

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Eleventh Session
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PROPOSAL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON DATA EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Delegation of Japan proposes to develop a set of recommendations on data exchange framework for consideration by the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS). The project brief on the proposal is reproduced as the Annex to the present document.
2. As the background of the proposal, the project brief refers to the Group of Eight (G8) "Open Data Charter" which was agreed upon at the 2013 G8 Summit and the international collaboration between developing and developed countries in the context of the "Open Government Partnership " initiative involving 75 developed and developing countries. The project brief includes the current problems to be addressed, objectives of the proposal, a proposed solution and expected benefits.
3. The Secretariat considers the proposal by the Delegation of Japan falls under the remit of the CWS whose mandate is reproduced below:

"The mandate of the CWS will be to provide a forum to adopt new or revised WIPO standards, policies, recommendations and statements of principle relating to intellectual property data, global information system related matters, information services on the global system, data dissemination and documentation, which may be promulgated or referred to the WIPO General Assembly for consideration or approval."

4. The Delegation of Japan proposes to create a new Task and a corresponding Task Force under the CWS to develop the recommendations. As there is no existing CWS Task to manage the proposal, the Secretariat proposes to establish a new CWS task with the following description:

“Analyze practices and challenges of IP offices in exchanging their data; and prepare recommendations on IP data exchange framework as a new WIPO standard”

5. The Secretariat also proposes to establish “IP Data Exchange Task Force” to manage the new Task and seeks nominations to be the leader of the new Task Force. Once the Task Force is established, the CWS requests the Secretariat to issue a circular inviting its Members and Observers to nominate subject matter experts.

6. *The CWS is invited to:*

(a) note the contents of the present document and the project brief as reproduced in the Annex to the present document;

(b) review and comment on the project brief as reproduced in the Annex to the present document; and

(c) consider and approve the creation of a new Task and the corresponding Task Force as indicated in paragraphs 4 and 5 above; and

(d) request the Secretariat to issue a circular inviting its Members and Observers to nominate subject matter experts to the new Task Force as indicated in paragraph 5 above.

[Annex follows]

PROJECT BRIEF: PROPOSAL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON DATA EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK

Document prepared by the Delegation of the Japan

Background

In recent years, open data initiatives have become a global trend, in which government agencies provide data (including Intellectual Property (IP) related gazette data) to the public in a machine-readable format for easy secondary use, and the private sector utilizes the provided data for innovation and other purposes.

Among developed countries, the Group of Eight (G8) "Open Data Charter" was agreed upon at the 2013 G8 Summit. International collaboration between developing and developed countries is also underway, with the "Open Government Partnership" initiative involving 75 countries.

If Member States of WIPO can exchange IP gazette data smoothly and efficiently, it will enable better quality examinations at the respective intellectual property offices (IPOs) and more appropriate technical research by users in each country, thereby contributing to the promotion of innovation.

Problems to be addressed

Against the above background, IPOs should negotiate various aspects including data usage terms and conditions, platforms to be used, and data format, with each other to exchange IP gazette data or other documentation. The negotiation process usually takes time and resources. There is room for improvement in terms of data exchange efficiency.

All countries can benefit from data exchange although IPOs may not have a common understanding on the benefits of data exchange and priority for the data sharing with other IPOs.

Objectives of the proposal

It is proposed to create a new Task and a corresponding Task Force under the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) to facilitate discussions on the problems described above and the proposed solution below or other solutions to address the problems. This proposal aims at covering the exchange of the following gazette data:

- Patents,
- Designs,
- Trademarks, etc.

Proposed Solution

We would like to propose the development of a new standard to create an environment in which member states can exchange data with a common recognition of the significance of data exchange.

The standard may include:

- Data exchange policies;
- Procedures (from data exchange requests to signatures to actual exchange operations);
- Data usage authorization;
- Types of data to be exchanged (For example, in case of patent gazettes, bibliographic data, requirements, claims, specifications and/or drawings);
- Source and quality of data;
- Data exchange systems; and
- Data structure and format for exchange: data format such as XML and JSON, and relevant WIPO Standards such as WIPO Standards ST.96 and ST.97).

Expected benefits

By sharing the value of "contributing to the creation of global innovation through the smooth provision of substantial IP information by member states" through standardization, we will further accelerate open data efforts in IP information area, promote technology transfer among member states including developing countries, and contribute to solving global issues.

Cost estimates

Not available at this stage.

Resource requirements

IT experts and IP data experts.

Risks

There is no anticipated risk currently.