

Slovakia – National Statement under Agenda Item 19

Madam Chair,

Slovakia is speaking in its national capacity. Slovakia fully supports the statement made by Ukraine on behalf of the 52 cosponsors of the proposal that was submitted under agenda item 19 on Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System. Slovakia also aligns itself with the statement delivered by EU.

Ukraine was a functioning economy with vibrant IP ecosystem. The unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine significantly damaged Ukraine's economy and IP infrastructure. The time for WIPO to react is now. WIPO is the only international technical organisation to address the negative IP implications and to provide Ukraine with necessary technical assistance. This issue requires urgent action and cannot be left neglected.

The technical decision was submitted in compliance with all procedural rules. At the same time, such decision and request for its adoption fully falls under the WIPO mandate. WIPO as a member of UN family might also want to take into account the outcomes of the UN General Assembly, including its resolution of 2 March 2022, as well as reflect the efforts of other UN agencies.

Slovakia believes that our attempt to help Ukraine by providing the technical assistance and capacity building in order to restore and rebuild Ukraine's creative industry and intellectual property system destroyed by war, is more than timely. With our support we have to prevent even more devastating effects on Ukraine's economy and IP and early recovery of Ukraine shall be supported.

Therefore, we are looking forward to the adoption of the decision proposal.

Thank you.