

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

Forty-Fifth Session
Geneva, December 5 to 9, 2022

VOLUNTARY FUND FOR ACCREDITED INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD

Information Note prepared by the Director General

1. The arrangements establishing the WIPO Voluntary Fund (“the Fund”), as approved by the General Assembly, are contained in the Annex to Document WO/GA/39/11. Article 6(i) of the Decision states:

“The Advisory Board will adopt its recommendation before the end of the Committee session on the margins of which it meets. This recommendation will identify:

- (i) the subsequent Committee session and, should the case arise, the IWG meeting(s) intended for financial support (i.e., the subsequent session of the Committee),
- (ii) the applicants whom the Advisory Board agrees should be supported for that session and/or the IWG meeting(s), for whom funds are available,
- (iii) any applicant or applicants whom the Advisory Board agrees should be supported in principle but for whom insufficient funds are available,
- (iv) any applicant or applicants whose application has been rejected in accordance with the procedure in Article 10,
- (v) any applicant or applicants whose application has been postponed until the next session of the Committee in accordance with the procedure in Article 10.

The Advisory Board will immediately forward the contents of the recommendation to the Director General who will take a decision in accordance with the recommendation. The Director General will inform the Committee immediately and, in any case, prior to the end of its current session, by means of an information note specifying the decision taken concerning each applicant.”

2. Accordingly, the Secretariat wishes to communicate to the Committee the report and recommendations adopted by the Advisory Board at the conclusion of its meeting held on the margins of the Forty-Fifth Session of the Committee. This report is attached in the Annex.

3. The Committee is advised that, in accordance with Article 6(d) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11 as approved by the General Assembly (39th session), the Director General has taken note of the content of this report and adopted the decisions as recommended by the Advisory Board in paragraph 4 of its report.

[Annex follows]

WIPO VOLUNTARY FUND

ADVISORY BOARD

REPORT

1. The Advisory Board of the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities (“the Fund”), whose members were appointed by decision of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (“the Committee”) during its Forty-Fifth Session and whose names appear at the end of this report, held its Thirty-Fifth meeting on December 7, 2022, under the chairmanship of Mr. Yonah SELETI, member *ex officio*, on the margins of the Forty-Fifth Session of the Committee.
2. The members of the Advisory Board met in accordance with Articles 7 and 9 of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11.
3. Recalling Article 5(a) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11, the Advisory Board took note of the financial situation of the Fund as described in the Information Note WIPO/GRTKF/IC/45/INF/4 dated November 23, 2022, which was distributed before the opening of the Forty-Fifth Session of the Committee and which specified that the amount available in the Fund minus the previously committed amount was 6,437.23 Swiss francs on November 10, 2022. In this regard, the Advisory Board reiterated its appreciation of the contribution to the Fund received from the Federal Ministry of Justice of Germany on September 13, 2022, amounting to 14,233.70 Swiss francs (the equivalent of 15,000 euros at the time of the transfer). The Advisory Board strongly encouraged WIPO Member States and other potential donors to contribute further to the Fund.
4. The Advisory Board adopted the following recommendations based on the consideration of the list of applicants as it appears in the Information Note WIPO/GRTKF/IC/45/INF/4 as well as of the content of the applications of those applicants, and in accordance with Article 6(i) of the Annex to document WO/GA/39/11:
 - (i) future session intended for financial support in accordance with Article 5(e): 46th session of the Committee;
 - (ii) applicants whom the Advisory Board agreed should be supported in principle for the session of the Committee as referred to under paragraph 4(i), pending sufficient availability of funds (in order of priority):

Jebra Ram MUCHAHARY (Mr.)
Jafarou MALAM KOSSAO (Mr.)
 - (iii) applicants whose application should be postponed for further consideration by the Advisory Board until the next session of the Committee:

Babagana ABUBAKAR (Mr.)
Agoussou Marcellin AIGBE (Mr.)
 - (iv) applicant(s) whose application should be rejected:

None.

The content of the present report and the recommendations it contains will be forwarded to the Director General of WIPO following its adoption by the members of the Advisory Board in accordance with Article 6(i) last paragraph of the Annex to document WIPO/GA/39/11.

Done in Geneva, December 7, 2022

Names of the members of the Advisory Board:

Chair: Mr. Yonah SELETI (Mr.), Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Committee, member *ex officio*, [agreed]

and in alphabetical order:

Catherine BUNYASSI KAHURIA (Ms.), Chief State Counsel, Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice, Republic of Kenya [agreed]

Vueti KOSONIU MAY (Mr.), First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Fiji, Geneva [agreed]

Sebastian MOLINA NECUL (Mr.), Chief of the IP Division, Undersecretariat for International Economic Affairs, Chile [agreed]

Sonia Patricia MURCIA ROA (Ms.), Representative, Maloca *Internationale* [agreed]

Musa Usman NDAMBA (Mr.), Representative, Mbororo Social Cultural Development Association (MBOSCUDA) [agreed]

Thomas REITINGER (Mr.), Senior Patent Examiner, Patent Division, German Patent and Trademark Office, Federal Ministry of Justice, Germany [agreed]

Jason SEARLE (Mr.), Representative, Adviser, Native American Rights Fund (NARF) [agreed]

Emil ŽATKULIAK (Mr.), Head of the International Affairs Department, Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, Slovakia [agreed]

[End of Annex and of document]