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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

AUSTRALIA

Addendum

The following communication, dated 19 September 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Australia.

1 INTRODUCTION

1. Australia is committed to sharing information with other WTO members on its technical and financial cooperation activities in the area of intellectual property rights in fulfilment of Article 67 of the TRIPS Agreement. This is a full report on Australia's intellectual property-related technical cooperation activities with developing and least developed countries. It builds upon annual update reports provided in 2012 (IP/C/W/582/Add.2), 2013 (IP/C/W/593/Add.7), 2014 (IP/C/W/601), 2015 (IP/C/W/610/Add.4), 2016 (IP/C/W/617/Add.1), 2017 (IP/C/W/632/Add.1) and 2018 (IP/C/W/647/Add.2).

2. Australia fulfils its Article 67 technical cooperation commitment through multilateral, regional and bilateral programs and activities. Many activities are focused on developing and least developed countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Australia works closely with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat and other partners to assist developing and least developed countries to build their intellectual property capacity and systems.

3. Many of the technical co-operation activities implemented under Article 67 of the TRIPS Agreement align with Australia's strategic focus on using aid as a catalyst to promote economic growth and poverty reduction, including through a strong emphasis on aid for trade. This is embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals and our future investments, including activities under the WIPO-Australia Funds in Trust program, will in turn be influenced by these goals.

4. Websites containing information on Australia's intellectual property regime, which may be considered a technical cooperation resource, include the IP Australia website covering patents, designs, trademarks and plant breeders' rights (www.ipaustralia.gov.au); the Department of Communications and the Arts website on copyright developments (www.communications.gov.au/what-we-do/copyright); and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website on international IP developments (www.dfat.gov.au/ip).

ANNEX¹

Name of programme or project	Australia-WIPO Funds in Trust
Date and end date	
Beneficiary country or countries	
Brief description	<p>In February 2016, the Australian Government and WIPO agreed to a second iteration of the Australia-WIPO Funds in Trust (FIT2) with the commitment of an additional AUD 3 million of aid for trade funding. The Australian-funded FIT2 program concluded on 30 June 2019. The Australian Government has previously provided AUD 2 million to WIPO from 2012 to 30 June 2016. This funding promotes economic growth in developing and least developed countries by helping these countries build their intellectual property regimes and capabilities in facilitating innovation, creativity, investment and technology transfer. There are four themes under Australia's FIT2 program: development of the intellectual property system; technology transfer (knowledge transfer and commercialisation); addressing neglected tropical diseases; and copyright and related rights to assist the blind, visually impaired and other persons with print disabilities. Programs implemented under this funding arrangement are developed in consultation with WIPO and the recipient countries. Beneficiaries are involved in project planning to ensure the programs are well suited to their needs. The review period of this report (October 2018 – September 2019) has been dedicated to implementing a workplan of activities under the second iteration of funding. National IP strategies have been completed or are progressing, and capacity building activities have been undertaken for trademarks, copyrights and patents. An online training program on the Madrid System accession and implementation process for developing and least developed countries has been delivered. A national patent drafting workshop was held in Indonesia, and on-the-job searching training has been provided to Indonesian patent examiners. The FIT also supported six research scientists from Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to undertake sabbaticals in Australian and overseas research institutions in the area of neglected tropical diseases, malaria and tuberculosis as part of the WIPO Re:Search program. Australia's support through the FIT enabled thirty students with print impairments to receive training in the use of technology for accessing and reading materials in accessible formats and a further 245 books have been produced in accessible format in Viet Nam as part of WIPO's Accessible Books Consortium initiative. Australia will fund a third iteration of the FIT program from September 2019.</p>
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

¹ In English only.

Name of programme or project	Economic Cooperation Support Program under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA)
Date and end date	
Beneficiary country or countries	
Brief description	<p>The AANZFTA's Economic Cooperation Support Program (AECSP) consists of the Economic Cooperation Work Program and the AANZFTA Support Unit located in the ASEAN Secretariat. The AECSP was established in 2010 as a five year program with funding of AUD 20-25 million. The Program, which was subsequently extended further, aims to support the ASEAN Secretariat in servicing the AANZFTA Joint Committee and its subsidiary bodies to assist ASEAN Member States, particularly least developed countries, with AANZFTA's implementation. Intellectual property is a vital component of the AECSP, with the objective being to 'provide comprehensive support for the development of sound and balanced intellectual property systems in the AANZFTA region'. The following paragraphs outline some of the intellectual property outcomes achieved under the AECSP with further detail provided in the annex to this report.</p> <p>IP Australia's Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET) Program successfully delivered intensive competency-based patent examination training to examiners of ASEAN Intellectual Property Offices that conduct substantive patent examinations, to enable them to meet international Patent Cooperation Treaty standards. This program trained a number of patent examiners, helping to improve patent examination outcomes within the region.</p> <p>In 2017, IP Australia designed a second phase of RPET to deliver sustainable results in embedding the RPET learnings and best practice into internal patent examination training (RPET Mentoring). Experienced IP Australia Mentors have been assigned to each participating office, and all countries have finished developing competency-based training modules customised to their national legislation and practice. These modules are being piloted with the assistance of the IP Australia Mentors.</p>
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - Arrangement of placements of scientists from developing countries through WIPO Re:Search
Date and end date	1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	Indonesia; Kenya; Madagascar; Papua New Guinea; Tanzania
Brief description	Placed six scientists from developing and least developed countries with public and private sector institutions/companies with a view to ensuring technical cooperation in the area of research into neglected tropical diseases.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - Development of National IP (NIP) Strategies
Date and end date	1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	Lao People's Democratic Republic; Viet Nam
Brief description	Lao PDR: The NIP strategy has been developed and translated into the Laotian language. Viet Nam: The NIP strategy has been finalised, validated and approved, paving the way for implementation.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - Patent search and examination training
Date and end date	1 April 2019 - 30 April 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	Indonesia
Brief description	On-the-job training in patent search techniques has been provided to Indonesian patent examiners.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - Development of an online training program on the Madrid System accession and implementation process
Date and end date	1 December 2018 - 1 December 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	
Brief description	Online training modules on the Madrid System were delivered to WIPO in December 2018 and piloted in July/August 2019. Anticipated release by the WIPO Academy to occur in late 2019.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - Accessible Books Consortium
Date and end date	1 December 2018 - 7 October 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	Bangladesh; Indonesia; Mongolia; Viet Nam
Brief description	Training in accessible book production has been held in Viet Nam and Mongolia. Indonesian students with print impairments have been trained in the use of technology for accessing and reading materials in accessible formats. Educational materials in accessible formats have been produced for students in Bangladesh. 245 books were developed in Viet Nam with additional books under development in Mongolia, Indonesia and Bangladesh in the coming months.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	Funds in Trust - National Patent Training Workshop
Date and end date	1 October 2018 - 31 October 2018
Beneficiary country or countries	Indonesia
Brief description	1 Provided training in drafting patent applications in Indonesia.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	AECSP - Regional Patent Examination Training Mentoring (RPET Mentoring)
Date and end date	1 June 2017 - 1 December 2019
Beneficiary country or countries	Indonesia; Malaysia; Philippines; Thailand; Viet Nam
Brief description	The main aim of the program is to assist with internal capacity development so that offices can train their own patent examination cohort. All countries have finished developing competency-based training modules customised to their national legislation and practice. The modules will be piloted with the assistance of an experienced IP Australia Mentor. The Philippines completed their pilot in July 2019, with the remaining countries due to commence before December 2019.
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	

Name of programme or project	International Fund for Cultural Diversity
Date and end date	
Beneficiary country or countries	
Brief description	To support Australia's obligations in implementing the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Australia made additional voluntary contributions (of one % of its total contribution to the UNESCO budget) to the UNESCO International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) in 2018, 2016, 2013 and 2011. The IFCD promotes sustainable development and poverty reduction by funding projects in developing countries that foster the emergence of dynamic cultural sectors. It supports activities such as the development and implementation of cultural policies, capacity-building for cultural entrepreneurs, the mapping of cultural industries, the creation of new cultural industry business models, and the development of strategies for cultural and creative industries including intellectual property rights. The Department of Communications and the Arts supports the program through UNESCO and member parties to the 2005 Convention. The IFCD is a multi-donor fund established to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction in developing countries through support to projects that aim to foster the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector. For example, funding is provided to promote grassroots micro-initiatives, capacity building and knowledge sharing in the arts and cultural sectors for activities which contribute to cultural and economic development in LDCs. Since 2010, the International Fund for Cultural Diversity has contributed USD 7.5 million in funding for 105 projects in 54 developing countries to promote dynamic cultural sectors, revitalisation of the local economy and create positive social change. Australia's voluntary contributions to the IFCD include: 2018: AUD 105,333 2016: AUD 88,692 2013: AUD 80,000 2011: AUD 80,000 Total to date: AUD 354,025 Further information is available at http://en.unesco.org/creativity/ifcd and convention2005.ifcd@unesco.org
Beneficiary institution or audience	
Technical cooperation provider(s)	
Outputs or impact	
Website for further information	
Contact point for further information	