



GOVERNING COUNCIL
85th session
Rome, 8-10 May 2006

UNIDROIT 2006
C.D. (85) 15
Original: English
March 2006

Item No. 15 on the agenda: The UNIDROIT web site and depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation

(memorandum prepared by the Secretariat)

<i>Summary</i>	<i>Developments concerning the UNIDROIT web site and depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation.</i>
<i>Action to be taken</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Related documents</i>	<i>None</i>

DISCUSSION LEADING PARAMETERS AS PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARIAT

Priority			
	high	medium	low

I. Strategic Plan

Pro-active use of outreach resources (see Strategic Objective No. 2, paragraph 24); creation within the framework of the UNIDROIT web site of a Governments' forum (see Strategic Objective No. 5); preparation of the cumulative edition of *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers 1997-2005* on CD-ROM for distribution to depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation (see Strategic Objective No. 3).

II. Work Programme 2006-2008

Yes.

III. Current assessment

The UNIDROIT web site is an essential instrument for the world-wide dissemination of information on the Organisation and its projects as well as a source of UNIDROIT documentation.

Staffing implications	One officer (50%) with assistance with regard to translation into French.
Budget implications	As afore-mentioned.

BACKGROUND

I. UNIDROIT web site <<http://www.unidroit.org>>

1. The UNIDROIT Internet web site, fully bilingual in English and French, continues to be an extremely effective means of disseminating information on and promoting UNIDROIT's activities and instruments. For a more detailed description of the content of the UNIDROIT web site see APPENDIX I.

2. In order to facilitate communication between the Secretariat and the Governing Council and among Governing Council members themselves, in March 2005 an area of the web site reserved to Council members was created where documents issued in connection with the Council's 2005 session were posted and where members could post messages to the Secretariat and other members. Following the success of this initiative, a similar area reserved to Governments of Members States was set up in October 2005 and General Assembly documents were posted there prior to the General Assembly session on 1 December 2005. Updating of these two reserved areas continues.

3. As part of a general effort to develop the Institute's outreach resources, a new section "Legal Cooperation and Technical Assistance" has been included on the web site providing information on the UNIDROIT Scholarships Programme offering training and research opportunities for top-level lawyers from developing countries or countries in economic transition and on the technical assistance States may need in implementing UNIDROIT Conventions (e.g. explanatory reports, the texts of model instruments of ratification/accession, information as to formalities to be carried out at the time of ratification/accession). In connection with the Institute's depository functions with respect to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol thereto on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment, declarations made by Contracting States have been posted on the web site and can be searched by either Article or Contracting State.

II. Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT documentation

4. To date 46 libraries world-wide have been designated by Member States to serve as depositories for UNIDROIT documentation (*UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* on CD-ROM, the *Uniform Law Review*, New Series and other UNIDROIT publications on request). For the list of the Depository Libraries see APPENDIX II.

III. *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* on CD-ROM

5. An update of the CD-ROM containing *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* to include material issued in 2005 is under preparation. It will be provided free of charge to the depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation in the Member States and to members of the Governing Council.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

6. *The Governing Council is invited to confirm the continued priority of the web site as a valuable means of disseminating and promoting UNIDROIT's activities and instruments.*

APPENDIX I

Content of the UNIDROIT internet web site

- **“About UNIDROIT”**: An introduction to the Institute providing general information on its membership, including contact information concerning the national authority in each member State responsible for relations with UNIDROIT, its structure, legislative policy and working methods; also information on secondments and internships as well as links to sections of the web site devoted to the Institute’s Work Programme, its outreach resources and past achievements;
- **“UNIDROIT News”**: A news bulletin taken from the *Uniform Law Review* providing information on the current events and activities of UNIDROIT;
- **“Adopted texts”**: A section of the web site containing the texts of **UNIDROIT Conventions** as well as information providing the technical assistance States may need in implementing those conventions; also the relative explanatory reports and status reports on the state of ratifications of and accessions to those conventions; the **Model Franchise Disclosure Law and Explanatory Report** as well as a regularly updated version of Annex 3 to the *UNIDROIT Guide to International Master Franchise Arrangements* on “Legislation and Regulations Relevant to Franchising”; the black letter rules of the **UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts (2004)**;
- **“Work in Progress”**: A section of the web site containing the current **UNIDROIT Work Programme** as well as documents and information relating to the following items on it: Principles of International Commercial Contracts (Study L), Model Law on Leasing (Study LIX A), International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Study LXXII), Transactions on Transnational and Connected Capital Markets (Study LXXVIII);
- **“UNIDROIT Documents”**: The full text on-line edition of *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* 1997 to present containing the Annual Reports on the activity of the Institute, the reports on the annual sessions of the UNIDROIT Governing Council, the reports on the annual sessions of the General Assembly of UNIDROIT member States, the final texts of instruments prepared under the auspices of UNIDROIT, documents concerning current work on instruments adopted as well as the preparatory work, consisting of the studies and reports of the various working groups and committees of governmental experts, on items on the UNIDROIT Work Programme;
- **“UNIDROIT publications”**: An introduction to all UNIDROIT publications as well as the table of contents and leading article of each issue of the *Uniform Law Review*;
- Links to the **UNILAW** and **UNILEX** data bases;
- **“Outreach resources”**: A section of the web site providing general information on the UNIDROIT Library and UNIDROIT’s activities in the field of legal co-operation and technical assistance; also includes a list of libraries depositories for UNIDROIT documentation;
- An area of the web site accessible by password reserved to the **Governing Council**;
- An area of the web site accessible by password reserved to **Governments of member States**.

APPENDIX II

Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT Documentation

- Argentina: Corte Suprema de Justicia de la Nación, Secretaría de Investigación de Derecho comparado
- Australia: National Library of Australia
- Austria: Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek
- Belgium: Ministry of Justice
- Bolivia: Biblioteca Central de la Cancillería de la República, Montevideo
- Brazil: Serviço de Biblioteca e documentação - SBD, Universidad de São Paulo, Faculdade de Direito
- Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Library "St. Cyrill and St. Methodius"
- People's Republic of China: Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)
- Colombia: Biblioteca Luis Angel Arango
- Czech Republic: Ministerstvo průmyslu a obchodu
- Egypt: Documentation Center, General Directorate of International and Cultural Co-operation, Ministry of Justice
- Estonia: National Library of Estonia
- Finland: Eduskunnan Kirjasto
- France: Bibliothèque Inter-universitaire Cujas
- Germany: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Abteilung Amtsdrukschriften und Internationaler Amtlicher Schriftentausch
- Greece: Library of the Hellenic Institute of International and Foreign Law
- Holy See: Biblioteca della Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Libera Università Maria Ss. Assunta, (Rome)
- Hungary: Library of the Hungarian Parliament
- India: Library of the Indian Society of International Law
- Ireland: National Library of Ireland
- Latvia: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia
- Luxembourg: Bibliothèque Nationale
Luxembourg: Centre Universitaire de Luxembourg
- Malta: Library Services, University of Malta
- Mexico: Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México City
Mexico: Academia Mexicana de Derecho Internacional Privado y Comparado, México City
Mexico: Biblioteca Loyola, Universidad Iberoamericana Tijuana

- Netherlands: Library of the Ministry of Justice
- Norway: Det juridiske fakultetsbibliotek, Universitetsbiblioteket i Oslo
- Poland: Sejm Library
- Portugal: Serviço de Biblioteca e Documentação Diplomática do Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros - Instituto Diplomático
- Portugal: Gabinete de Documentação e Direito Comparado, Procuradoria Geral da República
- Republic of Korea: Library of the Institute for Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)
- Romania: Biblioteca Nationala
- Russian Federation: Library of the Russian Academy of Foreign Trade
- Slovak Republic: Právnická fakulta Trnavskej Univerzity
- Slovenia (Republic of): National and University Library
- South Africa: Library of the Department of Justice, Directorate: Internal Affairs
- Spain: Universidad San Pablo CEU
- Sweden: Library of the Swedish Parliament
- Switzerland: Library of the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law
- Turkey: Library, Banca ve Ticaret Hukuku Arastirma Enstitüsü, Hukuk Fakültesi, Ankara Üniversitesi
- United Kingdom: Library of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
- United States of America: Arthur W. Diamond Law Library, Columbia University in the City of New York
- United States of America: Underwood Law Library, Dedman School of Law, Southern Methodist University
- Uruguay: Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de la República