

### WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center Introduction

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Andrzej Gadkowski IP Disputes Section, WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

# WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

- Facilitates the resolution of commercial disputes between private parties involving IP, through procedures other than court litigation
  - Offices in Geneva and Singapore
  - Users around the world
- WIPO mediators, arbitrators and experts experienced in IP - able to deliver informed results efficiently
- International neutrality
- Services include mediation, (expedited) arbitration, expert determination, and domain name dispute resolution



# WIPO ADR Mediation, Arbitration, Expert Determination

- Mediation: informal consensual process in which a neutral intermediary, the mediator, <u>assists the parties in reaching a settlement of their dispute</u>, based on the parties' respective interests. The <u>mediator cannot impose a decision</u>. The settlement agreement has force of contract. Mediation leaves open available court or agreed arbitration options.
- **Arbitration**: consensual procedure in which the parties submit their dispute to one or more chosen arbitrators, for a <u>binding and final decision</u> (award) based on the parties' rights and obligations and <u>enforceable</u> internationally.
- **Expert Determination**: consensual procedure in which the parties submit a <u>specific matter</u> (e.g., technical question) to one or more experts who make a <u>determination</u> on the matter, which can be binding unless the parties have agreed otherwise.

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### Why Consider IP ADR?

Cost of IP court litigation	Calls for expedient solutions
Internationalization of creation and use of IP	Calls for cross-border solutions; consolidate in one procedure
Technical and specialized nature of IP	Calls for specific expertise of the neutral
Short product and market cycles in IP	Calls for time-efficient procedures
Confidential nature of IP	Calls for private procedures
Collaborative nature of IP creation and commercialization	Calls for mechanisms that preserve relations

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## Routes to WIPO ADR

### ADR contract clause electing WIPO Rules

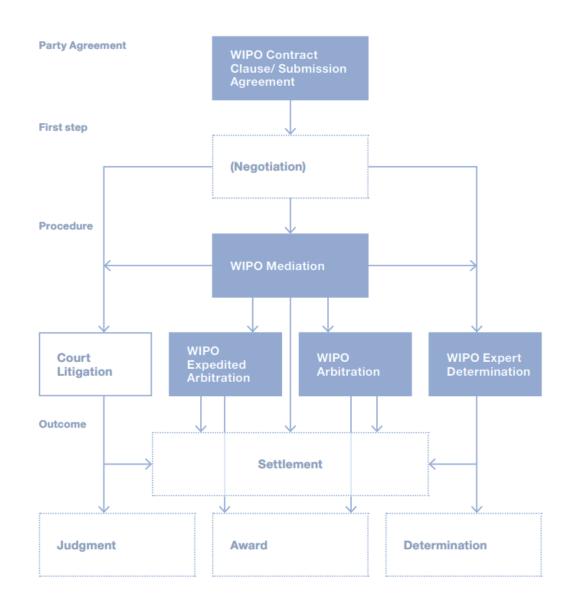
- WIPO Mediation, and/or
- WIPO Arbitration / Expedited Arbitration, and/or
- WIPO Expert Determination
- Model clauses: www.wipo.int/amc/en/clauses

Parties can shape the process via the clause (e.g., location, language, law)

- ADR submission agreement electing WIPO Rules, e.g., in existing noncontractual disputes
- Unilateral request for WIPO Mediation by one party (Art. 4 WIPO Mediation Rules)
- Court referrals
- Request can be submitted online using the WIPO IP Portal ADR forms

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# WIPO ADR options



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# WIPO Model Clause Example: Mediation followed by Expedited Arbitration

"<u>Any dispute</u>, controversy or claim arising under, out of or relating to this contract and any subsequent amendments of this contract, including, without limitation, its formation, validity, binding effect, interpretation, performance, breach or termination, as well as non-contractual claims, <u>shall be</u> <u>submitted to mediation in accordance with the WIPO Mediation Rules</u>. The place of mediation shall be [<u>specify place</u>]. The language to be used in the mediation shall be [<u>specify language</u>]"

If, and to the extent that, <u>any such dispute</u>, controversy or claim <u>has not been settled pursuant to</u> <u>the mediation within [60][90] days of the commencement of the mediation</u>, it shall, <u>upon the</u> <u>filing of a Request for Arbitration by either party</u>, <u>be referred to and finally determined by</u> <u>arbitration in accordance with the WIPO Expedited Arbitration Rules</u>. Alternatively, if, before the expiration of the said period of [60][90] days, either party fails to participate or to continue to participate in the mediation, the dispute, controversy or claim shall, upon the filing of a Request for Arbitration by the other party, be referred to and finally determined by arbitration in accordance with the WIPO Expedited Arbitration Rules. The place of arbitration shall be [**specify place**]. The language to be used in the arbitral proceedings shall be [**specify language**]. The dispute, controversy or claim referred to arbitration shall be decided in accordance with [**specify jurisdiction**] law."



### **WIPO Center Case Role**

Assisting parties in considering the referral of a dispute to WIPO proceedings

- Administering cases
  - Under WIPO Rules, or under special procedures
  - Active management: containing time and costs
    WIPO eADR (optional online case management)
- Facilitating <u>selection and appointment</u> of mediators, arbitrators, experts
  - WIPO list of 2,000+ neutrals
    - From numerous countries in all regions
    - Specialized in different areas of IP and IT

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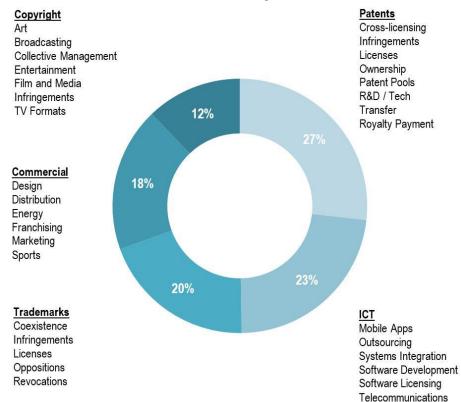
## WIPO ADR Rules

- **IP-specific elements** 
  - e.g., confidentiality, technical evidence, interim relief
- Applicable to all commercial disputes
- **Flexibility** 
  - Pre-structure entire proceeding
  - For most part can be modified by arrangement between mediator or arbitrator and parties
- For domestic and international disputes

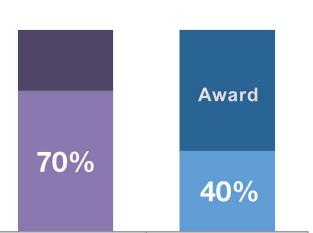
WIPO Mediation, Arbitration, Expedited Arbitration and Expert Determination Rules and Clauses



### WIPO Center's ADR cases



#### Areas of disputes



**Settlement rates** 

WIPO Mediation WIPO Arbitration

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### WIPO Domain Name Dispute Resolution

Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP)

- Significantly <u>quicker and cheaper</u> than court litigation
  - Two-month average
  - Fixed fees (USD 1,500)
  - Paperless filing
- 20 years' experience as global leader: 45,000 WIPO cases covering +82,000 domain names
  - Parties from 177 countries
  - Multilingual case administration
- Key <u>online resources</u> for parties
  - WIPO Jurisprudential Overview of Selected UDRP Questions
  - WIPO Legal Index of UDRP Decisions

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### **Further Information**

- Queries and case filing: <u>arbiter.mail@wipo.int</u>
- Model clauses: <u>www.wipo.int/amc/en/clauses</u>
- Domain names: <u>www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains</u>
- Info on procedures, neutrals and case examples: <u>www.wipo.int/amc</u>

