

Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

Eighth Session

Geneva, November 30 to December 4, 2020

REPORT BY THE NAME STANDARDIZATION TASK FORCE

Document prepared by the Name Standardization Task Force Leaders

BACKGROUND

1. At its seventh session held in July 2019, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) noted the progress made by the Name Standardization Task Force. In particular, a workshop on name standardization issues was held in May 2019 and the outcomes presented to the CWS. Results of the survey on the use of identifiers for applicants by Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) were also presented and approved for publication. The CWS requested that the Task Force continue its work, including a forum for IPOs to share high level strategies for cleaning name data, developing materials to raise awareness of data quality issues, and developing guidance for IPOs and applicants on data practices. The Korean Intellectual Property Office and the International Bureau are the Task Force co-leaders. See paragraphs 73 to 89 of document CWS/7/29.

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

2. The International Bureau published the results of the survey on use of identifiers for applicants by IPOs on the WIPO website¹ as requested. The International Bureau also created a forum on the Task Force wiki for Offices to further discuss issues with data quality.
3. The Task Force held two online meetings to discuss issues with data quality and develop a work plan for the coming year. It was noted both at the workshop and by the Task Force that having high quality applicant data is crucial for effective use of name standardization techniques by data analysts, whether in the public or private sector. A number of IPOs have started projects recently to improve the quality of their applicant data.
4. The Task Force members were requested to provide examples from their own practice of what steps they currently take or plan to take in the future to maintain or improve the quality of applicant data. The Task Force has begun collecting these examples for analysis. The Task

¹ See https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_07.html#p7.15

Force expects that this information can form the basis of recommendations on data quality to support more effective name standardization techniques. The Task Force aims to present a proposal for recommendations at the next session of the CWS.

5. *The CWS is invited to:*

(a) note the content of this document; and

(b) request the Task Force to prepare proposed recommendations for quality of applicant data to support name standardization at the next session of the CWS as indicated in paragraph 4 above.

[End of document]