

Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

Seventeenth Session
Geneva, December 6 to 10, 2010

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR THE PANEL OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL
COMMUNITIES**

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its seventh session, the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore ('the Committee') agreed "that, immediately before the commencement of the sessions of the Committee, half-day panel presentations should be organized, chaired by a representative from a local or indigenous community". These panels have since been organized for each Committee session convened since 2005.
2. The panel presentation for the seventeenth session has been organized in a manner similar to the panel presentations on traditional cultural expressions (TCEs) at the fourth session of the Committee and on traditional knowledge (TK) at the fifth session, as well as the first seven panels in this series, which were convened between the eighth and sixteenth sessions.
3. The theme of the panel at the seventeenth session is: What role does the "public domain", or a similar concept to it, play, in your Indigenous, traditional or local community?
4. The Annex contains the provisional program of the panel and suggested talking points for panelists.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE PANEL SESSION

Monday, December 6, 2010

10.00 – 10.30	Opening
	Chair – (to be identified by the WIPO Indigenous People's Caucus)
10.30 – 11.30	First session:
	Mr. Greg Younging, Creator's Rights Alliance (CRA), Canada
	Mr. Frances Waleanisia, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Solomon Islands
	Mrs. Dora Ogboi, West Africa coalition for Indigenous Peoples' Rights (WACIPR), Nigeria
11.30 – 11.50	Break
11.50 – 12.30	Second session:
	Mrs. Miranda Risang Ayu, University of Padjajaran, Indonesia
	Mr. Rodion Sulyandziga, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples, Russian Federation
	Mr. John Solbakk, SámiKopijja: Saami Reproduction Rights Centre, Norway (TBC)
	Ms. Lucia Fernanda Inacio Belfort, <i>Instituto Indígena Brasileiro da propriedade intelectual</i> (INBRAPI), Brazil (TBC)
12.30 – 13.00	Floor discussion
13.00	Closing of panel

Panel session on “What role does the “public domain”, or a similar concept to it, play in your Indigenous, traditional or local community?”

Suggested talking points for panelists:

1. *Nature of TK/TCEs/GR*

Outline the nature of traditional knowledge (TK) and/or traditional cultural expressions (TCEs), as well as related genetic resources (GR) that are held by your community, and their importance to the cultural identity, community life, and sustainable relationship with the environment of your community.

2. *Customary law and practices*

Describe the role of customary law, practices and protocols in sustaining and safeguarding your TK/TCEs and related GR.

Please give details of how customary law, practices and protocols apply to custodianship, transmission and safeguarding of TK and TCEs, if possible using specific examples.

3. *Needs and expectations*

Outline the needs and expectations of your community, within national system and beyond, including within the international community.

4. *The role of the “public domain” or a similar concept: the experience of your community*

Describe, from your community’s perspective, practical experiences with the public domain or a similar concept. Outline your community’s actions and initiatives.

5. *Lessons for the Intergovernmental Committee*

Based on your community’s experience, needs and expectations, how should the Committee pay most attention to the “public domain” or a similar concept, in its work; and how can its work better meet the needs and expectations of your community?

[End of Annex and of document]