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Item No. 20 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 document</i>	<i>Implementation of the Strategic Plan (C.D. (87) 6, p. 11)</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 1997-2007* 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 some 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. The website, whose content continues to be incremented, now contains over 2000 files in pdf and htm format. For a more detailed description of the content of the UNIDROIT web site see APPENDIX I. Work on a new layout for the web site is underway and a new content management programme is being put into place. Some of the advantages will be a user friendly navigation side bar, a search function on the files in the database, more flexibility with regard to the posting of images and the possibility of updating and incrementing the web site directly via the internet.

II. Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT documentation

2. 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

3. An update of the CD-ROM containing *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* to include material issued in 2007 is under preparation and 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

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;
- **“News and Events”**: A calendar of forthcoming UNIDROIT meetings as well as Forthcoming conferences, seminars and meetings on instruments prepared under the auspices of UNIDROIT as well as information on the current events and activities of UNIDROIT. This section of the web site also includes an archive of the “UNIDROIT News” column from the *Uniform Law Review*.
- **“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 included are the relative explanatory reports, the status reports on the state of ratifications of and accessions to those conventions and the texts of the declarations deposited with UNIDROIT under the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and under the Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;
 - 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)**;
 - the black letter rules of the **ALI/UNIDROIT Principles of Transnational Civil Procedure (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 decisions taken by the Governing Council at its annual sessions, 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”**: A list of all UNIDROIT publications in print available for purchase from UNIDROIT as well as the table of contents and leading article of each issue of the *Uniform Law Review*;
- Links to the **UNILAW**, **UNILEX** and **Uniform Law Review** 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