

Council

C/60/4

**Sixtieth Ordinary Session
Geneva, October 23, 2026**

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APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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Introduction

1. The UPOV Convention (Article 26(5)(iii) of the 1991 Act and Article 21(b) of the 1978 Act) states that the Council of UPOV shall appoint the Secretary-General of UPOV and determine the terms of appointment.

2. The Agreement between the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (WIPO/UPOV Agreement, document UPOV/INF/8), signed on November 26, 1982, Article 4 provides as follows:

“(1) The Council of UPOV shall appoint as Secretary-General of UPOV the Director General of WIPO.

“(2) When the post of Director General of WIPO is vacant, and as long as it is vacant, the person acting as Director General of WIPO shall be Acting Secretary-General of UPOV.

“(3) During the period between the effective date of appointment of the Director General of WIPO and his appointment as Secretary-General of UPOV, he shall be Acting Secretary-General of UPOV.

“(4) The appointment of the Secretary-General of UPOV shall last as long as he is Director General of WIPO and shall cease on the day his appointment as Director General of WIPO ceases.

“(5) The indemnity of the Secretary-General of UPOV, payable by UPOV, shall be determined by the Council of UPOV.”

3. On October 25, 2020, in the procedure by correspondence, the Council appointed Mr. Daren Tang as the Secretary General of UPOV for the period from October 30, 2020, to September 30, 2026 (see document C/54/17 “Outcome of the consideration of documents by correspondence”, paragraphs 12 and 13, and document C/54/21 “Report”, paragraphs 8 and 9).

Appointment of the Director General of WIPO

4. The General Assembly of WIPO, at the Sixty-Seventh Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of WIPO Member States, held in Geneva on April 21, 2026, appointed Mr. Daren Tang as Director General of WIPO for a term from October 1, 2026, to September 30, 2032.¹

5. In accordance with Article 4(3) of the WIPO/UPOV Agreement, Mr. Tang will be Acting Secretary-General of UPOV as from October 1, 2026.

¹ Appointment of the Director General, [A/67/2](#), Summary Report, [A/67/3](#)

Appointment of the Secretary-General of UPOV

6. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the UPOV Convention (Article 26(5)(iii) of the 1991 Act and Article 21(b) of the 1978 Act) and of the WIPO/UPOV Agreement (see paragraphs 1 and 2, above), the Council is invited to appoint Mr. Tang as the Secretary-General of UPOV for the period from October 23, 2026, to September 30, 2032. The Annex to this document contains the curriculum vitae of Mr. Tang.

7. Furthermore, Article 4(5) of the WIPO/UPOV Agreement provides that “[t]he indemnity of the Secretary-General of UPOV, payable by UPOV, shall be determined by the Council of UPOV.”

8. In accordance with decisions of the Council of UPOV, the indemnity of the Secretary-General of UPOV corresponds to twenty percent of the salary, including post adjustment, which the Secretary-General would receive in his capacity as Director General of WIPO.

9. Mr. Tang has expressed his wish not to receive indemnity as Secretary-General of UPOV and to use this indemnity in the UPOV program and budget for financing activities of particular interest to developing countries.

10. The Council is invited to appoint Mr. Daren Tang as the Secretary-General of UPOV for the period from October 23, 2026, to September 30, 2032.

[Annex follows]

Curriculum Vitae of Mr. Daren Tang

Year of Birth: 1972

Nationality: Singaporean

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 2013 Advanced Management Program**
Harvard Business School, USA
- 2006 Master of Laws (LL.M) with Distinction**
Georgetown University Law Centre, USA
Fellow, Institute of International Economic Law
- 1997 Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) with Honours**
National University of Singapore



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – present Director General**
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Secretary-General**
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)
- Board Member**
UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination
- 2015 – 2020 Chief Executive**
Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)
Ministry of Law, Singapore
- 2012 – 2015 Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Legal Counsel**
Intellectual Property Office of Singapore
Ministry of Law, Singapore
- 2003 – 2012 Senior State Counsel**
International Affairs Division
Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore
- 2001 – 2003 Legal Consultant**
Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore
- 1997 – 2001 State Counsel/Deputy Public Prosecutor**

PAST APPOINTMENTS

Chairperson, Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), WIPO, 2017 – 2020

Member, Singapore-Guangdong Collaboration Council (SGCC)

Member, Manufacturing Sub-Committee of the Future Economy Council, Singapore

Member, Modern Services Sub-Committee of the Future Economy Council, Singapore

Member, Research, Innovation and Enterprise Strategy Committee (RIE SC), Prime Minister's Office, Singapore

Member, Research, Innovation and Enterprise Executive Committee (RIE Exco), Prime Minister's Office, Singapore

Co-Chair, National IP Working Group, Prime Minister's Office, Singapore

Advisory Board Member, Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)

Member, Group of Experts on IP Office of the Future Project, International Trademark Association (INTA)

Board Chairman, IPOS International

Board Member, EW Barker Centre for Law & Business, National University of Singapore

Board Director, Fraunhofer Singapore

Coordinator and Principal Examiner, Intellectual Property Law Course for the Singapore Bar Exam run by the Singapore Institute of Legal Education

HONOURS

2016 Public Administration Medal (Silver)
Prime Minister's Office, Singapore

2006 Fellow
Institute of International Economic Law, Georgetown University, USA

LANGUAGES

English, Mandarin Chinese, understanding of French, Cantonese

PUBLICATIONS

The Tea Bone Zen Mind Manual of Tea