

trademarks, the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, the Madrid Agreement and Protocol dealing with the international registration of trademarks, treaties relating to patent and trademark classifications and other treaties establishing or managing global protection regimes. WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty has become very significant for international filing of patents amongst parties to the treaty. In an attempt to assist the realization of the creative and innovative potential of developing countries, WIPO has developed assistance programs, which focus on strengthening and upgrading intellectual property institutions, as well as making use of IP for creating wealth and enhancing their competitiveness.

Issues

With the establishment of WTO, WIPO entered into a collaborative agreement with that Organization, under which WIPO undertook to assist developing countries make their laws compatible with their obligations under the TRIPS Agreement. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) also deals with issues related to intellectual property.

Each of the three organizations has a development dimension within their areas of competence. By bringing these three Geneva-based organizations, most concerned with the issues of intellectual property, development and trade together, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) intends to further raise awareness of the linkages, between intellectual property, trade and development. This forum will allow the discussion of policy directions, priority areas, strategies and deliverables.

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