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**Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

**Fifth Session**

**Geneva, May 29 to June 2, 2017**

REVISION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.26

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. At its reconvened fourth session held in Geneva in March 2016, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) adopted WIPO Standard ST.26 “Recommended standard for the presentation of nucleotide and amino acid sequence listings using XML (eXtensible Markup Language)”. Consequently, the CWS agreed to the modified description of Task No. 44: “Prepare recommendations for the transition provisions from WIPO Standard ST.25 to ST.26; and a proposal for the revision of WIPO Standard ST.26, if needed”. (See paragraphs 49 to 53 and 82 to 84 of document CWS/4BIS/16.)
2. Under the new description of Task No. 44, the SEQL Task Force has carried out discussions on the revision of WIPO Standard ST.26; the European Patent Office (EPO), as the Leader of the Task Force, provided a progress report on the work carried out by the Task Force, which is reproduced in Annex I to the present document.
3. As the outcome of its discussions, the SEQL Task Force submitted, for consideration and, where appropriate, approval by the CWS, a final proposal for the revision of Standard ST.26 which includes modifications to ST.26 main body and its Annexes I to III and a new Annex VI (Guidance Document). It should be noted that Annexes IV and V of ST.26 remain unchanged (thus, they are not attached). The proposed revision is reproduced in Annex II to the present document with regard to ST.26 main body and its Annexes I to II (entitled as “ST.26 Annex I”, “ST.26 Annex II”, respectively); for Annex III to ST.26, the SEQL Task Force proposes to change the two-letter language codes in capital to lower-case to make them aligned with two-letter codes defined in ISO 639, for examples, changing two-letter code “EN” for English to “en”. It should be noted that if the proposed revision is approved by the CWS, the new version of ST.26 would be version 1.1 (ST.26 Annex III is not attached to the present document).
4. *The CWS is invited to:*

 *(a) take note of the content of present document and the report on the work of SEQL Task Force provided in Annex I to this document; and*

 *(b) consider and decide on the approval of the proposed revision of WIPO Standard ST.26, as referred to in paragraph 3 above and reproduced in Annex II to the present document.*

[Annex I follows]