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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WIPO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIGITAL LIBRARIES (WIPO IPDL) PROJECT

Document prepared by the International Bureau

INTRODUCTION

1. For background information on the project see documents SCIT/1/5 and SCIT/1/7 Prov. (paragraphs 21 - 22).

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU ACTIVITY

2. The SCIT plenary in June 1998 noted the initial activity undertaken by way of the provision of access to PCT first page data via the Internet and approved the future development proposals which included extension to provide access to other collections of intellectual property information including trade mark data, design data, copyright management data, intellectual property laws, etc., and also the provision of databases in languages other than English and French.

3. The first step taken by the International Bureau to provide extended services was to examine the provision of data relating to applications for international trademark registrations under the Madrid System. The first Madrid prototype to be implemented provided access to the 'Madrid Pending Database' which includes data relating to international applications and subsequent designations that have been received by the International Bureau but have not yet

been recorded in the international register of marks. A demonstration of this prototype was given to delegations attending the General Assemblies in September 1998. Since then this prototype Madrid implementation has been extended to include update information, i.e., data relating to international registrations and subsequent designations that have been recorded but not yet published in the gazette.

4. When the *Madrid Pending and Update Database* is launched operationally, the WIPO IPDL will be providing access to two major sources of international data in the area of patents and trademarks through a common search interface providing extensive search capability, multiple user selectable output presentation formats and display options, multilingual support and search query history facilities.

5. To extend the language coverage, the WIPO IPDL is being expanded as a first step to include the *Dopales Patent Database* which contains the first pages of patent documents of 18 Latin American countries published from 1991 to 1995. The system is currently in the prototype stage. This data is presently available on the Dopales CD-ROM and this has been used as a source of the data for loading in the digital library.

6. The content of the WIPO IPDL databases will be developed further to cover, for example, the availability of the full text of international PCT applications and the inclusion of intellectual property collections hosted on behalf of the Member States taking part in WIPO IPDL pilot projects (see below).

MEMBER STATES ACTIVITY

7. The establishment of IPDLs was recommended by the Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information--the precursor body of the SCIT--in November 1997 when it discussed long-term policy in the area of industrial property information (see document PCIPI/EXEC/XXI/6, Annex XII). The recommendation included outline proposals relating to the contents of IPDLs and a timetable for their phased introduction, a copy of which is attached as Annex I to this document.

8. Recently, a number of offices have provided via their Web sites access to the first page data of patent documents and, in some cases the trademark data of their offices, e.g., the EPO and the EPO Members States under the Esp@cenet service, the USPTO, Hungary and Japan. Other offices are encouraged to follow this example and provide Internet access to databases of intellectual property information with emphasis in the first stage being given to the first page data of patent documents and to trademark registration data.

PILOT PROJECT ACTIVITY AND WIPO'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

9. A number of options present themselves with regard to the creation of IPDLs and their use and the form of assistance that could be provided. For each option it is proposed that pilot projects are undertaken to verify the applicability of a particular approach and, from the experience gained, to determine the practical implementation of such solutions in other offices. The project activity will take the form of either practical work associated with new pilot projects and/or draw on the experiences of current or planned IPDL implementations. The pilot project activity will be undertaken either individually by, or as coordinated tasks between, the International Bureau and/or Regional Office and/or National Office. International bureau assistance will be provided by way of technical advice and, in appropriate cases, financial support. The results of pilot projects will be reported to the SCIT/WG. A selection of proposed areas of project activity is provided as Annex II; the list is not meant to be exhaustive and offices are invited to propose additional options for consideration.

10. Offices are requested to provide the Secretariat with details of planned IPDL implementations in their offices including proposals involving WIPO assistance.

11. The SCIT Working Group is invited to note the progress of the WIPO IPDL project and to agree to the suggested actions detailed in paragraph 9.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

(Extract from document PCIPI/EXEC/XXI/6, Annex XII)

IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSALS

Data Content: The proposed content of the IPDLs could be phased as follows:

Phasing ¹	Type of Data ²		Coverage ³ (Time Span)
<i>Phase 1</i> (1997/1998)	Patents:	Bibliographic data and abstract (character-coded form)	[Last 2 years]
	Trademarks:	Bibliographic data and textual data	[Last 10 years]
	Designs:	Bibliographic data and textual data	[Last 5 years]
	Reference:	IP laws, training material, statistics, etc.	[Those currently in force]
<i>Phase 2</i> (1999/2001)	Patents:	First Page Data (i.e., Phase 1 and representative drawing) Full text (character-coded form) and image data Unpublished administrative and procedural data Priority documents Search documents Examination action Legal status data	[Last 10 years] [As available] [Pending cases]
	Trademarks:	Phase 1 + Figurative elements	[Last 20 years]
	Designs:	Phase 1 + Figurative elements	[Last 10 years]
<i>Phase 3</i> (2002/2005)	Patents:	Phase 2 + Full text (character-coded form) and other drawings Non-patent literature (e.g., JOPAL) Unpublished administrative and procedural data	[PCT minimum documentation] [Pending cases]
	Trademarks:	Phase 1 + Figurative elements	[Last 30 years]
	Designs:	Phase 1 + Figurative elements	[Last 20 years]

[Annex II follows]

¹ The timetable above provides an illustration of the sort of timescales that might apply. The actual implementation timetable will require careful and detailed consideration.

² The data types included in the table do not constitute an exhaustive list of those that could be loaded. The data covers national applications/registrations and international applications/registrations.

³ Where data in electronic form is already available within offices this may be provided in the IPDL at any phase of the project.

ANNEX II

PROPOSED AREAS OF PROJECT ACTIVITY

1. IPDL Creation Models

- by WIPO or Regional Center or National Office.
- by capture of raw data or conversion of current electronic forms and database creation using WIPO provided tools or alternative tools available at the Regional Center or National Office (but adhering to agreed upon standards).

2. IPDL Availability Models

- Access via national, regional or international offices sites.
- Single location or mirrored IPDLs at various points around the world.
- Specialist data holdings, e.g., sequence listings.

3. IPDL Use Models¹

Dissemination purposes only:

- Published documents, simple search.

Search Purposes:

- Simple or commercial level service.
- Single site or cross-site search.

Exchange Purposes:

- Unpublished documents, secure delivery.

4. IPDL Access Models

- User Interface language:
 - Common or multiple language support.
- Search Interface:
 - Fielded or Forms based.
- Specialist Search Tools:
 - Natural language support
 - For complex structures, e.g., sequence listings.

[End of Annex II and of document]

¹ The type and level of service to be provided should be determined on the basis of, e.g., office dissemination policy, public or industrial property office access, position of, and services offered by, commercial providers, etc.