorities.

106. The WIPO Academy is the core entity in WIPO for the delivery of IP education, training and human capacity-building services particularly for developing countries, LDCs and countries with economies in transition. As such, it continued to support the Organization’s commitment to achieving, individually or as part of the UN system, the SDGs relevant to its mandate and field of competence. By offering regular and customized educational and training activities and responding effectively to the training needs of Member States, the WIPO Academy contributed to the implementation of SDG 9.

107. The WIPO Academy worked with governments and a network of partners to continue developing capacities and knowledge on the benefits of the use and administration of the IP system. It also continued to provide easy access to higher education and to offer free and affordable face-to-face and online courses on IP education in different languages including for the visually impaired and print-disabled persons. Hence contributing to the implementation of SDG 4 (quality education).

108. In 2018, 23 professional training courses, 28 distance-learning, 8 joint Master’s programs and 12 summer schools were organized for the benefit of about 94,000 participants. The WIPO Academy also concluded the implementation of a Project on Cooperation on Development and Intellectual Property Rights Education and Professional Training with Judicial Training Institutions in Developing and LDCs, which was implemented in four (4) pilot countries (Costa Rica, Lebanon, Nepal and Nigeria). The project aimed at enhancing the capacity of judicial training institutions to deliver continuing education programs on IP and to build the capacity and skills of judges for adjudicating IP disputes. The Academy also contributed to the implementation of the relevant SDGs through activities undertaken in collaboration with other International Organizations. It continued, in particular, to cooperate with the World Trade Organization (WTO) for the organization of the Advanced Course on IP for Government Officials and Colloquia for IP Teachers and Researchers. It also launched a pilot course, in cooperation with UNESCO, on IP and Life Sciences for Participants in the L’Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Program.

Genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions

109. WIPO supports the implementation of the SDGs through its normative, policy and capacity building activities that address IP issues related to access to and benefit-sharing in genetic resources (GRs) and the protection of traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs). SDGs 2, 3, 8, 11, 14 and 15 in particular are linked to WIPO's work in this field.

110. Concretely, in 2018 WIPO undertook a range of activities related to these specific SDGs which include:

- On SDG 2 and 15 referring to access and benefit-sharing for GRs and agricultural productivity, the WIPO issued a new *Guide to IP issues in Access and Benefit-sharing Agreements* for GRs, complemented by a database of examples of such agreements as well as a table of laws containing patent disclosure requirements for GRs and TK. Besides this, WIPO provided specialized training for, and supported projects of, diverse stakeholders working on IP and GRs in Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, the Philippines, Tanzania and Uganda. Program 4 has also contributed to the activities and processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization and other organizations.
- On SDG 3, TK prominently includes traditional medical knowledge and WIPO has produced a dedicated *Brief* on IP and the protection of traditional medical knowledge against misappropriation and misuse.
- On SDG 8, particularly target 8.3, referring to the promotion of development-oriented policies that support productive activities, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including among indigenous peoples, WIPO has supported national activities on the protection of TK and TCEs in *inter alia* Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Peru and Samoa. WIPO's training activities and information resources contribute towards the empowerment of indigenous peoples as vulnerable peoples and facilitate their access to life-long learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society in line with the SDGs framework³.
- On SDG 11, particularly target 11.4, referring to the protection of cultural heritage, WIPO undertook national activities in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Thailand and Samoa, and contributed to activities by UNESCO on the circulation of shared cultural properties and cultural heritage.
- On SDG 14, particularly target 14.7c referring to resources of the oceans and the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), WIPO contributed information to the Preparatory Committee of the UNCLOS negotiations on marine genetic resources beyond national jurisdiction and to the activities of the International Oceans Institute.

111. In 2018, WIPO also continued to facilitate the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations in the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC), which relate especially to SDGs 2, 3, 8 and 14. These

³ On this issue, WIPO created a short, visually rich animation entitled *The Adventures of the Yakuanoi - Navigating Traditional Knowledge and IP* and a practical guide for indigenous peoples and local communities, entitled *Protect and Promote Your Culture*.

negotiations aim at the reaching of an agreement on an international legal instrument(s), without prejudging the nature of outcome(s), relating to IP, which will ensure the balanced and effective protection of GRs, TK and TCEs.

Judicial administration

112. In 2018, WIPO launched a new approach to the judicial administration of IP, further contributing to the innovation ecosystem by supporting national courts and judges in adjudicating IP disputes. Given that the speed of technological innovation tends to outpace legislative and policy responses, judiciaries are often on the front line of confronting novel legal questions that may significantly impact innovation stakeholders not only in their own countries, but also beyond national borders (SDG 9). This program of work combines the Organization's longstanding judicial capacity building activities with a broader and more systematic approach to engaging with national judiciaries.

113. In its opening year, the new approach contributed to the SDGs through the following central activities:

- First, WIPO provided a global platform for exchange of information among judicial peers, in order to facilitate the sharing of experiences and good practices for balanced and effective judicial adjudication of IP disputes within the distinct legal and economic framework of each Member State (SDG 16, Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels). The inaugural WIPO IP Judges Forum was held in November 2018, and brought together some 120 judges from 64 countries for participatory discussions on emerging trends in IP law, as well as on topics of particular interest to judges such as judicial remedies, and the comparative experiences of generalist and specialized courts;
- Second, the Organization's traditional capacity building work has been complemented by a new annual Master Class on IP Adjudication. In 2018, the Master Class was held in collaboration with the Supreme People's Court of China and brought together thirty judges in Beijing for in-depth discussions on issues of common concern, as raised by IP litigation in the national courts of the 15 countries represented;
- In addition, WIPO has commenced work on a database of selected IP judgments from partnering national courts, to enable greater access to leading judicial decisions among jurisdictions. Such a database will contribute to WIPO's work in supporting SDGs 9 and 16, and will be reported on after its launch.

Transition and Developed Countries

114. Under Program 10 of its Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium, WIPO has taken a number of initiatives that further contribute to achieving SDGs 4 and 9.

115. In relation with SDG 4, a Sub-regional Seminar on IP Policies for Universities and Research Institutions was organized in Turkmenistan (October 9 and 10, 2018). The objective of the event was to raise awareness about the importance of the development of IP policies in participating universities and research institutions, using the WIPO IP Toolkit for Academic Institutions, and exchanging best practices/lessons learned in this field.

116. With respect to SDG 9, WIPO organized several initiatives:

- Regional Seminar on Intangible Capital and Global Value Chains: How can economies capture the benefits of innovation (Baku, June 5, 2018). The aim of the Seminar was to

provide information to policy makers about how developing economies have succeeded in positioning themselves in the global economy and make their own contribution to the creation of intangible capital;

- Regional Seminar on Economic Aspects of Industrial Property (Tajikistan, June 12 to 14, 2018). The aim of the Seminar was to provide information to policy makers as to how developing economies can succeed in positioning themselves in the global economy and make their own contribution to the creation of intangible capital;
- Sub-regional Seminar on Enforcement of IPRs for judges, customs officials and police (Kazakhstan, October 31 – November 1, 2018). The objectives of the Seminars were to discuss and exchange experience on practical issues relating to the enforcement of IPRs, and to improve the skills and knowledge level of the IPRs enforcement authorities in the Central Asian countries necessary to provide fair, efficient and consistent handling and adjudication of IP cases, while taking due note of Strategic Goal VI development-oriented concerns.

117. Under Program 30 of its Program and Budget for the 2018/19 biennium, WIPO has taken a number of initiatives that further contribute to achieving the SDGs. Under SDG 5, Program 30 supported the annual Korea International Women's Invention Exposition, the WIPO-KIPO-KWIA International Women's Invention Forum and organized a workshop on the better management of IP from June 28 to July 3, 2018 in Seoul, Republic of Korea for the benefit of some 75 women inventor participants, which included those coming from eight developing countries. In addition, and with the support of FIT Australia, a Regional Meeting on Women and IP Commercialization was organized in Manila, Philippines from October 24 to 26, 2018. The results of the two WIPO / FIT Australia "Reports on Women and IP Commercialization in Asia: Case of Philippines and Sri Lanka" were presented. It was agreed that in most Asian countries there is an imbalance in the participation of women in IP commercialization and its root causes were defined and measures to be taken at the policy level were proposed. It was agreed that follow up reports would be developed and a meeting to discuss will be organized in 2019.

B ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE ORGANIZATION AS PART OF THE UN SYSTEM

118. As a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), WIPO contributes within the scope of its mandate to relevant discussions on the implementation of 2030 Agenda as a member or observer in various fora. WIPO engages, in particular, with UN inter-agency processes relevant to IP and innovation. This includes engagement with the United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation (IATT) for the SDGs established within the framework of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and relevant meetings of major organs, programs and specialized agencies of the United Nations, such as the General Assembly, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA) Plus Mechanism, ITU, UNCTAD, UNFCCC and WHO.

119. WIPO provides technical contributions and information to the relevant multilateral processes and initiatives, ensuring that such initiatives fully benefit from WIPO's knowledge and expertise in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. WIPO, likewise, contributes factual information through a wide range of reports and publications to promote greater awareness of its programs and services so that these can be used for the achievement of the SDGs.

120. WIPO's contribution to the implementation of the SDGs since its adoption and engagement with the preparatory processes for the 2030 Agenda can be found in the previous

reports which were presented by the Secretariat at the sixteenth, nineteenth and twenty-first sessions of the CDIP respectively (documents CDIP/19/6, CDIP/16/8 and CDIP/21/10).

Inter-Agency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs (IATT)

121. WIPO, as a founding member of the United Nations Interagency Task Team of Science, Technology and Innovation (IATT) for the SDGs, has continued to participate actively in the UN IATT. WIPO assisted in the preparatory process for the Third Annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs (New York, June 5 and 6, 2018). WIPO also contributed to the work of the IATT in carrying out a process of mapping of initiatives, mechanisms and programs within the United Nations System related to science, technology and innovation. This process contributed to the creation of an online platform designed to: (i) be used to establish a comprehensive mapping of, and serve as a gateway for, information on existing science, technology and innovation initiatives, mechanisms and programs, within and beyond the United Nations; (ii) facilitate access to information, knowledge and experience, as well as best practices and lessons learned, on science, technology and innovation facilitation initiatives and policies; and (iii) facilitate the dissemination of relevant open access scientific publications generated worldwide. WIPO is actively participating in the IATT Sub-Group on the Online Platform and has agreed to facilitate data exchange between the Online Platform of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and WIPO Green, WIPO Re:Search and WIPO Match.

122. In furtherance of its work in the IATT Sub-Group on Capacity Building, WIPO participated in the pilot project of an Inter-agency Capacity Building Workshop on Innovation Policies for SDGs in the Arab Region (Amman, April 15 to 19, 2018). Twelve trainers from seven UN agencies including WIPO, and 31 country officials from the Arab States participated in the workshop. WIPO gave presentations on the role of Intellectual Property Rights in Science, Technology and Innovation.

123. In support of the work of the IATT Sub-Group on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Roadmaps, WIPO participated in the Expert Group Meeting on STI Roadmaps for SDGs (Tokyo, May 8 and 9, 2018). WIPO also participated in the Third Expert Group Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation Roadmaps, co-organized by UNDESA, the World Bank, UNCTAD and UNESCO (Brussels, November 27 to 29, 2018). The meeting discussed the preparation of a Guidebook for the Development of Science, Technology and Innovation Roadmaps, and exchanged views on the elements collected for its preparation.

124. WIPO also co-founded, together with UN Women and UNESCO, the IATT Sub-Group on Gender and STI. A first meeting of this group was organized on March 26 and 27, 2018, by UNDESA, World Bank and UNCTAD during which WIPO presented its work on national IP and Innovation Strategies. Today, the Sub-Group is co-led by WIPO, ITU and UNESCO. Its objective is to increase synergies and collaboration among UN entities on gender and STI, enhance the visibility of UN engagement in this field, and promote awareness on the importance of supporting opportunities for the participation of women and girls in STI fields.

Inter-Agency Analytical Team for Good Practices on the SDGs (IATT)

125. WIPO is a member of the Inter-Agency Analytical Team for Good Practices on the SDGs. The UN Inter-Agency Team was established following the launch by UNDESA in July 2018 of a global call for submissions by stakeholders of good practices, success stories and lessons learned in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The Inter-Agency Team will, *inter alia*, examine and analyze submissions to determine whether they should be included in the good practices database; support the identification of good practices to be showcased in reports and special events in 2019, as well as help disseminate selected good practices and success stories.

2018 HLPF Thematic Review: Advancing Sciences, Technology and Innovation for SDGs and UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee (TEC)

126. SDGs 6, 7 11, 12 and 15 were under review at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2018. Forty-six countries presented voluntary national reviews during the Ministerial Segment of the HLPF, reflecting their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, including challenges, achievements and lessons learned. WIPO's Chief Economist participated in the Panel on Advancing Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs and made a presentation on the Global Innovation Index 2018 "Energizing the World with Innovation". Copies of the GII 2018 edition, which addressed SDG 7, were made available for Member States participating in the HLPF. The Director General's Special Representative on the SDGs participated in the HLPF review of SDG17 and made a statement highlighting WIPO's partnership programs and platforms related to the SDGs under review and their role in fostering innovation and achieving SDGs 9 and 17.

127. WIPO also made a presentation on the GII 2018 theme and findings during the 17th meeting of the UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee (TEC), which took place in Bonn from September 25 to 28, 2018.

Forum on Equality and Parity in Science for Peace and Development, New York, February 8 and 9, 2018

128. WIPO co-organized, with the Royal Academy of Science International Trust (RASIT) and several UN agencies, a two-day forum on Equality and Parity in Science for Peace and Development for the Third International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The forum took place on February 8 and 9, 2018, in New York. The aim of the meeting was to encourage women and girls to work in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and research. WIPO presented key statistics on women participation in international patenting. WIPO also informed participants that it is undertaking further research to measure women participation in other areas of intellectual property. As an outcome of the meeting, twenty-two Member States signed on to a new document, in which they "pledge to continue the effort to achieve the effective empowerment of women and girls at all levels, including as users, content creators, employers, employees, entrepreneurs, innovators, and leaders in science, technology and innovation".

The Global Entrepreneurship Week Geneva UNCTAD-WIPO-IOM Youth Pitching Event: Start-up and Scale-up for SDGs, November 12 to 16, 2018

129. A consortium of IGOs and local authorities organizes each year an elaborate entrepreneurship week in Geneva which is part of the worldwide Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW). The Geneva Week took place from November 12 to 16, 2018, and included over 50 training programs for around 2,700 young entrepreneurs, both from Switzerland and a few other countries. This year the theme of the UN joint event in the framework of the GEW was "Youth Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development: Start-up and Scale-up for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

130. WIPO funded three finalists to participate at the UN Joint Pitching Event where participants presented their proposals for start-ups that could contribute to various SDGs. Twelve finalists were selected from 240 applications received. The finalists were young entrepreneurs from Benin, Nigeria, Venezuela, Syria, Ecuador, USA, Nicaragua, France, Nepal, the Gambia, Tanzania and Uganda. Women, migrant and refugee entrepreneurs were especially encouraged to submit their applications for the 2018 edition. The finalists received at WIPO, on November 15, 2018, a training program on IP. They were also offered enrollment in a WIPO distance learning program.

Trilateral Cooperation on Public Health, IP and Trade

131. Through the Trilateral Cooperation on Public Health, IP and Trade, which brings together WHO, WIPO and WTO, WIPO contributes to enhancing the empirical and factual information basis for policy makers engaging at the intersection of these three domains, and supports them in addressing public health in relation to IP and trade. In the framework of this cooperation the seventh trilateral symposium on Sustainable Development Goals: Innovative Technologies to Promote Healthy Lives and Well-being took place on February 26, 2018, at WHO headquarters. WIPO also participated in the WTO Trade and Public Health Workshop on October 8 to 12, 2018, contributing to several sessions throughout the program such as on the IP system as a key factor for innovation in the pharmaceutical sector and on IP policy options to further global access to health technologies. Officials from 28 developing and LDCs participated in this Workshop. WIPO also participated along with WHO and WTO in a Seminar on IP and Public Health in Kuwait in November 2018, in the Dominican Republic, April 24 and 25, in Georgia, June 11 to 13 and in Kyrgyzstan November 15 and 16, 2018. During these meetings, WIPO addressed *inter alia* issues related to policy options in the international patent system.

132. WIPO also hosted the eleventh Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) on November 8 and 9, 2018. The UNIATF on NCDs is the inter-governmental mechanism which facilitates information exchange and technical cooperation among over 40 UN entities and other non-UN inter-governmental organizations, with the aim to support Member States to address NCD epidemics worldwide. The Task Force was established by the UN Secretary-General in June 2013 and placed under WHO's leadership. Following the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNIATF's scope of work was expanded to include NCD related SDGs among others, mental health and injuries.

133. In addition, WIPO participated in the UN inter-agency meeting on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property on November 28, 2018. The main purpose of this meeting, which was attended by WHO, WTO, UNCTAD, UNAIDS, UNITAID, UNDP and OHCHR, was to exchange information on major ongoing and planned activities and publications. It was also intended to explore areas of work and collaboration towards improving data and evidence gathering. Each organization outlined during the meeting major past, current and planned activities and publications.

134. In line with its mandate, WIPO remains engaged in the various discussions related to 2030 Agenda. These include, in particular, the discussions on climate change and emerging technologies. WIPO will continue in 2019 to monitor, follow and provide, as required, input to the different processes and discussions on the implementation of the SDGs.

C. THE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY WIPO TO MEMBER STATES UPON THEIR REQUEST

135. At the time of the preparation of this report, the Secretariat has not received any request from Member States seeking assistance specifically related the attainment of the SDGs.

136. The CDIP is invited to consider the information contained in this document.