

## **Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)**

**Eleventh Session**  
**Geneva, December 4 to 8, 2023**

PROPOSAL FOR A DRAFT SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
WIPO STANDARD ST.91

*Document prepared by the 3D Task Force Leader*

### **SUMMARY**

1. WIPO Standard ST.91 was adopted by the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) at its ninth session. The 3D Task Force Leader is proposing a draft questionnaire for approval by the CWS to better understand the scale of implementation of this Standard and any future revisions that may be required.

### **BACKGROUND**

2. At its sixth session, the CWS noted a proposal from the Russian Federation that broader acceptance of 3D formats by Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs) could better serve user needs, and the use of 3D formats could allow more efficient methods of search and comparative analysis. As a result, Task No.61 was established with the following description:

*"Prepare a proposal for recommendations on three-dimensional (3D) models and images"*

At the same session, the CWS approved the creation of the 3D Task Force to perform this Task, with the Russian Federation designated as the Task Force leader. (See paragraphs 141 to 142 of document CWS/6/34.)

3. At its ninth session, the CWS adopted WIPO Standard ST.91, with the name "Recommendations on digital three-dimensional (3D) models and 3D images", with the objective to cope with new demands from IPOs, IP users, and other stakeholders (see paragraph 31 of CWS/9/25). The Standard recommends file formats and treatment of 3D objects for receiving, processing, and publishing IP applications which contain 3D models or 3D images in patent, trademark and industrial designs documentation. It aims to help establish common 3D formats to facilitate filings at multiple IPOs, reduce processing time, facilitate data exchange between IPOs, harmonize filing requirements, and create guidelines for publishing IP data with digital 3D objects.

4. Following the adoption of the WIPO Standard ST.91 at the ninth session of the CWS, the modified description of Task No.61 was approved by the CWS, which reads:

*"Ensure the necessary revisions and updates of WIPO Standard ST.91, including methods of search for 3D models and 3D images".*

5. At its tenth session, the CWS noted that the Task Force plans to develop and discuss search and comparison methods for 3D visual representations in line with the updated Task description. The Task Force Leader noted that Task Force Members need more time to work on 3D search methods, given the ongoing investigations and studies, as well as limited experience that many Task Force Members currently have with the subject matter (see paragraph 122 of document CWS/10/22). Following the discussion within the Task Force it is planned to present an agreed proposal for a respective update at future sessions of the CWS.

#### PROPOSED QUESTIONNAIRE

6. The Task Force believes that the adopted WIPO ST.91 is relatively new, therefore there is no need for its urgent update and revision, except the agreed editorial remarks from the Task Force Members.

7. At the same time, it is an appropriate time to collect information on how widely WIPO Standard ST.91 is used and implemented by IPOs, as well as industry and users, and to which extent and for what IP rights. Therefore, the Task Force presents a draft questionnaire as reproduced in the Annex to the present document for consideration and approval by the CWS at this session. This draft questionnaire is intended to collect information that could be then used as a guideline for further update and revisions of WIPO Standard ST.91. This will also raise the visibility of this Standard with Member States who may wish to participate in the Task Force.

8. The Task Force Leader also suggests that the CWS request the Secretariat to issue a Circular inviting its Members and Observers to respond to the questionnaire once it is approved at this session. The Task Force will analyze responses to the survey and report the results to the next session of the Committee.

9. *The CWS is invited to:*

*(a) note the contents of the present documents;*

*(b) review and approve the contents of the draft questionnaire indicated above in paragraphs 6 and 7 above and reproduced as the Annex to the present document; and*

*(c) request the Secretariat to issue a Circular inviting its Members and Observers to participate in the survey and the 3D Task Force to report the results of the survey as indicated in paragraph 8 above.*

[Annex follows]

## Draft survey questionnaire on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91

Q 1. Does your Office currently use 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures?

- Yes  
 No  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Q1.1. If yes, for what IP rights:

- Trademarks  
 Designs  
 Inventions  
 Utility models  
 Integrated circuit topology  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Q 1.2. Does your Office implement WIPO Standard ST.91 within its work?

- Yes, fully  
 Partially  
 No  
 Additional comments \_\_\_\_\_

**Q 2. Using 3D models, 3D images and 3D chemical structures for IP rights**

Q 2.1. What formats of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures does your Office currently accept for each IP right?

	Trademarks	Designs	Inventions (except 3D chemical structures)	Utility models	Integrated circuit topology	Inventions (3D chemical structures)
none, IPO doesn't operate this type of IP right	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
none, IPO doesn't accept 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures for this type of IP right	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3D pdf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
iges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
obj	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
stl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
step/stp	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
u3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
mol						<input type="checkbox"/>
cdx						<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

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Q 2.2. What software does your Office currently use for the visualization of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures during the examination process?

Please specify:

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Q 2.3. What formats of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures does your Office currently use for the electronic publication for each IP right operated by Office?

	Trademarks	Designs	Inventions (except 3D chemical structures)	Utility models	Integrated circuit topology	Inventions (3D chemical structures)
none, IPO doesn't operate this type of IP right	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
none, IPO doesn't publish information of this type of IP right electronically	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
none, IPO doesn't publish information of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures electronically even if they were accepted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2D images received by IPO from the source 3D models or 3D images	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3D pdf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
iges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
obj	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
stl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
step/stp	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
u3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
mol						<input type="checkbox"/>
cdx						<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

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Q 2.4. What software does your Office currently use for the electronic publication of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures?

Please specify:

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Q 2.5. What formats of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures does your Office currently use for the paper publication for each IP right?

	Trademarks	Designs	Inventions (except 3D chemical structures)	Utility models	Integrated circuit topology	Inventions (3D chemical structures)
none, IPO doesn't operate this type of IP right	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
none, IPO doesn't publish information of this type of IP right on paper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
none, IPO doesn't publish information of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures on paper even if they were accepted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2D images received by Office from the source 3D models or 3D images	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
link to the 3D object online	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Other (please specify)

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Q 2.6. Does your Office carry out search for the comparison of the 3D models and 3D images with **3D models and 3D images** during the examination process and if so, in what formats for each IP right?

	Trademarks	Designs	Inventions (except 3D chemical structures)	Utility models	Integrated circuit topology
no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes, IPO use 2D representations of 3D models for the comparison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes, IPO use 3D models themselves for the comparison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

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Q 2.7. What software does your Office currently use for the comparison of the 3D models and 3D images with **3D models and 3D images** during the examination process?

Please specify:

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Q 2.8 Does your Office carry out search for the comparison of the 3D models and 3D images with **2D images** during the examination process and if so, in what formats for each IP rights?

	Trademarks	Designs	Inventions (except 3D chemical structures)	Utility models	Integrated circuit topology
no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes, IPO use 2D representations of 3D models for the comparison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes, IPO use 3D representations of 2D images for the comparison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

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Q 2.9. What software does your Office currently use for the comparison of the 3D models and 3D images with **2D images** during the examination process?

Please specify:

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### Q3. Existing practices and future plans

Q 3.1. Please describe existing practices/future plans for using 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures within your Office

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Q 3.2. Please describe existing practices/future plans relating to the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91 within your Office

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Q 4. Any other comments

Please specify:

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