

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Eleventh Session
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PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING A GLOBAL PLATFORM TO FACILITATE IP INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia submitted a proposal for establishing a global platform to facilitate the exchange of Intellectual Property (IP) information 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. This project brief proposes to develop a global platform under the supervision of WIPO, which aims to harmonize and standardize IP data provided from disparate sources. The project brief includes the description of the current problems and challenges in exchanging IP data and information, a proposed solution to address them, expected benefits, a rough cost estimates, timeline, resource requirements and success factors.
3. The project brief also identifies several potential challenges for establishing the platform, including the issues in sharing data due to lack of cooperation or conflicting interests among IP offices. In the context of WIPO Global Databases, many Offices still do not permit any data sharing or redistribution. Therefore, a global data access policy, which could be a WIPO Standard or recommendation adopted by the CWS, should be developed at the same time or as a pre-requisite to establishing the platform. The maximum value of this platform can only be achieved if it includes a large number of Offices' IP data collections.

4. The Secretariat considers the proposal by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia falls under the mandate of the CWS 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.”

5. As there is no existing CWS Task to manage the proposal, the Secretariat suggests initiating the proposed project with the project brief and creating a new CWS task to deal with the project. The Secretariat proposes the following description of the new Task:

“Review the proposal for establishing a global platform to facilitate exchange of IP information under the supervision of WIPO; Determine business requirements, considering necessary global data access policy; and develop technical solution(s) required to implement the global platform.”

6. The Secretariat also propose to establish “IP Information Exchange Platform Task Force” to deal with the new Task and the Delegation of Saudi Arabia has nominated itself as Task Force Leader. 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, in light of the personnel indicated in the “Human resources” Section of the Project Brief.

7. *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;*
- (c) consider and approve the creation of a new Task and the corresponding Task Force as indicated in paragraphs 5 and 6 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 6 above.*

[Annex follows]

PROJECT BRIEF: PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING A GLOBAL PLATFORM TO FACILITATE IP INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Proposal submitted by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia

CURRENT SITUATION AND CHALLENGES

The Delegation of Saudi Arabia has noted the following limitations with how IP Offices can exchange IP data:

- **IP Offices Limitations and Constraints:** IP offices around the world often face significant challenges when it comes to exchanging data and information, due to conflicting IT infrastructures, divergent data standards, and the limitation of manpower and capacity constraints.
- **IP Offices Duplication of Efforts:** In their own efforts, IPOs frequently encounter situations where they duplicate efforts in data exchange and model trainings. This redundancy not only results in wasted time and resources but also creates inconsistencies.

PROPOSED SOLUTION: ESTABLISH A GLOBAL PLATFORM TO FACILITATE IP INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Establishing a global platform for intellectual property (IP) information developed and managed under the supervision of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in accordance with national policies, with the purpose of promoting IP information accessibility and exchange in multiple formats such as WIPO Standard ST.36, ST.96, ST.66, ST.86 or other customized formats. This proposed platform has the potential to leverage the existing global databases, including Patentscope, Global Brand Database, and Global Design Database. We propose creating a new CWS Task dedicated to examining this proposal in collaboration with the International Bureau and interested IPOs. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia offers to lead the Task Force if it is established.

PROJECT BRIEF PROPOSAL

Description and Business model

To address the fragmented landscape of intellectual property (IP) data request, we propose a global platform provided under WIPO's supervision which harmonizes and standardizes IP data from diverse sources, including patents, trademarks, and industrial designs. The platform will adhere to data privacy regulations and IP protection standards, offering a user-friendly interface, and multi-lingual support.

This global IP platform will become an invaluable source for IPOs, facilitating data flow from/to different offices, support and expediate efficient exchange activities among offices, and promote IP data standardization.

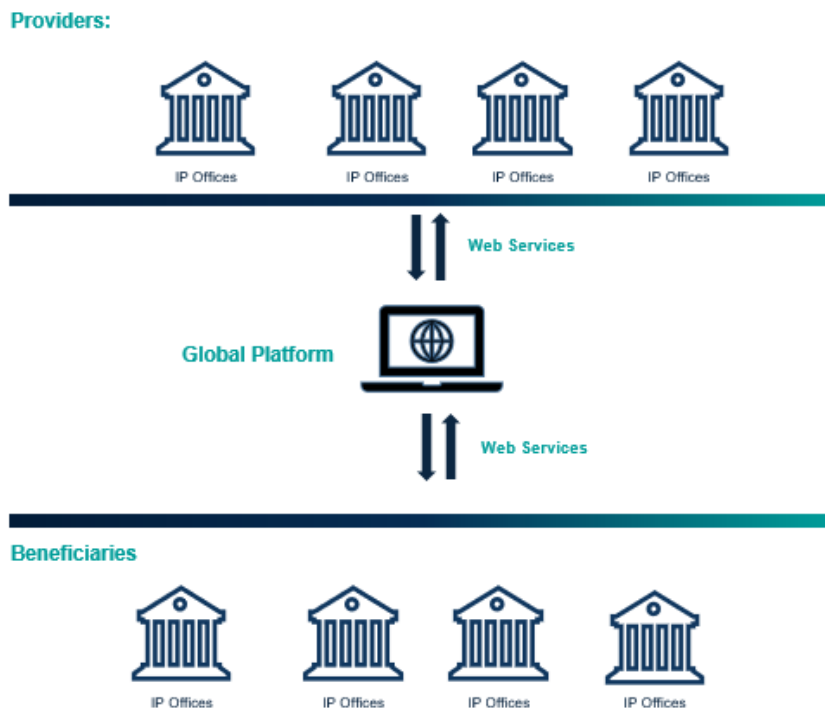


Figure 1: Proposed architecture

A proposed architecture is shown in Figure 1 and the steps of operations are expected to be as follows:

- **Step 1:** Receiving IP Information exchange requests from beneficiary IP Offices
- **Step 2:** After fulfilling the requirements, such as signing an agreement, Providing IP Offices will share requested information.

Expected benefits and outcomes to be realized

The following benefits are hoped to be achieved by WIPO providing this type of data exchange platform:

1. Supporting and encouraging all intellectual property offices to exchange their IP Information.
2. Facilitating automated IP Information exchange with accreditation.
3. Facilitating communications between IPOs regards the IP Information exchange.
4. Making data available according to all WIPO standards
5. Connecting to a secure network
6. Enhancing investment in intellectual property information
7. Enriching knowledge and stimulating innovation.
8. Enhancing international enforcement of intellectual property protection.

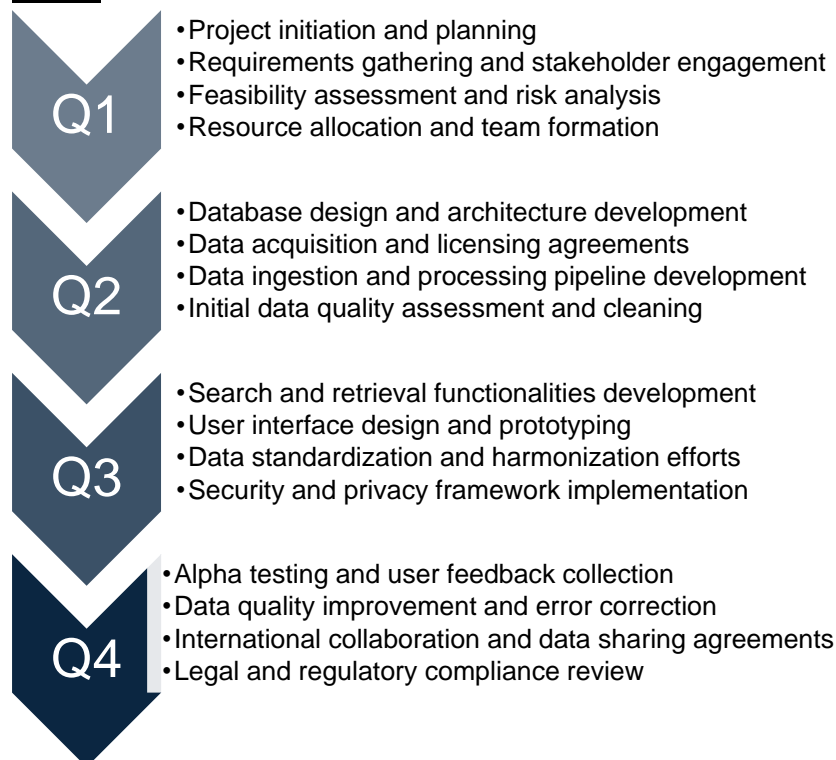
Expected challenges

The following challenges expect to need to be addressed during development of this global platform:

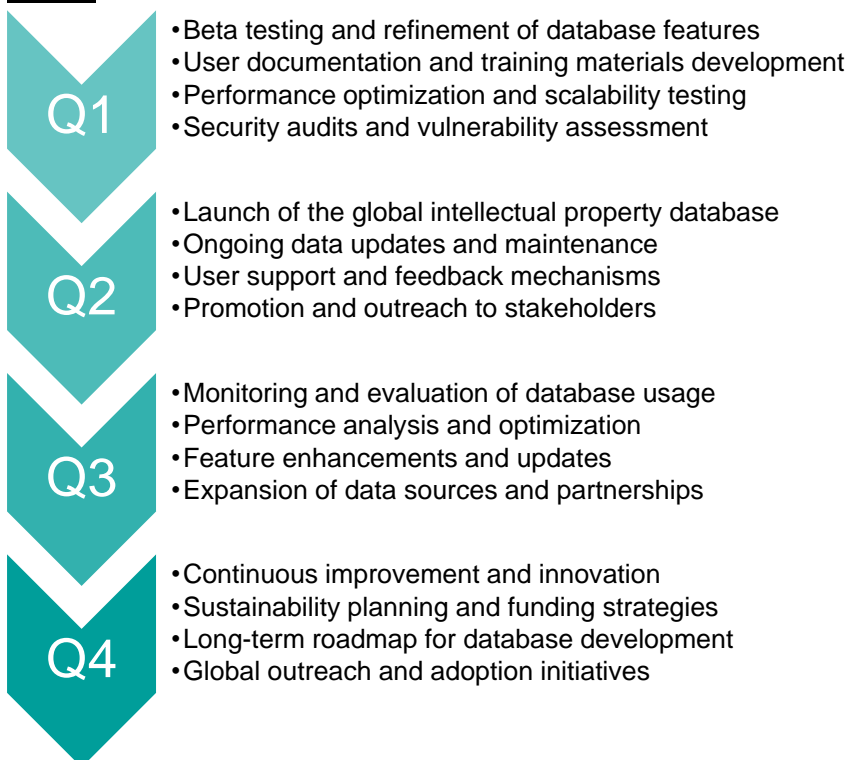
1. Errors or inconsistencies in the data could undermine the database's reliability and lead to misleading or inaccurate information for users.
2. Data breaches or leaks could expose restricted information, potentially harming individuals or organizations and leading to legal or reputational damage.
3. Lack of cooperation or conflicting interests among different jurisdictions could hinder data sharing, standardization efforts, and the database's overall effectiveness.
4. Insufficient funding or waning support could lead to stagnation, outdated data, and a decline in the database's usefulness and relevance.

Project timelines and proposed schedule (tentative)

Year 1



Year 2



Success factors

The following criteria should be achieved in order to ensure that the platform had achieved its original objectives:

- **Comprehensive data coverage:** The platform should encompass a wide range of intellectual property types, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, and industrial designs, covering various jurisdictions and historical data.
- **Data accuracy and reliability:** The platform must maintain high data quality standards, ensuring accuracy, consistency, and reliability to provide trustworthy information for users.
- **User-friendly interface:** The platform should provide an intuitive and user-friendly interface, making it easy for users to navigate, search, and access the information they need.
- **Advanced search capabilities:** The platform should offer advanced search functionalities, allowing users to filter, refine, and analyze intellectual property data based on various criteria.
- **Multi-lingual support:** The platform should support multiple languages, catering to a global audience and facilitating access for users from diverse linguistic backgrounds.
- **Robust security and privacy:** The platform must implement stringent security measures to protect intellectual property data from unauthorized access, breaches, or misuse.
- **International collaboration:** The platform should foster collaboration among national and international intellectual property offices, promoting data sharing, standardization, and harmonization efforts.
- **Sustainable funding model:** The platform should have a sustainable funding model to ensure ongoing maintenance, data updates, and feature enhancements.

- **Legal and regulatory compliance:** The platform must adhere to data privacy laws, intellectual property regulations, and international treaties to operate legally and responsibly.

PROJECT BRIEF INITIAL PLANNING

Initial rough cost estimates

Cost category	Estimated cost (CHF)
Initial Development	1,650,000.00
Infrastructure	1,000,000.00
Ongoing maintenance	1,000,000.00
Additional Considerations	200,000.00
GRAND TOTAL	3,450,000

Resource requirements

The following resource requirements should be considered during planning activities.

Human resources

- **Database Developers:** Experienced software engineers and database architects to design, develop, and maintain the database infrastructure.
- **Data Scientists:** Experts in data analysis, data mining, and machine learning to process, clean, and harmonize intellectual property data.
- **Subject Matter Experts:** Intellectual property lawyers, patent examiners, and trademark specialists to provide domain expertise and ensure data accuracy.
- **User Interface Designers:** UX/UI designers to create a user-friendly and accessible interface for the database.
- **Project Managers:** Experienced project managers to oversee the project's planning, execution, and coordination.

Hardware resources

- **Hardware:** High-performance servers, storage systems, and networking equipment to support the database's scalability and performance.
- **Software:** Database management systems, data processing tools, data visualization software, and security software.
- **Cloud Infrastructure:** Cloud computing resources for scalability, flexibility, and cost-efficiency.

Data resources

- **Intellectual Property Data:** Access to intellectual property data from various sources, including national and international intellectual property offices, patent databases, and trademark and others.

Financial resources

- **Development Funding:** Initial funding for platform development, infrastructure setup, and data acquisition.
- **Ongoing Funding:** Sustainable funding model for ongoing maintenance, data updates, and feature enhancements.

International collaboration

- Partnerships: Collaborative partnerships with national and international intellectual property offices to facilitate data sharing and standardization.
- Cross-Jurisdictional Expertise: Expertise in navigating the legal and regulatory frameworks of different jurisdictions.

Legal and regulatory compliance

- Legal Expertise: Legal counsel to ensure compliance with data privacy laws, intellectual property regulations, and international treaties.
- Data Governance Policies: Robust data governance policies to ensure data privacy, security, and ethical use.

Sustainability planning

- Long-Term Funding Strategy: A sustainable funding model to support the database's ongoing operations and future growth.
- Continuous Improvement: A commitment to continuous improvement, feature enhancements, and data updates.

[End of Annex and the document]