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### International Conference Concludes TKDL Can Prevent Misappropriation and Fuel Innovation

WIPO press release, 24 March 2011

**NEW DELHI, INDIA:** Delegates attending the International Conference on the Utilization of the **Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)** as a Model for Protection of Traditional Knowledge widely agreed about the value of the **TKDL** to protect against misappropriation of traditional knowledge, as well as to enable further innovation. The Conference took place from 22-24 March 2011, in New Delhi, India, co-organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and India's **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research**. Participants heard from countries rich in traditional knowledge, such as Ecuador, Indonesia, Kenya, Peru, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Speakers agreed on the need to protect traditional knowledge from misappropriation. WIPO Director General Francis Gurry said the **TKDL** is an excellent example of a technical platform that can work alongside legislative frameworks. Noting that India's **TKDL** could be a good model for others, he said WIPO is ready to facilitate international collaboration for countries which were interested in establishing their own **TKDLs**.

According to a related article by *IP Watch*, WIPO highlighted India's success in creating a digital library of Indian traditional knowledge to prevent illegitimate patenting of its resources. But whether WIPO found a way to fit the Indian **TKDL** into the UN agency's mission to protect and promote intellectual property rights was unclear, the article continues. Read the WIPO press release ... Read a release from the UN News Centre ... Read the *IP Watch* article: *India, WIPO Connect on Traditional Knowledge Protection, With or Without Patents* ... Read an *Intellectual Property Brief* post: *India's Digital Library of Traditional Knowledge – a new tool in protecting indigenous rights* ...