

STATEMENT BY:
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PERMANENT MISSION OF ESWATINI

**59th WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION (WIPO)
SERIES OF ASSEMBLIES
SEPTEMBER, 30 2019– OCTOBER, 9 2019.**

MR. PRESIDENT

The delegation of the Kingdom of Eswatini associates itself with the statement delivered by the delegation of Uganda on behalf of the African group. My delegation would like to congratulate the Director General and the entire Secretariat for the wonderful facilities and documents prepared for the meeting. Mr. President, my delegation, would also like to wish you a continued successful and fruitful term, in the position.

The Delegation of the Kingdom of Eswatini also wishes to commend the Senior management of the Organization, for the excellent management of the affairs of the Organization for the past year. We are also looking forward, to the Organization's support for the creation of a more balanced intellectual property development which will address issues raised in the WIPO Development Agenda. It is worth noting that the WIPO Development Agenda includes a lot of projects such as the development of national legal frameworks and policies including intellectual property strategies.

Mr. President, today intellectual property is no longer only academic, but it has evolved into a vehicle for stimulating economic growth, by adding value to job creation and poverty alleviation.

I therefore take this opportunity Mr. President to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to WIPO for the continued assistance and support in the programs and activities carried out during the 2018/2019 biennium. These include:

- a. Development of a National Intellectual Property Development Plan which will lead to the development of a National Intellectual Property Policy.

- b. Introduction and maintenance of the Intellectual Property Automation Systems (IPAS).
- c. The IP Needs Assistance that came out with a number of recommendation including the need to strengthen the national IP legal and institutional framework
- d. The High level visit by WIPO and ARIPO to sensitize cabinet on the importance of IP on economic development, as well as meeting the recently formulated IP Inter-Ministerial Committee to provide guidance on future projects that need to be carried out, in particular the development of a National IP Policy.
- e. Assistance in development of IP legislation, namely the Patents Act No. 19/2018, the Copyright and Neighboring Rights Act No.4/2018, as well as the Intellectual Property Tribunal Act No.18/2018.
- f. Facilitating the establishments of TISCs, in the country

Mr. President this is a clear testimony that the WIPO Development Agenda is the only solution towards challenges faced by our countries in the administration of Intellectual Property.

Mr. President, we also take note with great interest and align ourselves with WIPO's Development Agenda.

It is therefore our hope that WIPO, will continue to assist us in ensuring an effective implementation of the recently enacted IP legislation, which will entail a major restructuring of the IP Office, development of implementing regulations for these laws as well as development of technical skills and capacity building. The Country

looks forward to receiving further support in undertaking the following activities in the upcoming 2019/2020 financial year

1. Development of an IP strategy and Policy
2. Restructuring and strengthening of the IP Office (Capacity and technical assistance)
3. IP Symposium – for the creation of IP awareness, and importance of IP and Development in the country
4. Training Workshops for different stakeholders such as the Judiciary, Parliamentarians, the IP Office/Officers, the small, medium enterprises, the police, customs officials and the different relevant IP stakeholders
5. Establishment of the Copyright Collective Management Society
6. Process towards ratification of the Marrakesh and Beijing Treaties, as well as accession to the Hague Convention.

Mr. President In conclusion, we are fully committed to supporting all of WIPO's initiatives towards the development of intellectual property in the Member States. We hope that WIPO will continue to support us, as we strive to achieve our national vision, of becoming a first world country by the year 2022. We take this opportunity to wish you and all delegations, a very successful outcome of the Fifty Ninth Series of meetings, of the Assemblies, and I thank you for your attention.