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USE OF THE UNWTO LOGO

Protection of the UNWTO logo

1. As requested by the General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/570(XVIII), the Secretariat has initiated all the necessary official procedures for applying to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the protection of UNWTO's new logo; flag; abbreviations in English, Russian and Arabic; as well as its name in Arabic, under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property¹. An official request was signed by the UNWTO Secretary-General and sent to the International Bureau of WIPO at the beginning of May.
2. The International Bureau of WIPO will communicate accordingly, through an electronic publication on the Article 6ter Express Database, the signs concerned to the Member States of the Paris Convention and the Members of the World Trade Organization. This publication will take place on the 30 September 2010 and would signify that UNWTO signs will be protected under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention one year after if no objections have been transmitted from the above-mentioned members during this period.

Regulations on the use of the UNWTO logo

3. The UNWTO's Legal Adviser has conducted informal consultations with Legal Advisers from several UN specialized agencies during the Legal Advisers of the UN System Network meeting held in Rome, Italy on 6th May 2010: No apparent divergences appeared between the conclusions presented by the *ad-hoc* Working Group to the last UNWTO General Assembly (Astana) and the current practices within the UN System. However, in order to clean all doubts, the Legal Adviser is currently conducting an official consultation among all UN specialized agencies and with the UN Office of Legal Affairs.
4. In parallel, the UNWTO Secretariat recently received from the office of its Legal Adviser a document summarising the practices on emblem, seal, flag, name and abbreviation in use within the UN System.

¹ The emblem (logo), flag, abbreviations (acronyms) and names of the Organization are protected since 18 March 1981 by the Article 6ter of the WIPO Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

5. In this context, the UNWTO Secretary-General would like to propose to the Executive Council that the *ad-hoc* Working Group meet one more time before its 89th session in order to:
 - a. examine the document summarising the UN practices and the results of the official consultations, and
 - b. make a final proposal to the EC regarding the regulations on the use of the logo for its comments and approval.

6. **Note:** The domain name of the Organization (unwto.org) belongs to UNWTO and is registered with the company Network Solutions. Concurrently, the Secretariat has been informed that WIPO is developing a system for protecting domain names of international organisations. The Secretary-General will keep UNWTO Members informed on this issue.