



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 192 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.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- 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

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

WIPO collaborates with the World Health Organization and the World Trade Organization in the trilateral cooperation on issues at the intersection of Global Health, Intellectual Property and Trade, aiming to support innovation and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. WIPO is a source of objective, fact-based information on 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 (<https://www.wipo.int/research/en/>), WIPO offers practical solutions to global challenges such as the relative lack of research in neglected tropical diseases, malaria and tuberculosis. WIPO also hosts a database Pat-INFORMED (<https://www.wipo.int/pat-informed/en/>) providing the patent status of registered medicines in six therapeutic categories: cardiovascular disease; diabetes; hepatitis C; HIV/AIDS; oncology; and respiratory diseases. This database provides a useful guide to help determine if a product in one of these six categories is patented in the countries where it is available.

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 2018-2019 biennium is approximately CHF 829.6 million. 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.

PUBLICATIONS

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

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