

**Methodology and Program
for IGC 30 (May 30 to June 3, 2016)**

As prepared by the IGC Chair, Mr. Ian Goss

May 27, 2016

Introduction

1. This note sets out an informal description of the proposed working methodology and program for IGC 30, especially agenda item 7 (“Genetic Resources”). The proposed working methodology and program will be flexible and dynamic, based on the progress made, and they are subject to change.
2. This note also briefly introduces the arrangements for agenda item 5 (“Reporting on the *Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources (May 26 and 27, 2016)*”).
3. This session will last for 5 working days. The morning and afternoon portions of the session will commence at 10h00 and 15h00 sharp, unless otherwise indicated. Substantive work under agenda item 7 should start immediately after the indigenous panel, probably at around 12h30 on Monday.
4. Opening statements of up to three minutes by Regional Groups, the European Union and the Like-Minded Countries will be allowed. Any other opening statements may be handed to the Secretariat in writing and they will be included in the report.
5. Observers’ statements and proposals would be interspersed with Member State statements, as in the past. Member States and observers are strongly encouraged to interact with each other informally, as this increases the chances that Member States will be aware of, understand and perhaps support observers’ proposals.

Arrangements for Agenda Item 5

6. A *Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources* will be organized on May 26 and 27, 2016. For each roundtable, the Secretariat has invited one delegate to be the rapporteur. Each rapporteur will take note of the presentations and discussions and make an oral report to IGC 30, under agenda item 5. I intend to allow each rapporteur to speak for no more than 10 minutes. These oral reports will be factual, summarizing, in a neutral manner, the main points and questions raised at the Seminar. IGC participants will have a brief opportunity to add their own comments or ask questions of the rapporteurs. The rapporteurs' oral reports and ensuing discussion, if any, will be included in the usual way in the Report of IGC 30. Agenda item 5 should be completed within less than an hour.

Working Methodology on Agenda Item 7

7. Work during this session will be carried out both in plenary and informals formats. In addition, time will be provided for Member States to engage with each other outside of these settings.

8. WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/4 – Consolidated Document - will continue to form the primary document for capturing the outputs of discussions.

9. Work will begin in **plenary** and will address the indicative list of outstanding/pending issues included in document WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/5. It is not intended to repeat the discussions that took place at IGC 29, but to share new ideas/understandings (if any) of those issues. Since the list of outstanding/pending issues is non-exhaustive, it would also be an opportunity to raise any issues which are not included in the list. Discussions in the plenary will be reported on as usual. The plenary remains the decision making body and will review any revisions to the Consolidated Document (WIPO/GRTKF/IC/30/4). At this stage, it is not planned that live drafting will be undertaken in the plenary.

10. **The informals** are to facilitate, in a smaller, informal setting, discussion of the different approaches reflected in the Consolidated Document and other working/information documents, and the core issues underpinning them, including opportunities to reach a common understanding and narrow existing gaps.

- *Chairmanship:* The IGC Chair/Vice-Chair, with the active assistance of the facilitators, will lead the discussion.
- *Composition:* Each regional group will be represented by a maximum of **six** delegates, one of whom should, preferably, be the regional coordinator, noting that the presence of the regional coordinators in the informals process is important. A regional group can decide to nominate a lesser number of delegates, and this would be welcomed so as to keep the informals as small as possible. In order to increase transparency and inclusiveness, other Member State representatives would be permitted to sit in on the informals. These representatives would observe only and not have direct speaking rights, but seek instead to channel observations, if necessary, through relevant representatives. Indigenous representatives would be invited to nominate two representatives to participate, and an additional two representatives to observe in the meetings without speaking rights. Regional groups and the indigenous representatives may elect to change the composition of their teams, as they deem fit, depending on the article/issue being worked on.
- *Methodology:* The delegates forming the informals may take the floor and make textual proposals relating to the Consolidated Document. However, there will be no live drafting (the editing and final preparation of any text to be considered by the plenary will, be done by the facilitators on the basis of these inputs. See paragraph 11 below). The outputs of informals will be made available in English only. During informals, outstanding/pending issues will be introduced by the Chair of the informals, rather than in a sequential, article-by-article manner. The Chair of the informals will make specific proposals in this regard.
- *Venue:* The informals will meet in Room NB 0.107. Interpretation into and from English, French and Spanish will be available. There will be a live audio feed of the proceedings of the informals in English, French and Spanish to the New Conference Hall.
- *Informality:* All participants are requested to respect the informality of the informals, and not to communicate to the public, whether 'live' or at any future time, the content or nature of the discussions taking place in the informals, whether in general terms or by way of quoting specific individuals or delegations. This includes restrictions on tweeting, blog posts, news stories and email list-serves.
- *Secretariat services:* At the request of the Chair/Vice-Chair, the Secretariat will be on hand to take notes at/undertake typing/perform other administrative tasks at the informals.

11. Ms. Margo Bagley of Mozambique and Ms. Emelia Hernandez of Mexico will continue to be the **facillitators** for the session. They will follow the plenary and the informals discussions closely, and record views, positions and any proposals, including drafting proposals made in the plenary and the informals. The facillitators may also take the floor and make proposals. They will review the material, undertake drafting, if any, and report back to plenary on the outputs of informals, including revisions to the Consolidated Document.

12. It is planned that the plenary will review the revisions to the Consolidated Document twice. In the last session under agenda item 7, the plenary would be invited to:

- correct any obvious errors in Rev. 2 of the Consolidated Document (see Program below);
- comment on Rev. 2 of the Consolidated Document, which would be reported on as usual in the full report of IGC 30;
- note Rev. 2 of the Consolidated Document and transmit it to IGC 34; and
- note other outputs of discussions, if any.

Program

Time	Activity
Monday morning 10h00 – 13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plenary: Agenda items 1 – 6 - Indigenous Panel - Plenary: Opening of agenda item 7 – Introduction by the Chair
Monday afternoon 15h00 – 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plenary: Discussion of outstanding/pending issues
Tuesday morning 10h00 – 13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informals in Room NB 0.107: Discussion of outstanding/pending issues
Tuesday afternoon 15h00 – 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informals in Room NB 0.107: Discussion of outstanding/pending issues, continued
Wednesday morning 10h00 – 13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitators make available a Rev. 1 of the Consolidated Document by 11h00 - Delegations can meet and study the Rev. 1 document from 11h00 to 15h00
Wednesday afternoon 15h00 – 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plenary: Introduction of Rev. 1 by facilitators followed by reviewing and commenting on the Rev. 1 document
Thursday morning 10h00 – 13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informals in Room NB 0.107: Further development of the Rev.1 document based on the comments of the plenary
Thursday afternoon 13h00 – 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informals in Room NB 0.107: Further development of the Rev. 1 document based on the comments of the plenary, continued
Friday morning 10h00 – 13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitators make available a Rev. 2 of the Consolidated Document by 11h00 - Delegations can meet and study the Rev. 2 document from 11h00 to 15h00
Friday afternoon 15h00 – 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plenary: Introduction of Rev. 2 by facilitators followed by correcting, commenting on and noting the Rev. 2 document - Agenda item 8: Any other business - Confirmation of decisions already adopted - Closing of the session