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# WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

**GENEVA** 

**BIRPI** 

### WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION **COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

First Ordinary Session Geneva, September 21 to 29, 1970

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COOPERATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report by the Director of BIRPI

### SUMMARY

This document deals with the arrangements for consultation and cooperation with non-governmental organizations by WIPO. It proposes that the practice adopted by BIRPI be extended to WIPO.

### Provisions of the WIPO Convention

1. Article 13(2) of the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) provides that "the Organization may, on matters within its competence, make suitable arrangements for consultation and coooperation with international non-governmental organizations and, with the consent of the Governments concerned, with national organizations, governmental or non-governmental. Such arrangements shall be made by the Director General after approval by the Coordination Committee."

## Relations Established by BIRPI

- 2. (a) BIRPI maintains working relations with a number of international non-governmental organizations. The list of the organizations appears in paragraph 15 of document AB/I/14.
- (b) In addition, BIRPI has maintained--and may consider it necessary to continue to maintain--working relations with the following national non-governmental organizations: American Book Publishers Council, American Educational Text-book Institute, American Educational Publishers Institute, Authors League of America, Authorized Association of Japanese Patent Attorneys, Federazione delle Associazione Scientifiche et Tecniche (Italy), Japan Patent Association, National Association of Manufacturers (United States), Union des Fabricants (France), as well as a number of national groups of the International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (IAPIP), of the Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIPI), and of the International Literary and Artistic Association (ALAI).
- 3. Such relations imply, inter alia, that the organizations concerned are invited to submit their observations or comments on certain documents addressed to them (for example, during the preparations for revision conferences of the Paris and Berne Conventions and the Special Agreements, or in the course of the preparation of new treaties), and to participate, as observers, in certain meetings organized by BIRPI.
- 4. As far as national organizations are concerned, whether governmental or non-governmental, some of them were occasionally invited, when circumstances warranted their being invited, to participate as observers in certain meetings organized by BIRPI (for example, the Permanent Committee of the Berne Union, or preparatory meetings for the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)).

5. However, BIRPI's relations with either of those categories of organizations have not taken the form of general agreements in writing.

### Consultation and Cooperation

- 6. It is proposed that the Director General be authorized to consult and cooperate with the non-governmental organizations referred to in paragraph 2 of this document, in appropriate cases and within appropriate limits, along the lines of the practice established by BIRPI.
  - 7. The Coordination Committee is invited to approve the arrangements proposed in the preceding paragraph.
  - 8. If any Government is unwilling to approve such arrangements in so far as any national
    organization of its country is
    concerned, that Government is
    invited to notify the Coordination Committee or the Director
    General of its unwillingness and
    the organization concerned will
    be removed from the list appearing in paragraph 2(b).

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