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The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments and has the honor to invite representatives of Members and Observers to the fifty-third session of the *Committee of Experts of the Union created by the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification (IPC)*, which will be held in hybrid format at WIPO Headquarters in Geneva and *via* an online platform from Thursday, February 24 (10 a.m.) to Friday, February 25, 2022 (5.30 p.m.).

The draft agenda (document IPC/CE/53/1 Prov.) and other working documents are available on the Electronic Forum at: <https://www3.wipo.int/classifications/ipc/ipcef/public/en>, under projects [CE 539](#).

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, delegates may wish to carefully consider the current public health situation before undertaking any travel. Should they wish to abstain from travelling, participants may follow the live transmission of the IPC/CE/53 proceedings online, via the online remote participation platform.

For delegates who nonetheless decide to travel, they should note that arrangements would be contingent upon possible COVID-19 travel restrictions. Additionally, participants will be solely responsible for ascertaining their personal situation in relation to policies from their home country, Switzerland and any in-transit country regarding quarantine and other COVID-19 measures in place.

In order to facilitate their registration and participation, all participants are required to register online at: https://www.wipo.int/registration/en/form.jsp?registration_id=448. It would be appreciated if the participants could register online as soon as possible and no later than February 17, 2022.

All participants are kindly requested to respect this registration deadline so that all the necessary procedures can be completed to enable access to the remote participation platform. The registration form will allow representatives to indicate whether they will participate in the meeting on-site or remotely, and if they expect to have a speaking role.

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Participants who indicate on the registration form that they will participate remotely will be contacted in advance of the start of the IPC/CE/53 session concerning technical modalities for accessing the meeting via the online platform, and will be invited to a short, individual connectivity test/training session before the meeting.

WIPO encourages gender equity in all its meetings, and it would be appreciated if this could be taken into account when nominating the participants.

Any additional queries about this meeting may be addressed to the Secretariat at:
ipc.mail@wipo.int.

December 16, 2021

KV