

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2016

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
US Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to urge the administration to use its full voice, vote and influence at the United Nations and demand the full and unredacted Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) report into corrupt practices at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the conduct of its Director-General, Francis Gurry, be made public and available to the members of the General Assembly. There is a strong, bipartisan congressional interest in the results of this report and in ensuring that there is full accountability and transparency at WIPO.

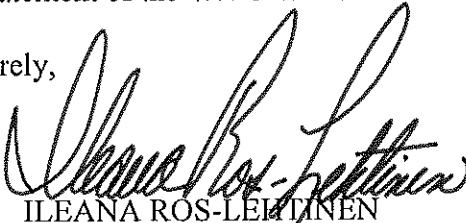
It is our understanding that WIPO has delivered its findings to the chairman of the WIPO General Assembly, Ambassador Gabriel Duque of Colombia, and that Director-General Gurry is engaging in a lobbying effort to prevent disclosure of the report or to have the report heavily redacted. This would be counterproductive and unacceptable. As you may be aware, corruption at WIPO, the illicit transfer of technology to rouge states and retaliation against whistleblowers was the subject of a recent congressional hearing jointly sponsored by three subcommittees of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on February 24, 2016. The subcommittees heard direct testimony from several whistleblowers regarding Mr. Gurry's inappropriate and illegal actions as well as the retaliatory actions he has taken against whistleblowers.

We therefore request that you direct our Mission to the UN to demand disclosure of the report to all member states and thereafter transmit a copy to the undersigned. In addition, we believe that public disclosure of the report would serve the interest of transparency. We are prepared to support the use of our leverage in order to bring this report to light and we stand ready to work with our Mission to hold WIPO officials accountable. We also believe that the environment surrounding WIPO is toxic, and therefore urge the administration to press for the immediate dismissal of Director-General Gurry and the reinstatement of the WIPO whistleblowers.

Sincerely,


CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Chairman

Subcommittee on International Organizations


ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Chairman
Subcommittee on Middle East & North
Africa



MATT SALMON

Chairman

Subcommittee on Asia & the Pacific



BRAD SHERMAN

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Asia & the Pacific



TED DEUTCH

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Middle East & North Africa

cc: Ambassador Samantha Power
Ambassador Isobel Coleman
Ambassador Pamela Hamamoto