

# WIPO



AB/I/17  
ORIGINAL: French  
DATE: August 3, 1970

## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

GENEVA

# BIRPI

### ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES OF WIPO AND OF THE UNIONS ADMINISTERED BY WIPO AND BIRPI

First Series of Meetings  
Geneva, September 21 to 29, 1970

ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT AB/I/12

presented by the Director of BIRPI

#### SUMMARY

This document reports that two Governments-- those of the United States of America and Switzerland--have expressed their support for the candidature of Professor Bodenhausen for the post of Director General of WIPO and that each of them presented a candidate in the event that the General Assembly should elect not only Professor Bodenhausen as first Director General but also his successor.

1. This document is an addendum to document AB/I/12 of March 11, 1970, concerning the appointment of the Director General of WIPO.
2. On February 27, 1970, the Director of BIRPI, Professor G.H.C. Bodenhausen, notified the States members of the Paris and Berne Unions that he was himself a candidate for the post of Director General of WIPO (circular C.8). At the same time, he notified the member States that any other candidatures for the said post should be notified by June 1, 1970.

3. Report AB/I/12 of the Director of BIRPI indicates that "in any given case, and with the consent of the interested person, an appointment may be made for a fixed period, whose duration is less than six years" (paragraph 11).

4. On May 28, 1970, the Government of the United States of America notified the Swiss Government that it wholeheartedly supported the candidature of Professor Bodenhausen and that, should the General Assembly proceed also to the election of his successor, it presents the candidature of Dr. Arpad Bogsch, First Deputy Director of BIRPI. The full text of the communication of the US Government appears in Annex A.

5. On July 3, 1970, the Government of Switzerland wrote to Professor Bodenhausen informing him that it warmly supported his candidature and that, should the General Assembly proceed also to the election of his successor, it presents the candidature of Mr. Joseph Voyame, Second Deputy Director of BIRPI. The full text of the communication of the Swiss Government appears in Annex B.

/End of document AB/I/17:  
Annexes A and B follow/

## ANNEX A

The Embassy of the United States of America has the honor to transmit to the Federal Political Department an acknowledgement of receipt by the Secretary of State of the note from the Director of the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI) dated February 27, 1970, inviting the Government of the United States to nominate a candidate, should it so desire, for the post of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The convention establishing the new organization entered into force on April 26, 1970. The draft agenda of the First Ordinary Session of the General Assembly of WIPO, to be convened in Geneva from September 21 to 29, 1970, includes the appointment of the first Director General of WIPO.

The United States Government has also been informed in the subject note that the present Director of BIRPI, Professor G.H.C. Bodenhausen, is a candidate for the post of Director General of WIPO. It has been agreed that replies to this note should be communicated to the Swiss Federal Political Department in Bern.

The United States Government recalls that the matter of the election of the First Director General of WIPO was considered in the Seventh Session of the Interunion Coordination Committee of the Paris and Bern Unions in September 1969. At that time, the member states of that Committee were asked to consider an extension in active service of Professor Bodenhausen beyond the retirement age of 65 as provided in Article 9.8 of the Staff Regulations. Professor Bodenhausen will reach the age of 65 years on July 11, 1970. The Interunion Coordination Committee unanimously recommended to the Swiss Government as the Supervisory Authority that it retain Professor Bodenhausen in active service until December 31, 1972, it being understood that this recommendation implied no opinion on what should be done beyond that date.

In a report prepared by the Director of BIRPI under date of March 11, 1970, for the September 1970 meeting of WIPO and of the Unions administered by WIPO and BIRPI, it is stated that "In any given case and with the consent of the interested person, an appointment may be made for a fixed period whose duration is less than six years." (BIRPI/WIPO Document AB/I/12, paragraph 11).

Under these circumstances, the United States wholeheartedly supports the candidacy of Professor Bodenhausen for the post of Director General of WIPO for a period of time to be fixed as stated by the report quoted above.

Had Professor Bodenhausen not indicated a willingness to remain in active service as Director of BIRPI, the Government of the United States would have proposed that Dr. Arpad Bogsch, First Deputy Director of BIRPI, be appointed Director of BIRPI. Further, if Professor Bodenhausen were not a candidate for the post of Director General of WIPO to be filled by election in September 1970, this Government would propose that Dr. Bogsch be appointed the first Director General of WIPO in the said elections.

It is the understanding of the United States Government that the General Assembly may act not only on the election of Professor Bodenhausen as Director General for a period less than the minimum of six years prescribed in Article 9(3) but also may act to elect a successor to Professor Bodenhausen. The reason for this is that the General Assembly meets in ordinary session only once every three years and it is quite likely that the waiver of the age limit for Professor Bodenhausen will be extended to a date falling between sessions of the General Assembly. If this should be the case, or if for any other reason Professor Bodenhausen is not appointed to the post of Director General in September 1970, then the United States presents and strongly supports the candidacy of Dr. Arpad Bogsch, who is presently First Deputy Director of BIRPI, for the post of Director General of WIPO and Director of BIRPI.

The Embassy appreciates the continuing cooperation of the Federal Political Department.

Embassy of the United States of America,  
Bern, May 28, 1970.

/End of Annex A/

ANNEX B

Berne, July 3, 1970

Sir,

By a note of February 27, 1970, you invited the States members of the Paris or Berne Unions to present, before June 1, 1970, possible candidates for the post of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The same note indicated that you yourself were a candidate for that post.

The Government of the Swiss Confederation warmly supports your candidature and would be particularly happy if you were the first Director General of WIPO. It therefore does not present a candidate for that post.

However, if at its next session, the General Assembly of WIPO wished to elect also your successor to the post of Director General of WIPO, the Government of the Swiss Confederation would present as candidate Mr. Joseph Voyame, former Director of the Swiss Federal Office of Industrial Property, Second Deputy Director of BIRPI since the beginning of 1969.

We would appreciate it if you employed this communication in the way that you consider appropriate and we ask you, Sir, to accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Federal Political Department  
International Organizations

signed: Thalman

/Translated from French/

/End of Annex B/

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