

# WIPO



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## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

### ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

#### Thirty-Eighth Series of Meetings Geneva, May 26 and 27, 2003

#### GENERAL REPORT

*approved by the Assemblies*

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## INTRODUCTION

1. This General Report records the deliberations and decisions of the following three Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO:

- (1) WIPO General Assembly, twenty -ninth (14th extraordinary) session
- (2) Paris Union Assembly, thirty -third (18th extraordinary) session
- (3) Berne Union Assembly, twenty -ninth (14th extraordinary) session

meeting in Geneva on May 26 and 27, 2003, where the deliberation took place, and decisions were made in joint meetings of the said Assemblies (hereinafter referred to as "the joint meeting(s)" and "the Assemblies of the Member States," respectively).

2. The list of the States members of the Assemblies concerned and the observers admitted to their sessions as of March 25, 2003, is set forth in document A/38/INF/1.

3. The meeting was presided over by the Chair of the WIPO General Assembly, Ambassador Bernard Kessedjian (France).

4. An index of interventions by Delegations of States and Representatives of intergovernmental organizations mentioned in this report is reproduced as an Annex to the present report. The Agenda, as adopted, and the list of participants appears in documents A/38/1 and A/38/INF/2 respectively.

## ITEM 1 OF THE DRAFT AGENDA:

### OPENING OF THE SESSIONS

5. The Thirty -eighth series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO was convened by the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Kamal Idris (hereinafter referred to as "the Director General").

6. The sessions of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO were opened in a joint meeting of all the three Assemblies concerned by the Chair of the General Assembly, Ambassador Bernard Kessedjian (France). nt

7. The Chair called the meeting to order and warmly welcomed all delegates to the Thirty -eighth series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States.

ITEM 2 OF THE DRAFT AGENDA:

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE SESSION

8. After due consideration, each of the Assemblies concerned adopted the draft agenda as proposed in document A/38/1 Prov. (hereinafter referred to in this document as "the Agenda").

ITEM 3 OF THE AGENDA:

APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

9. Discussions were based on documents A/38/2 and WO/GA/29/1.

10. The Chair of the WIPO General Assembly invited the Chair of the WIPO Coordination Committee, Mr. Joaquín Pérez Villanueva y Tóvar (Spain), to present a Report on the Forty-Ninth (16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary) Session of the WIPO Coordination Committee, held on March 24 and 25, 2003.

11. Mr. Joaquín Pérez Villanueva y Tóvar (Spain), Chair of the WIPO Coordination Committee, presented the Memorandum contained in document A/38/2, which records the conclusions reached at the meeting of the Coordination Committee held on March 24 and 25, 2003. The Memorandum sets out the Committee's decisions under a series of articles. The Chair of the Coordination Committee quoted Article 6(2)(i), which provides that the General Assembly shall appoint the Director General upon nomination by the Coordination Committee. He also recalled the legal provisions contained in the document, among them the designation of Dr. Kamil Idris as the candidate for the post of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization, and the conclusions of the Committee as recorded in document WO/CC/49/2 (paragraph 54). Finally he recalled the Committee's fundamental proposal, namely that Dr. Idris be appointed for a period of not less than six years, to commence on December 1, 2003, and, following the practice of six-year terms, to expire on November 30, 2009.

12. The Chair of the WIPO General Assembly stated that following discussions with the regional group coordinators, a Working Group had been established, chaired by the Chair of the General Assembly, with a mandate to consider the conditions to be fixed by the General Assembly for the appointment of the Director General elect, Dr. Kamil Idris. The composition and the Report of the Working Group are contained in document WO/GA/29/2.

13. On the basis of the nomination made by the Coordination Committee, the General Assembly re-appointed, unanimously and by acclamation, Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO for the period from December 1, 2003 to November 30, 2009. Thus the conditions required as far as the Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Unions are concerned were also fulfilled.

14. TherecommendationsoftheWorkingGrouptotheGeneralAssembly,with regardtotheconditionsoftheappointmentofDr.KamilIdrisasDirectorGeneralof WIPO,for afurtherperiodofsixyears,wereunanimouslyapproved.Thesetermsand conditionsareasreflectedinthedraftcontractassetoutintheAnnextodocument WO/GA/29/2.
15. TheDirectorGeneral,Dr.KamilIdris,madethefollowingstatement:
- “Mr. Chairmananddearfriend,
- “Iwouldlikefirstofalltothankyoupersonallyforyourveryableleadershipin chairingtheGeneralAssemblyofWIPO.TheAssemblyhasdonemegaathonin appointingmetoasecondtermasDirectorGeneralof theWorldIntellectualProperty Organization.Iwishtothankyou,theMemberStates,mostwarmlyforyoursupport andforthisdemonstrationofsatisfactionwiththeresultsachievedduringmyfirstterm andconfidenceinthefuture.Thisdecisionisalsoconcreterecognitionofthe productivepartnershipbetweenthestaffoftheOrganizationandtheMemberStates.
- “Mr.Chairman,distinguisheddelegates,
- “Mygoaloverthecomingyearsistocontinuetoearnthetrustplacedinmeby theMemberStatesand tocarryoutmydutiestothebestofmyability,discretion, conscienceandwithhumility.Intheprocess,IknowIcancountonthegoodwill, constructivecollaborationandpolitical *savoir faire*ofthemembersofthisaugustbody andtheinvaluablecommitment,dedicationandprofessionalismofthestaffofthe Organization.
- “DuringmyfirsttermasDirectorGeneral,thevisionforthisOrganizationhadan outwardfocus -basedonrelevance,empowermentandinclusion- andaninwardfocus -basedonclarity,efficiencyandtransparency.
- “Thisvisionaimedtoclarifyandunderscorethecentralroleofintellectual propertyasanimportanttoolforsocialdevelopment,economicgrowthandwealth creation.ThusthedemystificationcampaignofWIPOfocusedonthebenefits creativityandinnovationbringstoimprovingourdailylives.
- “AllowmetosharewithyouacomparisonofwhatIpromisedsixyearsago,withwhathas beendelivered,aswellasavisionforthefuture.Amongthefactorsidentifiedsixyearsago ascriticaltothefutureoftheintellectualpropertysystemandofthisOrganizationwere:

Areas	1.ModernizationofManagement	2.Outreach	3.CooperationforDevelopment	4.ProgressiveDevelopmentof IPLaw	5.GlobalProtectionSystemsand Services
<b>Promised</b>	Enhancetransparency, accountabilityandefficiency; IntroduceIT -assistedprocedures andservices	Increaseunderstanding(public andprivatesectors); Maximizeinput; Identifyissues	Enhance,structureand customizenationalandregion al activities(infrastructureandHR development)	Progressivedevelopmentof internationalIPLaws; Facilitationofdebateon emergingglobalissues	EnhancedMarket -OrientedServices; GlobalProtectionSystems; WIPOArbitrationandMediationCenter
<b>Achieved</b>	Results-basedP&B; Managementandoversight mechanisms(contracts /procurementcommittee), EnhancedHRmanagement(staff development), Constitutionalreform; DigitalAgenda; MemberStates – IMPACT; – WIPONET(61offices directlyassisted), – WIPOwebsite (morethan 200,000visitspermonth), – Secretariat(paperless environment)	PolicyandIndustryAdvisory Commissions; WorldIPDay(since2002); Revamped,award -winning multilingualwebsite(e.g.,SME sitereceivesover3,000hitsper day); Electronic fora; Initiativeswithother organizations(WTO,FAO, CBD); Increasedmediarelations, (coverageonWIPOquadrupled inlastfouryears)	NewTools -NFAPs&RFAPs; Supportfromfournewly establishedconstituent -specific units(LDCs,TK,Collective Management,SMEs); WIPOWorldwideAcademy (5000distance -learningstudents and1300classroomstudentsin 2002); Speciallydesignedprograms deliveredinfavorof countriesintransition	ConclusionofPatentLaw Treaty(simplifiedprocedures); Timelyentryintof orceofWCT andWPPT(adaptingto cyberspace); NewActoftheHague Agreement(solidbasisfor globalprotectionofdesigns); Introductionof“soft -law” approach(guidelinesforwell - knownmarks); Intensiveongoingdebateon TK,geneticresourcesand folklore	PCTgrowthandreform(since1997) – over100%increaseinPCTfilings – 50%reductioninfees – 700%increaseinfilingsfrom developingcountries – reformprocessestablishedandfirst resultsobtained(e.g.,designation systemabolishedandenhanced internationalsearchandpreliminary examinationsystemadopted) ExpandedgeographicreachofMadrid System – Madridmembereconomieswill shortlyrepresentmorethan 2/3 of globalGDP,jumpingfrom1/4in1997 WIPOArbitrationand MediationCenter – uniformdomainnam edispute resolutionpolicyadopted – 20,000casesinthreeyears(topin termsofcasesreceivedanddealtwith) – Over95%ofcasessettled
<b>Future</b>	Harvestbenefitsofmodern management – Sharpfocusonstrategic deliverables – Consolidationandleveraging ofcriticalIT -basedtools(for cost-effectiveness,accessibility, value-added)	Creatingandstrengtheningan IPculture(policyandgrass -root levels); – Increasedattentionto socialdimensionofIPissues; – Greaterandmoreinclusive respectforIP	ProactiveIPPoliciesand Empowerment – StrengthenIP'sroleasa nationalpolicy(withanalysis ofeconomicimpactofIP) – Enhanceproactive approachtoresearchand educationthroughWWA – Increaseandstrengthen nationalhumanresource capabilities(e.g., trainingof trainers) – Assiststakeholdersin protectingandusingtheirIPas economicassets	Increasedaccessibility – PatentAgenda(greater accessto,anduseof,the patentsystembyall); – Responsestoenew technologies; – Possibleframeworkfor globalIPissues	Morevalue -addedandefficientervices – PCTReformandenhanced operations – ExpansionofMadridsystem – ExpansionofWIPOArbitrationand MediationCenter'sservicestowider IPdisputes

“Distinguished delegates and dear friends,

“You have just followed a demonstration of what was promised, what was achieved and a vision for the future. Our major objective is to make intellectual property close to the people, recognizing the diversity of cultures, origins and systems.

“I continue to believe that intellectual property is the foundation of human existence and co-existence. Intellectual property is foreign to our culture and native to all nations.

“In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to pay tribute to this Assembly, which symbolizes the unity of the international community.

“Thank you for your attention.”

16. The Delegation of Zambia made the following statement on behalf of the African Group:

“It is a great honor for me to speak on behalf of the African Group, in my capacity as Coordinator of the Group. Mr. President allow me, in the name of the African Group, to present our sincere condolences to the Government and the people of Algeria, on the occasion of the tragedy which has been caused in this country following the earthquake.

“Mr. Chairman, at its session which was held on March 24 and 25, 2003, the WIPO Coordination Committee unanimously nominated Dr. Kamil Idris for re-appointment to the position of Director General of WIPO for the period December 2003 to November 30, 2009. This has happily led to this great occasion where the Member States through the WIPO General Assembly, and Assemblies of the Paris and Berne Unions, have met to appoint Dr. Idris to the position of Director General for the period that I just referred to. Mr. Chairman, in my capacity as Coordinator of the African Group in WIPO, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the unanimous endorsement by this Assembly of the nomination made by the Coordination Committee to re-elect Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of WIPO. As we reported last March during the Coordination Committee meeting, the Heads of State and Government of Africa, the continent from where Dr. Idris comes, have already endorsed his appointment for a second mandate for the post of Director General of WIPO. At the meeting of the WIPO Coordination Committee on March 24, 2003, Dr. Idris' numerous achievements were highlighted, which inspired the African Group to give him strong backing. He has an impressive record. For our purposes today, it is not my intention to repeat what was said then. Instead, I think it is better to try and be more innovative and ponder the activities ahead of us.

“I will fail in my duties if I do not pay tribute to Dr. Idris for his past achievements. More importantly I would like to request him to use his past and present achievements as a basis for consolidation, replication and the creation of more useful and relevant programs for developing countries. In terms of consolidation, we strongly urge the Director General to firmly continue to build on what is not yet achieved so far, particularly in areas that are most important for developing countries. These include, *inter alia*, programs regarding SMEs, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, digital agenda, including WIPO NET, capacity building and development of

human resources focusing on LDCs and outreach. Mr. Chairman, the African Group is cognizant of the other positive efforts of the Director General in upholding WIPO's vision to put intellectual property at the center of economic, social and cultural development. We agree that our own intellectual property is not an end in itself. We encourage the Director General to continue to translate this vision and improve the welfare of all people. The African people will continue to support WIPO's policy that translates the vision into practical integration of the development dimension into WIPO's work program.

"Mr. Chairman, the work of WIPO brings me to another visionary point which is that if developing countries are to be regarded as partners in the development of the IP system, then predictability and certainty of funding of WIPO's activities that concern their interests must be a core principle of WIPO. In particular, since 1997, when Dr. Idris took office, the surplus of WIPO has been strategically used in the investment in the modernization of WIPO's infrastructure benefiting Member States, including developing countries. It coincided with the beginning of developing countries redoubling efforts to establish review and modernize the intellectual property institutions and we do appreciate WIPO's technical assistance for modernizing the IP infrastructure and capacity building. These efforts and momentum should be maintained and enhanced in the era of knowledge-based economy as IP has become an important component in the development strategy. The need in the developing world for more international cooperation and WIPO assistance is definitely greater. It is widely recognized today that IP has cross-sectoral implications for important public policy goals so that the protection of public health and biodiversity and we hope with this regard that WIPO will further take into consideration this cross-sectoral impact in its work program.

"Mr. Chairman, one important mechanism through which developing countries are pushing IP is the work of the WIPO Worldwide Academy. The Academy is doing an excellent job, in assisting African countries and other developing countries to build capacity in issues of IP in order for them to reap the necessary benefits. IP protection must go hand in hand with the educational component. In addition, we need education and training to be able to fully utilize the various services of WIPO, such as the PCT and Madrid systems. This is why Members should support an increased funding for the activities of the Academy in order for it to meet the demand and training of nationals from developing countries. Mr. Chairman, adequate intellectual property system and business friendly environment are key to the smooth operation of IP systems. The African Group is proud of the Director General, Dr. Idris, and his commitment to the creating of an intellectual property system where developing countries would reap benefits. We look forward to Members providing all the resources to the Director General to accomplish the important tasks ahead of him.

"In conclusion, Mr. President, allow me to express our sincere thanks to all the regional groups of this Organization for the support which they have expressed for the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term as the Director General of WIPO."

17. The Delegation of Portugal made the following statement on behalf of Group B:

"Speaking on behalf of Group B, I would like to express my warm congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris for his appointment as Director General of WIPO, for the period 2003 to 2009.

“We recognize, with appreciation, the efficiency with which he has been organizing WIPO’s work and the importance of the reform strategy he has established for the Organization, so that intellectual property will better serve the causes of economic growth and sustainable development.

“Group B particularly wishes to pay tribute to his active outreach to all Member States and to thank him for his constant effort to promote intellectual property throughout the world.

“I wish to convey to Dr. Kamil Idris that Group B is willing to cooperate fully with him during his second term of office and contribute to the successful pursuit of a vital global agenda for intellectual property, an ultimate goal for WIPO. Group B is confident that WIPO’s achievements will grow in the future under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris, thanks to his management capacity, vision and skills.”

18. The Delegation of Brazil, speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), made the following statement:

“On behalf of the Group of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), I am honored and pleased to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election to the position of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

“Dr. Kamil Idris carried out his first term as Director General with great commitment and energy, and contributed greatly to the modernization of WIPO and of its working methods. We consider it fair and fitting that he should be re-elected with the unanimous support of the Member States of this Organization.

“We reiterate our appreciation and gratitude for various initiatives undertaken in the course of his first term. Our Group considers it particularly important to proceed with the strengthening and promotion of the program of cooperation for development. Also of great importance to the Group is the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

“Intellectual property is a subject that is acquiring ever greater prominence on the international agenda. Recent developments in various forums have highlighted the relation between intellectual property, development and important areas of public interest. The activities of this Organization will take on growing significance to the extent that they help lend greater depth to the discussions. Intellectual property has to function as an efficient instrument for the promotion of economic, social and cultural development in all nations.

“We are therefore in favor of the integration of development as a dimension of all WIPO activities.

“Once again we congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election, and express the wish that his second term of office will be as successful as the first.”

19. The Delegation of Pakistan, speaking on behalf of the Asian Group made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Asian Group, it gives me pleasure to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as Director General of WIPO for another term. This re-election by acclamation is indeed a reflection of the continued confidence that the Member States repose in him.

“Dr. Idris’ re-election is also an expression of support for the policies he has pursued and speaks of his success in turning the organization into an extremely dynamic entity within the UN system. Equally, it is a manifestation of the respect that the Member States have always had for his professionalism, diplomatic skills, innovative approach and ability to balance diverse interests of all stakeholders.

“Mr. Chairman, it would be a remiss of me not to recall before this august gathering some of the important achievements of WIPO under Dr. Kamil Idris, that testify to his qualities as a leader of this important organization. Dr. Kamil Idris’ initiatives to establish the WIPO Worldwide Academy, introduction of the subjects of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore to the Organization’s agenda, and a program for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises have received wide appreciation and support. Through these initiatives of the Director General, most Member States were offered the opportunity to develop their human resources, identify, protect and benefit from their assets such as traditional knowledge and encouraged to use intellectual property as a stimulus for economic development. As a secondary benefit, the demystification of intellectual property was achieved to a considerable extent and its respect, particularly among the developing countries, was increased visibly.

“The success of WIPO’s Digital Agenda, launched several years ago, is another important achievement of Dr. Kamil Idris. In the new millennium, projects such as WIPONET, IMPACT, Intellectual Property Libraries and Office Automation Assistance Programs are expected to bring far-reaching benefits to all Member States.

“Mr. Chairman, the Asian Group has always welcomed development friendly initiatives of the Director General and extended all possible support for their success. It was indeed remarkable that while charting WIPO’s way forward, Dr. Idris never lost sight of the interests and constraints of Member States that were unable to fully benefit from the potential of intellectual property in the economic, social and cultural development. In this context, the Nationally Focused Action Plan has been of tremendous help to a large number of WIPO Member States. The flexibility of the program to adjust to peculiar conditions prevailing in each country guaranteed its acceptance, cooperation of host country intellectual property officials and successful implementation.

“Mr. Chairman, the Asian Group is fully aware of Dr. Idris’ commitment to the promotion of intellectual property worldwide. The initiatives taken by WIPO under his leadership have provided opportunities to its Member States to articulate their expectations of the global intellectual property system. The invaluable experience gained during the recent in-depth and candid discussions held among the Member States on key issues of interest and concern would no doubt be useful to all Member States in their deliberations on important intellectual property issues under consideration in WIPO as well as other organizations.

“The Asian Group also appreciates Dr. Idris’ untiring efforts in highlighting the role of intellectual property in a knowledge economy and admires his insights in this area. In this context, I would like to commend him for his very well written book entitled “*Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth*.” The book contains a wealth of information on how best to use the intellectual property for economic advancement. I am confident that this book would be a valuable source of input to the intellectual property policy -making community worldwide.

“Before I conclude, on behalf of the Asian Group, I would like to assure Dr. Kamil Idris of our continued support and wish him greater success during his second term in office.”

20. The Delegation of Romania, speaking on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States, made the following statement:

“On behalf of the Central European and Baltic States, it is an honor and a pleasure to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

“Mr. Chairman, as on other past occasions, our group has joined the unanimous view and expressed its appreciation for the outstanding way in which the Organization under the able leadership of Dr. Idris has implemented its policy agenda and carried out its planned activities. During this period, WIPO has established itself as one of the leading Organizations in the new knowledge-based economy. Its impressive and predictable development as well as sound finances have been an important feature in the sometimes turbulent international environment. Today, the Organization is well prepared to meet the challenges of the future. At this fourteenth extraordinary session of the General Assembly, our regional group wishes to pay tribute and highlight the personal contribution by Dr. Idris for securing the impressive and dynamic performance of the Organization. Indeed the re-election of the Director General has allowed WIPO to pursue a rich and diverse agenda. The Organization has implemented projects and initiatives which on the one hand have met and even surpassed the expectations of the Member States and on the other hand have enhanced WIPO’s transition from a predominantly regulatory body into a dynamic Organization with an integrated vision where intellectual property serves as a tool for economic and social development. We believe, Mr. Chairman, that the presentation just made by Dr. Idris was most impressive in results and ambitious goals for the future. Indeed, there have been many significant achievements by the Organization over the past years. I would just mention a few examples such as the adoption and entry into force of new international treaties in the field of patent law, industrial designs and copyright and related rights, the launching of the digital agenda and WIPO’s successful initiatives in the Internet domain names dispute resolution, the successful start of the activities of the WIPO Academy, the WIPO NET project improving connectivity with national IPO offices, the attention paid to issues relating to small and medium-sized enterprises, the new focus on traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore. Time does not allow for me to go into greater details and to expand upon this list.

“Taking into consideration the role of intellectual property in the knowledge-based economy, WIPO is constantly called upon to extend its contribution in a world facing increased complexity and ever greater challenges. With its dynamic,

transparent and modern pattern of activities and current leadership, WIPO can provide a substantive and meaningful contribution to this process. The range of issues on WIPO's agenda reflects its commitment and ability to assist countries in their social and economic development. Indeed, in recent years, WIPO has gained much visibility in the multilateral system and has enhanced its role. We encourage Dr. Idris to continue these endeavors and to further build upon WIPO's record during his second term of office. Moreover, Mr. Chairman, we consider that over the past six years, significant attention has been given to issues that are of particular interest and concern to the countries of our region. The modernization of our intellectual property system as well as their use for the economic and social development in the region have been well addressed in the work of WIPO, taking into account existing dualities and sensitivities. We have embarked upon new fields and forms of cooperation. Under the current policy framework and working modalities in the Organization, our countries can now pursue even more ambitious goals in the future, further develop their intellectual property systems, actively participate in the international cooperation in enhancing both international IPR system and benefit sharing from the existing regimes, raise the level of awareness in our societies on the importance of the intellectual property rights and assets, and last but not least, contribute to the development of the IPR system within the Organization itself. We hope that the countries from our region will continue to receive appropriate attention and assistance in the future as well and we in turn are determined to bring our own specific contribution to the important work conducted here at WIPO.

"In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, and against this background, the group of the Central European and Baltic States wish to reiterate its full appreciation of the performance of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO, its satisfaction with his re-appointment and to wish him every success during his second mandate as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization."

21. The Delegation of Belarus, speaking on behalf of the Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European countries, made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Regional Group for Central Asia, the Caucasus and Eastern Europe, I wish once again to express support for Dr. Idris's candidacy for re-election to the post of WIPO Director General for a second term of office.

"I would like to say that we highly value and respect Dr. Idris, and support all his initiatives aimed at expanding the range of the Organization's activities.

"We welcome Dr. Idris's efforts, as WIPO Director General, to transform intellectual property into a potential instrument for the economic, social and cultural development of the Member States of WIPO.

"The efficiency, transparency and dynamism shown by Dr. Idris are inalienable features of his leadership of the Organization. Under his leadership, WIPO has become one of the leading United Nations specialized agencies in the knowledge-based economy.

"It is essential to emphasize the inclination of Dr. Idris towards the successful modernization and rationalization of WIPO's working methods, for example through the introduction of greater openness, transparency in establishing the Organization's

Program and Budget, and also the implementation of decisions based on modern technologies, in particular the project to computerize the PCT system.

“In 1998, the WIPO Worldwide Academy was set up, with Dr. Idris’ direct participation and has been called upon to assist the Member States of WIPO to develop human resources for the training of specialists in matters relating to IP policy.

“Under Dr. Idris’ leadership, many new trends have emerged in WIPO’s activities. In particular, WIPO has begun to implement a special program aimed at creating, in developing countries and countries in transition, collective copyright management in the interests of creators such as authors, composers and performers.

“Since 1999, WIPO has adopted the digital agenda – a program of work for the Organization in the coming years based on conditions of interaction between the Internet, digital technologies and the intellectual property system.

“We believe that one of the important aspects of WIPO’s work has been the initiative of Dr. Idris to attract small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to participate in its activities so that such enterprises have broader possibilities to use the potential of the intellectual property system to develop its commercial activities and enhance competitiveness.

“In conclusion, I would personally like to wish Dr. Idris great creative undertakings and physical strength in realizing the tasks facing WIPO, including the application of trends such as:

- a sense of what is most important;
- correct leadership;
- influence on the way things stand;
- corporate image;
- mutual dependency.

“We hope that by resolving these tasks and enhancing the role of intellectual property in new areas of activity such as the Internet, environmental protection and protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, WIPO will help to create the essential conditions for creative activity, inventiveness, and the guarantee of the prosperity of future generations.”

22. The Delegation of China made the following statement:

“I would like to express, on behalf of the Chinese Government, our most sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Idris on his re-election as Director General of WIPO for a second term.

“As we have all witnessed during his first term, the Director General has brought to full play his wisdom and talents as well as his organizing ability to ensure an important role of WIPO in addressing international affairs and providing assistance to developing countries. Under his leadership, WIPO has established various forums and mechanisms of vital importance to economic development, such as the Inter-governmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, and the creation of a unit in the Organization

responsible for protection of intellectual property for SMEs to pursue its efforts in this regard, the protection of intellectual property on the Internet, the introduction of modern management systems, the launching of the WIPO NET, and the completion of projects concerning information technology management. In brief, we appreciate very much the unremitting efforts of the Director General in realizing these objectives and successes so far achieved during his first mandate.

“We are deeply convinced that during his second term, Dr. Idris will build on his past experiences and use his talented organizing and managing ability as well as his sharp insight on newly emerging things to actively open up new horizons, to attach further importance to cooperation for development, and to enhance its efforts in providing assistance to develop in g countries, thus creating a new prospect of intellectual property for economic development in all countries.

“As always, China will continue to support the Director General in his work. It is our hope that we could strengthen our cooperation with WIPO under his leadership and make our own contribution to the protection of intellectual property.”

23. The Delegation of the United Arab Emirates, speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, made the following statement:

“We are pleased to extend our congratulations and thanks to Dr. Kamil Idris on behalf of the Arab Group. On behalf of this group I spoke in the March meeting and I spoke about the objective conditions that have led us to support the second mandate of Dr. Kamil Idris to lead WIPO. This is an attitude for which the Arab Group and other Groupshavesupported Dr. Idris. We have all expressed our support to his nomination given his accomplishments during his first term. For this reason, today we support the successes achieved by WIPO that is now embodying economic development in the world including the promotion of traditional knowledge, genetic resources, folklore, art and research on how to enhance this knowledge. We take this into account for the future to enable all cultures and people to come together to appreciate their patrimony inheritance for the development of all countries. Mr. Chairman, on the re-election of Dr. Idris we support the constitutional reforms and various implementations to conserve folklore and heritage. We seek a collective way to enlarge culture and protect humanity's heritage. All this is possible through the current means given WIPO NET and other opportunities. All this requires developing current means also given that WIPO works together with the WTO, thanks to the agreement between the two organizations these have made it possible to agree on the commercial aspects of intellectual property. All this requires continuous work to enable our work in this international scope to resolve in a balanced way everyone's challenges. In our Arab region we hope to consolidate our relations with WIPO through the Arab Bureau. In the past few years we have seen a great number of fruitful discussions take place, work has been achieved within the framework of the Arab Group bringing together experts from WIPO and other Arab experts, this has given rise to intellectual and cultural achievements and has also brought about the modernizing of intellectual property in Arab States. Intellectual property is also a way to develop for the future all the activities of fraternity and enriching the heritage of all peoples. Once again on behalf of the Arab Group I would like to extend our congratulations to Dr. Idris. We wish him great success in his work as he said in his presentation.”

24. The Delegation of Greece made the following statement on behalf of the European Union, the 10 acceding States and the associated States:

“On behalf of the EU, the ten acceding countries and the associate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, please let me express my sincere congratulations to you Dr. Kamil Idris and Dr. DG which is the honorary title Ambassador Shah has given you for your appointment as Director General of WIPO for a second term. During your first term you succeeded in putting and keeping intellectual property firmly on the international agenda, you have done so in a balanced way addressing the interests of all concerned. We are fully confident that WIPO's vital role in contributing to economic growth and development will be further enhanced under your able guidance during the coming years. Be assured of the continuing full support of the European Union, the acceding countries and the associated countries in assuming your leadership. I wish you success in running this intellectual property organization with your intellectual excellence to which we have all become accustomed. I would like to thank you very much and the EU can only be happy on this event.”

25. The Delegation of Myanmar made the following statement on behalf of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN):

“Mr. President, I am taking the floor on behalf of the ASEAN countries that are Members of WIPO. We, the ASEAN countries, would like to associate ourselves with the statement delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group. Like the Delegations that have spoken before us, we too would like to congratulate Dr. Idris for his re-election for his second term as the Director General of WIPO. The overwhelming support that Dr. Idris has received towards his re-election is the reflection of his achievements in WIPO and the confidence that the Members have placed in his qualities to continue providing effective leadership in WIPO. On behalf of the ASEAN countries, we would also like to assure Dr. Idris of ASEAN's continuous full support and cooperation in thrashing out the international intellectual property regime (IPR) agenda during his second term.”

26. The Delegation of Uruguay made the following statement:

“Uruguay would like to express its pleasure and full support concerning the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. We would also like to endorse and share the comments expressed by Brazil on behalf of GRULAC. We believe that the Director General has transformed WIPO into a more modern, efficient and open Organization with greater capacity to respond to the needs and aspirations of its Member States and of the developing countries in particular. It is because of these achievements that my Government expresses to the Director General its gratitude and support. The path to be covered however is not exempt from difficulties. The Director General has to face the tremendous challenge of freeing the Organization within a very difficult international environment. The technological financial breach between the developing and developed countries is growing hence the possibilities of research and development are being reduced and hence the capacity to create intellectual property in the developing countries themselves. We are every day witnesses to the reverse transfer of technologies through which scientists and researchers and highly qualified professionals are educated in developing countries at very high cost, migrate to industrialized countries, and there, exercise their profession, their innovative capabilities and their creativity at the service of those who have the means to attract them, and

where the means exist enabling them to enhance their professional lives. In the opinion of my country WIPO should continue to play its role as a catalyst with a view to achieving the elusive balance between the interests of those who are titular of intellectual property and the public in general in all the areas of its competence. WIPO will also have to continue to promote and facilitate cooperation between the private and public sector and transfer of technologies thus generating employment wealth in the developing countries and stimulating and rewarding creativity and innovation. We support Dr. Idris and his team and we are fully convinced that under his leadership and vision concerning intellectual property this will become a tool for social development, economic and cultural development and that this will become a reality, which we can all benefit from. Finally, Dr. Idris we congratulate you for the important achievements in your first term for your well-deserved reelection and we know that we are in good hands to face the challenges of your second term of office. We wish you full success.”

27. The Delegation of Mauritania made the following statement, on behalf of French-speaking African countries:

“Mr. Chairman, the assessment of the past few years under Dr. Kamil Idris is indeed worthy of this testimony of respect and the trust which the Assembly has just shown in him in unanimous fashion. I think that everyone agrees that these years have been times of sustained action, during which WIPO has grown in visibility, clarity, and also transparency and efficiency. The role of intellectual property as an economic and social development tool has been strengthened and the advantages of creativity and innovation, both for the lives of human beings and for that of nations are acknowledged more and more. WIPO has made a broad contribution throughout these years to the efforts made to make intellectual property systems and its huge benefits generally accessible. The question of development has been at the center of the Organization's activity and developing countries are more aware of the enormous potential of intellectual property, including their own intellectual resources which were frequently neglected or even ignored. The different technical assistance programs implemented in support of developing countries largely explain this increased awareness and the initiatives of the Director General which have demonstrated the particular and ever more important place of intellectual property in the knowledge-based economy, i.e. the economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Taking into consideration this broadly positive assessment, it was no more than legitimate for this august Assembly to renew its trust in Dr. Kamil Idris so as to allow our Organization to build on the achievements realized and to accomplish greater progress which, in the final instance, serves the cause of economic and social progress, and help to bridge the increasing divide between developed and developing countries. I congratulate him again and wish him great success in his new term of office.”

28. The Delegation of Egypt made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, I would like also to share the statement made by Zambia on behalf of the African group.

“It is with deep pleasure that I would like to extend Egypt's sincere congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris for his reappointment as Director General of WIPO for the period from 2003 to 2009. It is a source of particular pride for us that Dr. Idris is equally the son of Africa and the Arab world. In particular, he is a national of a country which has a special stand in Egypt, it is the Sudan with which we have long historical

and friendly relations. Dr. Idris, who is a national of a developing country, succeeded in making a breakthrough in a sensitive area of international endeavors, which has acquired, during the recent years, significant importance; he was able to accomplish major achievements appreciated by all countries. We congratulate him for assuming such responsibilities and accepting to continue with the same impetus and perseverance.

“When Dr. Idris was first selected Director General of WIPO in 1997, developing countries, which constituted the majority of WIPO members States, were facing a critical challenge to comply with new international obligations in the field of intellectual property. Such obligations required major legislative and structural reforms. In this regard, Dr. Idris endeavoured to expand WIPO’s development co-operation activities, by participating in the modernisation process of the IP infrastructure of developing countries, enhancing effectiveness of concerned national institutions and providing training to technical staff to enable them to deal with new, complex matters. I would like, in this regard, to pay a special tribute to the performance of the Arab Bureau and its rapid response to increasing demands of Arab countries, including Egypt.

“As Director General, Dr. Idris has launched many initiatives in response to the needs of developing countries, such as WIPO’s digital agenda which included ambitious IT project, such as WIPO NET, the purpose of which was to bridge the digital gap and help developing countries in maximising the use of IT in the field of Intellectual Property. Another major initiative was the creation of WIPO Worldwide Academy, the success of which – particularly as far as distance learning is concerned – reflects the significant need of those countries in the field of training and IP education. A third example is the expansion of activities related to SMEs which are considered the backbone of many national economies, particularly in developing countries.

“Furthermore, Dr. Idris succeeded in integrating, for the first time, within the substantive work carried out by WIPO, topics of particular relevance to developing countries, such as genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore. The creation of the Intergovernmental Committee represents, today, a hallmark in dealing with such topics at the international level.

“Indeed, some of the mentioned achievements have been accomplished in the framework of the comprehensive modernisation process undertaken by WIPO under the leadership of Dr. Idris, as a response to the increasing importance of intellectual property in knowledge based economies and challenges resulting from uninterrupted technological developments, with the aim of making intellectual property a tool for technology transfer, economic development and prosperity for all.

“Finally, the delegation of Egypt would like to express its full confidence in the Director General of WIPO; we wish him further success and hope for more expansion of WIPO to meet future challenges, on the top of which would be the promotion of the development dimension in the making and implementation of IP norms, while taking due account of various levels of development and social conditions of each country and making use of the available flexibility in complying with international obligations and furthering the capacity of the country to achieve the goals of major policies such as those on environment or health.”

29. The Delegation of India made the following statement:

“The Delegation of India joins others in congratulating Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election. It is a matter of deep satisfaction for me personally, for my Delegation and for India to see him re-elected and we wish him the very best in a second term. It is particularly satisfying for us that a distinguished representative of a developing country has been elected as head of this important Organization, one that is growing both in importance and stature. We look forward to continuing our active participation in all activities of WIPO under Dr. Idris’ able leadership so that together we can advance our common cause of maximizing the force of intellectual property for economic development. Dr. Idris’ first term as Director General coincided with a very important era in international economic relations. Globalization today is a fact of life, we should take advantage of this for common benefit rather than resist its operation. The global economic environment is undergoing rapid change. The challenge before us today is to harness the powerful forces of globalization to bring about rapid growth and development. It is particularly important that these changes should bring clear and tangible benefits for developing countries. Dr. Idris’ first term was also a time when developing countries began to implement the new obligations that they had assumed under the TRIPS Agreement. It was a period of rapid expansion of intellectual property in new areas like ICT, genetic resources, plant varieties, food and traditional knowledge, areas that significantly impact on the core interests of developing countries. Intellectual property protection today is woven into the fabric of economic development. The knowledge economy can play and must play a major part in development and poverty eradication as against the bricks and mortar economy. The new economy should make it easier for developing countries to achieve higher growth rates and benefit from their knowledge base. If the share of knowledge-based industries increase in the total industrial base of a developing country, their high value exports are more likely to grow. We need therefore to stimulate creativity in developing countries. In India this realization has resulted in an increase in investment in R & D at research centers both public and private. The number of patents granted to India globally has gone up, the CISR in India was granted 56 patents outside India in 2000-2001, up from 10 a decade ago and we have a very long way to travel. There are several instances of the CISR successfully licensing its patents to multinationals and local industry. The pharmaceutical industry is exploring licensing arrangements with its counterparts in developing countries. The IP system indeed has the potential to promote and accelerate technological progress, social cultural development and economic growth. We need however to ensure a fair balance between the interests of the right holders and those of society at large. IP protection in each country should therefore be consistent with its state of development and be appropriate to its particular economic and social circumstances. Dr. Idris has shown great dynamism in leading WIPO into the new millennium; he has provided the vision of the relevance of intellectual property for the welfare of society as a whole. Most importantly through WIPO’s assistance to developing countries in this field he has ensured the continued relevance of intellectual property in the development process. May I therefore once again join others to congratulate Dr. Idris on his re-appointment as Director General and wish him and assure him of our common endeavor to work towards more success in a second term.”

30. The Delegation of Benin made the following statement on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs):

“It is a great honor for me to speak in the name of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to the fourteenth extraordinary session of the WIPO General Assembly, a session essentially devoted to the renewal of the term of office of the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Dr. Kamil Idris, who has spent several years working hard at the head of WIPO.

“Allow me to mention here that the Director General of WIPO, in his recent work entitled *“Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth,”* reaffirmed his conviction that intellectual property is a powerful instrument of development, but one which has unfortunately not been used to the best advantage by all countries.

“With that in mind, he has ensured that WIPO has rapidly formulated and implemented its commitments towards LDCs, which, through me, convey to him their sincere gratitude.

“For it is thanks to his devotion and above all to his very hard work that our Organization has achieved great progress. We cannot but be proud of this. It is normal, therefore, that a person who has given body and soul to our Organization should be allowed to continue to lead it towards still more brilliant successes.

“Having always militated for the upwards development of WIPO, he is well placed to understand the subtleties of this process and to ensure that WIPO contributes to the introduction of intellectual property machinery that will generate economic prosperity and peace.

“If WIPO is today an Organization that is held up as an example, that is undoubtedly due to the energy of its Director General and his team.

“WIPO has indeed contributed to the creation of institutions in the fields of intellectual property and co-operation for development.

“I should therefore like to pay special tribute to the Director General of WIPO, not only for his exceptional qualities, but also for the efforts that he has made to reform the Organization, to bring new blood into it, to give a new impetus to the work of the Secretariat and to devise new programs, including the program for LDCs, which has been reviewed in the light of the challenges of our time.

“Throughout the world, WIPO symbolizes not only the will to protect and promote innovation, but also progress and peace. All the Organization's efforts are leveraged by his intention to protect the product of human intelligence and that of development.

“This moral commitment cannot rely solely on abstractions, but rather on a genuine service offered to peoples. We can safely state that it is to this that WIPO is devoting itself in the interest of LDCs.

“WIPO is committed to the development and promotion of the peoples of the Least Developed Countries.

"It is for this reason that it is drawing up a new development charter for LDCs which will make it possible, and this is the dearest desire of the LDCs themselves, for there to be a proper transfer of knowledge and also of effective protection of their know-how, traditional knowledge, heritage, culture, folklore and genetic resources.

"The LDCs, which have already benefited greatly from the bold initiatives of Dr. Kamil Idris in the course of his first term of office, are expecting even more of the second, which will in all probability enable him to complete his good work for the benefit of LDCs.

"To conclude, once again, the LDCs, through me, reaffirm their solid and indefatigable support for the Director General, and wish him even more success in the course of his second term of office at the head of WIPO."

31. The Delegation of Mexico made the following statement:

"I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the approval of the Government of Mexico concerning the management so far undertaken by Dr. Kamil Idris and of his well-deserved re-election. His strategic vision has permeated all the activities of our Organization. He has sought to channel this vision toward the promotion of intellectual property systems in order to use them as tools for countries' economic, social and cultural development. We trust that during the next six years, Dr. Kamil Idris will continue to attach the greatest importance to cooperation for development programs, the establishment of a *suigeneris* system for protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, and the strengthening of copyright and related rights. Mr. Chairman, Mexico's support for Dr. Idris is not limited to the Government, but extends also to the public and private institutions and organizations involved in the tasks carried out by our Organization. For that reason, with your permission, I will now give the floor to Mrs. Emilia Carranza, who is accompanying us this morning and who is Vice-President of the National Association of Performers of Mexico, so that she may deliver a very brief message."

"Mr. Chairman, it is a great pleasure to address you, on behalf of the performers of Mexico, and to share with you and Dr. Kamil Idris the enormous satisfaction and pride at having completed the reform of the Federal Copyright Law promoted by this Association. Dr. Idris encourages us in our efforts, given the importance attached to the protection and promotion of the rights of creators, and his support for the retention of audiovisual matters on the agenda of the Organization's Assemblies. For this reason, together with many others we reiterate our agreement with his leadership and congratulate him on his re-election, while reassuring him of our unwavering and solid support."

32. The Delegation of Morocco made the following statement:

"I would like to begin by supporting the statement made by the Delegation of Zambia on behalf of the African Group and the Delegation of the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the Arab Group. It is an honor for me to associate the Kingdom of Morocco with the unanimous view expressed by the Member States of WIPO, which has spoken before me, in support of the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris. Massive shows of support for Dr. Idris' candidacy have expressed, both at the last Assemblies of

Member States and in the last Coordination Committee meeting, the unanimous appreciation of the quality of his leadership and the management undertaken by him, as well as the importance of the comprehensive changes made as regards the diversity, clarity, simplicity and visibility of the Organization's activities. If the past few years have been a success story, the year to come will certainly be a challenge which Dr. Kamil Idris will meet successfully as a result of the verve for which he is renowned. Dr. Kamil Idris's re-election is a cause for satisfaction for us as a WIPO Member State. But it is more than that, it is also a reason for us to be proud, as a developing country, as Africans and as Arabs. Thank to his vision, Dr. Idris has provided a consensual dimension for the challenges of intellectual property transcending intellectual and cultural diversities, political divides and the differences in development, thereby making these factors an asset for universal convergence and which have made the oldest of the international organizations the most dynamic. On this happy occasion, I would like, Mr. Chairman, to offer my sincere congratulations to him, together with those of my country in wishing him every success in his duties during this new term of office. I am sure that Dr. Idris will continue to strengthen, confirm and promote intellectual property as a positive economic, social and cultural development instrument. In that regard, it is the responsibility of all of us, as Member States of this Organization, to make the task easier for him and to provide him with the means to discharge his duties successfully, as has been the case during the past six years."

33. The Delegation of Venezuela made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, my delegation wishes to express to you its pleasure at seeing you once again take charge of our work, which we envision will be successfully completed during this Extraordinary Assembly. Dr. Kamil Idris, Venezuela wishes to make known its satisfaction at your unanimous re-election for the period 2003-2009, and in particular to congratulate you on the force and judicious convictions shown that, despite the financial, scientific and technological difficulties, and the forces of globalization at this time, WIPO must serve the collective well-being of humanity, without exclusion of any kind and as a proactive body for developing countries, which would be a real contribution to peace. Dr. Idris, his dynamic vision, his commitment to the tasks which he had set for the organization, and his understanding that intellectual property is a fundamental element for global development make him worthy of our support and, in that regard, we endorse the statement made by Brazil on behalf of GRULAC. In addition to his experience and broad academic credentials, Dr. Idris serves as a source of fundamental support in our decision-making, the new formulation of the program and budget to modernize and make more transparent the work of this house, his concern with certain issues relating to the aspirations of developing countries in the search for *suigeneris* solutions for the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, and for programs designed to develop SMEs, taking into account that such enterprises generate employment and stimulate creative technological innovations as yet unknown, as well as WIPO's global strategy in the face of the Internet revolution, which not only facilitates the communication of information but also allows member countries to make maximum use of the advantages offered by the intellectual property system for its development. We believe, Director General, that consolidating the important work done by WIPO in the sphere of international cooperation for development clearly means a strengthening of the cooperation links in order to promote national and regional intellectual property systems, so that they may contribute with greater effectiveness and greater efficiency to national programs, especially in unprotected areas. In this regard, we hope and trust that you will support us so that the

resources intended for cooperation and technical assistance are increased in the future. We trust that, in your new term of office, when dealing with the question of strengthening protection systems, you will take full account of the concerns of developing countries in order that the intellectual property protection system becomes a real window of opportunities for those countries. We have said this in previous statements. The main criticism that has been directed at the strengthening of intellectual property rights is that it could be designed to protect the countries creating or innovating new technologies, to the detriment of those that are simply reduced to being mere importers. A truly social reorientation of a new legal system for intellectual property is a challenge for this Organization. We have placed our hopes in WIPO and in its leadership, Director General, and, in this connection, we aim to see a possible international patents system which meets the demands of member countries in a fair and equitable manner, since we are also convinced that in a harmonized system in a sphere where balance does not prevail, fairness will really have an effect on developing countries. Mr. Chairman, we consider that it is right to recall the commitment to make intellectual property an instrument for development through the innovation of the transfer of technology and greater flexibility in the application of national policies for public use, as the problem of health would obviously be. Finally, our Delegation would like to thank all the staff of the Organization for the efficiency and high level of professionalism shown, and its technical capacity, with which it reviews its work, something which constitutes a fundamental pillar for the new period of management under Dr. Kamil Idris to be truly successful, in the way that we wish, and you may rely always on the useful and timely cooperation of Venezuela.”

34. The Delegation of Kenya made the following statement:

Thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. My Delegation is honored to associate itself with the statement that was made by the Coordinator of the African Group. Dr. Kamil Idris deserves his unanimous re-election. His past record is impeccable, inspiring and has proved very beneficial to all of us. His programs have been innovative, conclusive and productive and we are very proud of the achievement of our African brother of neighboring Sudan. Dr. Idris, Mr. Chairman, has kindly taken us through his first term as Director General, and we are very satisfied with his impressive and dynamic accomplishment. Whether it is the development of the digital agenda or the establishment of the Worldwide Academy or the setting up of the program for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, an area of extreme importance to developing countries, including mine. Indeed, during his first term, he has transformed WIPO, demystified IP and carried out all along, not only to understand IP but also to use it. We are pleased to confirm to you, Dr. Idris, that your conviction of IP as a tool for development fell on receptive ears and we intend to maximize its utilization. We thank you for your vision, for your continued support to our regional and national IP offices, for capacity building and technical assistance and for putting traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore on the international IP agenda. We congratulate you on your re-election, Mr. Director General, we reaffirm our trust and our confidence and we pledge our total support and cooperation as you begin your second term.”

35. The Delegation of Gabon made the following statement:

“On behalf of the Delegation of Gabon, I would like to express its satisfaction at taking part in the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the WIPO General Assembly.

“I also wish to take this golden opportunity to support the statement made by the Delegation of Zambia, on behalf of the African Group, and to congratulate the Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, and all his staff, on the quality of the work done for nearly six years at the head of this prestigious institution represented by WIPO. We welcome the efforts made, in particular in the field of cooperation for development.

“We welcome the re-election, for a second term in office, of the Director General, and his outstanding election, as since his appointment at the head of WIPO in 1997, the resources devoted to this cooperation have seen an unprecedented increase, which has promoted the technical assistance WIPO provides for developing countries. In this particular field, we wish to refer to three of the achievements realized:

“The establishment of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, which has enabled developing countries to provide training for their managers by means of training programs in workshops, seminars or distance learning.

“The WIPO NET project, from which Gabon has just received equipment, will soon provide my country with the opportunity to connect to this important worldwide communication network. It goes without saying that countries' development now depends on the acquisition of computers and the Internet, as well as on access to new technologies.

“The establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore: Gabon congratulates you on this beneficial initiative which could result in the enhancement of our folklore, traditional knowledge and genetic resources. The final conclusions which may result therefrom should promote the creation of an appropriate legal framework that must lead to the enhancement of what the majority of our countries hold most dear: our cultural identities.

“Not only does Gabon possess a rich cultural heritage, it has also played an active role in the protection and preservation of this heritage. Thus, it has been one of the main participants in the establishment of the OAPI, the first regional intellectual property organization which celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 13, 2002 in Libreville. In the same way as it was one of the founding fathers of a project, which we hope will prove to be dynamic in the future, and is aimed at bringing together all the wealth of the Bantou civilization – as you know, this affects more than 200 million Africans – this project is coordinated by the CICIBA. For that reason, any discussion which may lead to action to combat the unlawful use of this heritage is of major importance for us.

“In addition to these different achievements, the presence of Dr. Kamil Idris at the head of WIPO has provided great motivation for the accession of and signing by developing countries of the treaties and conventions administered by WIPO. For its part, as a party to a number of previous treaties, Gabon acceded in April 2003 to The Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs. The instrument of accession to this treaty will be deposited with WIPO in the next few days.

“Your ambition to make WIPO a leading organization within the United Nations system should also be mentioned as being to your credit. The construction of new buildings to house WIPO’s departments is a perfect illustration of this fact.

“The Delegation of Gabon is very keen to continue benefiting from the kindness of WIPO and its support in the implementation of some of its projects relating to intellectual property promotion, in particular the establishment of the Copyright Office. This body, the role of which is to defend the interests of artists and other creators of works of the mind, has been very noticeable by its absence.

“Director General, we offer you warm encouragement for this new term in office and our best wishes for even greater success in the future.”

36. The Chair of the Assembly wished to honor Mrs. Kamil Idris and emphasized the merit of the constant support she had provided for her husband.

37. The Delegation of Ethiopia made the following statement:

“My delegation also fully associates itself with the statement made by the Delegation of Zambia on behalf of the African Group on the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris to a second term as Director General of WIPO.

“During the Thirty-seventh session of the WIPO Assemblies, the Member States of this Organization expressed their overwhelming support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris. On that occasion, my Delegation expressed its deep appreciation for the tremendous achievements of Dr. Idris during his first term and wholeheartedly supported his re-election for a second term in office. Once again at the 49th Session of the WIPO Coordination Committee, the Member States unanimously supported the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the position of Director General of WIPO for the period of December 1, 2003 to November 30, 2009. Now, it is a great honor for me to express my immense pleasure at the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of Director General of WIPO. Knowing him personally for a long time, I must pay special tribute to his outstanding leadership in the revitalization of reforming the Organization and in giving continuous momentum to the work of the Secretariat.

“The re-election of Dr. Idris with the unanimous support of the WIPO membership clearly demonstrates his dedication and outstanding performance during his first term in office. Under the leadership and guidance of Dr. Idris, WIPO has witnessed unprecedented changes in its performance and vision. The establishment of the Worldwide Academy as a central coordinating institution for human resources development, the worldwide global intellectual property information network (WIPONET) project which is greatly advancing the sharing of valuable intellectual property information and linking the intellectual property offices of Member States, the automation of intellectual property offices, the program setup for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), the technical assistance program in the preparation and enforcement of intellectual property laws and in the establishment or strengthening of sound institutions and administrative structures, are some of the remarkable achievements of WIPO under Dr. Idris’ leadership. WIPO’s technical cooperation activities to advance development efforts in sensitive sectors and to pioneer new areas and new types of development assistance in new fields of intellectual property also deserves special appreciation.

“The Organization’s overall efforts are immeasurably strengthened by the visibility of its commitment to and activities in protecting the product of the human intellect and that of development. For the first time in the history of this Organization the vision of the Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, “Intellectual Property Instrument for Wealth Creation” was adopted unanimously at the Brussels United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs). This moral commitment continues to define the work of WIPO in the eyes of those whom most look to and depend upon the Organization for support. This moral authority cannot be built upon abstractions, but only upon real service to people. Today, this is what WIPO is doing for LDCs throughout the world by its international program of “WIPO Deliverables for LDCs.” Through its mission, objectives and the different activities in different countries, theories are tested by concrete action.

“Since development efforts must respond to particular national needs, priorities and circumstances, no single theory or set of priorities can be applied to the development efforts of all countries at any one time. It is here that the importance and uniqueness of the innovative approach of WIPO’s Nationally Focused Action Plans for LDCs which aimed at providing assistance tailored to the specific needs of individual countries lies. Because of the fact that development requires a perpetual balancing of priorities, emphasis and continual reassessment of needs and policies, the role of leadership is crucial. In this regard, we highly appreciate the contribution of Dr. Kamil Idris since he assumed the leadership of WIPO.

“While we applaud the Director General for his past achievements, we are confident that he will continue to advance the interest of developing countries particularly the least developed ones. Intellectual property must be accessible to all so as to make its role in social, cultural, technological and economic development better understood by governments, the private sector and the public at large. WIPO should further strengthen its effort in helping developing countries to harness their creativity, to receive the full benefit of their citizens’ creativity as well as those of the outside world.

“Finally, I would like to conclude by expressing my best wishes for the success of the Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, during his second term in office.”

38. The Delegation of the United States of America made the following statement:

“The Ambassador of the United States of America, the honorable Kevin Moley, has asked me to present to you his congratulations and those of the United States Government. Ambassador Moley is unable to be here due to a conflict with the solemn observances of the United States holiday of Memorial Day.

“The United States of America has instructed me to convey its appreciation of the Director General’s vision and accomplishments, and our pleasure at the prospect of working with Dr. Kamil Idris over the coming years. I believe I can say the same of a plurality of WIPO’s stakeholders, those who are United States nationals.

“And briefly, on a personal note, I have learned a great deal about leadership from the Director General.

“A leader is the person who sees the terrain and the dangers; someone whose long experience and keen intuition tell him how to deal with them. That person gathers

his support team and his companions to venture into new territory. Dangers and unexpected difficulties may await them; the inhabitants may be uncomprehending or even hostile.

“Some of the company may have ideas and needs different from his and different -markedly different from those of the rest. Every expedition worth undertaking faces those obstacles, as well as doubt and inertia.

“What is required is someone who can see the goal -not only where the group has been and where it is going presently, but where it should go, what it should do, to achieve success. And someone who has the eloquence and charisma to bind us together. Kamil Idris is that person.”

39. The Delegation of Australia made the following statement:

“Like the others before me, I would like to offer strong support and congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris for his re-election as Director General. I do so on behalf of the Government of Australia and on behalf of the Australian Ambassador, Mr. David Spencer, who regrets very much being unable to be here this afternoon.

“Australia believes that as Director General, Dr. Idris will be able to continue his important role of promoting intellectual property through all sectors of society and throughout all regions of the world. Australia offers its full support to this work.

“Australia has also strongly supported reforms introduced by Dr. Idris over the past six years. The emphasis on increased transparency, modernization, accountability and results-oriented projects has been welcomed.

“We also appreciate the Director General’s determination to grapple with immediate challenges to the effective operation of the international intellectual property system, as well as to apply strategic thinking to the longer term view. Australia reaffirms its commitment to participate in WIPO’s forums to harmonize intellectual property laws, engage in debates on emerging issues and to provide technical assistance when appropriate.

“The Asia-Pacific region is, of course, a key interest to us and we have been pleased to undertake a number of projects through our Regionally Focused Action Plan.

“In conclusion, Mr. Chair, I would like to reaffirm Australia’s strong support for Dr. Kamil Idris. We look forward to continuing to support WIPO’s work program during his next term of office.”

40. The Delegation of Canada made the following declaration:

“It is a particular pleasure for me, on behalf of Canada, to add my voice to our regional coordinator’s statement, namely Portugal, on behalf of regional Group B, as well as the other delegations that we have heard -and no doubt the delegations to come -in supporting and saluting for a second term the leadership of Dr. Idris.

“In Canada’s view, his first term has been an unquestionable success. A success for a number of reasons that members have alluded to. Firstly, I think his leadership has

been wise and astute and I think the United States delegate just moments ago put it so well. I think when you look at his leadership, it embodies a great deal of experience. Experience and leadership are indispensable and intertwined. He not only has the vision that any leader must take in multilateral organizations such as ours forward, but he also blends it with a very genuine dose of touch for people and relationships.

“On a more personal note, I have seen that at all levels of the Organization. When he deals with his duties, it is the same as when he deals with other people in the Organization, and I think that is a telling tale on making this Organization an organization for all and to provide all with the space that all the members, as well as the people behind the institution, at all the levels, in terms of making this what is obviously a successful organization. Particularly, when we also see some of the challenges that befall some of our sister organizations.

“Secondly, I think he has also been able to reach out very effectively, as some people have already mentioned some moments ago, to Member States. I think he is an individual who has erred on the side of inclusion and not exclusion. As I mentioned, I think he treats all members as equals and I think that kind of internal transparency and operation, if you will, is sometimes in Geneva, so aptly described as procedural in nature, and yet I would suggest that without that procedural plumbing, it is sometimes difficult to have the outcomes on substance and policy at the end of the day. So without it, an organization will suffer as a result.

“Third, he has not been shy to reform some of the workings of the institution, which I think were needed when he entered in his first days of his first term. No organization, as successful a track record that it may have, can continue to be successful unless that organization shows the capacity and the courage to also change with the issues and with the times that that environment currently places before it. So, he has allowed this Organization, and others under him, to continue to win by continuing to change.

“Fourthly, he has also been tireless in promoting public understanding of this complex issue of intellectual property across the globe. Again, it is true that people in some of the more remote corners of our globe, cannot only understand and comprehend, but ultimately, appreciate, defend and subsequently promote. It is not always as given that people outside of Geneva can understand easily what it is that this Organization tries to do. But when you have an ambassador at the top that makes that subject, not only understandable, but relevant in terms of the life of that person or that community, or that country, then again it makes this Organization that much more successful. I also think that when you look at the information technology and some of the things that WIPO is doing in so far as communicating the very mission of WIPO, that can be said to be as successful a project as is the more targeted, and therefore, the more effective technical assistance that is offered to developing countries.

“Finally, as a good son of Africa, I think through his energetic and capable leadership of a key multilateral institution, he has done his continent proud. And I know like everyone else that when we look to a Director General, we look to competence first and foremost rather than region and geography. But at the same time I think it is inescapable the pride that I have seen my African colleagues and in African delegations, in having Dr. Idris in the position that he currently holds. And that not only bodes well for our Organization or him personally but it bodes well for the continent of

Africa, not only in WIPO, but in the higher offices that are part of the multilateral world. So I think it is also a win on that more personal basis. I believe that Kamil, if I may, was the right man at the right time, when he assumed his first term. He still is the right man at the right time as he takes us into his second term and Canada will be with him every single step of the way."

41. The Delegation of Germany made the following statement:

"I would like to join others in congratulating you, Dr. Kamil Idris for your re-appointment as Director General of WIPO. The spokespersons for Group B and the European Union have already expressed their appreciation for the skill and efficiency with which you have guided the Organization.

"For my country, the promotion and protection of intellectual property rights are of the utmost importance as is witnessed by the high number of our applications under different treaties of the Organization. We trust that your continuing efforts will serve this important cause also in the years to come."

42. The Delegation of Nicaragua made the following statement:

"It is for me an honor and a great pleasure to add my voice to those of my colleagues who have taken the floor before me, especially that of the Ambassador of Brazil as Coordinator of GRULAC, and in the name of Nicaragua and in my own name to express our satisfaction on the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the position of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

"Under the leadership of our friend Kamil Idris, we Member States have witnessed with what energy and enterprise he has conducted himself since the beginning of his first term of office in 1997. We have seen the pragmatism and professionalism with which he has led WIPO, making it into a more efficient, more modern Organization, more inclined to attend to the demands of all countries on an equal footing, although I daresay especially those of developing countries, mainly due to the structural defects from which many of them suffer and because he himself comes from such a country.

"In this connection I wish to recognize, and express my appreciation for, his great openness to the concerns of developing countries such as my own in his arduous and by no means easy task of conveying to the general public the economic and social benefits that may be derived from the intellectual property system.

"We have been pleased to see and hear his account of the achievements made in the course of his first term, and we welcome his vision and his program of specific action for the future among which I would emphasize the social dimension of intellectual property issues, including traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore, and the concerns of SMEs.

"In Nicaragua, under the leadership of its Director General and with the decisive collaboration of the Cooperation for Development Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, WIPO has taken initiatives, among which I would mention the modernization of our system and also workshops involving smaller businesses, with a

view to explaining the operation of the intellectual property system to small-scale producers, and training them in it, which has helped them use it better.

“In conclusion, I wish to join the other members in expressing recognition, once again, for the significant work done by Dr. Kamil Idris, and to assure him of my country's firm support and will to cooperate throughout his second term of office, which we trust will be successful.”

43. The Delegation of the Russian Federation made the following statement:

“First of all, on behalf of the Delegation of the Russian Federation, I would like to congratulate all the Members of WIPO, all the participants in the Assembly and all the staff of the International Bureau on a historic event – the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris as the Director General of WIPO for a second term in office.

“The unanimity and consensus of virtually all the Members of WIPO in assessing Dr. Idris' activities as Director General are connected with his boundless energy, high level of professionalism in assessing problems in the intellectual property sphere, clarity in the establishment of tasks and programs, and openness and transparency in the interaction with Member States.

“Almost six years ago, Dr. Idris himself spoke of the way in which he envisaged the development of WIPO's activities, which, thanks to his experience, authority and acts, are performed year in year out with the full support of WIPO Members.

“The Delegation of the Russian Federation has always valued highly and supported all the Director General's initiatives, based on comprehensive knowledge of the problems existing in the intellectual property sphere.

“I would like to express great respect to Dr. Kamil Idris for his effective and talented work as Director General, which in particular has influenced the emergence in the Russian Federation of new IP laws, taking into account all the worldwide trends developing in this sphere, and also Russia's accession to a number of WIPO agreements.

“I would also like to thank Dr. Idris for the efficient work done by the WIPO Worldwide Academy. The creation of a Russian-language version of the distance learning course on the foundations of intellectual property has already provided training for around 1000 specialists this year from various regions of Russia that have expressed the wish to undergo such training.

“Dr. Kamil Idris has a unique ability to formulate, in a clear-sighted and convincing manner, the strategic and tactical tasks facing WIPO in the field of intellectual property. The proposals heard today for the further development of WIPO's activities enjoy your full support.

“I would like to join all the congratulations expressed today to Dr. Idris and I am certain that under his wise leadership in the coming years we will achieve together new tangible successes in increasing the role of IP in the provision of stable economic growth in all countries on all continents.”

44. The Delegation of Japan made the following statement:

"I am very pleased today to express my heartfelt congratulations for the re-appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris to his second term in office as Director General of WIPO. I am impressed by his acceptance speech this morning, outlining his vision from which I see passion and intelligence, both of which are indispensable characteristics for a captain guiding his ship through wild and uncharted seas.

"Looking back to the outset of his first term in office, we remember that Dr. Idris committed himself to a number of agenda items primarily concerned with how to change this Organization, namely and such as, accountability, transparency and member-oriented direction. There are certainly recognizable improvements in these areas for which we are much appreciative. As to the vision for his second term, Dr. Idris showed us his next target which focussed on what to do for this Organization. The five points he illustrated namely, modernization of management, outreach, development cooperation, progressive development of intellectual property law and global protection system and services, are all important activities. Based on the new vision and spirit, I believe this Organization can achieve fruitful outcome as to these substantive areas under the able leadership of Dr. Idris. This is to say, Dr. Idris has sowed these seeds in this Organization in his first term and those seeds are steadily and surely growing. Thank to this, we look forward to harvesting many and varied fruits during his second term.

"Turning to the current development in Japan, intellectual property is being recognized as a powerful tool to boost the economy and the country as a whole has embarked on overhauling the intellectual property system from perspectives of every sector, such as the Government, the legislative branch, the courts, academia and the business, to name the most important of them. Japan is therefore in full support of the vision of Dr. Idris to recognize intellectual property as an engine for economic growth and we are more than happy to commit ourselves to the continued hand-in-hand cooperation with WIPO by way of constructive contribution.

"I would like to end my statement by congratulating Dr. Idris again and wishing him great success."

45. The Delegation of Belgium made the following statement:

"The goal of our meeting today is simple. It was shown by several colleagues and demonstrated with great eloquence. I think that I should first and foremost join those colleagues in saying that our Organization and the faith is very great. We are seeing the increase and growth of this Organization. This fast growth is a result of the increasing awareness of the necessity of intellectual property and defending the legal accomplishments that have been made. I would like to pay tribute to the qualities of the Director General. First of all I think that Director General Dr. Idris has truly been based on his experience and his legal knowledge, paving the way that we need to move in. He also has a sense of management which is open-minded that lives up to the challenges of the moment and the increasing size of the Organization. We also need a vision for the future specifically given this size and growth, and I think that the city of Geneva is seeing this growth from the buildings that WIPO has. So we see the Organization growing, it is true growth and it is very visible, I would say.

“Finally, the Director General will have to express to everyone, to the business world and the political world and civil society. We need to send the message of the Organization and to show modern production methods. Together with Governments, our relations that are getting increasingly closer to maintain a larger, tighter network of relations more efficiently, to protect the achievements of knowledge. Thank to what he has done in the past, and we hope that he will continue doing so in the future, my country has supported Dr. Kamal Idris’ re-election to lead this Organization. We would like to wish him the best of luck and success in his second term.”

46. The Delegation of Norway made the following statement:

“This Delegation would like to second the statement by the spokesman of Group B and convey our warmest congratulations to your re-appointment, Dr. Idris. In addition, we would like to state that this Delegation has always supported the vision set up by the Director General when he was first appointed to his post and we are very satisfied to see the results. In the future we think it will be more important than today to put focus on the end-users of the intellectual property systems and in particular, the small users with limited resources. We recognize and appreciate that the challenges met by the SMEs have already been put on the agenda by WIPO. This step, even if it is in the right direction, we would like to see that the challenges met by the small users be focused in the future. Particularly when it comes to the raising of awareness of the intellectual property system and creating a good environment for the use of intellectual property.

“This Delegation wishes you all the best for your next period as Director General and promises to support you in bringing your vision to reality.”

47. The Delegation of Spain made the following statement:

“My first words in this statement, in my capacity as Director of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, are words of sincere thanks to WIPO and to its Director General for the magnificent work done in recent years. I am bound to convey to him the most heartfelt congratulations of this Delegation. Subscribing to the comments of Group B, read out by the distinguished Ambassador of Portugal, I have to say that the management of WIPO throughout the term of office of Dr. Idris has in our opinion been profitable and exemplary, and has permitted rapid adaptation to the changes and new demands imposed by present times. We cannot forget the reality in which we are immersed, and the fact that intellectual property is becoming one of the most dynamic and changing areas of activity on the international scene. Today, State policies as important as cultural and economic technology cannot be contemplated without a proper system of intellectual property protection. The promotion of creativeness and innovation, as we see it, serves as the catalyst for economic growth through wealth creation and the development of industry and commerce. WIPO, under the direction of Dr. Idris, has succeeded in meeting these new challenges by undertaking specific action and anticipating situations of this kind in an admirable fashion. Spain, in its special, twofold dimension as both European country and full member of the sister Iberoamerican community, is in a particularly good position to appreciate the closeness of WIPO and its efforts to maintain balance between the various regions of the world, and it addresses special thanks to Dr. Idris and the Organization that he heads for their intense effort to ensure that intellectual property commitments are focused more and more on the benefits to be gained by all sectors of the population. We emphasize the

importance of WIPO continuing to work on achieving an approximation of benefits, to be imparted to every country of our globalized world through international cooperation. Dr. Idris can rely at all times on Spain's cooperation in the task that he will be continuing to carry out in this connection.

"On behalf of the Under-Secretary of Culture, unable to be present here today, I should like to read some further words of appreciation of Director General Idris. Director General, the collaboration between WIPO and Spain in the field of copyright and related rights has expanded enormously in the course of your term of office. There have been increases not only in joint cooperation for development activities, but also in consultation and information exchange between the respective authorities with specific competence in the area concerned. In order to provide a suitable framework for such relations and to encourage their intensification, the Director General recently, last February to be exact, signed with Spain's Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions, the first results of which are particularly promising for the international promotion of copyright and related rights. Likewise for the intensification of relations with the creative community of Spain, also in its two-fold dimension, represented hereby by its European identity but also as part of the broader creative culture of the Iberoamerican world, it wishes to use that dual identity to make a positive contribution, using its growing potential, to the open and global cultural framework afforded us by WIPO. Congratulations too, Director General, from the AISGE, SGAE, AIE and many other Spanish management organizations which, in addition to having been represented here today, I am sure would have fully subscribed to the words of the distinguished Mrs. Carranza of the Delegation of Mexico; all of them, like the other observers from my country admitted to WIPO, have borne witness to your continuing efforts to democratize this Organization by bringing intellectual property closer to society, closer to its citizens, and by sharing, and attaching value to the consideration of, the concerns of users and observers in general. Finally, Director General, most humbly and in all sincerity, speaking from the Permanent Mission of Spain and as a frequent member of my country's delegations in the many and varied activities of WIPO, I take the liberty of thanking you first for your words, spoken in perfect Spanish, which at the outset provided the perfect touch in an exciting, exhaustive and clear account of your achievements and your objectives for the future, and addressing to you also profound thanks for your efforts to broaden daily the range of participation offered to all Member States. You have demonstrated, Director General, that by feeling involved we feel that the Organization is more ours, as one should feel of any organization that belongs to the United Nations system, and in this way you have managed, in a positive spirit, to make us feel the desire to contribute towards making this Organization more dynamic and in addition to experience your efforts to achieve openness for WIPO. Congratulations, Director General, and best wishes from Spain for your second term; may it give you the opportunity, with the support and collaboration with all Member States, including assuredly Spain, to consolidate and elaborate on the achievements made so far and successfully meet new challenges."

48. The Delegation of Oman made the following statement:

"In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, I am happy to congratulate on my personal behalf and on behalf of my country, His Excellency, Dr. Idris on his re-election as Director General of our Organization. The Delegation of my Sultanate supports the statements made by the Asian and Arab Groups. We greatly appreciate the

accomplishments made in recent years, particularly, in the field of capacity building and technical cooperation. We appreciate the cooperation between our country and the Arab Bureau which has been solidified through round table discussions given to promote our identity and our future. This has been cultivated by the Muscat Declaration on intellectual property. I would like to thank, on behalf of our Sultanate, Dr. Idris, for the efforts he has dedicated to our country and developing countries. We wish him success in facing the challenges of the future to accomplish all of the work he has begun."

49. The Delegation of Algeria made the following statement:

"My Delegation fully supports all the terms of the statement made on behalf of the African Group by the Ambassador of Zambia and that made on behalf of the Arab Group by the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, and has the great honor to express Algeria's support for the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the office of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Algeria is proud of the massive support expressed for a second term in office for Dr. Kamil Idris, such support being a reward for the efforts he has made in managing WIPO. The re-election of Dr. Idris for a second term in office will allow continuity in the implementation of the program he has established and the further generation of the momentum he has instigated in relation to multilateral cooperation for intellectual property. On behalf of our Delegation, I also reiterate to him our gratitude and satisfaction at the results achieved by WIPO as regards cooperation with Algeria under his leadership. It is important to emphasize the interest we hold in the enshrinement within WIPO of the aspects linked to development as part of intellectual property, in order to meet the requirements of globalization and take advantage of intellectual property for the purposes of economic, technological, scientific and cultural development. Considerable efforts have been made by Dr. Kamil Idris in order to demystify the field of intellectual property and the enshrinement of his role as an important instrument in the various areas of development. It should be stated that under his leadership a series of modernization initiatives have been taken allowing an integrated approach to WIPO's work, taking into account economic, regulatory and technological aspects. It should be recognized that a new horizon has been opened up for developing countries during the term of office now at an end. The increasing interest in intellectual property at the global level, *inter alia* in developing countries in support of the relevant strategy introduced by the Director General, allows the gradual integration of such countries into the intellectual property system, based on an ethical approach and by means of sustained cooperation. We are completely convinced that Dr. Kamil Idris will contribute fully to the accomplishment of this task, in particular in the field of traditional knowledge, and the progress made in the general debate on these matters will undoubtedly allow a new consensual and inclusive vision of intellectual property to be enshrined. I will end, Mr. Chairman, by expressing our support for Dr. Kamil Idris in the implementation of his program and wish him great success in the future initiatives envisaged for his new agenda."

50. The Delegation of Madagascar made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me on behalf of the Government of Madagascar and my Delegation to express my warm congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris, whose re-election to the office of WIPO Director General has just been confirmed by this Assembly meeting in extraordinary session. During the six years in which he has carried out his duties, he has managed the

Organization with wisdom, competence and transparency. The only proof of this that I require is the unanimity which I have seen today regarding his re-election. My Delegation would also like to pay tribute to the remarkable work done by Dr. Kamil Idris during his first term in office. He has made considerable efforts to highlight the role played by WIPO, in an unprecedented international context. The aim and purpose which the Organization has set itself in promoting intellectual property have been achieved, through the future-oriented vision which Dr. Idris has shared with the decision-makers throughout the world. My Delegation considers that his second term in office is deserved such that he may implement his new aspirations and prospects for the future. These were, moreover, reflected in the brilliant speech which he gave this morning. Mr. Chairman, my Delegation associates itself fully with the statements made by Zambia on behalf of the African Group, Benin on behalf of the LDCs, and Mauritania on behalf of the French-speaking African countries. I would like to take this opportunity to express our extreme gratitude to Dr. Kamil Idris and his staff for the technical assistance which WIPO has continuously provided for Madagascar. We are convinced that such beneficial cooperation will be strengthened further in the next six years. We wish Dr. Kamil Idris every success and we assure him of our unreserved support and complete cooperation in the course of his second term in office."

51. The Delegation of Malaysia made the following statement:

"The Delegation of Malaysia is pleased to associate itself with the statements made by the Delegation of Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group and the Delegation of Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN. Malaysia fully endorses the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for second term of office as Director General of WIPO.

"Malaysia acknowledges that significant progress and achievements have been made by WIPO under the leadership of Dr. Idris. He has transformed WIPO into one of the most respectable, dynamic and efficient organizations within the United Nations system. Dr. Idris' vision – intellectual property as a tool for economic, social and cultural development – has reinforced the importance of intellectual property as an instrument for work creation. We are indeed impressed with the openness, skills and diplomacy displayed by Dr. Idris in steering the Organization. Dr. Idris has successfully forged consensus on many difficult issues during his term of office. It is therefore pertinent for WIPO to continue to benefit from his strong leadership. Many new initiatives have been introduced by Dr. Idris during his tenure as Director General of WIPO. It has embarked on new areas including the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, and SMEs program. These activities have underlined WIPO's firm conviction in addressing intellectual property in a broader and balanced manner. Activities undertaken under the cooperation for development program, have assisted developing countries in reaping maximum benefits from intellectual property. The National Focused Action Plan program which is tailored according to the specific needs of individual countries demonstrates WIPO's ability to implement the intellectual property system in accordance with the level of development of developing countries.

"Dr. Idris has also played a leading role in introducing many more praiseworthy initiatives including the starting up of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, the elaboration of the WIPO Digital Agenda, and the introduction of WIPO NET, IMPACT and intellectual property office automation projects. The Member States of WIPO particularly, the developing countries including Malaysia, have gained tremendous

benefits from these initiatives. Dr. Idris has been instrumental in WIPO's efforts to enhance awareness of the importance of intellectual property worldwide. Malaysia is confident that WIPO will continue to progress and grow stronger under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris. There is no doubt that Dr. Idris has laid down a very strong foundation for WIPO to effectively meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The vision of Dr. Idris will contribute effectively and decisively to the creation of a modern, forward-looking and innovative intellectual property system. WIPO is now poised to respond to the growing demand and expectations of its stakeholders. In this regard, Malaysia has established an autonomous body responsible for intellectual property issues in Malaysia known as "the Malaysian Intellectual Property Cooperation," on March 3, 2003. Malaysia therefore looks forward to working closely with Dr. Kamil Idris and WIPO in the years to come."

52. The Delegation of Italy made the following statement:

"In my capacity as chief of the intellectual property delegation in Rome, on behalf of my Government and of the Italian Ambassador in Geneva, I would also like to express my wholehearted congratulations to you, Dr. Idris, for your re-appointment as Director General of WIPO for a second term.

"In line with the declarations made by the distinguished representatives of Group B and the European Union Delegation, among others, I am very proud that Italy was among the first countries to voice its support for the proposal made at the General Assembly in 2002, to appoint you for a new term.

"We are extremely happy that, today, nine months later, the General Assembly unanimously approved that proposal. My country has since the beginning of your mandate strongly shared your vision for a better promotion of the role of intellectual property and of its demystification, both in developed and developing countries and appreciated the important change of gear that your leadership brought to WIPO's work. Its role and increasing activity ranging, just to mention a few, from the extended importance of geographical indications to the essential nature of intellectual property for SMEs in which Italy is one of the world leaders, constitute for us significant fields of a multilateral cooperation to be further explored, together with development of training activities and international cooperation especially in developing countries. Mr. President, we are deeply convinced that this task will require continuous efforts and shared responsibilities of all of us. Italy is ready to play its part and as the incoming president of the EU, wishes to offer you, dear Director General, and WIPO, its full support and cooperation in achievement of our common goals."

53. The Delegation of Costa Rica made the following statement:

"I would like to associate myself with the statement made by the Delegation of Brazil, in its capacity as GRULAC coordinator, and to reiterate the unconditional support and pleasure for my country, Costa Rica, in seeing the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as WIPO Director General for a new six-year period. In adding our voice to the expressions of support for his re-election, we give specific form to our gratitude to the Director General and WIPO, not only for his technical and human cooperation, as given to our country Costa Rica, in the past few years, but also for the new vision which he has introduced into the field of intellectual property. In a world where every day economies have a stronger link with knowledge, and where innovation

and the intellectual property system are keys for the creation of wealth, Dr. Idris' message and policies have been an important driving force behind public and private management policies. We are sure that this clear vision, managerial capacity and leadership will enable the Organization to broaden and develop new initiatives, which are dynamic and innovative, and of great worth in the achievement of intellectual property promotion and protection objectives."

54. The Delegation of Finland made the following statement:

"Mr. Director General and my dear friend, Kamil, I have to give this statement at least for two reasons: because my Government decided so, as well as my heart. We fully support the statement made by the spokesman of Group B as well as the one made by the EU. We would like to congratulate you warmly as Director General of WIPO. We wish to thank you for your tireless commitment to the interest and objectives of WIPO and the excellent work you have done in promoting the international system of intellectual property. Your efforts have demystified the field of intellectual property and led to a better understanding of it worldwide. We also wish to thank you for introducing greater openness and transparency within the WIPO Secretariat. We are also happy about the good cooperation between you and the Member States, and in the case of course, especially between you, Dr. Idris and my own country Finland.

"We are convinced that your experience, vision and skills will guide this Organization to future success and we look forward to working with you and your staff in the years to come.

"Finally, let us congratulate you, Director General and my dear friend Dr. Kamil Idris, for your excellent and I would like to say, fantastic programs you presented to the WIPO General Assembly here today."

55. The Delegation of Ecuador made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, it is with special pleasure that Ecuador supported the candidacy of Dr. Kamil Idris to continue for an additional period in his post at the head of the World Intellectual Property Organization. In his regard, Ecuador agrees with and supports the words expressed by Brazil on behalf of GRULAC. Dr. Idris' management during the period now at an end has been greatly acknowledged. Ecuador wishes to join the congratulations offered to the Director General on his re-election and to express to him at the same time its best wishes for even greater success during the forthcoming period. The success achieved by Dr. Idris is also the success of the Organization and the triumphs of WIPO are those of the Member States. Ecuador hopes that the work done will be guided by the perspective of a civil servant who retains the focus on development, comes from a developing country, and is familiar with its strengths and weaknesses. His last book is written in similar vein. Intellectual property is a tool for economic growth. In actual fact, intellectual property should be transformed into a real tool for development, for which reason it is necessary to avoid a situation where that tool prevents growth or is badly used, and is turned against those most in need. My Delegation continues to be certain that during this new period which Dr. Idris is beginning, he will be aware of these realities, will perceive the difficulties and will be receptive to the criteria, opinions and positions of developing countries in these areas which, as Dr. Idris himself has indicated, require greater understanding so that they are actually demystified. Poorly devised legalization of monopolies, and an increase in the

obligations and existing levels relating to intellectual property are matters to which particular attention should be paid during these second terms of office, since the effects which this has for developing countries are not necessarily the same as those arising for developed countries. The strengthening of intellectual property, improvement of national capacities and the reinforcement of offices, however small they may be, must be part of WIPO's focus, as they have been during Dr. Idris' first term of office. The aims which have been realized by means of the cooperation provided by the Organization must be strengthened and made more vigorous. Cooperation for development is a subject of major priority which cannot be pushed aside. In addition to cooperation, two subjects exist which are part of the requirements of developing countries, strengthening so that conditions are reproduced for creation and innovation, and the transfer of technology. Both are effective issues which in practice allow the promotion of development. To those I would of course add the importance of the protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore.

"Mr. Chairman, Director General, Ecuador is hopeful that subjects of major importance on the international agenda, such as those relating to intellectual property, will make an effective contribution to improving the conditions of those peoples in greatest need. For that reason, it devotes particular attention to the themes developed in this Organization. In that connection, Ecuador offers to the Director General its complete and total cooperation so that WIPO and Dr. Idris' management may meet the aims which have been proposed, and which we have the firm belief are the same as those of Ecuador.

"Dr. Idris, Ecuador wishes to congratulate you on your re-election as Director General."

56. The Delegation of Bhutan made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, it is a great pleasure for my Delegation and for me personally to be able to join other delegations to offer our warmest congratulations to Dr. Kamal Idris on his reappointment as the Director General of WIPO.

"This is indeed not only a reflection of his numerous achievements as the Director General but also an expression of the Members States' full confidence in his leadership and a willingness to take the Organization to new horizons in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

"In this regard, my Delegation fully associates itself with the statements made by the distinguished Delegate of Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group and the distinguished Delegate of Benin, on behalf of the LDC Group.

"Mr. Chairman, since many speakers before me have so eloquently presented in detail the achievements of the Director General, I shall avoid repeating them in the interests of time. I would nonetheless like to add that WIPO today stands strong, dynamic and resourceful, ready to take on the ever-increasing challenges of helping and guiding development of intellectual property for the larger benefit of all around the globe, thanks to the leadership and vision of Dr. Kamal Idris.

"We are indeed very fortunate to be able to benefit from his leadership for another term at this crucial juncture for the international community.

“I wish him every success and assure him of the very best of support.

“Mr. Chairman, Bhutan became a member of WIPO only as recently as 1994. Since then, WIPO has successfully helped it set up an administrative system through a very effective technical assistance program. Bhutan is already looking at IP as its strategic policy instrument of enhancing its economic growth and development. In this context, I would like to mention that Bhutan specially welcomes WIPO initiatives in the areas of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore with a view to exploiting and benefiting the country's rich biodiversity and cultural traditions.

“Further, my Delegation welcomes and encourages WIPO to build on its initiatives for implementing regional and sub-regional programs. We believe that such initiatives can foster close cooperation among its members, while also enabling better use of WIPO's expertise and resources. In this context, Bhutan was pleased to host a WIPO sub-regional event for the SAARC Member States in October 2002.

“Mr. Chairman, before I conclude allow me to take this opportunity to once again thank Director General Kamil Idris and his excellent team, particularly at the Asian Pacific Bureau for the unflinching cooperation and support that have been so instrumental in the development of our IP system in Bhutan.”

57. The Delegation of Mali made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, in associating myself with the remarks of the coordinators and chairmen of the groups to which I belong, I would like to express the congratulations of Mali to Dr. Kamil Idris who has enjoyed the trust of all the Member States of WIPO.

“We are proud of him and he symbolizes hope for countries such as mine. The trust which we have renewed in him is the crowning of the remarkable efforts through which WIPO, under his courageous leadership, has facilitated, *inter alia*, the understanding of and complete familiarity with the legal instruments which represent the very basis of the everyday work of the departments concerned in our countries.

“In addition to the encouragement of creativity for stimulating and modernizing development in the field of industrial property, we wish to cite the actions undertaken which are such as to protect and develop the other aspects of intellectual property. I am thinking of the many facets of copyright, with which the different national departments are also familiar, while in addition providing greater knowledge and enhancing still further our cultures, and continuing to benefit from appropriate training provided by WIPO, something which should be encouraged.

“Mr. Chairman, in his statement the Director General expressed, if we have understood correctly, the ambition to move toward objectives including the development of links between health and intellectual property. This undoubtedly meets one of the priorities of developing countries such as Mali which is keen to show great interest in this area.

“Mr. Chairman, in brief we would like to reiterate our congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris and we wish him every success. Considering the reality of the consensus achieved this morning, i.e. a joyful unanimity, we extend to him even richer applause.”

58. The Delegation of Indonesia made the following statement:

“The Delegation of Indonesia would like to warmly congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as Director General of WIPO for the second term.

“In this regard, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation fully second what has been said by the Delegation of Pakistan and Myanmar, respectively on behalf of the Asian Group and of the Members of the Association of South East Asian Nations.

“During Dr. Idris’ past term as Director General, we are pleased to recall that Indonesia has made significant progress and benefited from many opportunities in improving its national intellectual property system aided through cooperation with other WIPO Member States or with WIPO assistance.

“Under his leadership, WIPO has maintained its excellent reputation as well as the widespread recognition of its authority and competence in performing its function as an international organization dealing with the promotion of intellectual property protection.

“We also note that, mindful of the close interaction between the exploitation of the intellectual property system and the concerns of the international community to meet the challenge of globalization, WIPO is constantly engaged and will hopefully continue to engage in consultations with other multilateral agencies.

“Such policy has enabled the Organization to better position itself, to support the economic development and social well-being of its Member States, particularly those of developing countries.

“This achievement, Mr. Chairman, and Dr. Kamil Idris’ experience and professionalism, helped move Indonesia together with the other WIPO Member States to once again place its trust in him to lead this important international organization for another term.

“Indonesia would therefore like to express its deep appreciation to Dr. Idris for his dedication and commitment to the success of this Organization in the past, and looks forward to continuing a fruitful cooperation with him in the future for the benefit of its Member States.”

59. The Delegation of Bulgaria made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, Director General, Excellencies, dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is truly a great privilege and even a profound emotion for me to take the floor at this meeting which is once again dominated by the spirit of consensus, expressed this morning by the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the office of Director General.

“On behalf of my Government, I would like, dear Kamil, to congratulate you warmly and to wish you great success in your future activities at the head of this Organization, where you have already succeeded in providing an example of sound management, effective work and stability.

“Bulgaria has repeatedly and in various forms expressed its support for Dr. Kamil Idris who has steered this Organization with efficiency, competence and enthusiasm in the recent years. We have done so for very good reasons. WIPO stands today as an Organization with indisputable reputation in the field of the international intellectual property protection system. Major successes have been recorded by the international registration systems administered by WIPO and substantial progress has been achieved in making the WIPO treaties and convention truly universal. It takes courage to implement such a difficult agenda but it seems to us that we have the right person to do the job.

“In the course of the last years, Bulgarians have heard much more about intellectual property than they probably did for a very long period of time. WIPO, along with our main partners from the European Union and the United States of America, have largely contributed to the goal of demystifying intellectual property and using it for the purposes of our social and economic development.

“Dr. Idris’ visits to our country have presented us with excellent occasions to place intellectual property higher upon the political map and on the agenda of the Bulgarians society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

“And finally, Mr. Chairman, allow me, Mr. Director General, to express my personal warm congratulations and my best wishes to you for continued success in your activities as Director General of this Organization and this with the same character and vision and intelligence that we have always seen in your work so far. May God bless you, Mr. Director General.”

60. The Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran made the following statement:

“As the Iranian Delegation pointed out in his last March 2003 meeting of the Coordinating Committee, through its valuable achievements and the exerting activities and efforts of His Excellency Dr. Kamil Idris, which were exerted to fulfil the tasks set out in Article 4 of the Convention establishing WIPO, the said Organization as the only Organization administering intellectual property matters worldwide has gained a prominent and outstanding position as a result of which it has achieved a very outstanding and brilliant record on one hand, and on the other hand, different countries, in particular the developing countries have become aware of the importance of intellectual property in the increasing growth in economy, science, technology and investment, and have accepted it as one of the most fundamental and essential factors in such economic growth.

“Mr. Chairman, the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran is firmly confident that taking into consideration its strong, creative and global management and valuable experience he has gained in the course of long years working in various positions in WIPO, the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for another period of six years as the Director General of WIPO, will create the opportunity for WIPO and its Member States, in particular the least developed and developing countries to achieve more success on both national and international levels in order to promote intellectual property rights to closer coordination and cooperation so that in the very near future, we shall witness a strong and efficient system for the protection of intellectual property in all its different aspects.

“Itake this opportunity to congratulate wholeheartedly the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for his new term of office to him and to the Member States for his re-election.”

61. The Delegation of Hungary made the following statement:

“On behalf of my Government and in my own name, I would like to extend warm congratulations on the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

“In the six years lapsed since his first election, he has demonstrated that he is well positioned to guide the International Bureau.

“His broad experience in the field of intellectual property, his personality and intellect, his skills as a leader and a diplomat and the fact that he enjoys a great confidence in the international intellectual community, all this has contributed to ensure that WIPO has been and will be able to meet all the new challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

“The activities of WIPO have been managed in a dynamic, effective and transparent way, as Dr. Idris has stated in his vision of the future at the time of his first election.

“We highly appreciate the efforts Director General Kamil Idris has made until now to promote intellectual property at all levels and are certain that he will continue to further develop the Organization with the cooperation of its Member States.

“My country is looking forward very much to working together with you, Dr. Idris, in the years to come and offering its support to carry out your and the Organization's objectives.”

62. The Delegation of Switzerland made the following statement:

“The Swiss Delegation would like to join the other Delegations which have preceded it in congratulating warmly Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as WIPO Director General.

“My Delegation takes this opportunity to express its satisfaction with the work done by the Director General and his team during his first term in office. The efforts made to introduce greater transparency within the WIPO Secretariat and the establishment of a budget based on results are part of the progress which we may place to his credit. Although important, they do not, however, represent the only progress and it is rather on the efforts made by Dr. Idris towards development and the demystification of intellectual property that my Delegation would like to place emphasis today.

“The measures taken in the past few years by Dr. Idris, aimed at developing and providing greater knowledge of intellectual property and its benefits for all countries, have contributed to the performance of the mandate entrusted to this Organization by its members, i.e. promoting intellectual property protection throughout the world. This task is no less topical, in view of the attacks made on intellectual property nowadays. However, thanks to the continuous efforts which WIPO will certainly make in the next

few years under the leadership of its Director General, we remain convinced that an increasingly large number of members of the public will understand that intellectual property is not the problem, but rather part of the solution.

“Only through a better understanding of the benefits offered by intellectual property and by its gradual development to meet the new challenges facing members of this Organization, will it be possible for intellectual property to continue to play the constructive role for which it is known in economic, social and cultural development. In its capacity as a United Nations specialized agency, WIPO has an essential role to play in this regard.

“The Swiss Delegation remains convinced that under the leadership of Dr. Idris, in the next few years WIPO will retain its leading role in the field of international intellectual property and will therefore be able to continue to meet all the new challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century which it faces. They will be considerable, since it should be ensured that all the members of this Organization, be they developed or developing countries, may participate in the great adventure of our century.

“On behalf of the Federal Council and of Switzerland in its capacity as host country, I assure you, Director General, that you may continue to count on our full support for the successful completion of the tasks entrusted to this Organization. We express satisfaction at the continuation of the cooperation between us and we express to you our best wishes for your second term in office.”

63. The Delegation of the Dominican Republic made the following statement:

“On behalf of the Government of the Dominican Republic, we wish to express our profound satisfaction at the election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term at the head of this Organization.

“The Dominican Republic is highly delighted at the momentum and vision which you have generated in this Organization during your previous term in office. We are sure that during the new term of office the desired objective will produce even better results.

“We can without doubt confirm that the importance which the Dominican Republic now attaches to intellectual property is a reflection of its vision of the role played by this Organization in the creation of a awareness of the economic impact which intellectual property has on countries' development.

“As a developing country, we are particularly grateful for the creation of a forum in which we can debate, analyze and seek the best forms of protection for our traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore, as well as the work which the Organization is carrying out on this subject under your leadership.

“Director General, in your judicious presentation of the successes and future of this Organization, you referred to your aim that WIPO would devote greater attention to the social dimension of intellectual property, particularly matters relating to public health. We support your initiative in advance and undertake to work constructively with you for this purpose.

“Similarly, in your presentation you referred to the influential nature which the process of harmonization of substantive patent law must have. We fully share your vision in this regard and we are in no doubt that you, with your wise guidance, as has already been demonstrated, will be able to lead this Organization along that path. Please be assured of our full cooperation and support.”

64. The Delegation of Sweden made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director General, my old friend, Kamil Idris, on behalf of the Delegation of Sweden, I should first stress that we wholeheartedly agree with the statement made by the Spokesman of Group B and that we warmly support the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a new term of six years, and congratulate him warmly on this re-election.

“We are very satisfied with the work that Dr. Idris has carried out during his presently running mandate. The economic and trade policy importance of intellectual property has increased tremendously in recent years, and at the same time intellectual property has to face unprecedented challenges in various countries and for various reasons. It is certainly no easy task to steer an organization like the World Intellectual Property Organization in times like these and we consider that Dr. Idris has managed to do just that with consummate political skill, in moving the Organization and what it represents into the mainstream of international developments in the world today. We appreciate very much the official visit that Dr. Idris made to our country, we are impressed by his work as Director General and we are also impressed by some specificities of his work for the benefit of the Organization, such as the publication of the book *“Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth”* which, in a nutshell, explains the rationale, mechanism and importance of IP in the world today.

“In summary, this Delegation would like to reiterate our warm support for the work of Dr. Idris and for his re-election and we are looking forward to working with him during the years to come. We have full confidence in Dr. Idris’ ability to run this Organization in a forward-looking, efficient, diplomatic and skillful way in the years to come, as witnessed in his acceptance speech this morning.”

65. The Delegation of Peru made the following statement:

“First my Delegation wishes to endorse the statement made by the Ambassador of Brazil on behalf of GRULAC. We are very pleased with the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris as Director General of WIPO. His achievements in the management of the Organization have been considerable; in particular we could mention the conclusion of the Patent Law Treaty in 2000 and the creation the same year of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, not to mention the creation of the Worldwide Academy.

“Intellectual property has acquired even more importance in this era of knowledge. The proper, balanced use of intellectual property can be an invaluable factor of development and can lead to the greater well-being of nations. With that in mind, my Delegation considers it to be of crucial importance that, in all of the Organization’s activities, one should continue to keep the development dimension and the interest of all Member States in mind. Likewise it is very important that developi ng

countries should have proper technical cooperations so that they can face up to the new challenges that intellectual property protection presents. It is gratifying to see that many people have already benefited in our countries from the training provided by WIPO, thereby starting virtuous circles that generate innovation, production and job and wealth creation. We are confident that Dr. Kamil Idris will continue to ensure that the Organization's objectives are pursued in the most efficient manner.

"The brilliant account that Dr. Idris gave this morning of the record of his term of office is testimony to the excellent work done by WIPO under his skilful direction. The prospects for his new term that he outlined to us open up even more promising perspectives of development opportunities for our countries in the context of growing international interdependence. We are fully conscious of the value of the arduous work and dedication of Dr. Kamil Idris in the position of Director General, and on the occasion of his re-election we are pleased to congratulate him, to assure him of our trust and to wish him every success in this next stage full of new challenges."

66. The Delegation of Haiti made the following statement:

"Following the previous speakers, we would like in turn to extend to you, Director General, our most sincere congratulations on your re-election. This re-election, carried unanimously, serves as clear proof of your devotion, confidence and the important results which you have delivered during your first term in office.

"By its nature and consequences in relation to the law, and cultural and economic development, the issue of intellectual property represents one of the fundamental instruments for meeting the numerous challenges arising at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In that regard, you may rely on the full support of my country for the implementation of the broad lines of the program you sketched out this morning.

"The least developed countries' unit is proving to be an extremely important body in terms of its numerous initiatives. Therefore, we can only continue to encourage you to strengthen this unit and to achieve a more concentrated direction towards specific leading projects, as regards the protection of rights, human resources, folklore and artistic creation.

"Taking into consideration the latter two areas, the challenges appear to us to be significant, since they relate to the issue of cultural diversity which it is important to strengthen.

"Finally, Director General, in view of your personal qualities it is in all sincerity that we wish you success in the many efforts that you have to make in the interest of WIPO and its Member States. Once again we reiterate that you have our full confidence."

67. The Delegation of Sri Lanka made the following statement:

"It is a pleasure for me to take the floor on behalf of Sri Lanka, having joined the consensus of appointing Dr. Kamil Idris for another term at this important Organization.

"In this regard, we fully associate ourselves with the statement made by the Delegation of Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group and we will not repeat its contents.

"I wish to congratulate Dr. Idris in particular for the statement he made this morning following his appointment setting out his achievements as well as his vision for the future of this Organization, in clear, lucid terms. His ability to synthesize divergent views and articulate them in a balanced manner acceptable to all is the hallmark of his confidence and ability.

"During his first tenure, as explained by Dr. Idris, his achievements were many. There were several excellent programs for cooperation and development and for taking IP issues to the masses.

"WIPO Policy Advisory Commission was yet another salutary initiative.

"WIPO is no more an esoteric or mystical institution. Under the stewardship of Dr. Idris, it has become an inclusive, people and user-friendly organization. It is now a prominent and well-known specialized agency in the UN family.

"Sri Lanka also would like to pay a special tribute to Dr. Idris for taking important regional initiatives. In this regard, his initiative to set up a WIPO Sub-Regional Forum for Intellectual Property Cooperation among the Member States of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation as well as a SAARC Ambassadors Forum in Geneva, have been timely and successful endeavors. The latter was an important consultative mechanism to further promote and coordinate WIPO activities in South Asia.

"The yearly meeting of WIPO-SAARC Sub-Regional Forum on Intellectual Property has been of immense benefit to the region.

"As Dr. Idris takes the helm of the Organization for the next tenure, we are confident that he will continue implementing his vision and make this Organization a UN institution with which every person in the world irrespective of the level of development could identify himself for herself."

68. The Delegation of Austria made the following statement:

"Distinguished Director General, on behalf of Austria, I have the great honor and the pleasure to convey our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris for his re-appointment as Director General of this, in his own words, unique Organization.

"Endorsing the statements made on behalf of Group B and the European Union, I would like to stress that the work done and the results achieved during his first mandate, especially in regard to reaching a better understanding of intellectual property worldwide and in introducing greater transparency and efficiency to the Organization's affairs, have kept us convinced that under his continued leadership the World Intellectual Property Organization and its efforts to promote intellectual property by taking into consideration the interest of all concerned, will continue to flourish in the future.

"In that regard, we have taken note with appreciation of Dr. Idris' presentation of visions, ideas, and ambitious goals for his coming mandate, always focusing also on the social and human dimensions of what are predominantly technical IP issues.

“We look forward to giving him our full support in the years to come and wishing all the best.”

69. The Delegation of Nigeria made the following statement:

“Nigeria would like to fully support the statement made earlier by the Delegation of Zambia on behalf of the African Group, regarding the re-election of Dr. Kamill Idris as the Director General of WIPO.

“Mr. Chairman, Nigeria would like to join other speakers before us in congratulating Dr. Kamill Idris on his re-election. The unanimous support expressed earlier by Regional Groups and individual Members of this organization is a clear testimony of the confidence the entire membership has in Dr. Idris. It is also a recognition of his leadership qualities and the achievement recorded by WIPO under him. Dr. Idris has since his appointment as Director General of WIPO, initiated a number of programs and policies designed to improve, not only the participation of membership in the activities of WIPO but also to derive benefits therefrom. Many countries are now aware of the importance of IP and its role in promoting socio-economic and cultural development as well as its potential in alleviating poverty. Today IP has been demystified and the credit goes to WIPO under the leadership of Dr. Idris.

“Mr. Chairman, I would like to recall the numerous services and programs rendered to my country by WIPO under the leadership of Dr. Idris, especially in the areas of provision of infrastructure, legislative advice and training. Both the Industrial and Copyright Offices in Nigeria have received invaluable assistance and support from WIPO and we are grateful for this. We believe that his re-election will facilitate further assistance and support for all Members including Nigeria and we are looking forward to this.

“The Ambassador of Canada, who himself is a great friend of Africa, this afternoon referred to the excitement and happiness of Africans in Geneva and at home on Dr. Idris' re-election. Mr. Chairman, let me inform you that Dr. Idris has done Africa proud and we are grateful. We must not fail to thank the international community for identifying Dr. Idris and the confidence it has reposed on him. The example of Dr. Idris has shown that, given the chance, Africa can perform creditably. We want to trust that the international community will continue to give competent African and developing country persons the opportunity to prove themselves. Mr. Chairman, we thank Dr. Idris for the excellent presentation this morning which is an inspiring lesson in the areas of dedication, transparency and accountability. We hope copies of that record will be made available to all delegations for their record.

“In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we wish to again, congratulate Dr. Idris for his re-election and wish him a successful second term in office and hope that WIPO will continue to record more success in his second term.”

70. The Delegation of Jamaica made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, my Delegation would like to emphasize that the principle which we apply regarding the re-appointment of Dr. Kamill Idris as Director General is simple:

one excellent term deserves another. It is obvious that this principle has been applied today by this General Assembly as we, the intergovernmental members of WIPO, unanimously agree to a second mandate for Dr. Idris.

“We believe that a new mandate for the Director General augurs well for the continuity of WIPO’s programs and activities including those envisaged within Dr. Idris’ Vision and Strategic Direction of the Organization.

“During Dr. Idris’ first term in office, WIPO gave tangible support to the establishment of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, and we had the pleasure of welcoming the Director General to Jamaica in March of last year for the opening of the Office.

“WIPO is not only responding to the IP needs of Jamaica, but also to the needs of the Caribbean sub-region. We would like to thank Dr. Idris for the support given by WIPO to the development of a regional system of collective management of copyright for the Caribbean, as well as the Organization’s commitment to the annual meeting of Caribbean Ministers responsible for IP.

“Mr. Chairman, we would like to thank Dr. Idris for his strong and dynamic leadership of the Organization and to encourage him to continue along the same path, as he seeks to build on past achievements and further the goals of this Organization.

“My Delegation would like to assure Dr. Idris of its continued support during his tenure in office.”

71. The Delegation of Barbados made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, my Delegation of course fully endorses the statement made by Brazil on behalf of GRULAC earlier this morning. However I wish to take this opportunity to emphasize my Delegation’s personal pleasure at the re-appointment of Dr. Idris as Director General, and to extend our warmest congratulations to him. And this comes also from my Ambassador who unfortunately is out of the country at this time.

“Under Dr. Idris’ outstanding leadership we have witnessed the transformation of WIPO into a dynamic and inclusive Organization. All Member States are encouraged to participate fully in the development of the international intellectual property system and encouraged to enjoy the benefits deriving therefrom.

“The brief outline the Director General gave this morning on his future work program, clearly demonstrates that we can look forward to a continuation of his outstanding work, commitment and vision in using intellectual property as a tool for empowerment and social, cultural and economic development.

“My Delegation attaches particular importance to the issues of creating and strengthening an intellectual property culture, as well as cooperation for development generally.

“My Delegation has great pleasure in pledging our full support to the Director General and his team. We look forward to continuing to work closely with Dr. Idris in the future and to participate actively in WIPO's work.”

72. The Delegation of Malta made the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, it gives me great pleasure to take the floor today to convey my delegation's heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-appointment as Director General of WIPO for a second term. At the outset, I wish to state that Malta shares the views expressed by the Greek Ambassador on behalf of the European Union Member States and acceding countries.

“It is very reassuring that at the helm of this Organization we have re-appointed a gentleman and a friend who understands and reacts to the needs of Member States, irrespective of their size, region and level of development. We are also pleased that the Organization's immediate future projects are in 'safe hands.' I am not only alluding to the ongoing extensive infrastructure projects, such as the new administrative building and conference facilities, but also to other projects which are very much at the heart of Dr. Idris.

“Malta shares Dr. Idris' views on the role of this Organization in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We commend his efforts to transform the WIPO Worldwide Academy, which was one of his first creations, into a learning center of excellence; we also share Dr. Idris' view on the need for a systematic simplification and improvement of existing intellectual property systems, such as PCT and Madrid systems; we encourage Dr. Idris in his efforts to further develop ongoing IT projects, such as WIPO NET; but most of all we are pleased with his efforts to demystify intellectual property and share his belief that instead, intellectual property could be a useful tool for development and economic growth.”

73. The Delegation of Tunisia made the following statement :

“My Delegation fully subscribes to the statements made on behalf of the African and Arab Groups.

“I should like to take this opportunity to present Tunisia's sincere congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris on his well-deserved re-election to the head of the World Intellectual Property Organization. The unreserved support that he has received from all regional groups with a view to his remaining at the head of WIPO for a second term of office clearly reflects the unanimous acknowledgement by Member States of the remarkable effectiveness of the policy implemented by WIPO under the direction of Dr. Kamil Idris in pursuit of the establishment of intellectual property as a vector of economic, technological, scientific and cultural development.

“My Delegation is pleased with the work accomplished by the Director General in the course of his first term, from which all WIPO Member States have benefited. I should like in particular to pay tribute to Dr. Idris for the efforts made with a view to bringing the development dimension to the heart of WIPO's programs and activities. The many achievements of WIPO fully testify to this, especially the computerization of national intellectual property offices with the WIPO NET project, the creation in 1998 of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, the assistance afforded to small and medium-sized

enterprises and the initiation of work on the provision of effective protection for genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore.

“Like many other countries, Tunisia has profited by several initiatives put in hand by WIPO in the matters of training, awareness -building, computerization and intellectual property modernization, among which we should mention the considerable support of the Worldwide Academy in the training of several Tunisian administrators of intellectual property law. The support thus given by the Organization for the conduct of activities in our country has been greatly appreciated by the Tunisian authorities.

“We are certain, Mr. Chairman, that there -election of Dr. Kamil Idris will benefit all members of WIPO, who will not fail to take advantage still more, in the course of this new term of office, of the Director General’s forward -looking policies, his wide and rich experience and his various innovative proposals.

“Dr. Idris referred this morning to the merit of intellectual property as a vector for creating a federation of all nations on the planet, irrespective of their cultural diversities.

“May the work done in this regard under Dr. Idris’ leadership light the way in order to meet the many challenges faced in the world today.”

74. The Delegation of Argentina made the following statement:

“In the past few years, WIPO has achieved extraordinary results which are the fruit of management imbued with the spirit of initiatives shown by Dr. Idris. His dedication has transformed WIPO into an organization better prepared to meet the challenges which it currently faces.

“Dr. Idris has promoted the active participation of all the Members of the Organization. His management style, based on openness and dialogue, is undoubtedly worthy of praise and has strengthened the principle of consensus and participation in the decision-making process.

“Dr. Idris has significantly expanded WIPO’s programs and has provided it with an integrated vision and modernizing initiatives. He has been able to organize the work of this Organization effectively by using it to enhance the economic, cultural and technological development, by means of modern working methods, undertaking transparent and global discussions, and ensuring that it deals with matters of vital importance for all its Members and, in particular, for developing countries.

“Dr. Idris’ strategic vision to integrate developing countries into the intellectual property system in positive terms is the result of the new momentum that he has managed to instill in WIPO’s work. The strengthening of cooperation for development and the establishment of the WIPO Worldwide Academy have been decisive for these purposes.

“During his first term of office, he has stimulated the development of the technologies by means of projects of great importance such as IMPACT and WIPO NET. His initiatives in relation to small and medium -sized enterprises, electronic commerce and domain names -with the establishment of the Arbitration and Mediation Center -

are vitally important contributions. Similarly, constitutional reform, with a view to modernizing the Organization's institutional structure, the entry into force of the WCT and the WPPT, have been some of the results of important innovative and dynamic activities.

"For this reason, we are convinced that the experience and managerial abilities of the Director General will be decisive in strengthening the important role played by WIPO in international affairs; the unanimity in support of the Member States demonstrates the broad support which his appointment receives from the international community.

"We consider that Dr. Idris has special capacity to imprint on the Organization the changes which will allow it to face the new problems and to continue developing its programs in an open manner and as a spirit of transparency. We hope and we trust that we will continue to benefit from the dynamic leadership of this important Organization in an international environment in a constant state of flux. We know that Dr. Idris is fully aware of the many spheres and sectors in which there remains much to be done, so as to ensure that intellectual property is actually converted into a tool for economic, cultural and social development for all peoples.

"Argentina therefore wishes to reiterate officially its full support for the appointment of Dr. Kamal Idris as Director General of this Organization for a new term of office, and to reiterate its congratulations both to him and to all the highly qualified staff of this Organization."

75. The Delegation of Bangladesh made the following statement:

"I join the others who have spoken before me to extend our very warm felicitations to Dr. Kamal Idris on his re-election as Director General of WIPO. I would also like to endorse the statements made by Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group and the distinguished Ambassador on behalf of the LDCs. In his current term the Director General has undertaken many important and laudable initiatives with considerable success. We believe the WIPO NET project debating discussions on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore and SMEs the work of the WIPO Worldwide Academy are of particular significance to developing countries. Bearing in mind the achievements of the Director General for the past six years it is only appropriate for us today to acknowledge with gratitude his contribution to the IP issues globally and to commend him for bringing dynamism to the work of the Organization. His unanimous re-election for a further six year term bears a clear testimony of the confidence that Member States have in his ability to lead the Organization in the challenging times ahead. The Director General in his statement this morning has rightly underlined that the needs and the qualms of the developing states are different and we fully endorse that 'one size does not fit all' approach is the logical one to adopt to deal with the intellectual property issues in this globalized world. We have great expectations from the Director General in his next term. We hope that the developing countries, particularly the LDCs, will continue to receive his appropriate attention and enhanced support and assistance during his next term in office. I once again congratulate Dr. Kamal Idris. I assure him of Bangladesh's full support and cooperation in his future endeavors and wish him all success."

76. The Delegation of Honduras made the following statement:

“The Delegation of Honduras wishes to echo the sentiments expressed by the Delegation of Brazil this morning. We could not pass up this opportunity to offer our heartfelt congratulations to you, at the head of this General Assembly, as well as to the Vice-Chairmen. We also wish to express our congratulations and we take pleasure in doing so to Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election. During his first term of office, Dr. Idris has demonstrated leadership which has helped to enhance WIPO's presence in our countries. That presence has enabled intellectual property to become an essential element of the development process in our economies. Once again, we wish to thank Dr. Idris for all the support provided for Honduras. We know that this support will continue in the next few years and we wish to express to him the fact that he can also rely on our full support and we wish him the greatest possible success.”

77. The Delegation of Denmark made the following statement:

“On behalf of Denmark, I would like to congratulate you, Dr. Idris, on your re-appointment as Director General of WIPO. We are, as everyone, looking forward to working with you during your next term of office and we are confident that with your creativity and energy the Organization will continue to flourish. Under your competent leadership the Organization has managed to establish itself as one of the leading organizations within the United Nations, and the Organization is therefore well prepared to meet the challenges of the new millennium as a modern forward-looking and innovative Organization. In our opinion Dr. Kamil Idris you have managed to keep a perfect balance between on the one hand, taking new initiatives, and on the other hand, consolidating and updating already existing intellectual property instruments. I will mention only a few major changes which we have especially appreciated. You are, for instance, the founding father of the WIPO Worldwide Academy that develops human resources and you play a leading role in the creation of the Internet domain name dispute resolution process. You have launched the WIPO patent agenda and you have initiated action on the simplification of the successful PCT system. You have initiated the WIPO digital agenda which among others has resulted in WIPO NET and the IMPACT programs. And the program for the SMEs is extremely important encouraging them to exploit IP rights and to promote their innovative and creative capability. In this respect we are extremely happy that an insurance scheme is included in this program. Intellectual property has become a much debated issue in the international agenda and has made the work of WIPO even more important. During your presidency you have faced difficult and controversial issues and you have always promoted an open and transparent discussion. And as an example I would like to mention the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. You have made a huge effort to promote WIPO and intellectual property as such for instance by designating April 26 as World Intellectual Property Day. The list of initiatives surely gives us a convincing picture of your achievements, we are looking forward to participating actively and constructively in future activities especially the fulfillment of the goals of the WIPO patent agenda and again the establishing of an insurance scheme for right holders and the norm setting activities also of WIPO. So we would like very much, as others have done already, to congratulate you, Dr. Kamil Idris and your able staff, for your excellent work over the last six years and to give you our full support for your next term of office.”

78. The Delegation of Panama made the following statement:

“On behalf of Ambassador Adames we wish to convey a message from the Government of Panama in which it expresses its great pleasure and honor on the occasion of the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the Directorate General of this important and singular Organization, pay tribute to him for his achievements and wish him every success in his well-deserved new term of office.

“On the appointment of Dr. Idris, the Panamanian Government repeats its firm commitment to providing continuous cooperation in the Director General’s plans aimed at narrowing the gap that separates the prosperity imparted by inventive activity and the arts from the cultural, social, political and economic life of developing countries.

“At the beginning of his statement, Dr. Idris outlined five pillars that have supported WIPO action in our countries, namely modernization, cooperation, development, promotion of protection and of inventiveness through information technology. In Panama this synergy has infiltrated development policy thanks to the *sui generis* vision, tenacity and professionalism both of the Directorate General and of the whole machine that powers and generates the products of this Organization. Panama has made progress in that area, namely decision-making at the cultural, social and economic level, and through it has achieved the adoption of a *sui generis* Law on the Protection of the Collective Rights of Indigenous Communities and Folklore, by means of which the State has given great impetus to the development of artistic productivity, both on a collective scale and in small and medium-sized enterprises. In 2002 Panama was greatly honored to receive the Iberoamerican Congress on Copyright and Related Rights, which brought together authors and performers from the old as well as the new continent; this event was the occasion for the production of new initiatives for the better protection and promotion of the rights concerned.

“The dynamic, modernistic and individual vision of Dr. Idris has to face a great challenge if the present gap affecting our developing countries is to be narrowed.

“Finally, our Delegation wishes to repeat its endorsement of this statement by GRULAC, and convey our Government’s encouragement to ensure that the five pillars described by Dr. Idris continue to enhance the benefits, productivity and development of intellectual property in a firm and balanced way, due account being taken of those areas of four inventive resources that lack the drive imparted by WIPO, and that the energy of WIPO may serve to establish a sound basis for wealth generation in our economies.”

79. The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova made the following statement :

“The Delegation of Moldova is very pleased to support the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris to the office of WIPO Director General. This statement is based on the great merits which Dr. Idris possesses in his position as Director General, according to the results of the first term in office. In order for any organization to flourish and, moreover, such an important body as WIPO, continuity is required; it is therefore considered that being elected for a second term, Dr. Idris will continue the dynamic and innovative strategy and policy which is a distinctive feature of WIPO at the current time.

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“For smaller countries such as the Republic of Moldova, the most important factor is to participate in all those global processes in which such countries take part. We therefore value highly those efforts which Dr. Kamil Idris makes to involve all countries in the global process of the practical use of intellectual property for economic development purposes. In this connection, I wish to thank the Director General for the broad multifaceted assistance provided to our country in the organization of various seminars, courses, training programs, consultative and technical assistance during the past few years, all of which has promoted the establishment and development of the contemporary national system of intellectual property in Moldova.

“The process of demystification of intellectual property undertaken by Dr. Kamil Idris should be continued and in the future the enhancement of the role of intellectual property be promoted not only in the economic development of our countries, but in the improvement of relations between peoples. Therefore, based on this broad role which Dr. Idris has played in the worldwide process of development and establishment of intellectual property as the main vector in the advancement of modern civilization, there has also been:

- improvement of mutual relations between peoples within the framework of WIPO;
- modernization and improvement of the WIPO infrastructure;
- development and support of national patent offices;
- continuous retraining of experts;
- training of a broad circle of representatives of the public in the foundations of and need for intellectual property protection;
- support for rational cooperation in the sphere of industrial property for CIS countries.

“The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova welcomes the election of Dr. Kamil Idris and his team for a second term in office as WIPO Director General and expresses the country's support for the implementation of the program which has today been presented to us.

“In conclusion, we express our sincere congratulations on your re-election as Director General and wish you creative success, and the fastest possible implementation of the large-scale projects and also of the reforms for the benefit of the Member States of WIPO.”

80. The Delegation of Colombia made the following statement:

“Our Delegation also takes this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris most heartily on his re-election.

“We are aware of the important work that the Director General has been doing within the World Intellectual Property Organization, and also of the significant achievements that have been made under his direction.

“We share and support Dr. Idris' vision of intellectual property and the objectives proposed with a view to promoting it as an important instrument of social, economic and cultural development.

“Wealsotakethisopportunitytoexpressthanksforthesupportreceivedbyournationaloffices,theDirectorateGeneralofIndustryandCommerceandtheNationalDirectorateofCopyright.

“WehopethatdevelopmentcooperationactivitieswillcontinuetobepromotedandtobenefitfromtheinvaluablecollaborationofWIPO,intheinterestofthestrengtheningofourintellectualpropertysystems.

“WeendbyrepeatingoursatisfactiononseeingthatthedestiniesofthisOrganizationwillcontinuetobeentrustedtothedirectionofDr. Kamil Idris,wellknownforhisgreatqualities,leadershipandcommitment.

“Director General,wewishyouandyourteamallthebestforyourfutureendeavors.”

81. TheDelegationofLesothomadethefollowingstatement:

“TheDelegationofLesothoassociatesitselfwiththestatementmadebytheDelegationofZambiaonbehalfof theAfricanGroupofcountriesandbytheDelegationofBeninonbehalfoftheLDCGroupofcountries.Ihavethehonorandprivilegetocongratulate,onbehalfoftheGovernmentoftheKingdomofLesotho,ProfessorKamilIdrisonhisunanimousreappointment,bythismeetingoftheAssembliesoftheMemberStatesofWIPO,tothepostofDirectorGeneral. CongratulationsSir.The dedicationofWIPOmemberstothe promotionand protection ofintellectualpropertyanditssignificanceasoneofthetoolsto encouragean economic,social,culturalandintellectualdevelopmentismirroredinourchoiceof Dr. IdrisasDirectorGeneralofourOrganization.OurconfidenceinDr. Idriswas ordainedbytheAfricanUnion,HeadsofStateandGovernmentintheirSummit heldin Durban,RepublicofSouthAfricalastyear.Wefurtherwishtoexpressour appreciationandsupportforthevisionarycommentsonthedevelopmentandfutureof WIPOeloquentlyelucidatedtodaybytheDirectorGeneral.InconclusionSir,weavail toyouProfessor Idrisourcooperationandcounselinyournewtermsofficeaswe haveconsistentlydonesointhesubsistingone.”

82. TheDelegationofKyrgyzstanmadethefollowingstatement:

“TheDelegationofKyrgyzstanwarmlycongratulatesDr.KamilIdrisonhis re-electiontothehighofficeofWIPODirectorGeneralforasecondsix-yearterm.

“DuringthepreviousperiodofworkdonebyDr.KamilIdris,underhistalented andeffectiveleadershipWIPOhasachievedundoubtedsuccessesinallaspectsofthe internationalprotectionofintellectualproperty.This ismanifestedbythegreat importanceattachedtomattersoftheprotectionoftraditionalknowledge,genetic resourcesandfolklore;theorganizationandworkoftheWIPOWorldwideAcademy; theconclusionofanewAgreementontheDigitalAgenda,thePatentLawTreaty, questionsrelatingtoSMEsandIP,andmanyotherimportantbeginnings.

“UndertheleadershipofDr.KamilIdris,WIPOisbecomingmoreandmorean organizationofthefuture,thebenefitofwhoseactivitieswillbefeltmoreandmorefor thestabledevelopmentofallcountriesintheworldcommunity,andforthewholeof humanityincreative developmentinthenameoffutureprogress.

“Our country attaches great importance to cooperation with WIPO. In this regard, a powerful stimulus was generated for our cooperation by the official visit of a WIPO delegation, headed by Dr. Kamil Idris, to our country in 2001.

“During this visit, a meeting was held between the President of our country, Dr. Kamil Idris and the WIPO delegation, which defined the future prospects for cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and WIPO. A program of cooperation between our national Government and WIPO was assigned.

“WIPO has always provided support to us in the establishment and development of the patents system and the IP system in our country as a whole, which will shortly mark the tenth anniversary, in June, of its founding. This assistance is multifaceted, and is in the form of technical and consultative services, as well as support in the training of managers through relevant courses, the organization of seminars and so on.

“The support of WIPO and cooperation with the Organization have been especially active in the past few years, as a result of the attention devoted by Dr. Kamil Idris who, as Director General, has shown sensitivity toward countries such as ours, as a significant step for which we are deeply grateful to him.

“Our Delegation is convinced that WIPO, under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris, will continue its future dynamic development for the benefit of the intellectual property community to generate economic progress and cultural advancement for all countries; in this connection, we will take all possible steps to offer our support to Dr. Kamil Idris. In conclusion, we once again congratulate you, Dr. Idris, on your re-election for a second term in office.”

83. The Delegation of Israel made the following statement:

“The Delegation of Israel would like to congratulate Dr. Idris on his unanimous re-appointment for the post of Director General of WIPO. Dr. Idris’ achievements are well documented and so are his unusual leadership and diplomatic skills. One only need listen to the statements made by the Delegation in this hall today to fully appreciate Dr. Idris’ contribution to WIPO and to the field of IP. With your permission I would like to say just one word about Dr. Idris’ contribution to the relationship between WIPO and Israel. Since Dr. Idris has taken office the relations between WIPO and Israel have improved dramatically. Dr. Idris makes us feel at home in WIPO. He has made a real effort to cooperate with Israel and to promote IP in our country. He honored us with a visit to Israel in December 2000, this visit and his follow-up actions exemplify the way Dr. Idris puts words into practice. Dr. Idris also believes that IP can serve as a bridge for peace in our region and work hard to promote this vision. For all these reasons let me once again congratulate Dr. Idris and wish him great success and pledge our fullest cooperation and support.”

84. The Delegation of Portugal made the following statement:

“First of all, Portugal wishes to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris for his re-election as Director General of WIPO.

“On this important occasion, we would like to express our satisfaction for the work accomplished by the Director General during the last six years. Under his leadership, this Organization obtained significant results, in the internal and external plans. It is indeed to praise the restructuring of the Secretariat and its larger effectiveness, modernization, opening and transparency in its operative way, as well as Dr. Idris’ efforts in disseminating and “demystifying” intellectual property, so as to make it better known all over the world, including its economic, social and cultural assets.

“Allow me to also enhance the action of the Director General on the adaptation of intellectual property to the digital world and to new domains of legislative intervention, on the expansion of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Centres services provided for the IP disputes settlement and the strengthening of the institutional relationships between WIPO and other agencies, as a form of promoting cultural rights, the free exchange of ideas, goods and services, in the balanced interest of everybody.

“We also wish to mention his concerns in motivating the vast cooperation program already in place - now also through distance learning and training - and the dialogue with the representatives of the civil society, including measures to adjust the program to the needs and legitimate expectations of societies and to world globalization, namely for the enlargement of the number of non-governmental entities with observer status and the partnerships already established and to be established with the private sector.

“The idea that the Director General conveyed in his recent publication entitled “*Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth*” deserves our total agreement, namely about the need of creating a “Culture of Intellectual Property,” that balances the rights of the creators and owners of innovative and creative works with the broader rights of public interest, as well as those concerning the importance of the “Power of Knowledge” and artistic and inventive creativity, maximized for the good of us all, and that a country’s success is measured more and more by its possession and exploration of such assets.

“Portugal is deeply determined to promote and to protect intellectual property. To attest to this, I highlight (a) the recent measures regarding enforcement; (b) the adoption by the Government of a new Industrial Property Code, that will enter into force on July 1, 2003; and finally (c) that last month of April, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Portugal, Dr. Jorge Sampaio - member of the Policy Advisory Commission of WIPO - accomplished, during several days and through the whole country, an ‘open presidency’ exclusively dedicated to the subject of ‘Innovation.’ So, we are willing to actively participate in all WIPO activities and in close collaboration with the Director General.

“My Government is grateful to you, Dr. Idris, for the way WIPO, under your leadership, has been supporting the promotion of intellectual property in Portugal, as well as the activities in which we have been cooperating, not only in the framework of the Portuguese-speaking communities but also regarding the Ibero-American world.

"To conclude, I renew to you, Dr. Kamil Idris, our congratulations for your re-election and we express the best wishes of personal and professional success in the exercise of this second mandate as head of this reputed Organization."

85. The Delegation of Cuba made the following statement:

"Beyond any doubt, intellectual property has become an important subject of heated international debate in all political, economic and social fora, which only stresses its importance as a tool for development and as a wealth generator.

"During the first term in office of Dr. Kamil Idris, with the energy and effectiveness that are his distinctive qualities, WIPO has undergone a radical modernization that has transformed it into a forum ready to face, in a very transparent way, all the challenges brought by the new millennium.

"One of the great values of Dr. Idris is his ability to promote, through important development cooperation and technical assistance activities geared for developing countries, the development of human resources as a key factor in the establishment and development of national intellectual property systems. We are certain that in the future, the growth and increased resources assigned to continue, increase and diversify the development cooperation activities, will continue to provide concrete and positive results for WIPO and its Director General.

"Aware of the extraordinary complexity of developing new international intellectual property standards and programs, we are sure that Dr. Idris has the full capabilities to carry them out, taking into consideration, as usual, the needs and opinions of the developing and Least Developed Countries, and facilitating negotiations, making a reality of his vision of intellectual property as a tool for development.

"We are very pleased to witness the Director General's effort in promoting vitally important projects, such as the use of intellectual property and SMEs; the intensive use of new information technologies, such as WIPO NET and PCT -SAFE among others; the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. We look forward to the successful conclusion of all those projects."

86. The Delegation of Malawi made the following statement:

"The Delegation of Malawi also feels highly honored to have this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Idris and to reaffirm our full support for his re-appointment to the post of Director General of WIPO, as already expressed by the Representative of the African Group as well as the Representative of the LDCs. During the last Assembly meetings my Delegation expressed support for the nomination of Dr. Idris because we have confidence in his leadership qualities, as exemplified by the excellent and outstanding results achieved by the Organization during his first term of office. As Dr. Idris' remarkable achievements have been well stated by many delegations, it will suffice for me to say that my Delegation wishes to fully associate with those sentiments and to put on record our satisfaction with the clear vision of Dr. Idris which has transformed WIPO into an organization that is responsive to constantly evolving trends and demands of intellectual property systems such as in the areas of traditional knowledge, genetic

resources and folklore. The development of the intellectual property system as a tool for economic and social development has witnessed a welcome integration of developing and least-developed countries like Malawi into the intellectual property system. A launch of various initiatives and projects by WIPO, such as the WIPO Digital Agenda and the IMPACT project for PCT information management have enabled even Least Developed Countries like my own to benefit from the global network in automation and Internet connectivity. These benefits have included the possibilities of distance learning and training which is contributing immensely to the development of human resource capacity in our respective countries. Faced with the new and emerging challenges, my Delegation is very confident that, with the vision and skills as well as the able leadership of Dr. Idris, WIPO will be able to accomplish its agenda for the benefit of all Member States. We therefore welcome and strongly support this re-appointment for a second term and take this opportunity to renew our commitment to participate in all WIPO activities and to consolidate our cooperative relationship with the Organization. As already mentioned by the Representative of the African Group as well as the Lesotho Delegation the heads of state and government of the AU overwhelmingly supported and approved of Dr. Idris' re-appointment for a second term in recognition of his various achievements. Indeed at a regional level my own country was privileged to host the Council of Ministers of ARIPO in August 2002 which also recognized Dr. Idris' achievements and unanimously endorsed his re-appointment for these second terms as Director General of WIPO. Dr. Idris' first tenure in office has been characterized by among other things an enthusiastic outreach through visits to Member States to promote intellectual property. Such visits by the Director General offer a very critical opportunity to raise the profile and highlight the benefit of IP in any country. For this reason, the Malawi Delegation wishes to reaffirm our desire to invite the Director General of WIPO to visit Malawi and to share his insights on how best to integrate IP in national development policy, so as to achieve the necessary economic growth that will generate level of wealth that can sustain the Government's poverty reduction strategy. My Delegation strongly believes that it is vital for our decision makers and key economic players and the public to know the benefit of IP as a tool for achieving wealth creation and economic development and that the Malawi Government vision and goal of becoming technologically an industrial driven middle income country by year 2020, can only be attained if government development policies integrate intellectual property and economic growth as a main thrust. Finally Mr. Chairman, my Delegation would like to support Dr. Idris' re-appointment and to assure him of our support and cooperation in his next term of office and we look forward to one day welcoming him to Malawi. We also welcome the Organization's future program as outlined by the Director General this morning."

87. The Delegation of El Salvador made the following statement:

"On behalf of El Salvador, I would like to express our satisfaction at the appointment of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term in office at the head of this Organization. My Delegation recognizes the work and achievements realized by WIPO for the benefit of intellectual property and developing countries, under the leadership of Dr. Idris, and is also grateful for the support provided for El Salvador during the first term in office. My Delegation is convinced that Dr. Idris, with his vision and capacity, will continue to lead WIPO to face the new challenges generated by intellectual property, especially in those areas of interest for developing countries. El Salvador supports the Director General's program of work for the second term in office and trusts that the cooperation program for developing countries will be strengthened still further."

In conclusion, my Delegation wishes Dr. Kamil Idris great success in his second term in office as WIPO Director General."

88. The Delegation of Tajikistan made the following statement:

"The Delegation of Tajikistan has difficulties in finding words which clearly describe and express the congratulations that we would like to express, particularly given what we have already expressed. We nevertheless would like to praise the work of WIPO and the work of Dr. Idris in the past three years and his respected biography, all of that proving that WIPO was a truly international organization, which takes into account the specific nature of all countries and helped to enhance the intellectual property system overall. Clearly, Dr. Kamil Idris was a great capable leader in the field of intellectual property headed by WIPO. The role of the Organization would be enhanced in the future, the dimension in its presentation of his book only prove it. There is no doubt, for our Delegation, that Dr. Kamil Idris' work as Director General of WIPO, will be crowned with achievements in the next few years as he will lead the WIPO forward with greater accomplishment. The Delegation truly congratulates Dr. Kamil Idris."

89. The Delegation of Slovenia made the following statement:

"On behalf of Slovenia I should first stress that Slovenian delegation associates itself with the statement of central European and Baltic group endorsing the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term as Director General.

"Slovenia supports the nomination of Dr. Kamil Idris with great pleasure and full confidence in the prospects for WIPO under his continuing leadership for the second term of six years.

"During his leadership of WIPO in the past six years Dr. Idris has demonstrated his determination to transform the management of WIPO with measures, designed to enable the Organization to address the main issues confronting intellectual property today and to make progress on such important matters as: fight against infringement, strengthening of the current reform of the PCT and of substantive patent law, reform of the Hague Agreement on Industrial Designs, the protection of traditional knowledge, access to genetic resources, the information society, and the respective restructuring of the budget scheme of the Organization.

"Slovenia, as a small country from its own experience in the struggle for survival in the strong market competition and growing environmental and social constraints to development, shares with Dr. Idris the belief, that the globalized IP protection system is only the first step to the culture of innovative and cooperative societies. These societies, where the enhanced basic research and preparation of scientific knowledge and in the same time its free accessibility is there also source of rewarded innovation, economic development, democracy and improvement of quality of life on national and human resources, and the only way to achieve universal peace.

"The strategic direction of belief of Dr. Kamil Idris and in the same time his ability to transpose concepts into organized action, which lead to tangible results, demonstrates also his personal capability to continue the responsible task of Director General of our Organization for the second term. Therefore we believe the

Organization and all Member States within it will benefit from his personality in the coming years.

“Hence, Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris and his able staff, for the excellent job done in the past six years and to join other representatives of the Member States and group coordinators who have spoken before me in fully supporting his re-election as Director General of WIPO.”

90. The Delegation of Serbia and Montenegro made the following statement:

“I am particularly honored to express to you my sincere congratulations for the exceptional work you have done during your first term of office and we wish you great success for the days ahead.

“After undergoing a long period of isolation, Serbia and Montenegro are perhaps better placed than any other country to assess the exact extent of the enormous progress made by WIPO under your leadership.

“I will mention only some of its manifestations, those which appear to be of particular importance, such as the new initiatives on the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, the numerous programs using digital techniques in the interest of the Member States of WIPO, and the WIPO Worldwide Academy.

“In this context, the technical assistance program intended for the countries of Central Europe and the Baltic States is of crucial interest for my country. In that regard also, our thanks go to Dr. Idris who has been able to devise and implement a program taking account of the specific features and needs of my country, in particular the setting-up of the computer network in our national Office.

“Dr. Idris is held in very great esteem in professional circles and among the decision-makers in my country.

“A visit by Dr. Idris to Serbia and Montenegro, which we hope will take place soon, would be such as to confirm the impact of intellectual property on economic growth and development as a whole.

“To conclude, I wish to thank you again and to extend to you our best wishes for success during the new mandate with which you have just been entrusted.”

91. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea made the following statement:

“First of all, on behalf of the Republic of Korea we would like to associate ourselves with the Asian Group Coordinator and previous Delegations in fully supporting and congratulating Dr. Kamil Idris on his reappointment as Director General of WIPO for the next term-in-office. Mr. Chairman, during the last six years we have witnessed Dr. Idris’ outstanding leadership, well-balanced political sense, discerning diplomatic skills and ambitious visions and energetic activities, which all have led to the great promotion of intellectual property system worldwide and WIPO itself. He has given hope to the developing countries and trust to the developed countries. We are convinced that the Republic of Korea is one of the best model countries that have shown the value of intellectual property as a powerful tool for economic, social, cultural and

technological development. Mr. Chairman, this Delegation recalls Dr. Idris' commitments made in his first acceptance speech in 1997, that he would lead WIPO with transparency, accountability and consensus building. We must acknowledge that he has fulfilled his commitments with great satisfaction. Today we saw with unanimous support and great pleasure of all Delegations there -election of this distinguished intellectual property leader as Director General of WIPO and we heard with hope and trust this ambitious and trustworthy vision and new commitments of clarity, efficiency and transparency. We sincerely wish Dr. Kamil Idris health and every success for the next term both for himself and for us all, while promising full support to and cooperation with him. We are confident that he will successfully accomplish his vision and mandates. Once again, we would like to confer on him our sincere congratulations on his re-election."

92. The Delegation of Angola made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Republic of Angola, I wish to congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris for his re-election to the post of Director General of WIPO in his second term of office. This reflects your efficiency at the head of this Organization, and also is proof of the trust which we have in you. In the course of the first term of office, the Republic of Angola was able to benefit from the changes made to this Organization through the creation of the Academy and WIPO NET and also the distribution of computer equipment. I should also mention the personal commitment of Dr. Kamil Idris in the debates which led to the acceptance of Portuguese as a working language in WIPO. We owe him great gratitude. We support the statement made by the Delegation of Zambia on behalf of the African Group and also that of Benin made on behalf of the Least Developed Countries. In their statements certain aspects were mentioned concerning industrial development in the African countries. As a member of the Coordination Committee, we shared the vision of the future and the developments and changes which will continue to prompt the activities of Dr. Idris in order to give importance to economic development of countries but also to demystify industrial property within the developing countries particularly with the SMEs within the Least Developed Countries. We wish you great success in your second term of office and good luck."

93. The Delegation of Uganda made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman it is with honor and great pleasure that I wish to associate my Delegation with the Statements delivered by Zambia on behalf of the African Group and Benin, on behalf of the LDCs, and to support and endorse there -election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term of office as Director General of this Organization. Mr. Chairman, my Ambassador who is currently out of town on other duties, asked me to convey to the Director General, his high regards and esteem, as well as his congratulations for his re-appointment to the office. He, and all of us, are proud of this achievements both within this Organization and within the Member countries have been repeatedly pointed out by those who have spoken before, and I will not recount them. Suffice it to laud your efforts at advancing the issues of concern for developing countries. We would like you to build on your previous achievements and further integrated development into the work program of WIPO. We would also like to see WIPO as one of the UN's family of organizations to play a more active role in the realization of the UN's Millennium Development Goals as set out in the Millennium Declaration. It is said that charity begins at home. We would like to request you, Mr. Director General, as someone who comes from an LDC, and hence appreciates the

gravity of the problems well, to pay particular attention to the LDC's and the LDC Unit in WIPO during your second term. Talking about charity, I think Elbert Hubbard who said that charity: a thing that begins at home, and usually stays there. While I would have wished that were the case, we pay tribute to you Mr. Director General that your evenhandedness, sense of fairness and integrity have enabled you to transcend Hubbard's confines of charity and to hold the reins of this Organization in the interest of all its members. I also wish to pay tribute to the Secretariat for its professional efficiency and loyalty to you, without which your achievements would not have been as outstanding. Peter Drucker, that management guru said of organizations, "it is the willingness of people to give themselves over and above the demands of the job that distinguishes the great from merely adequate organizations." And this, thank you and your staff, is a great organization. I wish therefore to particularly thank our friends and colleagues and the Africa Bureau and the LDC Unit. In conclusion, we wish you Mr. Director General, a more successful and outstanding second term, bearing in mind what the Jamaican delegates said was the principle that motivated them to support your re-election, and which we fully support: one excellent term deserves another. By the same logic, two excellent terms deserve two more. I am sure you will remember that."

94. The Delegation of Turkey made the following statement:

"It is with great pleasure that we subscribe to the statement made by His Excellency, the Ambassador of Portugal, who spoke this morning on behalf of Group B, and that of His Excellency, the Ambassador of Greece, who spoke on behalf of the European Union. On this occasion, my Delegation also wished to address its warm congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election at the head of this eminent Organization known as WIPO.

"We are convinced that the rich and solid experience acquired during the first term in office will serve him as a very good basis for implementing his program in the future, which Dr. Idris presented to us this morning, and to promote still further intellectual property law at the global level.

"We wish Dr. Idris and all the team every success during these second term in office. Dr. Idris can also rely on our unconditional support and our full cooperation during this period.

"Before ending my statement, I would like to reaffirm the great pleasure that my Government and authorities would have in being able to welcome Dr. Idris to Turkey. We think that this visit, which is scheduled for the second half of 2003, will be a very good opportunity not only to consolidate excellent relations between Turkey and WIPO, but also to promote intellectual property among the spheres concerned and also in relation to Turkish public opinion. This will also be a great opportunity to promote intellectual property in the eyes of the public in the countries of the region."

95. The Delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic made the following statement:

"I am happy to speak on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic and congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris for his election as Director General for a second mandate of WIPO by acclamation. This indicates the great faith that the members of the Organization have in Dr. Idris and his commitment to direct the work of this Organization with his assistance. I wish him every success in his next mandate in order to help the members of the

Organization and check greater success and achievements and projects and plans that the Director General has spoken about this morning, in order to achieve that development. We also support his ambitions and his visions and were affirm our relationship with him for he has great respect in Syria.”

96. The Delegation of the Philippines made the following statement:

“The Philippines associates itself with the statements made earlier by Pakistan, on behalf of the Asian Group as well as the statement made by Myanmar on behalf of the Association of South East Asian Nations. Indeed there -election of Dr. Kamil Idris is the highest recognition of a job well done. Dr. Idris has steered WIPO to great success and we have no doubt that he will take the Organization to an even greater height. We are also certain that Dr. Idris will continue to give special consideration to the need of least developed and developing countries who comprise the bulk of this Organization’s membership. Finally the Philippines would like to again offer its warmest felicitations to Dr. Idris and to assure Dr. Idris of its unwavering support and cooperation to ensure his success in his second term.”

97. The Delegation of Myanmar made the following statement:

“My Delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group and the statement delivered by the Myanmar Ambassador on behalf of the Asian Member States on the -election of Dr. Kamil Idris. On behalf of the Myanmar Delegation it gives me pleasure to extend our warmest congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris for his re-election by acclamation as Director General of WIPO. We recommend him for his vision, dynamism and his able leadership of this Organization. Mr. Chairman the previous speakers have already described the outstanding achievements of Dr. Kamil Idris and it would be hard to add to the eloquent congratulatory speeches, I shall only say some major achievements that stand out in our memory as distinctive contributions of Dr. Kamil Idris. His outstanding achievements include, among others, the establishment of the WIPO Worldwide Academy, promotion of the important subjects such as genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore and SMEs and his greatest innovation such as the WIPO patent agenda, and the WIPO digital agenda including WIPO NET. I should also like to pay tribute to him for a substantive and important contribution and demystification and popularization of intellectual property and protection and advancement of the image of intellectual property as a powerful tool for economic development. His recent book entitled “*Intellectual Property: A Power Tool for Economic Growth*” is an eloquent testimony of his contributions in this area. Mr. Chairman we pledge the fullest cooperation and support of my country in his second term as Director General of WIPO. We wish him every success in his new endeavors.”

98. The Delegation of Nepal made the following statement:

“Allow me first of all, to congratulate His Excellency Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for another term. My Delegation would express our deep satisfaction with the leadership of the Director General who, during his tenure, has fulfilled the promises of transparency, close cooperation with Member States and greater efficiency. I also wish to extend warm and sincere appreciation to H.E. Kamil Idris for his leadership and important initiatives in making WIPO’s work more relevant in the positive

transformation of all sections of human society. My Delegation would also like to associate itself with the statement delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group.

“We note with satisfaction that WIPO, under the leadership of Dr. Kamil Idris, has continued focus on its resources and expanding the scope of programs on traditional knowledge, genetic resources, folklore and electronic commerce. We appreciate the new initiatives by the Director General. The initiatives are very important, especially in creating greater understanding of intellectual property (IP) issues (demystification of IP), modernization of IP infrastructure, building capacity through manpower development, institutional strengthening as well as collective administration and enforcement.

“I wish to convey the goodwill to the Director General, congratulate him once again for his commitment and thank him and his staff for the excellent cooperation extended to us in the past. It is our hope that we will continue to benefit from his dynamic leadership of this important Organization in the days ahead. Wishing his great success in the future.”

99. The Delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo made the following statement:

“The Delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo associates itself with the statement made by the Ambassador of Zambia on behalf of the African Group and also that of the Ambassador of Benin on behalf of the least developed countries (LDCs).

“The unanimous reelection of Dr. Kamil Idris to the post of WIPO Director General for a second term in office is an unquestionable sign that his first term in office was successful. His action has met with the approval of all Member States.

“For the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as for all African countries and States in transition, the technical assistance provided by WIPO is important and indeed vital. Dr. Idris has shown and convinced us that intellectual property is an essential tool for the development of national economies. Thanks to his courage and untiring efforts, the cultural diversity of peoples is acknowledged as an economic vector for each nation.

“Dr. Kamil Idris, at the helm of this sailing boat which is WIPO, will lead us to the right destination with the program he has just described to us. Our ardent wish is for “good health and full speed ahead” for the Director General during his second term in office. He may count on our total support.”

100. The Delegation of Latvia made the following statement:

“The Delegation of the Republic of Latvia expresses sincere pleasure at the re-election of Dr. Kamil Idris for a second six-year term of office at the head of the authoritative organization WIPO.

“We have no doubt that Dr. Idris is the very leader who, by managing a professional team, will be able to achieve the high aims that were set out in the address he made today.

“The Delegation of Latvia wishes the Director General, Dr. Kamil Idris, success in his creative and difficult work in the interests of the Organization’s Member States.

At the same time, we hereby affirm that Latvia will provide all possible support for the undertakings of Dr. Kamil Idris and WIPO, the Organization led by him.”

101. The Representative of the CPLP made the following statement:

“The Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) wishes to address warm congratulations to Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-election as Director General of WIPO.

“The Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries recalls with appreciation that it was in the course of Dr. Idris’ first term of office, in September 2001, that it was granted observer status within WIPO, and then, in April 2002, that a cooperation agreement was concluded between the Executive Secretariat of CPLP and WIPO.

“The CPLP would like to continue to take an active part in development cooperation action, thereby contributing to the operation of intellectual property as an effective stimulant to economic, social and cultural development for all peoples and nations.

“Dr. Idris, Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Portugal have long been members of WIPO, but it was in the course of your first term that Sao Tome and Principe became a Member State of the Organization. Let us hope that it will be during your second term that the latest UN Member State, also new with Portuguese as its official language and a member of the CPLP, becomes a member of WIPO. We know that the Government of East Timor is considering this possibility with interest, and that as recently as this year had preliminary contacts with the WIPO Secretariat with that in mind.

“The CPLP wishes to conclude by expressing to you its best wishes for success in the exercise of your office. For our part we shall continue to be available for cooperation in all activities and events in which we consider it appropriate to be involved.”

102. The Representative of ARIPO made the following statement:

“On behalf of all the Member States of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to wholeheartedly congratulate Dr. Kamil Idris on his re-appointment as the Director General of WIPO for another term of six years. To ARIPO this is a great moment, as when Dr. Idris was first appointed to that post in September 1997. ARIPO would also like to associate itself with the statement made by the Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia on behalf of the African Group. Mr. Chairman as I had occasion to say during the meetings of these Assemblies last September the Council of Ministers and the Administrative Council of ARIPO expressed their strong support for Dr. Idris’ re-appointment. The two organs of ARIPO unanimously agreed that Dr. Idris had, during his first tenure of office, shown that he is a dynamic and visionary leader who has ensured that WIPO has continued and strengthened its assistance to, and cooperation with, ARIPO and its Member States. In particular, the Council of Ministers noted with great satisfaction, the following reforms and initiatives Dr. Idris introduced and has undertaken: (1) the demystification of intellectual property with the aim of utilizing it for the benefit of all mankind; (2) reserve-based strategic management of WIPO; (3) the launching of a new

human resources development program through the World wide Academy which offers tailor-made programs as well as long -distance learning; (4) the launching of the WIPONET project and (5) expanding the mandate of WIPO beyond its traditional mandate to include emerging global issues such as genetic resources and traditional knowledge.

“The relevant organs of ARIPO had good reasons to place such trust and support in Dr. Idris. He is a national of Sudan, an active member of ARIPO, and has been associated with ARIPO for almost 20 years. The records of ARIPO show that his earliest association with the Organization dates back to the time he attended the Seventh Session of the Administrative Council of ARIPO held in Harare in December 1983. If my memory serves me right at that time he had just joined WIPO the previous year.

“The Council of Ministers and the Administrative Council recognized that Dr. Idris was not only a man driven by a desire to succeed and excel but that he also possessed immense talent. In the words of one of the great philosophers of the world both Councils recognized that the value of Dr. Idris could be seen in what he gives to society and not what he is able to receive from it. The Council also appreciated that he had the ability to very quickly start off from where his predecessor left off.

“That desire to succeed and those talents, coupled with the experience gained during the last six years that he has led WIPO has put him in good stead to face the challenges of the future while he is still young. You are young enough not to be caught by the words of the Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw. Of persons rather advanced in age, he said ‘old persons are dangerous, they have no fear of the future’ but at the same time Dr. Idris is old enough to have sufficient experience to fit the words of Admiral Stevenson, the American politician and statesman who said ‘it is not the years in a life that count; it’s the life in the years.’ Dr. Idris’ acceptance speech, this morning, outlining his achievements as well as his vision for the future indeed shows the advantage of both youth and experience.

“ARIPO feels honored to have cooperated with WIPO under the helm of Dr. Idris during the last six years, and looks forward to a deeper and strengthened cooperation with him as he steers WIPO for another term of six years.

“Let me conclude by, once again, congratulating Dr. Kamill Idris on his well-deserved re-appointment and wishing him all the best during the next six years in office. ARIPO and all its Member States will give him all the necessary support in all his endeavors. Thank you for your kind attention.”

103. The Representative of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), made the following statement:

“It is a remarkable honor for me to take the floor today at the opening ceremony of your meeting, on behalf of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). I wish to express our heartfelt thanks to WIPO and its leading officials.

“I would like to take this pleasant opportunity to thank the Director General of WIPO, Dr. Kamill Idris, and all his staff, for the excellent work they do for WIPO, and to wish all the delegations present great success in their work.

“I dare to believe, at any rate hope, that this session, which is being held at the end of Dr. Kamil Idris’ first term of office, will enable us to assess the work done and the prospects for the future.

“At OAPI, we are delighted that the activity undertaken by WIPO on the international stage is sustained and consistent with the major development objectives. We are convinced that such activity will allow new barriers to be overcome in the consolidation of intellectual property rights throughout the world.

“I am happy that Dr. Kamil Idris has agreed that his candidacy will be put forward for the post of Director General of the Organization. He is thereby responding to the request made by the OAPI Governing Council, contained in Resolution No. 5 at its 41<sup>st</sup> session, held in N’Djamena on November 3 and 4, 2001. If there were still a need to do so, he thus provides proof of his commitment to serve and defend with ever greater vigour the ideals of WIPO. Your decision to entrust him with a new term of office is a source of comfort to us. It is a fair assessment of the worthiness of Dr. Kamil Idris.

“Mr. Chairman,

“I am pleased to refer to the excellent cooperation which WIPO continually enjoys with OAPI.

“WIPO and OAPI are organizations motivated by similar aspirations and ideals, i.e.:

- concern to promote the effective contribution made by intellectual property to the progress of humanity;

- concern to protect as effectively as possible intellectual property rights;

- concern to contribute to the technological development of economically weak countries;

- concern to make the IP system fairer, more equitable and more useful.

“We pursue these ideals in partnership, in a spirit of broad cooperation and solidarity between both our organizations.

“OAPI therefore follows with particular interest the efforts made by WIPO, under the management of Dr. Kamil Idris, with a view to the development of the international legal environment, to make the systems simpler to use and more accessible, and to reconcile in an appropriate manner intellectual property rights and those of the public, while taking into account the impact for the developing world.

“Moreover, the effects of these efforts are already making themselves felt in an appreciable manner both within WIPO and also the large family represented by the world of intellectual property.

“WIPO is now creating a strong impression as a result of its seriousness, dynamism and industriousness. These qualities have contributed to the development of

exchanges of all kinds between both our organizations which are devoted to these search for active international solidarity.

“Our wish at OAPI is that our efforts are unified still further, that our solidarity is strengthened to support in an ever more vigorous manner the policy which is defined for each of our organizations.

“In the past few years, cooperation between OAPI and WIPO has taken on a new dimension and scope. Particularly sensitive to the problems of developing countries, Dr. Kamil Idris has spared no effort in this direction. We thank him and his staff for those efforts.

“We remain confident that the new era which is beginning will see this cooperation strengthened in the mutual interest of both our organizations.

“Long live cooperation between WIPO and OAPI.”

104. The Delegation of the African Union made the following statement:

“Once more it is a privilege and an honor for the African Union to have been afforded the opportunity to address this august Assembly on the eve of the election of Dr. Kamil Idris, as Director General of WIPO. We have had occasions, like several Member States of this Organization, to comment on the eminent credentials and impeccable performance of Dr. Idris. The testimony that has been given during the 37<sup>th</sup> WIPO Assemblies and the sixteen extraordinary session of the Coordination Committee of WIPO speak volumes of the abilities and capabilities of Dr. Kamil Idris. As we sat through all these sessions and heard the expressions of unanimous support for Africa's candidature, a feeling of pride, joy and gratitude overwhelmed us. All Africans, and indeed the Heads of State and Government who sponsored his candidature would have felt the same. Now that the Representatives of Member States have spoken and given concrete manifestation of their support, by overwhelmingly electing Dr. Kamil Idris for a second term as the Director General of WIPO, allow me Sir, to add my voice to what the Representative of the African Group has said in the expression of our heartfelt gratitude and sincere thanks to all those whom made this unique event possible. To Brother Kamil Idris, let me just say that Africa is proud of you and wishes you more success in the second term of your office. God Bless.”

105. The Delegation of Sudan made the following statement:

“I have waited for a long time but with great happiness anyway. In Arabic we say: “the best comes last.” Mr. Chairman, the two rivers, the Blue Nile and the White Nile, sing together in happiness. The great land of these rivers shimmers in joy, the children of Africa, its sons and daughters beat the drum of their forests and their flutes in joy. They celebrate the success of one of their sons, a great thinker, a fine diplomat, a confident leader and manager. He comes from and belongs to all this. He is the pride of his land, his people, his continent and his nation. He has high ambition and he shall reach them.

“Congratulations from your nation Dr. Kamil Idris on the words praised to you. Your nation is happy for you have a great personality, though modest and always ready to help others. Congratulations to your dear family and your wife and to the Sudanese

community in Switzerland, to your friends and colleagues. It is a great moment for your civilization in the Nile Valley that pioneered in discovering science and technology which first used the water wheel, the “*shadoof*,” the plow, the pallets and the scale. We are proud of your great achievements and there is no need to repeat or enumerate them. Nevertheless, we look forward to furthermore of the same in your second mandate for we have total faith in your great professional capacities. The developing countries need your continuing support in the field of intellectual property and most especially, in the project of cooperation for development as well as the Worldwide Academy – one of your brilliant achievements.

“The achievements that your first mandate has witnessed has set solid ground for a deep understanding of intellectual property as the motor that propels the economic and social development in using the individual expertise of each one to mobilize it for the economic and social activities of each state, while providing legal protection to the owners of intellectual property.

“Sudan is taking the necessary steps in order to join the Madrid Protocol to register trademarks and the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs of registry of industrial designs and models. I shall not speak at length, but I join the voice of the Delegation of Sudan to the statements of the African Group, the Arab Group and the Least Developed Countries. I speak on behalf of Sudan and in the name of the Islamic Conference Organization, which Sudan presently chairs, to thank you Mr. Chairman and to thank all the Member States for their support, which we appreciate, to our brother Dr. Kamil Idris and for the kind words in praise and appreciation of his achievements and his qualities.”

106. The Chairman made the following statement:

“Thank you very much, Mr. Ambassador, what a fine conclusion, there is little to add after the very moving words, full of poetry, enthusiasm and relevance, which you have just expressed. With your permission, I will also say a few words in conclusion. I will speak in the capacity of Chair of our Assembly, on behalf of France and also as a friend.

“Ambassadors, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Director General, dear Kamil, it is a family reunion we have had today, the diplomatic family, the intellectual and industrial property family consisting of heads of offices and national institutions, all attached to this exceptional tool, and all wishing to develop that tool. The delegations have unanimously paid tribute to you and, in turn, I wish to express personally and on behalf of France my warmest congratulations. The praise bestowed on you is commensurate with your exceptional commitment to the work of the Organization. Through your sense of balance and fairness, and your constant availability to listen to the concerns of all, you have managed to create this unique climate of trust in an international body. You know how to get the best out of people and find solutions, including to the most difficult questions. You enable us to avoid sterile confrontations.

“Having had the honour to preside over WIPO’s work, I have been able to assess, not only on this memorable day, but also during our ordinary Assembly in September or our preparatory work for the Beijing Summit, with the unforeseen turn of events which prevented us from bringing this exercise to fruition, important and stimulating

thought it was and from which we all retain the benefit, I have been able to assess the importance of your work and your action to support the Organization. Your warm, open and approachable nature has enabled you to manage this Organization with a great deal of humanity. Everyone in Geneva knows the attachment that the staff of WIPO feel towards you, from the largest to the smallest, because you show an interest in both the smallest and the largest. Allow me to express my admiration for a man who came from a country which is at the heart of four civilizations and from which history continues to nourish our cultures.

“Allow me to express my admiration for this great African, open to the world. You have an impressive academic career, a doctor of law, graduate of philosophy, political science and economic theories, of the universities of Khartoum, Cairo, Ohio and Geneva. You have had an exceptional career. You have taught international law and began a diplomatic career before joining WIPO, I was going to say a long time ago. Recognized by all for your great qualities, already 20 years ago you were the coordinator of the Group of 77. Your qualities as an eminent legal expert have also been enshrined by your election to the very prestigious United Nations International Law Commission in Geneva.

“As regards WIPO, you know all aspects of the framework, I was going to say these secrets, but it is true that since you have been here WIPO no longer has any secrets, in any case secrets for its Member States. You are familiar with the framework, rules and history of this Organization, to the extent that you now embody all its ambitions and hopes.

“As a French person, allow me also to express my admiration for this man who speaks all languages, Arabic, English, French, Spanish and, I believe, many others. I must acknowledge that you are one of the best ambassadors of multilingualism and cultural diversity, which is so important in this Organization. You thus make a personal contribution to the preservation of the traditions and the values which serve as the wealth of our common heritage.

“You have been able to serve the international community as a whole and count on its capacity for mobilization in support of the best possible causes where it stands together and acts in unison. You have undertaken your duties with passion, perseverance and determination. You have transformed WIPO into a vital partner on the international stage.

“Allow me in conclusion, Director General, to address the friend whom the peregrinations of diplomatic life have provided me with the opportunity to meet, appreciate and value. I know that in your secret gardens, in addition to the remarkably accomplished professional commitment, there is attachment to your family and your children, and loyalty to those close to you. You communicate to all the optimism of a project successfully completed and faith in humanity.

“I have been happy to chair this Extraordinary Assembly today and to say to you, on behalf of everyone, my dear Kamil, well done and thank you.”

ITEM 4 OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SESSION

*107. This General Report was unanimously adopted by the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO concerned, on May 27, 2003.*

ITEM 5 OF THE AGENDA:

CLOSING OF THE SESSIONS

108. The Chair of the Assembly made the following brief statement:

“Ladies and Gentlemen, we have now reached the end of this Thirty-eighth Series of Meetings, and what is important is that we have achieved our task. I would like to thank all of you sincerely for the high quality of the discussions, and the high quality of the declarations made by each Delegation. I would also like to sincerely thank all of the staff of WIPO: the Secretariat who worked last night in order to prepare the Report for us, the translators, our interpreters, always willing, always ready, and who permit us to communicate between ourselves, in all of our languages. Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you, and I believe that we should end this meeting with a round of applause for Dr. Kamil Idris.”

[Annex follows]

## ANNEX

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AND REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

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- <sup>1</sup> On behalf of the Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries
  - <sup>2</sup> On behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
  - <sup>3</sup> On behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC)
  - <sup>4</sup> On behalf of the European Union (EU)
  - <sup>5</sup> On behalf of French -speaking African countries
  - <sup>6</sup> On behalf of the Association of South -East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
  - <sup>7</sup> On behalf of the Asian Group
  - <sup>8</sup> On behalf of Group B
  - <sup>9</sup> On behalf of the Central European and Baltic States
  - <sup>10</sup> On behalf of the Arab Group
  - <sup>11</sup> On behalf of the African Group