

Program and Budget Committee

**Thirty-First Session
Geneva, September 7 to 11, 2020**

LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Document prepared by the Secretariat

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

AGENDA ITEM 2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND TWO VICE-CHAIRS OF THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC)

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) elected, for its sessions to be held in 2020 and 2021: Ambassador Sabri Bachtobji as the Chair of the PBC, and Mr. José Antonio Gil Celedonio and Ambassador Katrina Naut as the Vice-Chairs of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

document WO/PBC/31/1.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) adopted the agenda (document WO/PBC/31/1).

AGENDA ITEM 4. REPORT BY THE WIPO INDEPENDENT ADVISORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (IAOC)

document WO/PBC/31/2.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the WIPO General Assembly to take note of the "Report by the WIPO Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC)" (document WO/PBC/31/2).

AGENDA ITEM 5. REPORT BY THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

document WO/PBC/31/3.

The Program and Budget Committee recommended to the General Assembly and other Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, to take note of the “Report by the External Auditor” (document WO/PBC/31/3).

AGENDA ITEM 6. ANNUAL REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNAL OVERSIGHT DIVISION (IOD)

document WO/PBC/31/4.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took note of the “Annual Report by the Director of the Internal Oversight Division (IOD)” (document WO/PBC/31/4) and encouraged the Secretariat to take into consideration the recommendations of this report.

AGENDA ITEM 7. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT’S (JIU) RECOMMENDATIONS

document WO/PBC/31/5.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC):

- (i) took note of the present report (document WO/PBC/31/5);*
- (ii) welcomed and endorsed the Secretariat’s assessment of the status of the implementation of recommendations under:*
 - JIU/REP/2019/9 (Recommendation 2);*
 - JIU/REP/2019/6 (Recommendations 2, 3, 5 and 7);*
 - JIU/REP/2019/5 (Recommendation 2);*
 - JIU/REP/2019/4 (Recommendation 1);*
 - JIU/REP/2019/2 (Recommendation 4); as set out in the present report;*
- (iii) noted that the status of implementation of Recommendation 6 in JIU/REP/2019/6 is “in progress”;*
- (iv) called on the Secretariat to propose assessments for the open recommendations made by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for Member States’ consideration.*

AGENDA ITEM 8. WIPO PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19

document WO/PBC/31/6.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC), having reviewed the WIPO Performance Report (WPR) 2018/19 (document WO/PBC/31/6) and the Internal Oversight Division (IOD) Validation Report of the WIPO Performance Report 2018/19 (document WO/PBC/31/7), and recognizing its nature as a self assessment of the Secretariat, recommended that the Assemblies of WIPO note the positive financial performance and programmatic performance of the Organization towards achieving the expected results in the biennium 2018/19.

AGENDA ITEM 9. INTERNAL OVERSIGHT DIVISION (IOD) VALIDATION OF THE WIPO PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19

document WO/PBC/31/7.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took note of the IOD Validation Report on the WIPO Performance Report for 2018/19 (document WO/PBC/31/7).

AGENDA ITEM 10. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019; STATUS OF THE PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT JUNE 30, 2020

(a) ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019

document WO/PBC/31/8.

The Program and Budget Committee recommended to the General Assembly and other Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, to approve the “Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements 2019” (document WO/PBC/31/8).

(b) UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

(c) STATUS OF THE PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT JUNE 30, 2020

document WO/PBC/31/9.

The Program and Budget Committee took note of the “Status of the Payment of the Payment of Contributions as at June 30, 2020” (document WO/PBC/31/9).

AGENDA ITEM 11. ANNUAL REPORT ON HUMAN RESOURCES

document WO/PBC/31/INF/1 Rev.

AGENDA ITEM 12. UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP (UNSDG) MEMBERSHIP

document WO/PBC/31/10.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) having discussed and considered the invitation for WIPO to become a UNSDG member as contained in this document (WO/PBC/31/10) and its Annex:

- (i) *acknowledged the important work of the UNSDG for achieving the SDGs to which WIPO is contributing through many of its programs and projects as per the Program and Budget 2020/21;*
- (ii) *requested the Secretariat to seek further clarification from the UNSDG Secretariat and to submit a document to the PBC at its 32nd session elaborating on:*
 - a. *The exact amount of the WIPO contribution based on the UNSDG cost allocation review and the associated administrative and reporting implications;*
 - b. *The application of a 1% coordination levy on tightly earmarked third party non-core contributions to UN development-related activities, to be paid at source;*

c. *The use of the WIPO contribution and the possibilities for its future evaluation.*

- (iii) *Requested the Secretariat to explore the impact of WIPO membership in the UNSDG as it relates to Program and Budgets and to report it to the 32nd session of the PBC.*

AGENDA ITEM 13. WIPO POLICY ON VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

document WO/PBC/31/11.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) took note of the Analysis on the Management of WIPO's Funds-in-Trust (document WO/PBC/31/11), including the key principles, which will be reflected in WIPO's revised internal Policy on Funds-in-Trust.

AGENDA ITEM 14. SUPPLEMENTARY CAPITAL MASTER PLAN PROJECTS

document WO/PBC/31/12.

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC) recommended to the Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, to approve, from the WIPO Reserves, the funding of three Supplementary CMP Projects, amounting to a total of 1.792 million Swiss francs.

Following clarifications provided by the Secretariat, the PBC noted that the CMP supplementary project: Establishment of a Long-term Capability for WIPO to utilize Cloud Service Providers and Migration of Legacy Applications – Phase II, amounting to 560,000 Swiss francs, does not concern unpublished PCT data.

The PBC will continue to discuss the issue of data security of the WIPO cloud first strategy during its 32nd session in 2021 within the framework of the Program and Budget.

AGENDA ITEM 15. REVISED WIPO POLICY ON LANGUAGES

The Program and Budget Committee (PBC):

- (i) *recalled that the PBC had requested the Secretariat to propose a revision to the Policy on Languages at WIPO at the 31st session of the PBC;*
- (ii) *noted the explanations of the Secretariat that the process of reviewing the WIPO Policy on Languages would require time and extensive consultation, both internally and with Member States which had not been possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic;*
- (iii) *further noted that the promotion of multilingualism should be comprehensive and address a broader range of issues, including a review of the language regimes and communication strategies in the different WIPO business areas and the potential of AI-based modern translation technologies;*
- (iv) *requested the Secretariat, taking duly into account the outcomes of the consultations referred to in (ii) as well as (iii) above, to submit a comprehensive revised version of the Policy on Languages at WIPO at the 32nd session of the PBC including a sustainable roadmap for a phased multi-year implementation.*

AGENDA ITEM 16. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE 2021 EVALUATION OF WIPO EXTERNAL OFFICES

In view of the constraints presented by the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, this session of the PBC was unable to discuss and decide on the Terms of Reference of the evaluation of the entire network of WIPO External Offices as mandated by the WIPO General Assembly 2019. The Program and Budget Committee recommended to the General Assembly to request the Program and Budget Committee to decide during its 32nd session in 2021 the Terms of Reference of such an evaluation, taking into account all relevant documents, including but not limited to, the report by the External Auditor (WO/PBC/31/3).

The Program and Budget Committee recommends to the General Assemblies to refer, as appropriate, to its decision contained in document A/59/13 ADD.4 to ensure sufficient time is allowed for the finalization of the evaluation.

AGENDA ITEM 17. METHODOLOGY FOR ALLOCATION OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY UNION

Due to the unprecedented situation caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the 31st session of the Program and Budget Committee reported to the Assemblies of WIPO that it was unable to continue discussions and make a recommendation on the methodology for the allocation of income and expenditure by Unions as contemplated in the decision of the 59th session of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. The Program and Budget Committee recommended to the Assemblies to request the Program and Budget Committee to continue these discussions at its 32nd session and, if needed, its 33rd session and to make a recommendation, by consensus, to the WIPO Assemblies in 2021 on the methodology for the allocation of income and expenditure by Unions.

AGENDA ITEM 18. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

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