
WO/PBC/33/13 ADD.
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

Program and Budget Committee

Thirty-Third Session
Geneva, September 13 to 17, 2021

**ADDENDUM TO THE UPDATE ON THE STATUS AND PROGRESS OF
SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBER STATES ON VIEWS ON THE PREPARATIONS OF THE
TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE 2021 EVALUATION OF WIPO EXTERNAL
OFFICES**

prepared by the Secretariat

The present document (WO/PBC/33/13 Add.) contains the submission received by the Secretariat after August 27, 2021 concerning C. N 4078 requesting all interested Member States submit their views on the Terms of Reference of the 2021 Evaluation of WIPO External Offices.

[Addendum to the Update on the Status and Progress of submissions by Member States on views on the preparations of the Terms of Reference of the 2021 Evaluation of WIPO External Offices follows]

Iran (Islamic Republic of)'s Views on Terms of Reference of the Evaluation of WIPO
External Offices



*Mission Permanente
de la République Islamique d'Iran
auprès des Nations Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Ref. 2050/886130

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and with reference to the latter's Note Verbale No. C. N 4078 dated 30 July 2021, has the honor to transmit the comment of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the preparation of the terms of reference for evaluation of WIPO external offices.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Intellectual Property Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
34, Chemin des Colombettes
1211 GENEVA
Email: assemblies.secretariat@wipo.int

WIPO External Offices can have a crucial role for development of IP system of host countries and provision of technical assistance and capacity building programs to developing countries.

The Terms of Reference for Evaluation of WIPO External Offices (TOR) shall be drafted in a manner that its purposes, functions and mandates to be defined clearly and precisely in order to prevent any divergent interpretations in the future.

The Guiding Principles regarding WIPO External Offices as the main document in this regard was adopted by General Assembly in 2015. In accordance with the Guiding Principles, the size and performance of the entire EO network shall be evaluated.

In accordance with para 22 of the Guiding Principles, which provide the general framework for evaluation of WIPO External Offices network, performance of the entire external offices network shall be evaluated by the PBC. The PBC may request the support of WIPO External Auditors or independent external evaluators. We believe that evaluation by independent external evaluators is a better option as auditors mostly deal with financial issues but evaluation of WIPO External Offices is not a financial matter per se and involve to a great extent the functions and overall role of the External Offices. Therefore, we propose setting up of a committee comprising of 3 or 5 independent external evaluators (for instance one from United Nations Evaluation Group and others from similar institutions) for evaluation.

In the WIPO Evaluation Policy 2016 (which was relied on by Internal Oversight Division), using centralized and decentralized methods for evaluation was reiterated. This approach would be useful for evaluation of WIPO External Offices and can be incorporated in the TOR.

In one part of the report of WIPO External Auditors in 2020 (WO/PBS/31/3), recommendations were made regarding external offices. In accordance with the decision of the Committee of Program and Budget in 2020, recommendations of External Auditor should be taken into account in preparation of Terms of Reference of External Offices. It would be appropriate if due regard should be given to some of the recommendations in the report.

[End of Annex and of document]