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Negotiating Group on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, including Trade in Counterfeit Goods

INFORMATION FROM OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Communication from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco)

In accordance with the decisions of the Negotiating Group on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, including Trade in Counterfeit Goods at its meeting of 25 March 1987, the secretariat has contacted the Secretariats of the World Intellectual Property Organisation, Unesco and the Customs Co-operation Council with a view to seeking information on their activities regarding trade in counterfeit goods and their initiatives relevant to the Negotiating Objective of the Group (MTN.GNG/NG11/1, paragraphs 17 and 18).

The following communication has been received in response from the Director-General of Unesco.

Unesco is concerned only with the copyright and related aspects of intellectual property. However, this does involve a deep concern for any illegal erosion of the legitimate rights of the owners of copyright and neighbouring rights. In its fight against piracy, which is detrimental to the material and moral interests of the authors, composers and other creators of the works of the mind, Unesco has been and remains active in many ways.

As an example, Unesco carried out a global survey among Member States in 1983 to measure the scope of the phenomenon of piracy, identify the reasons for its existence and find ways and means of ending it. Documentation concerning this survey and its results is enclosed.1

The advent of revolutionary new forms of printing and recording technology, in recent years, has led in many regions to an extension of the practice of pirating either printed, sound or audio-visual works. With a view to finding ways and means to put an end to this growing threat, Unesco has organized, in conjunction with the World Intellectual Property

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1See Annex to this note

Organisation, a number of Committees of Governmental Experts to consider the impact of new technology on audio-visual works and phonograms, works of architecture and of visual art and dramatic, choreographic and musical works. I enclose working documents and reports of these meetings.[1] Activities in this respect will be

continued in 1987 and 1988 with three further Committees on works of applied art, printed matter and photographic works. Finally, in the 1988-1989 biennium, a Committee of Governmental Experts is planned to analyze the results of the work of all six Committees. It is hoped that the final recommendations of this Committee will contribute significantly to the efforts being made to eradicate piracy.

I thank you for having consulted the Organization on this important question and trust the information I am providing herewith will be useful to you.

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1See Annex to this note

ANNEX

DOCUMENTS SUPPLIED BY UNESCO

The following documents have been supplied, in the language indicated:

Lettre et questionnaire sur le phénomène de lapiraterie des matériels imprimés, desphonogrammes, du matériel audiovisuel, des films et des émissions de radio et de télévision	CL/2863
Letter and analysis of the replies to the Unesco questionnaire on the phenomenon of the piracy of printed material, phonograms, audio-visual material, films, and radio and television programmes	CL/2958
Questions concerning the protection of works of architecture and works relative to architecture: Memorandum prepared by the Secretariats of Unesco and WIPO for the Committee of Governmental Experts on Works of Architecture, Geneva, 20-22 October 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/W A/3
Report adopted by the Committee of Governmental Experts on Works of Architecture, Geneva, 20-22 October 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/W A/4
Questions concerning the protection of works of visual art: Document prepared by the Secretariats of Unesco and WIPO for the Committee of Governmental Experts on Works of Visual Art, Paris, 16-19 December 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/V AR/3
Report adopted by the Committee of Governmental Experts on Works of Visual Art, Paris, 16-19 December 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/V AR/4
Questions concerning the protection of copyright and the rights of performers, phonogram producers and broadcasting organizations in respect of audiovisual works and phonograms: Memorandum prepared by the Secretariats of Unesco and WIPO for the Committee of Governmental Experts of Audiovisual Works and Phonograms, Paris, 2-6 June 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/AWP/3
Report of the Committee of Governmental Experts on Audiovisual Works and Phonograms, Paris, 2-6 June 1986	UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/A

Questions concerning the protection of copyright and the rights of performers in respect of dramatic, choreographic and musical works: Memorandum prepared by the Secretariats of Unesco and WIPO for the Committee of Governmental Experts on Dramatic, Choreographic and Musical Works, Paris, 11-15 May 1987	WP/4 UNESCO/WIPO/CGE/DCM/3

These documents are available in the GATT secretariat for consultation by interested delegations (Mr. A. Otten, extension 2181).