WIPO

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS WORKING GROUP

First Session
Geneva, September 3 to 7, 2001

TASK LIST OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS WORKING GROUP
(ITPWG)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1.   At its sixth session, held in January 2001, the SCIT Plenary considered the tasks contained in the current SCIT Work Program and reassigned them to the newly formed Working Groups on Information Technology Projects (ITPWG) and Standards and Documentation (SDWG), respectively. The SCIT Plenary instructed the Working Groups to review the individual tasks, taking into account the suggestions made during the debate and, in particular, the proposal by the Delegation of the United Kingdom to assign a Task Leader for each task, and to redraft task descriptions in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 9 of the approved Structural Framework and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) (see paragraph 12 of document SCIT/6/7).

2.   The Secretariat has prepared, for consideration by the ITPWG, an annotated task list which provides for each task: background and status of work and, where appropriate, specific action requested by the SCIT Plenary; proposed action with a time frame; and comments/ recommendations. The ITPWG task list is reproduced in the Annex to this document.

3.   The Secretariat proposes that the ITPWG examine the suggestions made under the individual tasks with the aim of agreeing on a final version of the ITPWG task list to be presented for approval to the SCIT Plenary in December 2001.

> 4.   *The ITPWG is invited to consider the task list given in the Annex to this document and to agree on its final version for incorporation in the 2002 SCIT Work Program.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

TASK LIST OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS WORKING GROUP
(ITPWG)

Task No. 1:* Monitor the establishment and operation of the WIPONET, in particular, its deployment in intellectual property Offices (IPOs) with no Internet access and the training of IPO staff in the use of the applications and services available over the network, and the Service Level Agreements for WIPONET performance.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/3.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: WIPONET Service Level Agreements (SLAs) to be made available for the ITPWG for consideration (see document SCIT/ITPWG/1/3).

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/11.

IV.   TASK LEADER: The Secretariat offers to act as task leader for Task No. 1.

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: A format for regular IT Program performance reporting to SCIT members is proposed in document SCIT/ITPWG/1/10. This will be supplemented by consolidated status reports, by project and major activity, that will be submitted for consideration at each meeting of the ITPWG.

Task No. 2: Study the potential of electronic commerce, its infrastructure and the usage of tools therefore by IPOs.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: Scope of task to be reconsidered after the application of the new process for task initiation.

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME

IV.   TASK LEADER

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: Recognizing the importance of the issue on intellectual property Office (IPO) automation and the need to maintain closer coordination with the Member States in this area, the Director General created, in April 2001, a Division for Intellectual Property Office Automation Coordination within WIPO, to be responsible for the work in this area. The said Division reports directly to the Director General. Therefore, the ITPWG may consider deleting this task from the SCIT Work Program in order to avoid any overlapping in the management of IT programs.

Task No. 5:*+ Monitor pilot projects, undertaken by the International Bureau, to evaluate viable, cost-effective and user-friendly solutions for the streamlining and automation of intellectual property administration functions, in particular, those solutions most suitable for small IPOs.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: None.

III. PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME

IV.   TASK LEADER

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: As with Task No. 2 responsibility for this Task now lies with the IPO Automation Division. Therefore, the ITPWG may wish to delete this Task from the SCIT Work Program, recognizing that Member States can pursue the matter through other WIPO organs.

Task No. 9:*   Monitor functionality and operations of the Intellectual Property Digital Libraries (IPDLs) Project.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/6.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: None.

III. PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: The Secretariat has proposed to Member States, via the draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium (see document SCIT/ITWPG/1/11) that development work on the technical aspects of the IPDLs project be suspended after the completion of the Phase I at the end of 2001. This recommendation has been made for two reasons: firstly, due to the need to establish technical standards before development of a technical infrastructure can begin; and, secondly to allow for resources to be diverted to higher priority activities, i.e., IMPACT and WIPONET.

IV.   TASK LEADER

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: After completion of Phase I of the project, the IPDL production system will be commissioned and handed over to the IT Services Division in the first quarter of 2002. From this date performance data on the production system will be included in the regular management reporting of the IT Services Division to the SCIT.

Task No. 12: Investigate the possibility of enhancing and extending the natural language search and classification system of *Institut national de la propriété industrielle* (INPI, France) to cover the official United Nations languages and the utility of such technologies for automatic search enhancement and classification systems.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: The project proposal for CLAIMS contained in the draft Program and Budget for the 2002-2003 biennium, (see document SCIT/ITPWG/1/11) includes this activity within its scope.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: ITPWG to consider the scope and wording of this task in connection with its linkage to Task No. 27.

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/11.

IV.   TASK LEADER

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: As the scope of this task is covered in the proposal for the CLAIMS Project (see Task No. 27) it is recommended that this task be deleted in favor of a rewording of Task No. 27, as suggested below.

Task No. 14:*+   Monitor the development of electronic filing of patent and trademark applications and provide developing countries with technical assistance in this area.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/5.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: None.

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/11.

IV.   TASK LEADER: The Secretariat offers to act as task leader for Task No. 14.

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: Responsibility for this Task will now be split within the Secretariat between the PCT Electronic Filing Project and the IPO Automation Division, with the latter assuming responsibility for the coordination of technical assistance activities in this area (see Task No. 2). The ITPWG may, therefore, wish to redraft the wording of Task No. 14 to reflect this change, to read: "Monitor the development of electronic filing of patent and trademark applications."

Task No. 16:[+] Monitor activities to be undertaken to gradually meet the IT requirements of the WIPO Academy Distance Learning Program.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: WIPO's IT Program provides technical assistance to the WIPO Worldwide Academy (WWA) on an as needed basis.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: None.

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: see point (I), above.

IV.   TASK LEADER: The Secretariat offers to act as task leader for Task No. 16.

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: Activities and performance in this area will be reported to the SCIT under the management reports of the IT Services Division.

Task No. 27: Monitor the progress of activities carried out to implement the Classification Automated Information System (CLAIMS) in accordance with Project 12 of the IT Strategic Implementation Plan.

I.   BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF WORK: Not started.

II.   SPECIFIC ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ITPWG AS INSTRUCTED BY SCIT/6: ITPWG to consider the scope and wording of this task in connection with its linkage to Task No. 12.

III.   PROPOSED ACTION WITH TIME FRAME: See document SCIT/ITPWG/1/11.

IV.   TASK LEADER: The Delegation of France is proposed to act as task leader.

V.   COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: Taking into account the comments made under Task No. 12, the ITPWG may wish to re-draft this task to read: "Monitor the progress of activities carried out to implement the Classification Automated Information System (CLAIMS) project, which will include the enhancement and extension of the natural language search of INPI (France) to cover the official UN languages and the utility of such technologies for automatic search enhancement and classification systems."

Notes: * High priority tasks
          + Task to be carried out/handled by the Secretariat and to be reported on to the ITPWG

[End of Annex and of document]