

**Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO
Fifty-First Series of Meetings
Geneva, Switzerland
September 23th to October 2nd, 2013**

Opening Statement of the Macedonian Delegation

Thank you, Madam President.

Delegation of the Republic of Macedonia aligned its self with the statement delivered by Lithuania on behalf of the EU.

Delegation of the Republic of Macedonia congratulates you on your election as a chairman of the General Assembly and extends the congratulations to the two elected vice chairs. We are looking forward to the positive outcome of the meeting and are confident that you will guide the deliberations towards reaching a consensus for all emerging issues.

We would also like to thank the International Bureau of WIPO, the Director General and the Secretariat for their commitment to timely prepare and present the comprehensive documents aimed to facilitate the work of the Assemblies.

The Republic of Macedonia welcomes the adoption of the Marrakesh Treaty, which will enhance access to copyrighted works for visually impaired and print-disabled persons around the world.

This year, in November, the State Office of Industrial Property will celebrate its 20th anniversary, from establishment an independent Office, 20 years of building an independent solid IP system in Macedonia was commitment to every Governments eversince.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia is persistently devoting efforts to support and to follow the recent IP trends and to set a solid infrastructure to support the mechanisms of their implementation. Proper set of policies shall and must be supported by infrastructure at all levels of implementation to enable economic growth.

Very recently, the new Law on innovation entered into force. The Innovation Fund was established and a clear set of rules, related to the ownership of IPRs generated from the research results sponsored by the Innovation Fund, are defined. This is a major step toward achievement of the Government objective to build the national economy based on knowledge.

The Government further expects that the diligence efforts to enforce the National Strategy on Innovation, developed on the bases on the European "Horizon 2020", and the Law on Innovation, supported by solid and efficient infrastructure, will led to reaching the goals of the EU Horizon 2020.

I would like to highlight some of the joint WIPO and SOIP activities in the field of IT that are aimed to provide efficiency, transparency and legal certainty in the commerce and enforcement of IPRs. Allow me to recall the year 2003 when the WOIP IPAS tool entered Europe for the first time. Ever since, the interest for this system is growing among the countries of Europe. The Republic of Macedonia continues to benefit from the WIPO IT tools and is presently in the final phase of implementation of major project by using the WIPO EDMS, Scanning tool.

Allow me to thank and encourage WIPO to continue and develop tools and systems that will support the working processes and their administration and to pay acknowledge the assistance of the excellent team of the Department for Transition and Developed Countries.

The Delegation of the Republic of Macedonia is looking forward to work with the Secretariat and other Member States to the fruitful outcome of the Assemblies meeting.

Thank you Madam President