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WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES

Information document prepared by the Secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At the Twenty-Third Session of the WIPO Program and Budget Committee (PBC) held in July 2015, there was wide-ranging discussion on the subject of WIPO External Offices under Program 20 of the 'Draft Proposed Program and Budget for the 2016/17 Biennium'. In response to the interventions made by Member States, the Secretariat stated that an Information Document would be prepared detailing the work being undertaken by WIPO External Offices. The document would also contain details of the recent initiatives that have been launched by the Secretariat to enhance the integration and coherence of these External Offices.

II. WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES: FUNCTIONS AND PRINCIPLES

2. WIPO has a limited network of External Offices. These offices, established between 2005 and 2014, are located in Singapore (2005), Japan (2006), Brazil (2010), China (2014) and the Russian Federation (2014). With the exception of Singapore, which covers the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Region, the coverage of the other WIPO Offices is limited to the countries in which they are located.

3. The core functions of the WIPO External Offices include the promotion of, and support for, WIPO's Global Intellectual Property (IP) Systems, the delivery of technical assistance and capacity building activities, the promotion of WIPO's treaties and the implementation of effective communication and outreach strategies, all with a view to 'leading the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all'. While these activities constitute the core work undertaken by the External Offices, the focus of each office varies depending on the specific needs and demands of the countries/region in which they are located.

4. The core principles governing the establishment of WIPO External Offices have been: (i) they should add value, efficiency and effectiveness to program delivery in a coordinated manner so as to complement the work being undertaken by WIPO Headquarters and to avoid duplication; (ii) they should respond effectively and adequately to local priorities, specificities and felt needs; (iii) they should be cost effective; (iv) they should form an integral part of WIPO's Results-Based Management (RBM) and regulatory framework. In keeping with these principles, the primary objective, as well as the challenge, before WIPO's management is to ensure the full and complete integration of the network of WIPO External Offices into the mandate, work, activities and results framework of the Organization, thus ensuring the coherence and the utility of these Offices.

III. WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES: ROLE, MANDATE AND ACTIVITIES

5. At the outset, it should be noted that WIPO's five External Offices are fully integrated into the Organizational results framework. As such, their annual workplanning is coordinated with the regional Bureaus and other areas in Headquarters to ensure that there is targeted program delivery that is not duplicative and which makes full use of the advantages of the Organization having a field presence. In 2015, the Program Performance and Budget Division worked intensively with External Offices to improve and ensure a coordinated preparation for the Program and Budget 2016/17.

(a) The WIPO Singapore Office (WSO)

6. The WSO was established in 2005 pursuant to a decision of the WIPO Coordination Committee at its Fifty-Third Session of that year. The Office is located on the campus of the National University of Singapore along with several other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs). In addition, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (AMC) was established in separate premises which also house several other arbitration institutions. The WSO is staffed by a director, two professionals and an administrative support staff member. The AMC is staffed by one professional.

7. The WSO is the only WIPO External Office with a regional focus, servicing the ASEAN countries. As such, it devotes particular attention to assisting ASEAN countries in implementing the ASEAN IP action plans in accordance with country plans and national IP strategies. The WSO also works closely with the Government of Singapore with which WIPO has an agreed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) defining, among other matters, cooperation activities to promote IP awareness and to build IP capabilities in developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) in the Region.

8. In this context, the below mentioned have been some of the main activities of the WSO in the first half of 2015:

- The WSO has been active in promoting WIPO's Global IP Systems, particularly as ASEAN nations have acceded to, or plan to accede to, the various Systems as part of the mentioned ASEAN action plans. By way of example, in the first half of 2015, the WSO organized or co-organized five seminars on the Madrid and Hague Systems which were attended by 200 stakeholders.
- The WSO provided technical assistance to help implement effective administration systems in IP offices and collective management organizations in the Region. The location at the WSO of an expert (non-staff) on IP office business solutions greatly enhanced the capacity and effectiveness of the Office in this regard.

- The WSO engaged IP officials, professionals and academics from across the Region as well as from key institutions in Singapore to build awareness of IP and WIPO's activities and services. In this regard, in the first half of 2015, the WSO participated in 24 national or regional events and arranged four study visits for practitioners and students, mainly to the premises of the WSO.
- Drawing on its location and its regular interaction with IP technical assistance providers many of whom are based in the Region, the WSO has been instrumental in the formation of a Group of such providers which meets regularly and helps ensure better coordination of IP technical assistance activities and the avoidance of duplication.

9. The WSO has also continued to assist in the maintenance of a responsive communications interface between WIPO and its Member States and stakeholders by providing support, during its allotted timeframe, for the round-the-clock WIPO customer service.

(b) The WIPO Japan Office (WJO)

10. The WJO was established in 2006 following an offer of the Government of Japan at the Assemblies the previous year. The Office is located in Tokyo in premises close to the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and relevant Japanese Government ministries. The WJO is staffed by a director and a professional staff member. The staffing of the Office is augmented by one professional (researcher) funded from the WIPO-Japan Funds-in-Trust (FIT).

11. The WJO is particularly focused on promoting WIPO's Global IP Systems and as such, regularly and intensively engages with Japanese institutions, industry, stakeholders' groups and academia to achieve this. The WJO has also closely engaged with the Government of Japan in the context of implementing and evolving the WIPO-Japan FIT, one of WIPO's largest trust funds.

12. The below mentioned have been some of the main activities of the WJO in the first half of 2015:

- The Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement officially entered into force in Japan on May 13, 2015. The WJO has provided real-time advice and assistance, in Japanese, on the practical operation of the system and fielded numerous inquiries which have been received by the Office. These are anticipated to increase in the coming period. The WJO, working with the Hague Registry in Headquarters, has developed a comprehensive series of promotion activities for the coming months to reach out to the large number of potential users of the System.
- The WJO has been engaging with Japanese industry and user groups to leverage events by these groups to promote WIPO's Global IP Systems. For example, the WJO, assisted by the Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA), arranged meetings in February 2015 between the WIPO Director General and some 1,500 users of WIPO's Global Systems. The WJO also used the opportunity presented by the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) seminars organized by the Japan Patent Attorney Association (JPAA) in May 2015 to reach out to over 200 users and potential users of the PCT System. Overall, during the first half of 2015, the WJO participated in 15 national or regional events.
- Language is an important element of effective outreach in Japan and the WJO continues to provide invaluable support in providing information in Japanese. The WJO website is translated into Japanese and the Office also translates key documents and information on an ongoing basis. During the first half of the year,

the WJO received and addressed 393 inquiries from Japanese users and stakeholders.

- The Brands and Designs Sector has financed a consultant on the Madrid System who is located in Tokyo. This has enabled the WJO to visit, on a regular and ongoing basis, numerous companies many of which are large users of the Madrid System and provide updates on latest developments.
- The WJO works closely with the Government of Japan on the planning and use of the WIPO-Japan FIT. The FIT have provided the WJO with extra-budgetary resources to focus on the implementation of activities aimed at capacity building and enhancing the use of IP in business in developing countries. The FIT-funded researcher in the WJO, for example, is engaged in the updating of the IP Advantage database of real world examples of how IP works and how its successful exploitation can contribute to development. The WJO was also instrumental, for example, in organizing the FIT-funded Heads of Intellectual Property Office Conference for Countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia, held in Tokyo in June 2015.

13. The WJO has also continued to assist in the maintenance of a responsive communications interface between WIPO and its Member States and stakeholders by providing support, during its allotted timeframe, for the round-the-clock WIPO customer service.

(c) The WIPO Brazil Office (WBO)

14. The WBO was established in 2010 following the inclusion of the Office in the revised Program and Budget 2008/09 and the approval of the Coordination Committee at its 62nd session of an agreement establishing the Office. The office is located in a commercial district in Rio de Janeiro which is also the location of the World Bank Regional Offices. The WBO is staffed by a director, two professionals (one of which is a national professional officer) and an administrative support staff member.

15. The WBO is located in Rio de Janeiro and engages closely with the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI), which is also located in the city. The Office is focused on facilitating the use of IP for development through enhancing human resource capacities in Brazil and in other developing countries having cooperation programs with Brazil. The WBO also manages two FITs provided by the Government of Brazil which aim to promote an IP culture among national and international institutions and users through South-South cooperation among developing countries within and outside the Latin America Region. In this context, the below mentioned have been some of the main activities of the WBO in the first half of 2015:

- The WBO has continued to work closely with INPI in assisting the organization of activities designed to build capacity in the area of patent examination. The WBO has also participated in capacity building programs offered by Brazilian institutions such as the INPI Academy and Federal and State universities.
- The WBO has engaged with local institutions with a view to raising awareness of WIPO, its activities and the Global IP Systems. The Office has been invited to become a member of two committees organized by the National R&D Association of Innovative Enterprises (ANPEI). Meetings take place monthly and the WBO has provided advice and assistance with respect to the nexus between IP and innovation. The WBO has also been working with the Brazilian Innovation Agency (FINEP) and the Brazilian Service for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SEBRAE) to plan joint promotion, training and capacity building initiatives to be completed by year's end.

- The WBO has been active in promoting WIPO's platforms. It has established a close relationship with the Brazilian National Association of Innovation and Technology Transfer Managers (FORTEC) which is expected to lead to the first uploads of technologies into the WIPO GREEN database in 2015.

16. The WBO has also continued to assist in the maintenance of a responsive communications interface between WIPO and its Member States and stakeholders by providing support, during its allotted timeframe, for the round-the-clock WIPO customer service.

(d) The WIPO Office in China (WOC)

17. The WOC was established in 2014 following the decisions of the Coordination Committee at its Sixty-Seventh (44th Ordinary) Session in September 2013 and the Assemblies at their Forty-Fourth Session in December 2013. The Office is located in a newly equipped standalone building in central Beijing near to Government offices. The WOC is staffed by a director, a professional and one administrative support staff position (currently vacant). The human resources of the Office are augmented by the support of two Fellows (non-staff) with IP expertise.

18. Following a start-up phase last year, 2015 marked the first full year of operation of the WOC. The Office has been focusing in particular on the promotion of WIPO's Global IP Systems and treaties while fostering awareness of WIPO, the WOC and the role of IP in innovation and development.

19. The below mentioned have been some of the main activities of the WOC in the first half of 2015:

- The WOC has closely engaged with relevant Chinese Government authorities at all levels and worked closely with Government officials in support of and preparatory to China's anticipated accession to the Marrakech Treaty, the Hague System and the Singapore Treaty. In the context of China's ratification of the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances (BTAP) (in 2014), the WOC has also used events such as World IP Day, WIPO awards for creativity and the 18th International Film Festival in Shanghai in June 2015 to promote copyright and related rights protection and utilization in the context of the film industry.
- The WOC has established close and regular contact and cooperation with industry associations to connect with users and stakeholders. It is noteworthy that the Office organized nine seminars and workshops related to the PCT, Madrid and Hague Systems and the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services in the first half of the year reaching out to users and stakeholders including in provinces distant from Beijing. In the first half of the year, the Office received and addressed inquiries on WIPO's systems from over 300 users and stakeholders.
- The WOC has given special attention to its outreach programs. It has established a contact group of journalists from national, mainstream media organizations and engages with this group on a regular basis to update on developments in WIPO. The Office also organized a WIPO Academy Summer School in Shanghai which drew over 60 participants from a dozen countries. In a short space of time, the Office has attracted considerable attention and has organized or received 57 visits from both international (including foreign diplomatic officials) and local visitors.

- During the first half of the year, the WOC organized or co-organized 12 events attended by 1,220 persons and attended and participated in 24 meetings and events which have attracted thousands of participants from government, the private sector, research institutions and academia.

(e) The WIPO Russia Office (WRO)

20. The WRO was established in 2014 following the decisions of the Coordination Committee at its Sixty-Seventh (44th Ordinary) Session in September 2013 and the Assemblies at their Forty-Fourth Session in December 2013. The WRO is in a temporary location and will relocate to new premises in the newly established Skolkovo Innovation Center near Moscow in the latter half of 2015. The WRO is staffed by a professional staff member with the title of Deputy Director.

21. Following a start-up phase last year, 2015 marked the first full year of operation of the WRO. The WRO has been focused on the promotion of WIPO's Global IP Systems, support for the development of the network of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in the Russian Federation and closely engaging with the Government of the Russian Federation institutions, industry, users and stakeholders' groups, and academia to extend and intensify the reach of WIPO's activities.

22. The below mentioned have been some of the main activities of the WRO in the first half of 2015:

- The WRO has organized and participated in events and conferences in both Moscow and other parts of the Russian Federation to reach out to users and other stakeholders in promotion of WIPO's Global IP Systems. For example, at the International Forum on Intellectual Property in Moscow in April, organized by the WRO, the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Government institutions, the Office was able to connect with more than 2,000 participants.
- The WRO has extended the footprint of WIPO activities in the Russian Federation, leveraging its cooperation with local partners to do so. The WRO helped organize and participated in an innovation promotion tour of Vladivostok in April, PCT seminars in May and June in Novosibirsk, Tyumen and Khanty-Mansiysk and promoted the use of IP in the context of universities and research institutions in Dagestan in May 2015. It is noteworthy that the event in Dagestan was not only the first such WIPO event in the North Caucasus but attracted representatives from neighboring regions who WIPO was able to engage with for the first time.
- The WRO has been closely engaging and working with the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (ROSPATENT) in support of the fast-growing network of more than 120 TISCs in the 9 Federal Districts of the Russian Federation.
- The WRO has organized or co-organized 14 events in the first half of 2015 and these have been attended by over 4,500 users and stakeholders. The WRO has also participated in four meetings so far in 2015, which have attracted over 9,000 participants.

23. From the above, it is evident that the WIPO External Offices add value to the work of the Organization in several ways. Their close proximity to, and continuous and intensive interaction with, our stakeholders and users and the use of the local language, all go a long way to facilitating a "global buy-in" to WIPO's mandate. The key elements of the value add include the targeted and focused promotion of, and support for, WIPO's Global IP Systems, the provision of technical assistance and capacity building in tune with evolving local priorities and needs, and

support for an enhanced communications interface with stakeholders and users, by ensuring that the Organization is available to respond around the clock. Additionally, the need for travel from Headquarters to countries/region where the External Offices are located is reduced, resulting in savings. In sum, the WIPO External Offices have demonstrated their value added role in advancing and realizing the Organization's mandate in the areas in which they operate.

IV. WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES: RECENT INITIATIVES

24. As previously mentioned, the expansion of the network of WIPO External Offices has not only provided opportunities for realization of the Organization's mandate but it has also presented challenges. A key challenge for Management has been to ensure the full and complete integration of the network of WIPO External Offices into the mandate, work, activities and results framework of the Organization, thereby ensuring the coherence and utility of the network.

25. At one level, this has been a question of ensuring that the Organization has the policies and procedures in place to support the network of External Offices and streamline their functioning. There are many considerations in this regard. Does the Organization have the human resource policies to support External Offices and make them attractive places for staff to work? Is the safety and security of WIPO's staff and assets at External Offices being maximized? Is the information technology (IT) and premises infrastructure in the External Offices fit for purpose and enabling the work of the Offices and of Headquarters? Have matters of organizational resilience been considered in terms of ensuring the business continuity of External Offices? Are External Offices optimizing their communications potential in support for WIPO's interface with Member States and stakeholders?

26. At another level, the challenges involve ensuring and strengthening the presence of External Offices in the ongoing work of the Organization. This is no less than inculcating an 'External Offices culture' in WIPO Headquarters. It was in response to these challenges that a dedicated series of initiatives were launched by the Secretariat at the beginning of 2015.

27. To examine the policies and procedures which the Organization has which are areas of concern for and directly impact on External Offices, several working groups were established in February 2015. These working groups deal with the following areas: Human Resources; IT, Premises and Security; Management, Planning and Mandate; Communications; Protocol and Events; and Business Continuity. These working groups, composed of senior colleagues from relevant Sectors and areas in WIPO, have met regularly since that time. While they are progressing in their respective areas, the issues with which they are dealing are often complex and interconnected and their deliberations are ongoing.

28. At the same time, progress has been registered in further integrating the External Offices and enhancing their coherence. One key challenge in this respect has been to improve the communication between the External Offices and Headquarters and among the Offices themselves. In February 2015, for the first time, the Heads of External Offices met together in Geneva. Numerous meetings were held between the Heads as a group with Sectors and units from across WIPO to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in-house. The opportunity was also used to engage Heads in the preparation of the proposed Program and Budget 2016/17. It is planned to regularize these joint meetings on an as needed basis and likely twice a year in Geneva (including once during Assemblies).

29. Bi-monthly video-conferences have also been instituted between Heads and colleagues in Headquarters to foster constant dialogue, communication and to enhance coherence. The video conferences commenced in March 2015 and since that time, 11 have been held

(noting that owing to different time zones, the WOC, WJO and WSO are convened jointly and the WBO and the WRO are convened separately).

30. Also with a view to strengthening internal communication and to ensuring the sharing of information, a consolidated bi-monthly report from the External Offices is being issued to colleagues across the Organization. The report covers key developments relating to IP in the host country/region, key events organized or attended by External Offices, meetings of External Office representatives with senior officials or stakeholders, and important forthcoming events. What has been evident from these reports is the considerable number and scope of activities undertaken by the External Offices and their significant contribution to organizational results. To date, two reports have been issued for the periods March-April and May-June and copies are annexed to this document.

31. In terms of external communication, it has been clear that External Offices have great potential to further contribute to the establishment of a responsive interface between WIPO, its Member States and stakeholders. To achieve quick progress in this area, an initiative was launched in April to revamp the webpages of the External Offices. This initiative involved, on one hand, standardizing the content of the webpages while, on the other, maintaining the specificities required by each Office. Following intensive work over a short time span, the webpages went live in May 2015. An important additional component was to ensure that the revamped webpages better respond to the needs of local users and stakeholders. Consequently, they have also been provided in local languages: the WJO webpage is in Japanese; the WOC webpage is in Chinese; the WRO webpage is in Russian; and the WBO webpage is in Spanish and soon to be provided in Portuguese.

32. Ensuring a seamless and secure IT interface between the External Offices and Headquarters is a backbone of these efforts to ensure full integration and enhance coherence. To achieve this, the Global Office Architecture project was initiated at the beginning of the year. This project aims to provide secure access for External Offices to corporate administrative systems hosted at Headquarters while providing centralized and consistent service. The project is closely managed by a Board which has met four times since April and is on budget and on track. It is expected that all five Offices would 'go-live' by the end of the year.

33. The safety and security of WIPO staff is a paramount concern, as is securing and protecting the Organization's assets. To review safety and security arrangements and ensure External Offices' compliance with and integration into the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS), safety and security audits have been completed for every External Office. These have resulted in recommendations which are being closely tracked and implemented. Aside from being an effective risk management tool, these audits and follow-up recommendations have also reaped benefits in terms of bolstering organizational resilience at External Offices.

34. In the area of human resources, drawing on Organizational experience and that of other United Nations (UN) agencies, it is acknowledged that staff mobility can be both an opportunity for staff development and advancement and a challenge. To bolster the attractiveness of working in the External Offices, a new Staff Regulation on special salary increments has been submitted to the Coordination Committee for approval in October 2015. Should these be approved, they will provide a short-term financial incentive for mobility to External Offices for staff in the professional and higher categories who are reassigned away from Headquarters to a post at the same grade. These are planned to be followed in early 2016 by guidelines which will provide an overview of mechanisms and incentives for staff mobility to External Offices. It should also be noted that workforce planning of the Organization now fully includes External Offices. The same applies to training which is provided through multiple delivery options based on an assessment of needs.

V. CONCLUSION

35. WIPO has a limited network of External Offices established during the past decade. Over that time, the offices have been integrated into the results framework of the Organization and they have contributed to achieving the Expected Results and to realizing the Strategic Goals of the Organization. This has been accomplished with relatively limited expenditure of resources. Significantly, the budgetary allocation proposed for External Offices in the proposed Program and Budget 2016/17 constitutes merely 1per cent of the total budgetary allocation for the Organization.

36. As the network of WIPO External Offices expanded, it became increasingly clear that a key challenge for the Secretariat would be to ensure the full integration of these Offices into the work and mandate of WIPO as well as to enhance their coherence. To this end, the Secretariat has launched numerous initiatives to ensure that External Offices truly form extensions of WIPO in the field and maximize their contribution towards organizational goals as set by Member States. Looking ahead, these initiatives should be seen as the beginning of a process of constant endeavor to ensure that WIPO External Offices are cost-effective entities which add value in the delivery of the Organization's mandate.

[Annexes follow]

WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES BI-MONTHLY REPORT: MARCH-APRIL 2015

A. KEY DEVELOPMENTS

World IP Day celebrations

1. External Offices (Eos) participated in and contributed to events to celebrate World IP Day and provide focus and attention to WIPO and its mission.
2. In China, the WOC co-organized with the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) a Roundtable Seminar on Copyright Protection of Music Works which segued nicely with the theme of World IP Day and which was extensively attended by the Chinese music community. In a similar vein, the WOC co-sponsored (again with NCAC) interviews with 10 top Chinese musicians (including famous pianist Lang Lang). It was also opportune that the WOC was invited to participate in the United States of America Embassy's 2015 Ambassador's Intellectual Property Rights Roundtable on the theme of "Copyright in the Global Digital Community" which also echoed the World IP Day theme.
3. In the Russian Federation, the WRO supported World IP Day events which were held across the 9 Federal Districts and which included conferences, roundtables, seminars, contests and exhibitions. There was a specific focus on sensitizing youth to IP and encouraging their inventiveness and creativity. The International Forum on Intellectual Property – XXI Century in Moscow in April was a centerpiece co-organized by the WRO, the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Parliament and several Government bodies and which attracted over 2,000 participants. A major conference was also held in April 2015 by ROSPATENT - Intellectual Property: Innovative Potential of Russia - which was similarly devoted to World IP Day.
4. In Singapore, the WSO attended a World IP Day appreciation event in which key stakeholders within the Singaporean IP ecosystem were acknowledged.
5. In Japan, World IP Day is not well known as April 18 is celebrated as Hatsumeinohi (Invention Day). The WJO was active in publishing articles and in reaching out to key IP organizations in Japan (the Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation, the Japan Institute for Promoting Invention and Innovation, the Japan Patent Attorneys Association) to give more attention to World IP Day.

B. KEY EVENTS

WIPO's Services

6. EOs focused considerable effort during the reporting period on the promotion of WIPO's services. The WRO participated in the 18th International Salon of Intentions and Innovation Technologies Archimedes and the Archimedes Scientific and Practical Conference in Moscow in April 2015, using this well-established annual exhibition of inventors to promote WIPO services to a broad Russian audience. Meanwhile, the WSO conducted a lecture for Masters level students at the National University of Singapore, hosted a study visit of Thai university IP managers and technology transfer officers and spoke at the ASEAN IP Association Annual Conference, all of which were used as vehicles to promote WIPO services.
7. Specifically concerning the PCT, in March 2015, the WSO hosted a Sub-Regional Training on the PCT System and ePCT for patent staff from ASEAN IP offices which was well received. The JPO, together with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations and the Intellectual Property Lawyers Network of Japan, held an international symposium to commemorate the

10th anniversary of Japan's Intellectual Property High Court. This event was important in terms of engaging with an important element of the patent system in Japan.

8. In terms of the Madrid System, the WJO was active throughout the reporting period in reaching out to trademark holders through bilateral meetings with some of the largest companies in Japan, in promotion of Madrid. In April 2015, the WSO promoted the Madrid System at the Basic Training on Madrid Protocol for Trademark Examiners and Administrative Officers of ASEAN IP Offices. The event was organized by the AECSP with the support of ECAP III , underlining the very constructive cooperation which has been established between the WSO and these mechanisms.

9. In terms of industrial designs, the WSO organized in April 2015, again in cooperation with ECAP III, a National Seminar on Trademarks and Industrial Designs in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to promote the benefits of the Hague System. In March, the WSO participated in a national seminar on the Hague organized by the Department of Intellectual Property (DIP), to enhance awareness of the System to business.

10. In March 2015, the WSO participated at a National University of Singapore conference on geographical indications, presenting the new Act of the Lisbon Agreement.

Copyright

11. In terms of the promotion of copyright treaties, in April 2015, the WSO co-organized the largest ever event under the WIPO-Singapore MoU, the Singapore - WIPO Regional Workshop on the Opportunities and Challenges in the Implementation of the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties. The event brought together 26 Member States from Asia and the Pacific, and more than 60 delegates, speakers, and observers. With many countries requesting assistance with respect to legislation and infrastructure, it is expected that the Workshop will assist in gathering the remaining 12 and 24 signatories required for Marrakesh and Beijing treaties respectively. The WSO shall actively assist the Copyright Law Division in this respect.

12. The WOC was also engaged in promotion efforts of the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties, presenting on this topic at the 2015 China Copyright Service Annual Conference in Beijing.

13. The WOC participated in April 2015 in a joint mission, and meeting thereafter, aimed at completing the project, Study on the Impact of Enhanced Copyright Protection on the Porcelain Industry in Dehua, China (Dehua Program). This was one of the two pilot research projects cosponsored by NCAC and WIPO at local level in the field of copyright in China some years ago. This is a good example of an activity which has been reenergized through the presence of an EO.

14. The WOC, in cooperation with the China Intellectual Property Society (CIPS), organized a joint Workshop on Intellectual Property Protection and the Future Development of the Internet in April 2015 in Beijing. The event was well attended and will feed into a proposed 'IP Forum' to be held during the China Administration on Cyberspace (CAC) 2015 session of the World Internet Conference scheduled for October in China.

Innovation ecosystems

15. In April 2015, the WRO attended and spoke at the Skolkovo StartUp Tour in Vladivostok. The Tour is a project of the Skolkovo Foundation aimed at promoting promising innovative projects and at supporting young researchers and entrepreneurs to build up businesses based on high technologies, as well as being focused on enhancing their understanding of IP and encouraging them to efficiently manage IP assets by using the international IP system. It will be conducted in 10 cities around the Russian Federation, as well as in Kazakhstan, Belarus, and

as such, could provide the WRO with a useful vehicle to access businesses across the Russian Federation.

WIPO Databases

16. In March 2015, the WJO arranged a special session on PATENTSCOPE and the Patent Register Portal with 10 members of the 200-strong Pharmaceutical Manufactures' Association of Tokyo.

Respect for IP

17. In April 2015, the WSO delivered the keynote address at a conference in Singapore entitled, The Challenge of Illicit Trade: Sharing of Best Practices, Legal Approach and Beyond, an Interpol/Eurocham event. This provided an opportunity to deliver a message to the private sector (mainly brand owners) and government representatives on the enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPRs) within the framework of building respect for IP.

Arbitration and Mediation

18. In April 2015, the WOC participated in a series of roundtables on arbitration, mediation and court procedures co-organized by 'IP Key' (representing the EU-China IP Cooperation Program) and Tongji University in Shanghai. The WOC also used its presentation in April before the China IP Court Forum on IP organized by the Beijing IP Court to increase awareness of WIPO's arbitration and mediation services.

ASEAN

19. The WSO continued to deepen and develop its cooperation with ASEAN through the organization of the informal group of ASEAN IP Technical Assistance Providers in Jakarta in February 2015. This forum provides an excellent mechanism to engage with all key actors in the ASEAN space and ensure coherence and value of WIPO program activities in the region. In April 2015, the WOC attended the Training Workshop on Intellectual Property, organized by the State Intellectual Property Office of the P.R.C (SIPO) for ASEAN IP Officials in Shanghai. This provided a platform for the WOC to reinforce the message in ASEAN about the value and benefit of WIPO services.

Engagement with other actors

20. Strong interest was evidenced over the reporting period in the WOC by Member States and non-governmental organization (NGO) stakeholders. Delegations from the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office and Embassy and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property Office and Embassy were received along with the Ambassador of Malta. There was considerable interest in the role of the WOC and possible avenues of cooperation. In addition, representatives from the World Trade Point Federation (an international innovation organization under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)), the World Health Organization (WHO) (its China Representative) and the Motion Picture Association were received.

21. The WSO received a visit in March from the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) Assessment Team for the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Office. The WMO is exploring opening a regional office in Singapore. The WSO also spoke at the United Kingdom High Commission in the context of 'innovation week' along with the head of the United Kingdom IP Office. This provided yet another opportunity to raise awareness of WIPO's services.

22. In April 2015, the WBO attended the China - Brazil Economic Commission which examined the economic and trade aspects of this important bilateral relationship. This enabled the WBO to provide an overview of its work and discuss the possibility of a joint event to take place in Brazil with the participation of the Government of China and Chinese companies and focused on the Madrid System.

23. In March 2015, the WJO met with representatives from the Embassies of Azerbaijan, Germany, and Italy to discuss new IP Advantage case studies which offer insights into how IP works in the real world, and how its successful exploitation can contribute to development.

Summer Schools

24. In March, the WSO participated in the WIPO-India Summer School on behalf of the WIPO Academy and delivered a range of lectures as part of the curriculum.

C. KEY FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WOC

- WIPO-China Summer School on Intellectual Property (May 4 to 15, 2015) organized by the WIPO Academy in cooperation with the East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL) in Shanghai. In addition to colleagues from HQ, the WOC is invited to make a presentation on the 'New Development of Design Protection'.
- Workshop on WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Service (May 14, 2015) co-organized by the Beijing Intellectual Property Office and the WIPO Arbitration Center with the support of the WOC.

WSO

- Heads of IP Office Conference (HIPOC) in Singapore in August 2015. The HIPOC in Singapore will be the second gathering of the heads of offices from South Asia and ASEAN under WIPO's auspices with the first event taking place in Tokyo in June 2015.
- IP Week in Singapore (August 24 to 28, 2015) including the Global Forum on IP (GFIP) and the WIPO-IPOS Awards.
- WSO will present at the Sub-Regional Training on Madrid Protocol for IP attorneys and trademark examiners from ASEAN IP offices (May 12 to 14, 2015) in Manila.
- The Head/WSO will represent the Director General at the WIPO-KIPO-KWIA International Women's Invention Forum (May 15, 2015) in Seoul.
- WIPO-Singapore Summer School (May 18 to 29, 2015).
- The WSO will participate in an event in Yangon (May 20 and 21, 2015) involving business, IP attorneys and Government Officials to raise awareness of trademarks and Madrid for SMEs (ECAP III).
- The WSO will participate in an advanced regional training session on Madrid operations for Madrid examiners and future Madrid examiners in Siem Reap, Cambodia (May 27 to 29, 2015)

WRO

- The WRO will participate in a PCT Seminar in Novosibirsk (May 26 and 27, 2015).
- The WRO will participate in the Saint-Petersburg V International Legal Forum (May 27 to 30, 2015).

WJO

- The WJO will attend the Fourth ASEAN IPOs Conference and Symposium (May 25 and 26, 2015) in Nara and promote the WJO's activities under WIPO Japan FIT that contribute to ASEAN countries.
- The WJO will co-organize a series of PCT system seminars (Osaka on May 13; Tokyo on May 15; Nagoya on May 18, 2015) in cooperation with the JPAA and the PCT Legal Division. The seminars aim to introduce the latest developments concerning the PCT and promote the ePCT system.
- The WJO will undertake promotional visits to 10 Madrid System users in order to promote new developments including WIPO online services and encourage greater interest in the System.
- The Heads of Intellectual Property Office Conference (HIPOC) will be held in Tokyo (June 29 and 30, 2015) and will be a major focus of WJO activities in May. Owing to a surge of workload, the WJO intends to secure temporary staff services for one month.

[Annex II follows]

WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES BI-MONTHLY REPORT: MAY-JUNE 2015

A. KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Regional Cooperation

1. The strong and developing cooperation in the Asia Pacific in the area of IP was clearly evidenced this reporting period. A meeting was held between the ASEAN Heads of Office in Nara, Japan, on May 25, 2015, which underscored the deepening of the cooperation between Japan and ASEAN Member States. There were several concrete outcomes of the meeting, namely: Japan agreed to start sharing patent, trademark and design data with Singapore and the Philippines; the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Thailand signed an MoU covering cooperation in areas such as the exchange of expertise, two-way access to information regarding industrial assets, the upgrading of information and communications technology systems, and the standardization of inspection and registration processes; the JPO and the IP Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) signed an MoU covering capacity-building programs for patent examiners, exchange of patent examiners on emerging technologies, study visits, commercialization of IP, university linkages, enforcement, arbitration and dispute resolution, IP education, and exchange of IP data.
2. China is also increasingly active in the Region and the MoU signed during the reporting period between the Singapore IP Office (IPOS) and China's State Administration for Industry and Commerce concerning trademark cooperation (enhance exchanges on trademark registration, examination practices, protection and enforcement, capacity-building activities such as training on trademark examination and dispute resolution proceedings) was a case in point

Industrial Property and Services

(a) Patents and the PCT

3. The required period for public comment for the Chinese Patent Law was completed during the reporting period. It will be recalled that according to the law, the duration of protection for industrial designs is now in line with the Hague Agreement. Currently, the SIPO legal department is working on the public feedback.

(b) Industrial Designs and the Hague System

4. The Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement officially entered into force in Japan on May 13, 2015. Inquiries have started to be received by the WJO (11 in May and 14 in June) concerning the practical operation of the Hague System, requiring consultation with Headquarters. It is anticipated that the number of inquiries will increase in the coming period.

Culture and Creative Industries

5. Following the Regional Workshop held in April in Singapore to promote the Marrakesh and Beijing Treaties, the WSO has commenced a pro-active follow-up focusing on countries (Bhutan, Tonga and Niue) which attended the workshop and indicated their intention to accede or ratify one or both of the treaties. As a result, requests for assistances are being met in close coordination with the Copyright Law Division.

6. The China Copyright Society has stated that there was strong attendance (90,000) at the Second Qingdao-Northeast Asia Copyright Creativity Fine Products Exhibition and Book

Fair in May 2015. It was noteworthy that it was reported that more than 2 billion RMB worth of business transactions were made, out of which 1.5 billion RMB was attributed to copyright financing.

Respect for IP

7. In May 2015, IPOPHL signed an agreement with the International Trademark Association (INTA) designed to bolster cooperation, with a particular focus on the protection and enforcement of IPRs. It should be noted that IPOPHL is currently the lead office for enforcement efforts in the ASEAN Working Group on IP Cooperation.
8. Also during May 2015, amendments to the Russian Anti-Piracy Law (Federal Law on Amendment of Certain Legal Acts of the Russian Federation in Respect of the Protection of Intellectual Rights in Information Communication Networks) came into force. The law provides for a special mechanism allowing rightsholders to file complaints to the Moscow City Court and ask for an injunctive takedown of the infringing works published online. Before the amendment, the law only covered cinematographic works. Further to demands from industry, the law was amended in order to widen its scope and to include all copyrighted works (excluding photographic ones).

Platforms

9. WOC efforts at expanding the involvement of Chinese partners in WIPO GREEN saw results. On May 13, 2015, the WOC visited the China Technology Exchange (CTEX)¹ and it was noteworthy that the CTEX President (Mr. Guo Shugui) expressed his intention for the Exchange to join WIPO GREEN as a partner. This is significant given the Exchange's position as the only national level institution focusing on innovation and technology exchange services and which has expressed a strong interest in promoting WIPO services for the benefit of its member enterprises.

UN Cooperation

10. The WBO advanced the project it is developing with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Brazil which aims to develop a Training Program for Development Agreements Negotiators. The project is being coordinated with the Brazilian Innovation Agency and will involve the transfer of nearly USD 150,000 from UNDP to WIPO. The receipt during the reporting period of the first draft of the project proposal signaled a milestone and the WBO envisages being in a position to send a final proposal to Headquarters in July 2015.

B. KEY EVENTS

WIPO's Services

11. External Offices focused efforts during the reporting period on engaging with a variety of stakeholders through various forums to promote WIPO's services. To this end, the WSO participated in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation Meeting in the Philippines. The WRO spoke at the II Conference of IP Specialists of the State Corporation Rosatom (June 3 to 5, 2015) to reach out to more than 100 employees of the Russian Atomic Energy Corporation who deal with IP,

¹ CTEX is the only National-Level Organization/Association focusing on technology exchange and innovation related service, approved by the State Council of the Central Government of the People's Republic of China.

explaining WIPO's role, mission, services and databases. The WOC attended the annual *United Nations Training Course* (organized by the United Nation Association of China) in Guilin, Guangxi Province, and was able to connect with 200 students from across the country, describing WIPO's role and promoting our services. In May 2015, the WJO attended the *ASEAN IP Offices Symposium 2015* and used this opportunity to distribute 1,000 flyers on the WJO, WIPO services and WIPO GREEN to the numerous Japanese and ASEAN stakeholders present.

12. Specifically concerning the PCT, the WRO supported the organization of a PCT Seminar in Novosibirsk (May 26 and 27, 2015) and a Roving PCT Seminar in Tyumen and Khanty-Mansyisk (June 16 and 18, 2015) which were well attended by 75 and 65 people respectively. The WBO opened an event on the PCT, organized in cooperation with the Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property (ASIPI) and the National Institute of Industrial Property of Brazil (INPI), attended by 40 participants from the public and private sectors. The WJO contributed to the organization of several PCT promotional events. These events, which are organized annually by the Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA), aim to provide up-to-date information on the PCT System and were held this year in Osaka, Tokyo and Nagoya (on May 13, 15 and 18, 2015 respectively). The WJO used the opportunity presented by the events, which were well attended by 243 participants, to engage with patent law firms, industry and the university sector.

13. In the area of trademarks, the WSO supported and participated in events organized by AECSP² as a means to promote the Madrid System. In May, an Awareness Raising Seminar on Trademarks and the Madrid Protocol for Government Officials, IP Attorneys, SMEs and Other Business was held in Yangon, Myanmar. During the same month, a Sub-Regional Training on the Madrid Protocol for IP attorneys and Trademark Examiners from ASEAN IP Offices was held in Manila. The events also underscored the strong cooperation WSO has developed with AECSP. Meanwhile, the consultant financed by the Brands and Designs Sector and based in the WJO visited 16 companies, including large stakeholders such as Toshiba, Toray, and Daikin, in order to provide the latest updates on the Madrid System and promote its use. In this context, it should be noted that JPO statistics indicate that there has been a sharp increase of 114 per cent in Madrid filings during the period January to May 2015 compared to the same period last year. It is assessed that the sustained and focused promotional efforts of WIPO and the WJO have contributed to this positive development. Indeed, the identification of champion companies for Madrid has been utilized and has created a ripple effect encouraging others to gradually increase their filings under the Madrid System.

14. There has also been a focus during the reporting period on promoting the Hague System. The WOC attended the 2015 World Green Design Forum Yangzhou Summit (May 20, 2015) in Jiangsu Province and this provided a platform to promote the Hague System as well as WIPO GREEN. In Japan, Ms. Wang, Deputy Director General, Brands and Designs Sector, spoke at a symposium on the Hague System organized by the JPO and the WJO used this opportunity to set up a booth and deliver informational flyers to participants. Further close cooperation between the Brands and Designs Sector and the WJO is envisaged so that the proximity and local knowledge of the office can be leveraged for enhanced promotional activities in the future.

² AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Program (AECSP)

Copyright

15. A High Level Round Table on the Cultural and Economic Importance of Film and the Role of Copyright (June 15 and 16, 2015) organized by the WOC in cooperation with the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) brought together a wide range of international and local stakeholders. There were more than 150 participants including representatives from Bahrain, Colombia, Ghana, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. In addition, there were speakers from the United Kingdom IP Office, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the Motion Picture Association, the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) and representatives from local government, academia and the film industries. The Round Table was characterized by rich discussions on the cultural and economic significance of copyright protection for the development of the film industries as well as the challenges and opportunities faced by copyright protection in this sector.

Innovation ecosystems

16. The WRO, in particular, continued with its focus on assisting the development of the local innovation ecosystem. In (May 20 and 21, 2015), the Office, together with ROSPATENT and the Dagestan State Technical University in Makhachkala, organized a *Seminar on Intellectual Property Policies in Universities and Research Institutions* to discuss practical issues related to the elaboration and implementation of IP policies in universities and research institutions, and to enhance the capacities of universities and research institutions to develop their own IP policies based on WIPO's 'Model Intellectual Property Policy for Universities and Research Institutions'. The Seminar was noteworthy for the fact that it also involved representatives from universities, research institutions, industry, local authorities responsible for science and innovation and chambers of commerce and industry from neighboring regions (the Chechen Republic, the Republic of Ingushetia, the Republic of Kabardino-Balkaria, and the Astrakhan Region). As such, it was the first ever WIPO event in the North Caucasus Federal District of the Russian Federation and a good example of the extra reach achieved through the establishment of the WRO.

17. Following on from activities reflected in the Report from the previous period (March - April 2015), the WRO teamed up with colleagues from the Brands and Designs, Global Issues and Patents and Technology Sectors to represent WIPO at the *Skolkovo StartUp Village 2015*, held at the Skolkovo Innovation Center in Moscow (June 2 and 3, 2015). The Village is an open-air festival, now in its third year, staging presentations, debates, startup exhibitions and pitch sessions, to match investors with innovators. This year's event was opened by Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich, Deputy Prime Minister, the Russian Federation, and was reported to have attracted about 10,000 participants. WIPO used this opportunity to deliver a variety of presentations on the Organization, its mandate and services, and it was gratifying to note that at peak times, the attendance at the IP Center, where WIPO was based, was close to its capacity of about 75.

18. The WBO, in cooperation with the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (INDECOPI) and INPI, organized a Workshop (*II Taller Regional sobre Propiedad Intelectual y Transferencia de Tecnología*) in Lima, Peru (May 7 and 8, 2015). This event was attended by 50 representatives from Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru, most of them from Technology Transfer Offices of research institutions, government and law firms. There was valuable discussion of the formulation of innovation policies, institutional strategies to facilitate IP protection and technology transfer, as well as practical training on technology transfer agreements and methods of IP valuation.

Arbitration and Mediation

19. The WOC used the occasion of a visit to China by Mr. De Castro Llamas, Deputy Director of Arbitration and Mediation Center, to organize a workshop in Beijing (May 14, 2015) at which Mr. De Castro Llamas promoted WIPO's arbitration and mediation services to stakeholders including the Beijing Association of IPR Protection, renowned law firms and IP agents. The WOC also facilitated Mr. De Castro Llamas' engagement with the local authorities including the IP Office.

Regional

20. The WSO participated in the Roundtable on *Regional economic integration in Asia: Trade, IP and geopolitics* (June 26, 2015), organized by the Allied Research Center for Intellectual Assets and Law in Asia of the Singapore Management University and the National University of Singapore Centre for Asian Legal Studies, Faculty of Law. Meanwhile, the WJO facilitated the organization of the Heads of Intellectual Property Office Conference (HIPOC) held in Japan (June 29 to 30, 2015) and, as mentioned, attended the ASEAN Heads of Office meeting in Nara on May 25, 2015. The WJO is involved with some elements of the implementation of the ASEAN IPOs - JPO action plan 2014 – 2015 which was discussed at the meeting (for example, the case study report titled *IP Successes in the ASEAN Region*). The WJO spoke at the Nara meeting on the WJO's activities in terms of its contributions to ASEAN member countries.

Summer Schools

21. The WOC supported the Academy's organization of the WIPO-China Summer School on Intellectual Property which was held, with the cooperation with the East China University of Political Science and Law, in Shanghai (May 4 to 15, 2015). It was notable that the Vice Mayor of the Shanghai Municipal Government spoke at the Summer School and it was well attended (by 62 participants including many international participants from across Asia and Africa) and covered in the local media. The WSO also supported the WIPO – Singapore Summer School held in May 18 to 29, 2015), delivering presentations and arranging a visit for participants to the WSO.

Media

22. The WSO participated in a conferences organized by the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO) on *IP and the Media* and held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (June 8, 2015). There were around 15 journalists in attendance and the format was similar to a press conference. This was a very innovative way of addressing an IP topic that is not often directly approached.

C. MEETINGS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OR STAKEHOLDERS

WSO

- On June 6, 2015, the WSO (Mr. Croze) met with IPOS Chief Executive (Mr. Tan) to discuss cooperation activities between WIPO and IPOS.

WOC

- On June 18 and 19, 2015, the WOC (Messrs. Chen, Lu) accompanied Ms. Wang, Deputy Director General, Brands and Designs Sector, in a meeting with Mr. Shen Changyu, Commissioner of SIPO, Mr. Zhang Mao, Minister of SAIC, Mr. Yan Xiaohong, Vice Minister of NCAC, Mr. Li Baodong, Vice Minister of the Chinese MFA, Mr. Sui Zhenjiang, Vice Mayor of Beijing Municipal Government and Ms. Zhao Wen, Vice Mayor of the Shanghai Municipal Government. A wide range of matters of mutual concern including future cooperation with the WOC were discussed.
- Throughout May and June 2015, the WOC (Ms. Deng) met with Mr. Yu Cike, Director General of the Copyright Office of NCAC on matters concerning the promotion of the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties.
- During May and June 2015, the WOC (Ms. Zhang) met with Mr. Xu Ruibiao, Director General of the China Trademark Office, Mr. Wang Peizhang, the newly elected Secretary General of the China Trademark Association and officials from the Department of International Cooperation of the State Administration for Industry & Commerce (SAIC), to discuss Madrid promotion, data exchange and preparations for a workshop in July on the promotion of the Madrid System.
- The WOC participated in a United Nations Communication Group in China meeting on May 13, 2015, a UNCT (Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in China) meeting on May 25 and a briefing session with Mr. Li Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on June 17, 2015. Discussions were focused on a Joint Communication Strategy, a UN China Website and Brochure Update and the UN 70th anniversary celebrations. The WOC was also invited to provide input to the UN China Team on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2016 to 2020.

WJO

- On June 12, 2015, the WJO met Mr. Ito, Commissioner, JPO at his office and briefed him about the upcoming HIPOC event, as he would deliver the opening remarks and make a presentation.
- On June 17, 2015, the WJO met Mr. Endo, Vice President, Brand Legal Management, of Kao Corporation about the HIPOC meeting.
- On June 9, 2015, the WJO met Mr. Aoki, President, Seiwa Patent firm, one of the largest firms in Japan, about a WIPO internship.
- On May 25, 2015, the WJO had a telephone conference with Ms. Hayashi (of Cannon), Head of the Hague study group in JIPA, about Hague System promotion.

WRO

- On June 3, 2015, the WRO (Mr. Svantner) participated in a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skolkovo Foundation chaired by Mr. Dmitry Medvedev, Prime Minister. Mr. Svantner spoke of the mission and mandate of the WRO, joint cooperation with Skolkovo and the future relocation of the WRO to the Skolkovo Innovation Center. Prime Minister Medvedev expressed strong support for further cooperation between the Government of the Russian Federation and WIPO.
- On June 1, 2015, the WRO (Messrs. Svantner, Albegonov) met with Mr. Victor Kosourov, First Deputy Chairman, Committee on Science, Education and Culture, Council of the Federation (Upper Chamber of Parliament). Mr. Kosourov briefed about the recent meeting of the Council on IP chaired by Ms. Valentina Matvienko, Chairperson, Council of the Federation. The meeting was devoted to the draft concept paper of the Intellectual Property Strategy of the Russian Federation. The draft concept paper will be finalized by the end of July

and will be submitted to the Government. Mr. Svantner expressed readiness to provide assistance on the part of WIPO in the preparation of the strategy at the request of the Council of the Federation.

- On June 5, 2015, the WRO (Messrs. Svantner, Albegonov) met with Ms. Liubov Kiriy, Acting Director General, Rospatent, to discuss WIPO's contribution to the *XIX Rospatent Scientific and Practical Conference* devoted to the 60th Anniversary of ROSPATENT (September 23 and 24, 2015).

D. KEY FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WOC

- In July 2015, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the WOC, the Office, together with the Communications Division, will organize a Workshop for the Chinese media to promote WIPO and the WOC.
- In July 2015, the WOC will organize, in cooperation with Renmin University, a National Training Seminar on the Madrid System for Chinese trademark agents.
- In July 2015, together with Headquarters and SIPO, the WOC will organize Roving Seminars to promote the Hague System.
- In August 2015, the WOC will organize a Seminar on the Promotion of the Madrid System in Xinjiang.
- Also in August 2015, the WOC will participate in the 2015 China Top 500 Enterprises Summit.

WSO

- Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, WIPO, will attend the first day (August 25, 2015) of the *Global Forum on IP (GFIP)* during the *IPWeek@SG* event where he will speak in the Plenary Session 1 ('Simple past, Present continuous, .. Future Perfect' addressing the evolving architecture of the Global IP system and the tension between the territoriality of IPRs and the global scope of IP exploitation) and present two WIPO awards.
- A Heads of IP Office Conference (HIPOC II) will take place on August 24, 2015 in Singapore.

WRO

- The WIPO-Russia Summer School on Intellectual Property will be held in Saint-Petersburg from July 6 to 17, 2015.
- The 55th Anniversary of the Federal Institute of Industrial Property (subordinate body of ROSPATENT conducting all the work related to examination of applications) on July 22, 2015.

WJO

- PCT Promotion at Universities. The WJO and the PCT Legal Division will jointly deliver presentations at seminars organized by the University Network for Innovation and Technology Transfer, to be held in Kitakyushu, Sapporo, and Tokyo, Japan, on July 7, 9, and 14, 2015, respectively. The annual seminars aim to present up-to-date information on PATENTSCOPE and the PCT System, mainly for persons in charge of IP matters at universities.
- PATENTSCOPE Promotion at JIPA. The WJO will deliver a presentation at a seminar, organized by the JIPA, to be held in Kaga, Japan, on July 18, 2015. The seminar aims to promote PATENTSCOPE and other WIPO databases among persons in charge of IP database matters at Japanese companies.
- Hague System Promotion Video Conference. The WJO and the Hague registry will hold a video conference promoting the Hague System in Japan in September 2015. The target audience will be members of the Hague group at JIPA

(Business Group) and it will aim to answer practical questions from practitioners of design filings.

- Hague System Promotional Visits and Publication. In the fall, the WJO will visit some of the top current and potential users of the Hague System in Japan to explain the merits of the system, demonstrate features such as E-Filing, and interview them to learn more about their questions and concerns. Interview results will be used in a new promotional publication.

WBO

- Among the several activities which will be organized by the WBO in the second half of 2015, it is worth highlighting the XXXIII Regional Workshop for IP Offices of Latin America, which will be attended by 18 officials from 18 countries from the Latin American Region; the Regional Workshop on patent analysis; the VIII ENAPID, an academic meeting on IP, innovation and development; and the II Workshop on Technology Mining; in addition to two international conferences, one on geographical indications and the other on industrial designs will be held.

[End of Annex II and of document]