

Check Against Delivery

63rd SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

July 14 to 22, 2022

Opening Statement (Agenda Item 4)

Delegation of the Slovak Republic

Honourable Madam Chair,
Director General Daren Tang,
Excellences and distinguished delegates,

The delegation of the Slovak Republic would like to align itself with the statement made by the Group of Central European and Baltic States as well as with the statement made by the European Union.

On the outset we would like to express our thanks to the Director General, Mr. Daren Tang, and the WIPO Secretariat for the preparation of these Assemblies and to all WIPO staff for upholding services to the IP Community in the previous period.

The Slovak delegation acknowledges WIPO's continuing efforts for its focus on securing the best available global services under the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems.

We note with pleasure that the working groups under these systems continue to make progress for improving rules, guidelines and practices even in these challenging times. Slovakia is committed to the work on global services, in the interest of the existing and future users of the systems.

In respect of normative agenda, we are hopeful that this General Assembly keeps seeking solutions to pave the way towards convening a diplomatic conference on the adoption of the Design Law Treaty, where the basic text has been stable since 2014 and which would greatly benefit designers all around the globe by simplifying design application and registration procedures.

Concerning copyright and related rights discussed at SCCR, Slovakia is looking forward to reach the positive and reasonable recommendations at this General Assembly especially on the topic of broadcasting, which may help us to finalize the text of the Treaty on the Protection of the Broadcasting Organizations and lead to the Diplomatic Conference in the near future.

The Slovak delegation recalls its appreciation of ongoing efforts of the Lisbon Union members aimed at eliminating the budget deficit of the Union. We are engaged in the deliberations at the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System in order to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the Union.

Slovakia acknowledges and is satisfied with the SCP's ongoing work on important issues in this area.

Slovakia pays great attention to the topic of the IP commercialisation and collateralization and is ready to engage in further deliberations how best to move forward on this topic.

We recognize the importance of the activities of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property and support the WIPO's activities in the field of technical assistance.

As a neighbouring country, we are well aware that the war in Ukraine caused by Russia's invasion led to tragic loss of human lives, destruction of the infrastructure and disabled the performance in the areas covered by WIPO.

By expressing the solidarity with Ukraine, we are ready to provide our support for rebuilding of Ukraine IP infrastructure and ecosystem under the new agenda item "Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and IP System".

Last but not least, Slovak delegation wishes to highlight the great assistance and continued support of the WIPO Regional and National Development Sector and the Division for Transition and Developed Countries' team. We look forward to making our collaboration even closer, and our activities on new ideas and projects becoming even more dynamic.

In that respect, let me express Mr Director General Tang my gratitude for your support and cooperation in organising the International Conference “Hydrogen Technologies in Transport: Ready for the Future” recently in Bratislava. Visits of the DG to the member states are important tools to promote IP agenda among entrepreneurs and political leadership. Namely to highlight the importance of the IP for innovation, growth, job creation and prospering SMEs.

Greatly appreciated has been the readiness of the DG to visit also regional centres in Slovakia, because innovation and creativity doesn't happen only in the capitals.

We would also like to emphasize our excellent cooperation with WIPO in the field of mediation. Recently signed MoU creates the solid basis for an intensive and fruitful cooperation.

To conclude, Slovakia would like to reaffirm its readiness to continue the successful cooperation with WIPO on the development of international IP system, innovation and creativity to the benefit of economic, social and cultural development of all countries.

With this in mind, we look forward to a constructive meeting of the General Assemblies.

Thank you for your kind attention.