

Statement by the delegation of Bangladesh
58th Series of WIPO Assemblies of the Member States of
Geneva, 24 September – 2 October 2018
Delivered by: Mr. Md Enamul Hoque, Additional Secretary
Ministry of Industries

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

We would like to align ourselves with the statements of the APG and LDC group.

Please accept our deep condolences for the passing away of the President of Vietnam

The Government of Bangladesh is happy to see you presiding over the Assemblies. We also express our sincere appreciation to the Director General as well as to the Secretariat for excellent arrangement and logistics of the meetings.

Mr. Chair,

We appreciate WIPO's continued cooperation for the promotion & protection of inventions and innovation in Bangladesh. With the support of WIPO, the draft National Intellectual Property Policy and Innovation Strategy of Bangladesh has been prepared and is currently at its final stage for review and subsequent adoption.

Bangladesh has attained the eligibility criteria to graduate out of the LDCs category. We now need coordinated support measures from the international community towards a smooth transition. We also need more utilization of IP tools fostering enhanced capacity for entrepreneurship. In the context of our Hon'ble Prime Minister's *Vision 2021* and the "*Digital Bangladesh*" program, we need to be prepared for the opportunities and challenges in the IP sphere associated with providing digitized services and utilization of Artificial Intelligence.

Bangladesh is taking preparations to join PCT and Madrid Protocol. Our partnership with WIPO has, therefore, become more relevant than ever.

Mr. Chair,

WIPO's technical assistance needs to be development-oriented and demand-driven. We expect that the CDIP projects would be fast-tracked.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation reiterates our support to the APG proposal on the composition of the PBC as contained in document WO/GA/50/14. The PBC needs to be proportionately representative of the relative size of the regional groups in WIPO. Eventually, we need to consider opening the Committee to the full participation of all interested WIPO Members. We also reaffirm our solid support to the proposal put forward by the APG on the composition of the Coordination Committee in document A/58/9.

Bangladesh believes that only legally binding agreements can ensure the developing countries of their deserving benefits in terms of GR, TK and TCE. We want a DLT with assurance of technical assistance and capacity building. We also want to see development in having international agreements on limitations and exceptions both for educational, teaching and research institutions as well as for the libraries and archives and person with other types of disabilities.

Finally, we wish all the delegations a successful Series of the Assemblies full of mutual understanding, cooperation and notable achievements and my delegation is looking forward to engage in the individual agenda items along with our regional group and, suitably, in our national capacity.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.
