

International Geneva

Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION | WIPO

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a self-funding agency of the United Nations with 191 Member States. WIPO is the global forum for intellectual property services, policy, information and cooperation. WIPO's mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual property (IP) system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. Its mandate, governing bodies and procedures are set out in the WIPO Convention, which established WIPO in 1967.

WIPO does this by providing:

- A policy forum to shape balanced international IP rules
- Global services to obtain IP protection internationally and resolve disputes
- Development cooperation to enable all countries to use IP for economic, social and cultural progress
- Technical infrastructure to connect IP systems and share knowledge
- A world reference source for IP information
- Practical solutions to tackle global challenges

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

WIPO collaborates with the World Health Organization and the World Trade Organization in trilateral cooperation framework on Global Health, Intellectual Property and Trade, aiming to support innovation while also facilitating access to medicines and medical technologies for all. WIPO is a source of objective, fact-based information of a wide range of IP and patent-related information with the goal of serving the global policy community. In addition, through multi-stakeholder platforms such as WIPO Re:Search, WIPO offers practical solutions to global challenges such as the relative lack of research for neglected tropical diseases, malaria and tuberculosis.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

WIPO's director general is Francis Gurry. WIPO has seven sectors in its operations, each of which is headed by a Deputy or Assistant Director General under the overall leadership of the Director General. The main policy and decision making bodies of WIPO are the General Assembly which meets annually, and the Coordination Committee.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

WIPO's budget for the 2016-2017 biennium is approximately CHF 756,3. 94% of the expenditure approved by the member states in this period is earned through fee-paid services, which makes the WIPO almost self-financing. The proposed budget for the 2018-2019 biennium is CHF 829.6 million.

PUBLICATIONS

For a full listing of WIPO publications see: <http://www.wipo.int/publications/en/>

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