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Executive Summary

*The present document contains a proposal for a **draft** mandate for the Technology and Data Standards Area Working Group (TDSAWG). A final version should be agreed during the next Trilateral Strategic Working group meeting in September 2008.*

I. INTRODUCTION

At the Trilateral Pre-Conference in November 2007 the three Offices agreed to review the mandates of all Trilateral working groups. Within this exercise a mandate should be drafted and agreed.

As part of the Trilateral offices move to electronic filing, processing and publication a Trilateral/WIPO Standards Working Group (TWSWG) was established (formerly the XML WG) with, as indicated, the International Bureau of WIPO as a member. This group, in various formats, has worked for very many years in the development of standards going back as far as 1986 (for WIPO ST.32) and, in more recent times, collaborated with the International Bureau in the framework of the consultative group for the development and maintenance of Annex F of Part 7 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT as well as the creation of WIPO ST.36 and, more recently, further standards in this area.

The group is now to be renamed the *Technology and Data Standards Area Working Group (TDSAWG)* with the mandate set out in this document.

II. THE MANDATE FOR CONSIDERATION

1. The Working Group will meet and exchange information in order to maintain, develop and implement common technical standards for intellectual property data in the areas of filing, processing, publication, data exchange, information dissemination, etc;
2. The Working Group will work closely with the International Bureau of WIPO in particular to assure regular consultation in the maintenance of the relevant WIPO standards; especially Annex F of the Administrative Instructions, WIPO ST.36 and other WIPO standards;
3. The Working Group will inform and, where necessary, make proposals to the relevant WIPO bodies such as the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) and its subordinate groups;
4. The Working Group will assure that Trilateral technology and data standards are regularly reviewed in order to accommodate advances in technology;
5. The Working Group will report to the Trilateral Strategic Working Group through the Information Technology Group (ITG).

I. ROADMAP

1. Whilst considering a broad range of intellectual property related standards relevant to the Trilateral offices, as well as to support the work of all other Trilateral working groups, the *TDSAWG* will place particular emphasis on the following areas:

- B. Development and maintenance of intellectual property data standards, and particularly XML technologies such as: DTDs, Schemas, Style Sheets, etc.
 - C. The adaptation and implementation of existing industry data standards and protocols for application in the domain of intellectual property.
 - D. Intellectual property filing formats;
 - E. Long term archiving;
 - F. Dissemination and publication format harmonisation for the benefit of the users of intellectual property information;
 - G. Supporting the effective communication of Trilateral technology and data standards to interested parties;
 - H. Co-ordination between the *TDSAWG* and relevant PCT consultative groups;
 - I. Integration of Trilateral technology and data standards into WIPO standards
 - J. Comparative study on the definition of the OCR quality
 - K. Exchange of machine translation dictionaries
 - L. XML DTDs, Schema and Style sheets for CAF
1. The Group will provide progress reports to the Strategic Working Group via the ITG.

IV. WORKING METHOD

The *TDSAWG* shall take a pragmatic, cost conscious approach and focus upon practical and useable results.

As far as possible the goals of the *TDSAWG* will be to harmonise practices between Offices to enhance the ability to meaningfully share each Office's respective work products and to facilitate industrial property information dissemination.

The *TDSAWG* shall place a high priority on the development and implementation of data standards that encourage end users (e.g. applicants, and industrial property information users) to exploit intellectual property information to the maximum extent with, hopefully, a consequent raising of standards amongst applications for intellectual property rights and promoting innovation.

V. Next Steps

1. The Trilateral Offices will consider the proposed mandate for adoption.



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