

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

**Seventh Session
Geneva, July 1 to 5, 2019**

REVISION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.3

Document prepared by the International Bureau

INTRODUCTION

1. Document CWS/7/2 contains a proposal for a revision of WIPO Standard ST.3.
2. At its sixth session held in 2018, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) noted a proposal by the Delegation of Austria, on behalf of the European Union, for inclusion of a new two-letter alphabetic code “EU” for the European Union in WIPO Standard ST.3. The CWS also noted that the International Bureau would prepare and circulate a draft amendment of WIPO Standard ST.3 in which the code “EU” will be incorporated for consultation following the established procedure for revision of WIPO Standard ST.3. (See paragraph 40 of document CWS/6/34.)
3. The International Bureau issued the circular C.CWS 109 informing Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) of the proposal for the inclusion of the two letter code “EU” in WIPO Standard ST.3 and inviting IPOs to comment on the proposal. The International Bureau received no objection, but two IPOs requested to provide a footnote to clarify the purpose and appropriate use of the new code “EU” considering the following existing codes in WIPO ST.3:
 - EM: European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)
 - EP: European Patent Office (EPO)
 - QZ: Community Plant Variety Office (EUROPEAN UNION) (CPVO)

4. Taking into account suggestions by several IPOs, the International Bureau has prepared a proposal for a draft footnote. Taking the opportunity to revise WIPO ST.3 at this session of the CWS and considering required further discussion after the consultation following the established procedure for the revision of WIPO ST.3, the International Bureau proposes below a draft footnote 14 for consideration by the CWS. If the CWS approves the draft footnote, the new footnote 14 would be added to the four two-letter codes: EM, EP, EU and QZ.

5. The proposed new footnote 14 is as follows:

“The two-letter codes “EP”, “EM”, and “QZ” must be used to indicate the corresponding Office defined in this Standard while the Code “EU” must be used to indicate other institutions in the European Union. Additionally, the codes must be used in the following situations:

“ “EP” for documentation and information related to patents administered by the European Patent Office (EPO);

“ “EM” for documentation and information related to European Union Trademarks and European Union Industrial Designs administered by the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), and for the designation of the European Union in the Madrid and Hague Systems;

“ “QZ” for documentation and information related to Community Plant Variety Rights administered by the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO); and

“ “EU” for documentation and information related to other rights applicable in the European Union and not covered by the Codes “EP”, “EM” and “QZ”, such as Marketing Authorizations approved by the European Medicines Agency or Geographical Indications protected under EU legislation.”

6. *The CWS is invited to:*

(a) note the content of the present document; and

(b) consider and decide on the proposal for the new footnote to be incorporated in WIPO Standard ST.3 as indicated in paragraph 5 above.

[End of document]