

# WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
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## STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

### PLENARY

### Third Session

Geneva, June 14 and 15, 1999

### REPORT

*adopted by correspondence*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) held its third Plenary ("SCIT Plenary") session in Geneva on June 14 and 15, 1999.
2. The following Member States of WIPO and/or the Paris Union were represented at the session: Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America (46).
3. Representatives of the Benelux Trademark Office (BBM), the European Communities (EC), the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) and the European Patent Office (EPO) (4) took part in the session in a member capacity.

4. Representatives of the following organizations took part in the session in an observer capacity: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF)*, Association for the International Collective Management of Audiovisual Works (AGICOA), International Federation of Industrial Property Attorneys (FICPI), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Patent Documentation Group (PDG) and World Federation of Music Schools (WFMS) (7). The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.
5. The session was opened by Mr. R.A. Mashelkar (India), Chair of the SCIT Plenary.
6. Mr. K.-P. Wittig acted as Secretary of the session.

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The SCIT Plenary unanimously adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex II to this report.

#### CONCLUSIONS, DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

8. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), held from September 24 to October 2, 1979, the report of this session reflects only the conclusions (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) of the SCIT Plenary and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participants, except where any reservation in respect of any specific conclusion of the SCIT Plenary was made or repeated after the conclusion was arrived at.

#### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS BY THE CHAIR

9. The Chair presented a written draft Summary of Discussions (document SCIT/3/3) reflecting the major topics covered and the conclusions reached by the SCIT Plenary. A revised version of the text of that document, reflecting all comments on the draft Summary agreed upon during the closing session on June 15, 1999, is recorded in paragraphs 10 to 17, below.

#### SCIT STRATEGIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN INTO THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

(Document SCIT/3/2)

10. The SCIT Plenary discussed in detail and reviewed the draft of a Strategic Information Technology Plan which had been prepared by the International Bureau. After having agreed on a number of amendments to the proposed draft, the SCIT Plenary approved the final version of the "SCIT Strategic Information Technology Plan into the Twenty-First Century", as given in Annex III to this report.

11. The SCIT Plenary agreed to request the International Bureau to elaborate a comprehensive and detailed implementation plan which should cover all major projects resulting from the approved SCIT Information Technology Plan. A first draft of the plan (an executive summary in English, French and Spanish, and a complete version in English only) should be circulated for comments to SCIT Member States, Member Organizations and Observers by September 15, 1999. Comments would be requested to arrive at the International Bureau before October 30, 1999, and the final version of the plan was expected to be approved by the SCIT Plenary at its next session, in December 1999.

12. With regard to a desired prioritization of the SCIT goals listed in paragraph 3 of the above-mentioned plan, the SCIT Plenary agreed to have reflected the importance and urgency of the individual goals in the implementation plan to be elaborated by the International Bureau.

### IPC Reform

13. The SCIT Plenary noted a request for cooperation submitted by the Committee of Experts of the IPC Union and agreed that establishment of a working relationship between the SCIT and the Committee of Experts would contribute both to effective IPC reform, carried out in order to accommodate it to the electronic age, and to effective IPDL functioning. The SCIT Plenary agreed, in this regard, that mutual exchange of information on ongoing activities of the two Committees should be provided for better coordination of the work.

14. The SCIT Plenary also noted that specific information technology projects pursued by the SCIT and the Committee of Experts, where cooperation would be desirable, in particular, the elaboration of automated classification tools, should be reflected in implementation plans of the SCIT and the Committee of Experts.

### MEETINGS OF THE SCIT PLANNED FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 1999

15. The SCIT Plenary agreed to a proposal by the International Bureau to convene one joint meeting of the SCIT Working Groups in 1999, which would be held in conjunction with the fourth Plenary session of the SCIT. The meetings were tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva from December 6 to 10, 1999.

### PRESENTATIONS

16. The SCIT Plenary noted, with gratitude, presentations given by the Delegation of the Republic of Korea on KIPONET and by the International Bureau on PCT Automation (Information Management for the Patent Cooperation Treaty), on WIPONET and on the IPDL project.

RETIREMENT OF MR. SCHUIITEMAKER (PDG)

17. On the occasion of the last participation of Mr. Schuitemaker in a session of the SCIT, the SCIT Plenary and the International Bureau took the opportunity to thank him for and to pay tribute to his many years of attendance at the various meetings convened by the International Bureau of WIPO and to his outstanding contribution on behalf of industrial property information users to international cooperation in the field of industrial property information and documentation, and expressed their best wishes for his happy retirement.

*18. The draft of this report was sent to the participants to the third session of the SCIT Plenary and adopted by correspondence.*

[Annexes follow]