

## **Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)**

**Ninth Session**  
**Geneva, May 7 to 11, 2012**

### **SPECIALIZED DATABASES' ACCESS AND SUPPORT – PHASE II**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. The Annex to this document, containing a project proposal on “Specialized Databases’ Access and Support - Phase II” addresses Development Agenda Recommendation 8. The estimated cost for the project amounts to 1,606,400 Swiss francs of which 600,000 Swiss francs are related to non-personnel costs and 1,006,400 Swiss francs to the personnel costs.

2. *The CDIP is invited to consider and approve the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

**PROJECT DOCUMENT**

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| 1. SUMMARY                               |  |
| <u>Project Code</u>                      | DA_08_02   |
| <u>Title</u>                             | Specialized Databases' Access and Support – PHASE II   |
| <u>Development Agenda Recommendation</u> | Recommendation 8: Request WIPO to develop agreements with research institutions and with private enterprises with a view to facilitating the national offices of developing countries, especially LDCs, as well as their regional and sub-regional IP organizations to access specialized databases for the purposes of patent searches.   |
| <u>Brief Description of Project</u>      | <p>The project aims to stimulate innovation and economic growth by facilitating access to technology information in least developed and developing countries and by strengthening countries' capacity to effectively exploit this information. Under this project, WIPO supports the establishment and development of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and associated networks on the national, regional, and international levels.</p> <p>The principal objective of Phase II of the project will be to ensure the long-term sustainability of TISCs and their ability to provide appropriate, high-quality technology and innovation support services.</p> <p>The objective will be met by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sustaining the successful training program implemented for the development of TISCs, including on-site training and distance learning courses;</li> <li>2. Enhancing the usage and further developing access to specialized patent and non-patent databases through the ASPI (Access to Specialized Patent Information) and ARDI (Access to Research for Development and Innovation) programs; and</li> <li>3. Establishing a new TISC knowledge management platform to facilitate exchange between TISCs at the national, regional, and international levels, provide complementary training to TISCs, and disseminate information materials to TISCs and the public.</li> </ol> |

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|  | A secondary objective of the project is to continue the initial training of Phase I for the many countries, which have already signed or have committed to sign Service Level Agreements to establish TISC national networks, but which have not yet received such training.                              |
| <u>Implementing Program(s)</u>                             | Program 14  |
| <u>Links to other related Program(s)</u>                   | Global Infrastructure Sector in cooperation with the Innovation and Technology Sector and the Development Sector.<br><br>Links to WIPO Programs 1, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 14.   |
| <u>Links to Expected Results in the Program and Budget</u> | <i>Strategic Goal III, Program 9</i><br>Enhanced capacity and knowledge of policy makers, government officials, IP professionals and practitioners, IP owners and user community on effective use of IP for development.<br><br><i>Strategic Goal IV, Program 14</i><br>Services for Access to Knowledge. |
| <u>Project Duration</u>                                    | May 2012 to December 2013: 20 months  |
| <u>Project Budget</u>                                      | Personnel resources: 1,006,400 Swiss francs<br>Non-personnel resources: 600,000 Swiss francs  |

## 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 2.1. Results of Phase I

The following results were achieved in Phase I of the TISC project:

1. Establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) (see also <http://www.wipo.int/tisc>)

TISCs were established in 21 countries, providing innovators and inventors with access to specialized technology databases and information materials as well as advice and assistance from trained staff in using these resources. Service Level Agreements (SLAs), providing the framework for activities to be carried out in establishing or developing TISCs, have been concluded with 30 countries.

2. Needs analysis and database review studies

A Study Paper was prepared, reviewing existing patent and non-patent databases and providing a user needs analysis. For the full document see [http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc\\_details.jsp?doc\\_id=146973](http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=146973).

A detailed Guide to Databases was prepared, providing additional technical details on existing patent and non-patent databases including database coverage, search and analysis functionalities. For the full document see [http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/programs/tisc/doc/Guide\\_Technology\\_DBs.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/programs/tisc/doc/Guide_Technology_DBs.pdf)

3. Access to specialized scientific and technical journal databases

In 2009, the “Access to Research for Development and Innovation” (ARDI) program was launched, providing free or low-cost access to scientific and technical journals for patent offices and academic and research institutions in 105 least developed and developing countries. For more details see: <http://www.wipo.int/ardi/>.

In 2012, ARDI extended the number of countries eligible to receive free access to scientific and technical journals from 49 to 77 countries in cooperation with its partners in the publishing community. As of January 2012, ARDI provides access to over 200 scientific and technical journals with a combined regular subscription value exceeding 500,000 United States dollars per year.

4. Access to specialized patent databases

In 2010, the “Access to Specialized Patent Information” (ASPI) program was launched, providing free or low-cost access to commercial patent databases with advanced search and analysis features for patent offices and academic and research institutions in 115 least developed and developing countries. For more details see <http://www.wipo.int/aspi/>

5. Training and awareness-raising

To support the development of TISCs and raise awareness of intellectual property and technology information among local stakeholders, On-site training was provided in 21 countries participating in the project, including 21 basic training events and 6 advanced training events. Topics covered included intellectual property rights, patent information, patent search strategies and techniques, and technology databases.

To support experience-sharing and the exchange of best practices among countries involved or interested in establishing and developing TISCs, regional conferences were held in the African region, Asia-Pacific region, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

## 2.2. Objectives of Phase II

The principal objective of Phase II of the project will be to ensure the long-term sustainability of TISCs and their ability to provide appropriate, high-quality technology and innovation support services.

The project will build on the results of Phase I (see above) by leveraging the network effects emerging from the increasing number and evolving expertise of TISCs established during Phase I. By facilitating interaction among TISCs, the project will enable TISCs to draw on national, regional, and international networks as a complementary source of knowledge and experience in addition to support received directly from WIPO.

Target beneficiaries comprise: individual inventors; researchers in technology centers and universities; small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); industry; academia (ranging from schools to universities); IP professionals; government policy-makers, etc.

## 2.3. Delivery Strategy for Phase II

Phase II of the project will maintain and reinforce the support to countries that participated in Phase I of the project and extend the project to countries that did not participate in Phase I of the project in order to support the establishment of new TISCs.

The primary objectives of Phase II of the project will be met by:

- (a) Sustaining and refining the successful training program implemented for the development of TISCs, including on-site training and distance learning courses;
- (b) Enhancing the usage and further developing the Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) and Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) programs to facilitate access to specialized patent and non-patent databases; and
- (c) Establishing a new TISC knowledge management platform to facilitate exchange between TISCs at the national, regional, and international levels, provide complementary training to TISCs, and disseminate information materials to TISCs and the public; this measure in particular aims to improve the long-term efficiency of using resources in supporting and developing TISCs in comparison with the more on-site training approach of Phase I.

## 1. Training program

A highly successful training program has been established in Phase I of the project, focusing on building patent search and analysis skills. This program encompasses training on patents and patent information, technology database services, patent search skills and techniques, and specialized topics in patent search. It is provided in

the form of on-site training and distance learning courses, the latter in close coordination with the WIPO Academy. The distance learning courses aim to introduce general intellectual property rights, particularly patents, to trainees before the on-site training, while reinforcing patent search theory and practice following on-site training. It is foreseen to continue this initial training approach for many countries, which have already signed or have committed to sign Service Level Agreements to establish TISC national networks, but which have not yet received such training.

While training will continue to focus on patent information services in Phase II, it will also include other areas of innovation support likely to be of interest to TISCs, ranging from courses regarding other intellectual property rights, such as trademarks and copyrights, on IP asset management, commercialization and technology transfer, through to using patents for protecting innovation through effective patent drafting; all of which will be coordinated together with the respective specialized WIPO Sector concerned, as well as with the Regional Bureaus. This also contributes in assuring the longer-term sustainability of TISCs by offering a broader range of services which will be of interest to other target groups of local users.

Moreover, the on-site training program will be crucially extended to include training on effective administration, management, and public outreach practices; again with a view of improving sustainability. It is also foreseen that this extended on-site training be fully complemented by the online training resources available on the "TISC knowledge management platform" as identified in point 3 below.

Furthermore, a system of certification reflecting levels of proficiency achieved in specific areas of knowledge, such as in patent searching, either individually or in a combination of on-site, web-based and distance learning courses, will be developed so as to formally reinforce TISC staff professional and career development.

This overall extension and reinforcement of the training program should assist countries not only in establishing high-quality technology and innovation support services but also to implement practices necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of these services.

## 2. Access to specialized databases

The Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) and Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) programs currently provide free or low-cost access for patent offices and academic and research institutions to specialized patent database services with advanced search and analysis features and to scientific and technical journals, respectively.

During Phase II, partnership building will be expanded with a view to increasing the number of patent database providers and publishers contributing to ASPI and ARDI as well as the number of specialized patent database services and scientific and technical journals available through these programs. Public outreach activities will also be reviewed and strengthened with a view to increasing the number of eligible institutions participating in and benefiting from the resources available through these programs. It is imperative that the increase in institutional uptake be more than reflected by a major increase in the number of users accessing these programs through these institutions.

### 3. TISC Knowledge Management Platform

A number of online services will be established during Phase II as part of a TISC knowledge management platform. This platform will constitute a key resource in facilitating interaction among TISCs and enhancing interaction between TISCs and WIPO.

The platform will include communication services to enable TISCs to share information, experiences, and best practices in an efficient and appropriate manner. It will also include training services such as webinars designed to help TISC staff refresh and strengthen skills acquired through the regular TISC training program. Finally, it will provide easy access to resources including WIPO presentations, publications, and electronic products such as the e-tutorial on using and exploiting patent information.

A TISC helpdesk service will be launched on a pilot basis to allow TISCs to obtain advice and assistance on products and services provided by WIPO and technical issues related to the provision of technology and innovation support services.

The TISC website, within which the TISC knowledge management platform will be established, will be restructured in order to make it more user-friendly and targeted towards the needs and interests of specific stakeholder groups.

#### 2.4. Risks and Mitigation Strategies

Project risks or factors that could impede project delivery and ways in which these risks may be mitigated include:

Risk: Expectations of training events and the launch of TISC national networks cannot be met because of insufficient resources available for TISC capacity building  
Mitigation: Further coordination and cooperation with inter-governmental, governmental, and non-governmental organizations are being explored to mobilize the necessary resources and expertise to provide continuous and comprehensive support for all national TISC networks.

Risk: Attrition among contributors to ASPI and ARDI  
Mitigation: Communications efforts targeting patent database providers and publishers already contributing to ASPI and ARDI as well as potential new contributors are being stepped up including through the Research4Life (R4L) partnership, which ARDI has joined since September 2011. Through R4L, WIPO will also have access to the expertise and experience accumulated by the partnership in building sustainable relationships with private sector organizations and companies.

Risk: Insufficient use of the TISC knowledge management platform  
Mitigation: Services available through the TISC knowledge management platform will be integrated to the extent possible and designed to allow them to be plugged into other websites to ensure that they are easily usable and widely accessible. Activities to market the TISC knowledge management platform will be scaled up as necessary to ensure a critical mass of regular users.

Risk: Insufficient demand for TISC services  
Mitigation: Extending the TISC training program to include training on public outreach should assist TISCs and their national and regional networks to develop appropriate strategies for raising public awareness of the services they provide. The international TISC network also includes members with extensive experience in public outreach, which they will be in a position to share through the TISC knowledge management platform.

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| 3. REVIEW AND EVALUATION   |   |
| 3.1. <u>Project Review Schedule</u>  |   |
| 1. Monitoring Reports  | Periodic reports will indicate whether specific objectives and milestones have been reached; in cases of them not being reached, why this happened and how this can be resolved; the reports will make use of the regular survey results requested from IPOs and TISCs.   |
| 2. Self-Evaluation Report  | A report will be drafted at the end of the project period with a view to validating whether the project objectives have been achieved, suggesting future actions and highlighting best practices to provide continued sustainability of the project.  |
| The reports will be drafted by the Project Manager.  |   |
| 3.2. <u>Project Self-Evaluation</u>  |   |
| <u>Project Outputs</u>   | <u>Indicators of Successful Completion</u><br>(Output Indicators)   |
| 1. (i) Establishment of a webinar service on the TISC website;<br><br>(ii) Establishment of an online forum for exchanging TISC experiences and best practices;<br><br>(iii) Establishment of an online helpdesk; and<br><br>(iv) Integration of WIPO Academy DLCs into the TISC training program. | Webinar service operating 12 months after commencement of Phase II<br><br>Online forum operating 12 months after commencement of Phase II<br><br>Online helpdesk operating 12 months after commencement of Phase II<br><br>All launched TISCs to have followed at least 2 WIPO Academy distance learning courses within 20 months |
| 2. Developing and promoting user/client services, particularly from a business perspective   | All launched TISCs to have had at least 1 training focusing on business/client development within 20 months of the project  |
| 3. Continuation of initial training as for Phase I   | Signing of mutually agreed Service Level Agreement (SLA) between each new national TISC network and WIPO;<br><br>Launch of TISCs' services in at least another 12 interested countries and institutions – 20 months after start of Phase II   |
| 4. Training on other aspects of innovation support in addition to access to technology databases   | All launched TISCs to have had at least 1 training on IPRs/IP asset management/technology transfer/commercialization within 20 months of the project  |



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| 5. Further coordination and cooperation with inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations. | Cooperation with at least 2 IGOs/NGOs started by end of Phase II |
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| <u>Project Objective(s)</u>   | <u>Indicator(s) of Success in Achieving Project Objective (Outcome Indicators)</u>  |
|---|---|
| 1. Ensure the long-term sustainability of TISCs and their ability to provide appropriate, high-quality technology and innovation support services | <p>Number TISCs receiving 5 or more enquiries per day from local users to be maintained at approximately 30% of all TISCs (baseline 2011: 28% of all TISCs received 5 or more enquiries per day as indicated in the TISC “Survey Summary Report” of December 2011)</p> <p>Percentage of TISCs that have received at least one training within 1 year of signing SLA to be maintained at 70% (baseline 2010/11 was 69% from training statistics)</p> |
| 2. Leverage the network effects emerging from the increasing number and evolving expertise of TISCs   | <p>Number of unique users of TISC knowledge management platform</p> <p>Number of contributions made by users to the TISC knowledge management platform</p>  |
| 3. Promote and increase the number of eligible institutions and users accessing ARDI and ASPI   | <p>Number of ARDI institutions to increase by 50% and number of ASPI institutions to increase by 100%; number of users to increase proportionally</p>   |



5. BUDGET

Table 1 – Project Budget by Cost Category and Year (non-personnel resources)

| <i>Cost Category</i>          | <i>Budget (Swiss francs)</i> |             |              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|                               | <i>2012</i>                  | <i>2013</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| <i>Travel and Fellowships</i> |                              |             |              |
| Staff Missions                | 48,000                       | 72,000      | 120,000      |
| Third-party Travel            | 144,000                      | 224,000     | 368,000      |
| Fellowships                   |                              |             |              |
| <i>Contractual Services</i>   |                              |             |              |
| Conferences                   |                              |             |              |
| Experts' Honoraria            | 8,000                        | 12,000      | 20,000       |
| Publishing                    |                              |             |              |
| SSA <sup>1</sup>              | 42,000                       | 50,000      | 92,000       |
| Commercial Services           |                              |             |              |
| <i>Equipment and Supplies</i> |                              |             |              |
| Equipment                     |                              |             |              |
| Supplies and Materials        |                              |             |              |
| <i>TOTAL</i>                  | 242,000                      | 363,000     | 600,000      |

Table 2 – Project Budget by Cost Category and Year (personnel resources)

| <i>Cost Category</i>                   | <i>Budget (Swiss francs)</i> |             |              |
|--|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | <i>2012</i>                  | <i>2013</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| 4 Short Term Professionals at P3 level | 398,400                      | 608,000     | 1,006,400    |
| <i>TOTAL</i>                           | 398,400                      | 608,000     | 1,006,400    |

[End of Annex and of document]

<sup>1</sup> 10,000 Swiss francs are earmarked for the independent evaluation at the end of the project.