

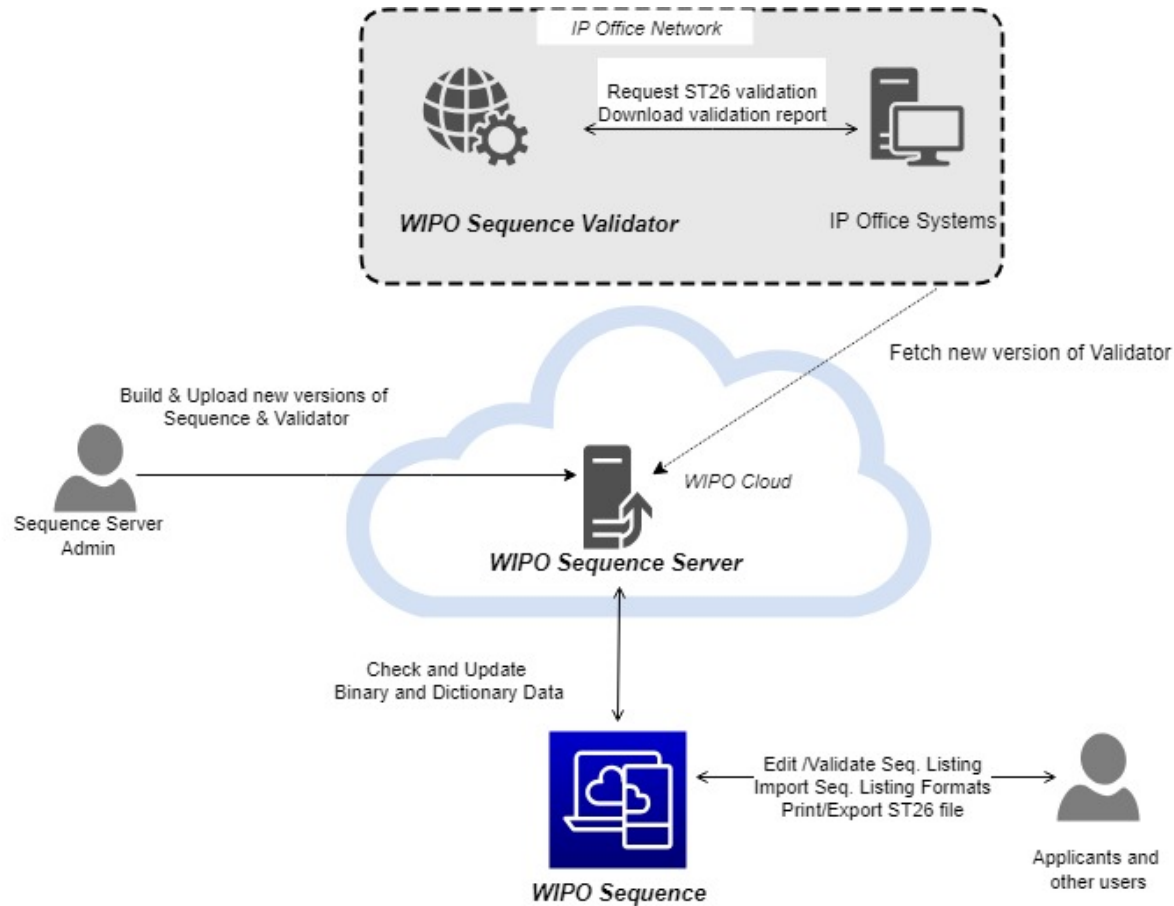
## **WIPO Sequence tool**

CWS/8 Item 8(c): Update of WIPO Sequence tool development

# WIPO Sequence: Background

- From January 1, 2022, all sequence listings which form part of patent applications should be filed in WIPO ST.26 format at national, regional and international level.
- This may require amendments to regulations and procedures as well as upgrades to IPO IT systems.
- PCT working group agreed on the revised PCT Rules in October 2020 to implement WIPO ST.26 for the PCT.
- 22 Offices provide their ST.26 implementation plan
- WIPO Sequence is a free software tool to support the global implementation of WIPO Standard ST.26

# WIPO Sequence tool suite (1/2)



# WIPO Sequence tool suite (2/2)

- *WIPO Sequence* desktop tool: for applicants to author and validate their sequence listing to ensure it is compliant with WIPO ST.26.
- *WIPO Sequence Validator*: web services incorporated into IPO IT systems to check compliance of filed sequence listing with WIPO ST.26.
- *WIPO Sequence Server*: update server which allows the International Bureau to provide latest versions of the desktop tool and supports an 'auto-update' feature.

# WIPO-IP Office Collaboration

- IP Offices prepared the functional specification for WIPO Sequence tool and participated in the development of the tool in a series of development sprints.
- Offices and their nominated end users were involved in testing the releases provided at the end of every sprint.
- This feedback ensured that the implemented functionality was appropriate and that bugs were caught before the publication of the first stable release.
- The International Bureau is looking to expand the group of end users involved in user acceptance testing in 2021.

# Progress on Tool Development

- The first WIPO Sequence beta release was published on the WIPO website in November 2019, for both the desktop tool and the WIPO Sequence Validator.
- After further development and improvement, the first stable release of both the desktop tool and Validator was launched in early November 2020:  
<https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/sequence/>
- The full list of implemented functionality for the desktop tool is available in the user manual:  
[https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/sequence/wipo\\_sequence\\_manual\\_1\\_0\\_0.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/sequence/wipo_sequence_manual_1_0_0.pdf)

# Next Steps: Improvement Project

- At CWS/8, revisions to WIPO ST.26 are proposed, including implementing language-dependent free text qualifiers.
- During the acceptance tests, Offices and other participants proposed improvements which were collected together as requirements for this new project.
- The improvement project kicked off in November 2020 and the deadline for the publication of the next stable release is July 2021.
- Offices and all potential users of the desktop tool are encouraged to trial the tool and provide their feedback and questions to WIPO at: [standards@wipo.int](mailto:standards@wipo.int)

# Next Steps: Trainings & User support

- To support Offices and applicants around the globe, the International Bureau, in close collaboration with Offices who are members of the SEQL Task Force, will be producing webinars on WIPO ST.26 and WIPO Sequence.
- Interested parties who need training on ST.26 and the tool can contact WIPO at: [standards@wipo.int](mailto:standards@wipo.int).
- The International Bureau is also investigating how best to provide user support at the WIPO/IB and at IP Offices.