

Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation on Intellectual Property and Development

Conference
Geneva, November 22, 2013

REPORT

prepared by the Secretariat

The Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation was held in Geneva as part of the implementation of the Development Agenda Project on *Enhancing South-South Cooperation on Intellectual Property and Development among Developing Countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)*.

OPENING

1. Held at the World Intellectual Property Organization headquarters, the conference was presided over by His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva. In his opening remarks, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Siad Doualeh pointed out the conference's main objectives which were, firstly, to review the work undertaken during the *Second WIPO Inter-regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Patents, Trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs and Enforcement* held in Cairo in May 2013 and present Member States with the report of the meeting, highlighting the main outcomes of the meeting, and secondly, to stimulate a discussion on the way forward as far as South-South cooperation in the field of intellectual property was concerned and share thoughts on the future of the Development Agenda Project on South-South Cooperation. The rationale behind the South-South project adopted by Member States during the 7th session of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) in November 2011, he stressed, was based on a number of factors including the growing recognition that intellectual property (IP) was not an end in itself but rather a tool to empower countries' economic growth and development and the fact that developing countries and LDCs were increasingly using IP as

a tool to promote their economic, social, and cultural development which had led to the rise of innovative ways of innovative means of using IP in a balanced manner to achieve development-oriented IP systems, policies and strategies. An important number of countries in the South, he pointed out, had developed significant technological capabilities and know-how and learned to harness the power of science, technology, and innovation as an engine for development, which had led to the rise of innovative, tailor-made, potentially transferable and adaptable solutions to address common Southern development challenges in the field of IP. Developing countries were therefore no longer viewed simply as recipients of technology innovations and know-how, but also as sources thereof. Born out of shared experiences, similar socio-economic circumstances, common developmental needs and objectives, South-South cooperation, he stressed, had been recognized as a key means of effecting technical cooperation and had become, in recent years, an increasingly significant vector for sharing knowledge, experiences, know-how, solutions, and technologies. There was clearly the need and potential for enhanced cooperation and exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices among developing countries and LDCs in all areas of IP, as demonstrated during the exchanges which had taken place during the first and second inter-regional meetings on South-South cooperation. The importance of the Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation, he concluded, as the last activity under the WIPO South-South project, lied on identifying how to take the process further and concretize the lessons learned during the first phase of the project's implementation based on the specific needs and priorities of developing countries and LDCs, and on how to transform it into a mechanism that would truly serve the interests of all Member States, helping them to reap the benefits from the IP system, fostering innovation and creativity for the benefit of all and promoting transfers of knowledge and technology. Giving the floor to Mr. Geoffrey Onyeama, Deputy Director General, Development Sector, WIPO, to present his welcoming remarks, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Siad Doualeh stressed the importance of the conference as a platform for a fruitful discussion and exchange of ideas on the way forward so as to pave the way for a decision on the future of the South-South cooperation project to be discussed in the framework of the following CDIP session.

2. In his welcome address, Mr. Geoffrey Onyeama pointed out the fact that the conference was a follow-up to the Second WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation hosted by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Cairo from May 6 to 8, 2013, which had brought together 35 countries, out of which 32 developing and least-developed countries, to exchange experiences and lessons learned in the field of patents, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial designs, and enforcement. The WIPO South-South initiative, he stressed, fell within the framework of the broader United Nations mandate. As a longstanding priority of the United Nations, South-South Cooperation had long been recognized as a key means of effecting technical cooperation. In the *Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries* endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1978, it had been recognized that the entire UN system needed to be permeated by the spirit of technical cooperation among developing countries and that UN agencies had an important role to play as promoters and catalysts of South-South cooperation. Since then, South-South cooperation had become an important vehicle of cooperation, running in parallel and as a complement to North-South cooperation, and had significantly impacted development throughout the world. From investment in infrastructure to the sharing of technological advances and best practices in development, South-South cooperation was now widely recognized as a key mechanism for achieving the development agenda of countries of the South. Referring to the December 2012 *Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system*, Mr. Onyeama pointed out the fact that the General Assembly had reaffirmed the increased importance of South-South cooperation and that it had called on all funds, programs, specialized agencies, and other entities of the United Nations system to strengthen their support to South-South and triangular cooperation and to help developing countries develop capacities to maximize the impact and benefits of South-South and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national development goals and priorities. It was against this background, he emphasized, that the

WIPO South-South project had been initiated in 2011 with the objective to stimulate exchanges of experiences among developing and least-developed countries, and with the intention to support them in identifying, through such exchanges, how to develop an efficient and accessible intellectual property system that contributed to their development objectives and addressed their specific needs. It was also with this objective in mind that the Second WIPO Inter-regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation had been held in Cairo in May 2013, in other words with the purpose of bringing together developing countries from all parts of the world to stimulate an exchange of experiences, best practices, and lessons learned in the fields of patents, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial designs and enforcement, seeking to stimulate networks among countries of the South and helping them identify possible South-South cooperation opportunities. The main objective of the Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation, he concluded, was to review the outcomes of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation, identify the main lessons learned, and discuss the future of the Development Agenda Project on South-South Cooperation. Keeping in mind the first Recommendation of the WIPO Development Agenda, which stipulated that technical assistance activities shall be development-oriented and demand-driven, it was important to recall that South-South cooperation ought, equally, to be a development-oriented and demand-driven process with Member States in the driving seat. The conference was therefore an opportunity for all Member States to engage in the process, share their own experiences and thoughts, and also for the Secretariat to look forward to greater participation of Member States in the process. To facilitate this exchange, interpretation was provided in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish; the conference was also webcasted and the video would be posted on the WIPO website.

TOPIC 1: PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SECOND INTER-REGIONAL MEETING ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ON PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND ENFORCEMENT

3. Introducing the report of the *Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Patents, Trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs and Enforcement* organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt and the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology under the patronage of the Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mr. Alejandro Roca Campaña, Senior Director, Access to Information and Knowledge Division, Global Infrastructure Sector, started by highlighting the fact that the meeting had brought together 35 countries – among which 32 developing and least-developed countries – and a number of regional, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to exchange experiences, best practices, and lessons learned. With 105 registered participants, WIPO had financed 28 participants from developing countries and LDCs from all regions (Africa, Arab, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean), including one participant from China, one from Central Asia, Caucasus and Eastern Europe, and one from Central European and Baltic States, in consultation with the Coordinators following a nomination process by the Regional Groups. In order to share the Secretariat's perspective and provide some background information on the state of play on patents, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial designs and enforcement, a series of short video messages by concerned WIPO officials dealing with each substantive area had been screened at the start of each topic. A detailed report of the three-day exchange had been prepared by the Secretariat and posted on the meeting page on the WIPO website for consultation. A summary report had also been prepared and translated into the six official languages, in line with WIPO's official meeting documents and translation instructions. All documents, including the speakers' presentations and the full video of the meeting, webcasted live as requested by Regional Coordinators and agreed in the CDIP, had been made available on the meeting webpage. Interpretation had been provided in English, Arabic, French and Spanish. Held over three days, the first day had focused on national experiences and best practices in the formulation of national IP and innovation strategies, the interface between IP policy and competition policy, patent system flexibilities, and national experiences in supporting innovation, technology transfer, patent

information, and knowledge dissemination. Some of the proposals made in this regard had included the need to learn from other countries' experiences in the formulation of inclusive innovation and IP strategies, the proposal to further use South-South cooperation as a vehicle to exchange knowledge and experiences on how to develop public policies harmonizing the interface between IP and competition policies, the need for guidelines and standardized procedures in the field of flexibilities, the need to collect lessons learned and good practices from countries of the South with regard to the development of science and technology parks and innovation centers, and finally the need to raise awareness of the importance and potential contribution of utility models for developing countries and LDCs. The second day, he pointed out, had focused on national experiences in the field of trademark protection, geographical indications, and best practices and lessons learned in the development and implementation of IP and branding strategies. The proposals made in this regard had included the need to enhance collaboration and exchange of information between IP offices, judicial and custom authorities as well as the need for harmonized standards with regard to trademark registration processes. In the field of industrial design protection, also covered during the second day, it had also been mentioned that it was important to strengthen cooperation amongst IP offices to exchange experiences and raise awareness among designers and inventors about the different options available in terms of industrial design protection. The last day had predominantly focused on the issue of enforcement, an area where the importance of strengthening technical assistance and capacity-building through enhanced South-South cooperation had been strongly highlighted, including the need for developing countries and LDCs to document and share information through the establishment of databases against counterfeiting and piracy. In conclusion, Mr. Roca Campaña pointed out the fact that participants had overwhelmingly acknowledged the importance of South-South cooperation in all areas of IP and that they had recognized the potential of such cooperation in terms of access to knowledge, resources and experience-sharing, with concrete proposals put forward to take the South-South cooperation process forward.

4. Mr. Mohamed Gad, Counselor, Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt, then took the floor for a more detailed presentation of the report of the meeting. Having summarized the nine topical sessions and roundtables into five clusters, namely IP strategies and competition (cluster 1), patents (cluster 2), trademarks and geographical indications (cluster 3), industrial designs (cluster 4), and enforcement (cluster 5), Mr. Gad started his presentation by pointing out the fact that the first cluster had mainly dealt with two interlinked issues that were fundamental to IP, namely IP strategies and IP and competition. After an introduction to the session by WIPO presenting the work undertaken in the framework of the Development Agenda on national IP strategies and methodologies, five national experiences had been shared, as well as the viewpoint of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD). A succinct encapsulation of a development-friendly IP strategy had been summed up by saying that the starting point should not be IP but a country's development and public policy objectives, and that it had to be tailored to each country's level of development. Key attributes common to most of the national experiences presented had been the need for coordination among all national agencies as well as cooperation with industry, allowing for the alignment of the objectives of all main stakeholders. Training had also been highlighted as an essential component in national IP strategies. With regard to the session on competition, an introduction by WIPO had served to frame the IP-competition debate. IP had been presented as being an inherently pro-competitive mechanism, but this held true only when the assets covered by the IP were genuinely differentiating. Otherwise, the assets lack of differentiation defeated the purpose, thus leading to confusion and hence defeating competition. It was therefore essential to find an adequate balance. Indeed, as highlighted by Peru's experience, it had been stressed that IP rights mainly encouraged innovation and the development of incremental technologies and therefore stimulated rather than curbed competition. Nonetheless, the potential conflict between them stemmed from the fact that IP right-holders could be inclined to delay technology transfer to the public by using anti-competitive practices. It was therefore essential that there be cooperation between IP offices and competition authorities, as showcased by Peru's

experience. The importance of compulsory licensing in this regard was also strongly emphasized. As far as the second cluster on patents was concerned, five facets of the patent system had been discussed. Three of these facets had been at the core of global IP discussions in the last decade, namely flexibilities, coherence with public policies, and technology and knowledge transfer. The other two facets were the question of patent policy and innovation and the issue of infrastructure development and institutional capacity building. On flexibilities, the relative nature of the use of flexibilities had been emphasized from the outset. A case study of sorts had been presented in this regard, which was perhaps the most relevant example of concerted developing country cooperation at the multilateral level in the area of patent flexibilities – that of WTO action on TRIPS flexibilities in the Access to Medicine debate. It had also been underlined from the South African perspective that public health had been the focus of discussions on patent flexibilities, but that the future may hold equal treatment for areas such as climate change and energy security challenges. It was also emphasized that part of the challenges faced in Africa and in the Arab region were the lack of awareness of the patent system and the lack of technical capacity and expertise. While flexibility provisions were in the laws of many developing countries, their use was not sufficiently widespread and limited to public health or national emergency situations. Political pressure had also been cited as a reason to shy away from their use. It had therefore been stressed that it was not sufficient to have flexibilities in place, but that there was also a need for clear guidelines and more awareness on the importance of flexibilities. In the framework of the discussion on flexibilities, the detrimental effects of TRIPS-Plus arrangements diminishing the policy space available through flexibilities had also been noted. As far as the topic of coherence with public policies was concerned, the presentations had tackled the question of the role of patent law and innovation, vis-à-vis ensuring competition and public policy priorities. While one presentation had emphasized the centrality of patent law to innovation, the rest of the presentations had leaned towards the need to ensure market competition. A coherent policy meant taking into account achieving different public policy priorities, including competition and innovation, and not simply looking at the IP regime as an end in itself. Two presenters had warned against increased patent grants that adversely affected the quality of patents, and invisible harmonization through patent processing and examination procedures. The essence of a development-oriented patent policy was described as a patent system that was coherent with public policy. With regard to technology transfer, patent information and knowledge, three national experiences from Chile, India, and South Africa were presented as well as the regional experience of ARIPO. Two of the presentations (Chile and India) had emphasized the role of entrepreneurship and the market. While one presentation had recounted its experience in creating innovation through entrepreneurship, the other had noted the market driven nature of innovation and the problem in developing countries when the market mechanism failed in the innovation cycle. In some developing countries it appeared that the market did not respond to local needs (e.g. neglected diseases) while in others there was no market demand for what was being developed in research centers and laboratories. Hence, this model focused on non-exclusive licenses, without the motivation of financial returns. ARIPO's regional example had also highlighted the need for regional networks, while South Africa's example had noted the need for the IP system to be integrated into the innovation eco-system. On national patent and innovation strategies, three experiences had been presented, those of China, Chile and the ICTSD. Emphasizing the strong linkages between an effective patent system and innovation, China's strategy had relied on enhancing patent quality and competitiveness, encouraging research and development, promoting patent utilization, and strengthening the availability of patent information. A different perspective had been provided by the ICTSD, focusing on LDCs and emphasizing the crucial role played by absorptive capacity in innovation, with the need to promote technology transfer beyond normal market flows. An important question had also been raised in this regard, namely as to whether all patents equated innovation, the key being patent quality. It had also been suggested that innovation was not only about patents, but equally about research and development, trade, investment, ICT, procurement, competition and industrial policies, technical standards, and so on. Each IP system had to be tailored to each country's level of technological development. On the issue of infrastructure and institutional

capacity for an effective use of the patent system, the experience of the Arab League's bilateral cooperation arrangements, particularly with Latin America, had been presented, as well as the view of civil society on South-South cooperation in the field of IP, and particularly in the area of health. An interesting brief on India's Traditional Knowledge Digital Library had also been provided focusing on its use as a defensive protection tool against misappropriation of traditional knowledge which had become the basis for international cooperation. With regard to cluster 3 on trademarks and geographical indications (GIs), the first session on trademark protection had focused on the question of the public domain, a constant consideration for the registration of signs. Two of the presentations had tackled the WIPO Development Agenda Recommendations 16 and 20 emphasizing the need to preserve the public domain. As a marketing tool for consumers, trademarks, it had been emphasized, were there to protect consumers against confusion. Should the level of protection however go beyond this, then there was a need to consider policy space for adopting exceptions to trademarks. This view had been emphasized in one of the national experiences presented during the meeting where it had been emphasized that protection should not affect free speech nor lead to abusive enforcement or anti-competitive practices. An interesting question was also raised on the links between trademarks and traditional knowledge. The need to adopt measures to protect against counterfeit products was also presented, in part through awareness raising. Equally so, technology transfer was raised as one of the key priorities. The session on GIs, Mr. Gad added, had presented three national experiences in addition to the regional perspective of ARIPO. All presentations, he pointed out, had focused on the beneficial effects of GIs and on the potential of this tool for developing countries. In Cuba, Ethiopia, and Thailand, GIs had been portrayed as a marketing tool to promote community development, and more specifically rural development. The roundtable on branding strategies had also served to highlight the concrete country experiences of Panama, Thailand and Uganda which had all benefited from the WIPO Development Agenda Project on IP and product branding, as well as Cuba's national experience. The main challenges and lessons learned were presented, including the realization that branding was a long process where IP was only one important element, and the need to align branding projects with national development plans and priorities. The fourth cluster had devoted two sessions to industrial designs, the first one focusing on current issues and future trends, and the second one focusing on industrial design and innovation. A presentation by WIPO had focused on the rising importance of industrial designs, pointing out that in the last ten years there had been a two-fold increase in the number of registrations. The Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Korea and Ethiopia had also shared their national experiences, underlining the problem of confusion in industrial design protection and the increasing importance of design, which, in the case of the Republic of Korea, had almost become more important than engineering. Last but not least, the fifth cluster had focused on IP enforcement and on three issues in particular, namely how to account for socio-economic, technical and development variables, the contribution of right-holders to enforcement, and the debate on the fight against piracy and counterfeiting. With regard to the socio-economic aspects of IP enforcement, three experiences had been presented, including the national experiences of Cambodia and South Africa. The presenters had emphasized the importance for each government to develop its own IP policy, strategy and work plan on enforcement, and to achieve a balance between the public interest and the rights of the right-holders. The South African perspective had also emphasized the notion of cooperation between all stakeholders in IP enforcement, and particularly the involvement of the private sector and right-holders. This last point, he stressed, had also been corroborated by WIPO, which had underlined the importance of cooperation between public authorities and right-holders. As far as Cambodia's experience was concerned, the main challenge so far had been consumer attitude and awareness. Awareness-raising had in fact been cited by all as a critical element in successful enforcement strategies, more so than punitive enforcement. A difficulty however highlighted by WIPO and other presenters had been the fact that enforcement implied the need for resources, which constituted an important challenge for developing countries and LDCs facing funding and other limitations. A different perspective on enforcement, he pointed out, had also been provided by an Egyptian academic, in which it had been emphasized that IP had to be viewed as a

development issue, facilitating access to knowledge for development, and that development was more than simply economic growth. Knowledge was a quasi-public good where the cost of production was significant, yet its replication not only almost cost-free, but also beneficial, hence the access versus incentives debate, which, in the presenter's view, had been translated into the tension inherent in Development Agenda Recommendation 45. In the presenter's perspective, knowledge could be monopolized by closure and access to it limited, and given the weak market structures found in developing countries this had to be avoided at all cost. Using the example of the music industry in Egypt, studies had shown that informal and underground economies could also have a positive impact on development and serve as an engine for growth. Alternative approaches to "one size fits all" were therefore strongly needed in the field of enforcement and it was important to look at grassroots practices to identify the best way forward for each country.

5. Moving on to the proposals made during the meeting, Mr. Gad pointed out the fact that some participants had expressed dissatisfaction, during the First Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation held in Brazil in 2012, that the meeting had not achieved any concrete outcomes and in particular no concrete recommendations. The Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation had therefore aimed at providing a space, in addition to the exchange of experiences, for identifying key areas where cooperation could be further strengthened and turned into concrete projects. The proposals emanating from the meeting, he added, could be categorized into two types, namely proposals to be addressed by WIPO and proposals to be addressed jointly by WIPO, developing countries, LDCs and all WIPO Member States. The first proposal, he pointed out, had been to complete the activities of the ongoing project on South-South cooperation, including the web portal, before moving on to a second phase of the project, which would provide essential grounds for mainstreaming South-South cooperation into WIPO's work. The second proposal made had been that funding should be made available for South-South cooperation in the next Program & Budget. Thirdly, it had been stressed that WIPO activities in the area of cooperation for development ought to be informed and guided by the best practices and lessons learned of developing countries and LDCs. Fourthly, there had been a general agreement on the need to strengthen WIPO's institutional capacity and structure to promote South-South cooperation and ensure continued coordination with the New York-based United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, keeping in mind the need to ensure sufficient financial resources for WIPO to be in a position to host a future Global South-South Development Expo, an annual event organized by the UN Office for South-South Cooperation and hosted each year by a different UN agency. Another proposal put forward had been the need to continue holding inter-regional meetings such as the First and Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation given the importance of such meetings in terms of providing a useful platform for exchange and networking. There was also the need to ensure further coordination in WIPO between the South-South cooperation focal point, the Regional Bureaus and other relevant Divisions in the implementation of South-South activities. Last but not least, one of the main proposals addressed to WIPO had been to support the use of the official languages of developing countries and LDCs in order for them to be in a position to engage more constructively in the IP debate. With regard to the second set of proposals, to be addressed jointly by WIPO, developing countries, and LDCs, the first one had been to strengthen networking and matchmaking between developing countries and LDCs as a complement to North-South and triangular cooperation. Another idea put forward had been to prepare case studies on successful South-South cooperation initiatives in the area of patents, copyrights, trademarks, geographical indications, and enforcement, in accordance with WIPO's Development Agenda recommendations. In the same spirit, it had also been proposed that experiences and lessons learned from developing countries and LDCs in the framework of such meetings and other activities be consolidated into publications, handbooks, policy guides and so on. A good starting point, he added, had been the fact that all the presentations and material from the South-South inter-regional meetings and annual conferences had already been made available on the WIPO website. Three additional proposals had been presented. The first one had been to ensure that assistance provided in formulating and implementing national IP and

innovation strategies as well as branding strategies ought to be guided by each country's national development plans and public policy objectives. Secondly, South-South cooperation had to be used as a vehicle to incentivize grass root and community based innovation initiatives and the mobilization of financial resources. Last but not least, participants had put forward the proposal to increase awareness, among developing countries and LDCs, of the importance of utility models and their contribution to innovation and creativity.

6. Further to the detailed presentation of the report by Mr. Gad, the floor was opened for questions and comments. The Delegate of Venezuela took the floor to share some comments on the issue of flexibilities and the need for clear guidelines as to how these flexibilities could be implemented, one of the best kept secrets of TRIPS, especially in the pharmaceutical area as per the mechanism established by the World Trade Organization (WTO). In this regard, the Delegate of Venezuela raised the question of the impact of flexibilities on patent owners in the areas of climate change and food security, highlighting the issue of the cost of moving towards greener technologies. Secondly, referring to the need for developing countries for technical assistance in the area of industrial design protection, the Delegate of Venezuela raised the question as to the usefulness and form of such technical assistance. His last comment concerned the issue of strengthening industrial property based on social circumstances and development priorities of developing countries and LDCs, where he asked how this could be achieved.

7. Responding to the Delegate of Venezuela's comments starting with the issue of flexibilities, Mr. Gad pointed out that this was one of the issues that had been very well debated, particularly in WIPO, with a specific Development Agenda Project on flexibilities and a number of guidelines which were in the process of being developed or had been developed for developing countries by a number of think tanks and organizations. Most recently, he pointed out, a publication on the issue of health presenting a useful view on this issue had been published. A specific presentation during the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Cairo had also been devoted to the issue of access to medicine and TRIPS flexibilities, including the question of the paragraph 6 conclusion, during which many participants had expressed the fact that more work was needed. Even though flexibilities had been widely translated into national laws, there was still a need for more awareness-raising on how to use flexibilities in developing countries. Clearly, he stressed, developing countries had an important role to play in this regard. As highlighted by the Delegate of South Africa in Cairo, the flexibilities debate was also moving from the issue of access to medicine to other important areas such as climate change and energy security needs, where further guidelines would be needed in the future. With regard to industrial designs, he pointed out, the presentation of the Republic of Korea, which was also available on the WIPO website, had been extremely informative and useful, showing how industrial design development had affected the process from the design conception phase to the production phase and to the market, and how the issue of design was becoming increasingly important for enterprises to the extent that designers were becoming even more critical than engineers. With regard to the last comment on the issue of strengthening industrial property based on social circumstances and development priorities of developing countries, South-South cooperation, he stressed, was an important vehicle to achieve this. Experiences from the South were increasing day by day and this knowledge would provide a valuable source of information on the topic, especially for LDCs with limited resources.

8. The Delegate of Cuba then took the floor to highlight the fact that one of the main challenges facing developing countries and LDCs was access to knowledge and the difficulty for developing countries to access the WIPO databases. Another issue had been the non-use or little use of the flexibilities available in the patent system. Here, the Delegate of Cuba proposed that a best practice manual or handbook be prepared in order to better understand how to use these flexibilities. Many countries were aware of the existence of these flexibilities but did not know how to use them in an appropriate and timely fashion.

9. In response to the Delegate of Cuba's comment on access to knowledge, Mr. Gad pointed out that this was an issue that had been raised during the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation and that WIPO had a role to play in this regard, not only in terms of access to its databases but also in terms of access to patent information. Efforts had been made over the past few years in this regard but more needed to be done, including with regard to the use of official languages of developing countries.

10. The Secretariat then took the floor, stressing the fact that WIPO had been striving over the last six years to facilitate access to knowledge, through for instance the development of the Patentscope platform and Patentscope global database which included patent information from many countries. By the end of 2013, over 35 million patent documents would be available in this database for consultation and free access by developing countries, including information from major patent offices such as the European Patent Office, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Japan Patent Office and soon other countries such as China. In this platform, he added, there was a built-in mechanism for search, which ensured the possibility of searching in the original languages of those databases. WIPO had also concluded a number of public-private partnerships in 2009 and 2010 regarding access to scientific and technical information, with free access for least-developed countries and access at a very low cost for some other developing countries. Of course there was the issue of eligibility as the resource was not owned by WIPO, but WIPO was reviewing this issue closely with the publishers and patent and commercial databases owners in an effort to ensure preferential access for developing countries.

TOPIC 2: PANEL DISCUSSION: EVALUATION OF THE SECOND INTER-REGIONAL MEETING ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ON PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND ENFORCEMENT

11. Introducing topic 2, the Secretariat started with a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the meeting on the basis of data gathered for the purpose of evaluating the meeting. The main objective of the meeting, he pointed out, had been to provide a forum for fostering knowledge-sharing and the dissemination of lessons learned and good practices and to support developing countries and LDCs in identifying priorities and special needs in the fields of patents, trademarks, GIs, industrial design and enforcement, including opportunities for further South-South cooperation. With over 105 registered participants, the meeting had brought together 32 developing countries, 5 developed countries, 4 inter-governmental organizations and 2 non-governmental organizations. In terms of the distribution by region, one could see that all regions had been represented in the meeting, with the largest participation from the Africa, ASPAC and LAC regions. As far as the distribution by institutions/representatives was concerned, the largest participation had been from representatives from IP offices (representing 65 percent of participants), followed by representatives from Ministries of Foreign Affairs, External Cooperation and Trade. Developed on the basis of the guidelines found in the project document adopted by CDIP, the meeting program had focused on the following main areas of IP, divided into three full days: patents, trademarks, GIs, national IP and innovation strategies, industrial designs and enforcement. Taking into account the feedback gathered through the evaluation questionnaires distributed to all participants which had focused on an overall assessment of the meeting, opportunities for participation and sharing, and the contribution of the meeting to the project's objectives, one could see that over 93 percent of respondents had rated the meeting as good, very good or excellent. In terms of opportunities for participation and sharing, around 70 percent of respondents had considered that such opportunities had been very good or excellent. In terms of fostering the sharing of national experiences and information on the process of design and implementation of national IP policies, legislation, and the use of flexibilities, 67 percent had responded that the meeting had fully achieved this objective. 80 percent of respondents had also considered that the meeting had contributed to a better understanding of IP and its potential contribution to the development in developing countries and LDCs, and 79 percent that the meeting had fully achieved the objective of raising

awareness of the strategic use of IP to foster innovation in developing countries. 77 percent of respondents had also agreed with the fact that the meeting had fully contributed to identifying the main priorities and special needs of developing countries and LDCs in the framework of the IP areas discussed during the meeting. Last but not least, the overall organization of the meeting had been largely rated as very good or excellent. In terms of the qualitative assessment, feedback gathered from participants suggested that the presentations had been very informative, that the organization had been very good, and that more time would have been needed for more in-depth discussions and to share more country examples, an important aspect of the meeting. Developing countries had also emphasized the need for more training and practical workshops, moving beyond the sharing of experiences to cooperate on concrete projects, an aspect which transpired from most of the discussions during the meeting. In addition to learning about lessons learned, developing countries had also pointed out the need for guidance on how to implement good practices, step by step, and the need for thematic South-South meetings, focusing on specific subject matters. In conclusion, the Secretariat pointed out the fact that the meeting had clearly provided a useful platform for a fruitful exchange of experiences and lessons learned, but that more time would have been needed for more in-depth discussions. Beyond the sharing of experiences, developing countries had expressed the need for more practical guidance, trainings and workshops based on successful countries' experiences in using IP for development. Last but not least, they had also emphasized the role of traditional donors and of the multilateral system as catalysts of South-South cooperation and in scaling up the impact of South-South cooperation.

12. Before giving the opportunity to the representatives from Cambodia, Cuba, Egypt and Peru to present their views and observations on topic 2, the Chair gave the floor to His Excellency, Mr. Ravinatha Aryasinha, Chairman of the Personal Representatives, Group of Fifteen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations, to deliver a Joint Statement on behalf of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), a summit level group of developing countries comprising 17 member states established in 1989 with the aim to, *inter alia*, tap the enormous potential of South-South cooperation and North-South dialogue with a view to fostering and promoting sustainable development with shared common goals and leveraged capacities. Extending the Group's appreciation to the Director General and the WIPO Secretariat for the preparation of the Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation, H.E. Mr. Ravinatha Aryasinha stated that the members of the G-15 had a particular interest in understanding the effects of IP development in developing countries, both on the specific measures of economic performance and on the process of economic development as a whole, which was the reason why the G-15 had welcomed the adoption of the Development Agenda by the WIPO General Assembly in 2007, a milestone in the international perspective on IP, representing a shift from viewing IP as an end in itself to seeing it as a means to serve the larger public goals of social, economic and cultural development. While acknowledging the challenges to the meaningful implementation of the recommendations of the Development Agenda, the Group strongly supported the mainstreaming of the development dimension into all areas of WIPO's work, in view of the opportunity it presented not only for all developing countries but also for those with the potential to fully benefit from the international IP system. The inception of the Development Agenda, the rebalancing of the global perspective on IP, and the mainstreaming and implementation of the recommendations presented a considerable challenge. The Group was of the view that a development approach, an oversight by Member States, a sustained cultural change within the Secretariat as well as a continuous commitment and engagement with civil society organizations, were required for implementation to be successful. Noting that, six years after the adoption of the Development Agenda, WIPO had made significant and encouraging steps towards the integration of a development dimension in its work, the Group was nevertheless of the view that the complex process of implementing the recommendations of Development Agenda needed to be further advanced. There was still much to be done in order to raise awareness among the international community about the importance of IP as a development tool. In this regard, he added, the Group believed that the International Conference on IP and Development, as agreed upon during the previous session

of the CDIP, would be an important forum for discussing the impact of and obstacles to the effective implementation of the Development Agenda. It was also important for WIPO to provide within CDIP a forum for discussing development aspects presented in the seminar series “The Economics of Intellectual Property” in order to inform decision-making processes. These discussions ought to lead to a comprehensive analysis on how the development dimension should be seen in the work of WIPO. The Group also welcomed the holding of the Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation in the field of IP and Development and of the two inter-regional meetings held in two G-15 countries, namely Brazil and Egypt. South-South cooperation, he stressed, was the foundation under which the G-15 had been created, with the objective to develop important and strategic partnerships to promote sustainable growth and contribute to the social development of G-15 countries. The Group believed that South-South cooperation could play an important role in achieving the objectives outlined in the relevant recommendations of the WIPO Development Agenda taking into account the fact that South-South cooperation was particularly useful for achieving pro-development IP systems in developing countries and LDCs given the particular circumstances and challenges developing countries and LDCs were facing. South-South cooperation was also an important vehicle for sharing information and promoting a better understanding of the practical initiatives that developing countries and LDCs could utilize and had utilized to link IP to broader public policies and development goals. G-15 members therefore urged WIPO to take measures to promote South-South cooperation in the field of IP, to act as a catalyst to increase triangular cooperation between developing countries and LDCs, and to support initiatives to identify best practices in the use of IP for, *inter alia*, technology transfer, public health, food security and other global challenges in which IP had an important role to play.

13. Inviting the representatives from Cambodia, Cuba, Egypt and Peru to join the panel, the Chair then gave the floor to the Delegate of Cambodia to present his views and observations on topic 2. Mr. Sovicheat Penn, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Domestic Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Phnom Penh, and Member of the Secretariat of the National Committee for IP Rights in Cambodia, who had also participated as a speaker during the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Cairo to share the experience of Cambodia, took the floor to present Cambodia’s perspective. South-South cooperation, he started, was one of the forums available to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations of the WIPO Development Agenda through enhanced cooperation among developing countries and LDCs. Exchanging views on the formulation and implementation of IP strategies and policies for instance was a particularly effective way, in Cambodia’s view, for developing effective IP standards contributing to development objectives. Cambodia’s contribution to the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation, he pointed out, had been mainly on the topic of enforcement. In this regard, Cambodia had highlighted the importance of cooperation between enforcement authorities, government agencies and right holders and the importance of building an IP culture and awareness to create a better IP environment conducive to innovation and creativity. Cambodia, as an LDC, faced a number of challenges including lack of resources, lack of awareness among consumers, consumer attitude, and lack of cooperation at the national and regional level. Piracy could not be monitored and prevented effectively without information-sharing at all levels. Meetings such as the WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation therefore provided an invaluable opportunity for developing countries and LDCs to share their experiences and best practices and learn from each other’s lessons. For Cambodia, it had also been an opportunity to build networks and initiate contacts with other countries for future information and experience sharing in the field of IP protection and enforcement as well as an opportunity to learn from others’ lessons in the implementation of WIPO Development Agenda recommendations. Many important views and experiences, he added, had been shared during the meeting on, for instance, how to use IP information effectively with the establishment of information centers for access to IP knowledge, the use of TRIPS flexibilities, concrete examples of technology transfer and knowledge dissemination and the importance of absorptive capacity, the commercialization of trademarks and designs, and the importance of commercializing research outputs and securing financing. In the field of enforcement,

cooperation and information sharing between right holders, consumers and government agencies had been strongly emphasized as well as the importance of building an IP culture at the national level and strengthening regional cooperation to reduce cross-border flows of counterfeit products. In this regard, he stressed, South-South cooperation was an important vehicle for strengthening cooperation among IP offices to achieve the recommendations of the Development Agenda. In conclusion, Mr. Penn reiterated the added value and positive results of such meetings and stressed the importance of continuing such activities in WIPO.

14. The floor was then given to Mrs. María de los Angeles Sánchez Torres, Director General, Cuban Industrial Property Office, La Habana, to present Cuba's perspective and feedback on the basis of its participation in the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Cairo and contribution in the area, in particular, of geographical indications in the implementation of public policies and the development of IP and branding strategies. As an opportunity for Cuba to exchange its experience in this regard, Cuba had pointed out how it had identified products with strong traditional, cultural and geographic origins and how GIs had become an important element of national IP strategies and development policies, including in innovation policies, trade policies and policies related to agriculture and industry. The meeting had also provided an opportunity to review and discuss the various legal instruments used for the protection of GIs, both at the national and international level, and to demonstrate the role of national IP offices in identifying products with the potential to benefit from GI protection so as to add value to specific national products with distinctive qualities linked to their origin. Overall, she pointed out, meetings such as the Second WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation established an important framework for the exchange of national experiences and helped create networks among countries. They also helped channel the efforts undertaken by various stakeholders in order to promote South-South cooperation in the area of IP and to achieve concrete results in developing countries and LDCs through the provision of technical assistance in the area of IP. In the particular case of Cuba, she concluded, this exchange had provided an opportunity for Cuba to undertake a comparative study of the principal activities undertaken nationally in the area of the design of its national IP strategy, as an integral part of a social and economic policy where IP was a management tool for national bodies and was fully in harmony with the national development and public policy objectives.

15. Mr. Hebert Tassano Velaochaga, President of the Board, National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (INDECOP), Peru, then took the floor to present Peru's perspective. Peru's contribution to the meeting, he pointed out, had mainly focused on the issue of the interface between IP policy and competition policy and on the importance of ensuring a competitive and dynamic environment through a balance between IP protection and competition policy. Many countries, he stressed, had not achieved such a balance and recognized the interface between the two. The experience of Peru, where IP rights and competition were managed by a single institution, had helped highlight this interface and the importance of taking into account both elements, and Peru, he added, was willing to further share its experience with other interested countries. In Peru's view, meetings such as the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation were indeed of the greatest importance. Not only did they allow countries to harmonize their IP plans but they also promoted cooperation and stimulated the exchange of experiences and best practices among countries at similar levels of development, thereby contributing to the strengthening of IP policies at the international level and establishing strong networks. By disseminating national experiences and lessons learned, such meetings also contributed to reducing risks and challenges for other countries seeking to engage in similar processes or seeking to establish similar mechanisms, positively affecting the learning curve. For Peru, the meeting had also provided a good networking opportunity, thereby strengthening Recommendation 10 of the Development Agenda. As far as the lessons learned were concerned, Peru had indeed learned a great deal from other countries' experiences, with a particular interest in experiences relating to the transfer of technology and patent information, dissemination of knowledge, and innovation support mechanisms, referring in particular to the concrete and informative examples of China,

India, ARIPO, South Africa's Innovation Hub, and Chile's *INAPI Proyecta* platform for the transfer of knowledge and technology. Peru had also greatly benefited from the discussions on the interface between patent law and public policies in the areas of health, innovation and trade, an important topic for developing countries and LDCs. In conclusion, Mr. Tassano highlighted the importance of developing a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the proposals made during the two inter-regional meetings on South-South cooperation would be followed up on and so that WIPO would be able to monitor the agreements arising from such exchanges among participating countries. In this regard, he pointed out, Peru was willing to both cooperate and benefit from the cooperation of other countries, taking into account that developing countries were facing a number of challenges and had a lot to learn from each other. In conclusion, Mr. Tassano emphasized the importance for WIPO to continue to organize such meetings taking into account their important contribution to the Development Agenda and offered, on behalf of the Government of Peru, to host another inter-regional meeting on South-South cooperation in 2014.

16. Providing the host country's perspective, Mr. Mohamed Gad then took the floor to present Egypt's views. Overall, the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation had been very useful in the sense that it had allowed a venue for cooperation among developing countries and LDCs. In terms of the evaluation of the meeting, he pointed out, his contribution would focus on three aspects, namely the evaluation of the meeting itself, the evaluation of the meeting as part of the WIPO South-South cooperation project, and the evaluation of the meeting with regard to the future of South-South cooperation activities in WIPO. The meeting, he stressed, had been very well attended with a large representation from developing countries, LDCs and also developed countries and a mix of officials from various authorities, albeit predominantly from IP offices. Civil society, academia, the business sector and international organizations had also been well represented. In terms of the subject matter, the meeting had indeed been very rich, perhaps even too rich, as one of the proposals had been that future meetings of such kind should be more focused to allow for more in-depth discussions. With Peru's offer to host a new inter-regional meeting, Egypt was also of the view that future meetings should be more thematic and focused. A positive aspect of the meeting in Cairo, he added, had been the fact that it had led to concrete proposals on South-South cooperation and what WIPO could do in this regard. With regard to the actual discussions, as already touched upon by the representatives of Cambodia, Cuba and Peru, Egypt had noted five essential elements, the first one being the need for more awareness-raising, the second one the importance of contextualizing IP policies and linking them to the development context. Thirdly, that IP was only one element in the debate on innovation, branding and so on; fourthly, that IP could contribute to development; and finally that it was important to consider alternative views. The variety of experiences and approaches from developing countries had, in this regard, been a great added value to the meeting. With regard to the second level of evaluation, namely the evaluation of the meeting in the context of the WIPO South-South cooperation project, Mr. Gad pointed out the importance of completing all activities foreseen under the project so that a second phase could be envisaged. While exchanging experiences was undoubtedly very important, there was however a need for more concrete results with a sharper focus. Between the two inter-regional meetings in South-South cooperation held in Brazil and Egypt, most IP issues had been touched upon. Further inter-regional meetings should therefore, in Egypt's view, be linked to actionable elements or sub-projects of the Development Agenda. With regard to the evaluation of the meeting in light of the future of South-South cooperation in WIPO, the two inter-regional meetings on South-South cooperation had clearly enriched the debate on IP, opened up new avenues of cooperation for WIPO, and helped develop a home-grown interest for IP in developing countries and LDCs through experience- and knowledge-sharing among countries at similar levels of development. Through such activities, he added, WIPO could also bring IP on the agenda of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and contribute to establishing closer links between WIPO and other specialized agencies engaged in South-South cooperation. In conclusion, Mr. Gad highlighted one important outcome, for Egypt, from the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation. Through this networking

opportunity and face-to-face contacts facilitated by the meeting, he stressed, the Egyptian Ministry of Health and IP Office had been able to organize a mission to India to learn from India's experience in patenting and IP protection in the area of pharmaceuticals. One of the priorities of Egypt's Development Cooperation Agency would also be cooperation in the field of science and technology, and IP would of course be an important part of it. Building on the lessons learned from the First WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation held in Brazil, the Cairo meeting had therefore been very valuable and any further meetings should take these two experiences into account. Mr. Gad concluded by thanking the Secretariat for having facilitated the holding of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Cairo.

17. Opening the floor for contributions, the Chair gave the floor to the Delegate of Nepal. As an LDC, Nepal wanted to use the opportunity to contribute and share its experience and best practices in the field of IP. Holding the firm belief that science, technology and innovation were key ingredients of any development plan in an increasingly knowledge-based global system, the Government of Nepal, he pointed out, was in the process of formulating an IP policy and had been striving to strengthen cooperation with its development partners, and in particular WIPO, to strengthen capacities in the area of science, technology and innovation. In this context, the Government of Nepal wished to reiterate its support to the Development Agenda Project entitled "Capacity Building in the Use of Appropriate Technology-Specific Technical and Scientific Information as a Solution for Identified Development Challenges" which had been implemented in Nepal following a broad, inclusive and participatory process. The project had contributed in strengthening national capacities on how to use patent information to facilitate technology transfers in Nepal. It had also demonstrated how technical information available in the patent system could be used to find appropriate technical solutions to identified development challenges. In this regard, the project had contributed to the development of important national committees and other related infrastructure and national capacities. Building on this experience, the Government of Nepal had established a National Expert Group on IP and a National Multi-Stakeholders Committee on IP with the objective to put in place an institutional coordination system to support innovation and creativity in technology and science in Nepal. The Government of Nepal therefore wished to thank WIPO for having selected Nepal as one of the pilot countries for this project. An important outcome of this project, in the spirit of South-South cooperation, had also been the fact that Nepal had organized, in cooperation WIPO and Sweden, a regional meeting on IP rights in the global economy for LDCs in Kathmandu from May 19 to 24, 2013, during which Nepal had shared its experience and lessons learned with 15 LDCs. During that meeting, Nepal's Minister of Finance, Industry, Commerce and Supplies had also announced the establishment of a Technology Development Fund in Nepal to support individual inventors, researchers, innovation institutions as well as small enterprises. Nepal had also organized, in cooperation with WIPO, a training program entitled "Implementation of WIPO Deliverables: Establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and Training Program" from September 15 to 16, 2013, with more than fifty participants from private organizations, research centers, universities and government ministries interested in establishing TISCs in their respective institutions. To date, he pointed out, five institutions had already forwarded a request to the Government of Nepal to establish a TISC, which was a very positive development. In conclusion, the Delegate of Nepal thanked WIPO for its support and reiterated its willingness to further cooperate with WIPO to move the IP Development Agenda forward.

TOPIC 3: PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA PROJECT ON ENHANCING SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND LEAST-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

18. Introducing the progress report on the Project on *Enhancing South-South Cooperation on IP and Development among Developing Countries*, Mr. Alejandro Roca Campaña reminded

participants that the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation, as well as the First Inter-Regional Meeting, First Annual Conference and Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation had been organized in the framework of the Development Agenda Project on South-South Cooperation. In addition to these meetings and conferences, a number of other activities had also taken place, including the development of new South-South functionalities and the development of a dedicated webpage on South-South cooperation to provide information on South-South cooperation activities in the field of IP, further increase the use of resource persons from developing countries and LDCs in technical assistance and capacity-building activities, and further enable matchmaking between developing countries. To do so, the South-South project team had coordinated with the Special Projects Division responsible for the development and administration of the existing IP Technical Assistance Database (IP-TAD), the IP Roster of Consultants (IP-ROC) and the Development Matchmaking Database (IP-DMD) to develop new South-South functionalities that would also be linked to the webpage on South-South cooperation. In this regard, the Secretariat wished to use the opportunity to present what had been achieved to date.

19. Mr. Bajoe Wibowo, Project Manager, Special Projects Division, Department for Africa and Special Projects, Development Sector, then took the floor to present the work undertaken with regard to the South-South functionalities with a live demonstration of the different functionalities. The first objective, as mentioned by Mr. Roca Campaña, had been to provide information on South-South technical assistance activities in the field of IP. Using some live examples, Mr. Wibowo pointed out the different search functionalities allowing to search activities by host country/provider and by country having benefited from technical assistance. If searching for Argentina for instance, one could see a detailed view of the activities organized in 2010, including which countries had taken part in the South-South activity and so on. Searching for Algeria, one could see that four South-South events had been co-hosted by Algeria. Other searching parameters included a miscellaneous search (activity title, type and so on), and search by region according to the nomenclature, namely the Arab region (including some African and some Asian states), African countries, the Asia and the Pacific region, Caucasian, Eastern European countries and Baltic States, and the Latin America and Caribbean region. One could finally also perform a search by year. The second objective of the South-South functionalities was to further increase the use, in WIPO technical assistance and capacity-building activities, of resource persons from developing countries and LDCs. The South-South roster of consultants had been developed with this objective in mind and the possibility to search for consultants from developing countries and LDCs by country, region and nationality. Under miscellaneous, one could also search by year, IP expertise and so on. Finally, the third functionality was to enable further matchmaking between offers and needs from developing countries and LDCs and facilitate South-South partnerships. Using the existing IP-DMD database, this functionality was included by adding an additional searching parameter allowing to search for offers and needs from, specifically, developing countries and LDCs. A concrete need for instance had been included in the database by the IP Office of Bhutan for specific IT equipment. The matchmaking database provided in this regard a platform for potential donors, including other developing countries, to respond to this need.

20. The floor was then given to Ms. Nathalie Montillot, Assistant Project Officer, Access to Information and Knowledge Division, Global Infrastructure Sector, to present the new webpage on South-South cooperation with a live screen demonstration thereof. The webpage, she pointed out, would be launched shortly, once all the newly developed South-South databases presented by Mr. Wibowo would be in line with the new WIPO website design. Presenting what would be the homepage of the South-South cooperation webpage on the WIPO website, Ms. Montillot provided an overview of the webpage's content, including some information about the history of South-South cooperation, the relevance of South-South cooperation in the field of IP, WIPO's South-South cooperation activities, and WIPO's partnership with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, including its participation in the Global South-South Development Expos and sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation.

In terms of the South-South activities at WIPO, the webpage, she pointed out, would feature the Development Agenda Project on South-South Cooperation and provide links to the inter-regional meetings and annual conferences, including to all documents, presentations, reports, and related videos. Another section of the webpage would be devoted to resources, in other words the South-South Technical Assistance Database presented by Mr. Wibowo previously which would highlight technical assistance activities with a South-South cooperation element, the South-South Roster of Consultants highlighting available expertise from the South, and a link to the IP-DMD matchmaking platform to facilitate matchmaking between developing countries and LDCs. Another important section under resources would feature successful South-South partnerships in the field of IP, extracted from the existing IP Advantage Database. The intention, she pointed out, was to further expand this section and feature more successful examples of South-South cooperation initiatives in the field of IP, once available. The final section on the webpage related to national and regional South-South cooperation initiatives. To populate this space, a questionnaire had been sent to Member States – developing countries and LDCs – asking them to provide the Secretariat with information about specific South-South initiatives undertaken in the field of IP, South-South focal points and so on. To date, she pointed out, the Secretariat had received 35 questionnaires. The e-versions of the questionnaires, available in English, French and Spanish, had been reactivated and Member States were encouraged to complete the surveys and return them to the Secretariat. Finally, she pointed out, the webpage would also have a section on related links, providing links to the Development Agenda, CDIP, the Regional Bureaus, and links to external partnerships and in particular the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

21. Another objective under the South-South Project had been to follow-up on UN system-wide activities in the field of South-South cooperation and liaise with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation. In this regard, the floor was given to Ms. Montillot to present the main developments at the UN level in the field of South-South cooperation and WIPO's cooperation with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation in this regard. Starting with the institutional framework, Ms. Montillot highlighted the fact that the main policy-making body on South-South Cooperation in the UN system was the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation. As a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly, it was responsible for providing policy guidance on South-South cooperation, for ensuring that efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation were sustained within the UN system, including through the allocation of adequate resources, and for reviewing the progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the main policy document on South-South cooperation. The High-level Committee met every two years and the next session, she pointed out, would take place in 2014. Serving as a Secretariat to the High-level committee on South-South Cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) – formerly known as the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation and renamed UNOSSC further to a decision by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation during its seventeenth session in September 2012 reflecting the increased importance of South-South cooperation UN system-wide – was not only responsible for organizing the sessions of the Committee but also carried out important research through its division for policy to inform policy decisions on how to deepen South-South cooperation. It also advocated for South-South cooperation approaches to development in the UN system, provided advisory services to UN Member States and agencies, and was overall responsible for promoting, coordinating and supporting South-South cooperation globally and within the UN system. To do so, UNOSSC had established a so-called multilateral support architecture comprised of four pillars. The first pillar, as already mentioned, was UNOSSC's policy division responsible for carrying out research and informing policy decisions in the field of South-South cooperation. The second pillar was the Global South-South Development (GSSD) Academy, an online platform which facilitated access to development solutions and expertise from the South through a solution center documenting and disseminating development solutions in all sorts of areas of development and a roster center. The third pillar consisted of the Global South-South Development Expo, an annual Expo to showcase development solutions which had started in 2008 and was each year hosted by a different UN organization. The Expo brought together

development practitioners and representatives of the UN system to share solutions and build partnerships in different areas. In 2013, the Expo had been hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi and had focused on the theme of green economies. The last pillar was the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange Platform (SS-GATE), a matchmaking platform to facilitate the transfer of technologies, assets and financing by connecting solution providers and seekers from the South. It operated both through a virtual and a physical platform with 41 workstations around the world, mainly in Africa and in Asia, and facilitated matchmaking, supporting in particular small and medium-sized enterprises from the South. In terms of South-South policy documents, the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA), endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1978 and adopted by 138 states at the UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, was one of main policy documents in the field of South-South cooperation and provided a number of recommendations to promote South-South cooperation at all levels. As an expression of the aspirations of developing countries and a reflection of their desire to promote economic and technical cooperation among themselves and as a complement to North-South cooperation, it described South-South cooperation as a “vital force for initiating, designing, organizing and promoting cooperation among developing countries so that they [could] acquire, adapt, transfer and pool knowledge and experience for their mutual benefit and for achieving national and collective self-reliance which [were] essential for the social and economic development”. Another important document was the Nairobi Outcome Document adopted in 2009 and endorsed by the General Assembly in 2010. The document reaffirmed the principles established by BAPA and was to date the most comprehensive internationally agreed documentation of South-South cooperation principles. It recognized for instance the relevance of South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation and pointed out the importance of triangular cooperation to realize the full potential of South-South cooperation inviting developed countries and traditional donors to expand their participation in such triangular arrangements. It also urged UN organizations and specialized agencies to take concrete measures and mobilize resources to further promote South-South knowledge sharing, networking and capacity-building. In terms of WIPO’s partnership with UNOSSC, Ms. Montillot pointed out the fact that WIPO had participated – since the beginning of the implementation of the WIPO South-South Project – in the seventeenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation in New York in May 2012, during which WIPO had also delivered a statement to raise awareness of its new South-South initiative. WIPO had also participated in the 2012 and 2013 editions of the GSSD Expos which had been hosted, respectively, by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna in 2012 and by UNEP in Nairobi in October 2013 on the theme of “Building Inclusive Green Economies: South-South Cooperation for a Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication”. Taking into account the focus on green economies in the 2013 edition, WIPO had also used this opportunity to showcase the WIPO GREEN platform for the dissemination of environmentally sound technologies and to formalize an institutional relationship between WIPO GREEN and SS-GATE to collaborate in the sharing of green technologies and provide IP advice related to technologies to be transferred under SS-GATE. In this regard, Ms. Montillot reminded participants that the WIPO GREEN platform would be launched officially on November 28. WIPO, she added, had also participated in the High-Level Forum for Development Cooperation, a forum co-organized by UNOSSC and the Japan International Cooperation Agency in the framework of the GSSD Expo which aimed to provide a space for UN system practitioners to share experiences and best practices in managing and supporting South-South cooperation and also to showcase developments and new initiatives at the national, regional and international level. The 2013 forum, she pointed out, had enjoyed broad participation from Member States and from UN agencies (14 agencies). With a total of 127 participants, 38 percent of them had been representatives of international organizations, including, among others, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank Institute, the African Development Bank and so on. In terms of the distribution, one could note a fairly equal distribution between representatives from African, Arab, Asian and Latin American countries, as well as a good representation from donor countries, such as Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway,

the United Kingdom and the United States of America. A review of national and regional South-South cooperation initiatives highlighted a growing use of South-South cooperation at all levels. At the national and regional level, the Forum highlighted an increase in South-South cooperation programs such as for instance the Ibero-American Program for the strengthening of South-South Cooperation and the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Partnership, as well as an increase in the development of dedicated South-South cooperation funds such as the Argentina South-South Fund, the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with Africa, with the Commonwealth of Independent States and with European Islamic States, or the IBSA Fund. In terms of policies, strategies and institutional frameworks, a review of existing policies and frameworks also highlighted an increase in the number of policies and strategies dedicated to South-South cooperation such as Argentina for instance which had an international cooperation policy focusing on the African and the Asian region or Indonesia with a national strategy for the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation and a dedicated National Coordination Team for South-South and Triangular Cooperation. As far as donor countries were concerned, there had also been an increase in the number of triangular cooperation projects with Japan and the United States of America in the lead, but also many others such as Norway, Finland or the United Kingdom. At the international level, this trend had also been followed by many UN funds, programs and specialized agencies with the development, for instance, of a number of web-based platforms to foster the sharing of knowledge and experience and dedicated units for South-South cooperation. In this regard, for instance, Ms. Montillot pointed out the fact that UNEP had launched a dedicated South-South Cooperation Exchange Mechanism, a web-based platform to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and best practices in environmental conservation and protection. There had also been an increase in the documentation of solutions and best practices from the South with the establishment of a number of knowledge hubs worldwide. Last but not least, a number of agencies had also formulated specific strategies dedicated to South-South cooperation such as for instance the ILO which had adopted a specific strategy on South-South and triangular cooperation or UNEP which had included South-South cooperation in its medium-term strategy for 2010-13, and new dedicated units such as the UNCTAD Unit on economic cooperation and integration among developing countries. The main lessons learned from the experiences of Member States and UN South-South cooperation practitioners, she added, included the need to better capture and disseminate experiences and good practices from the South. Participating countries and agencies had also highlighted the need to further engage the private sector and civil society and to further encourage public-private partnerships. Resources and institutional frameworks for South-South cooperation also needed to be strengthened, as well as capacities. South-South cooperation, it was stressed, also had to be used increasingly as a tool to support the most vulnerable countries, in particular LDCs, landlocked developing countries and small island developing countries. Another important issue was the need to strengthen South-South cooperation management practices. In this regard, a recent study published in October 2013 as a joint effort between UNOSSC, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency entitled "Enhancing Management Practices in South-South Triangular Cooperation" had reviewed the experiences of a large number of agencies in charge of South-South cooperation, analyzing the main challenges and lessons learned and providing recommendations on how to enhance management practices. The study, she added, was a useful source of information and would be available for download on the WIPO South-South webpage. Last but not least, participants to the Forum had emphasized the importance of further encouraging the use of UNOSSC's multilateral support architecture, in particular SS-GATE, with a view to strengthening exchanges of knowledge, technologies and assets between developing countries and LDCs. In conclusion, one could see that South-South cooperation had indeed become an important mechanism to help developing countries and LDCs achieve their development agendas, with an increase in the support from the multilateral system and donor countries acting as knowledge brokers and catalysts. Despite these efforts, there was however still more to be done in terms of strengthening capacities and South-South cooperation management practices. In this regard, WIPO would continue to work closely with UNOSSC to follow-up on system-wide developments in this field.

22. Opening the floor for questions and comments, the Chair then gave the floor to the Delegate of Venezuela, followed by the Delegate of the United States of America. Thanking the Secretariat for the presentation, the Delegate of Venezuela pointed out that the conclusion reached by Ms. Montillot in her presentation was something that all countries strongly believed in. South-South cooperation was not only a useful vehicle for developing countries and LDCs, but it was also a positive development for developed countries as it was important for all countries to work towards the same objective. He also welcomed the South-South database which, he stressed, would provide important information for developing countries, and the development of the South-South webpage. In this regard, the Delegate of Venezuela stressed the importance, in light of Article 66 TRIPS, for the World Trade Organization to engage in a similar process to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure that activities undertaken to support LDCs be further highlighted.

23. The Delegate of the United States of America then took the floor to ask for some clarification regarding the origin of the data in the South-South IP Technical Assistance Database and South-South Roster of Consultants and thanked the Secretariat for the interesting and informative presentations and conference. Responding to this question, Ms. Montillot pointed out that the data was indeed a subset of data from the original IP-TAD and IP-ROC databases, extracting only technical assistance activities with a South-South component as far as IP-TAD was concerned and only consultants from developing countries and LDCs as far as IP-ROC was concerned.

24. The Delegate of Egypt then took the floor, thanking the Secretariat for the useful presentations on the progress accomplished in various areas relating to the project's implementation and welcoming the concrete examples on South-South cooperation in practice. He also welcomed the development of the dedicated webpage on South-South cooperation which would certainly enhance and facilitate access to information and the new South-South functionalities in the databases. In this regard, he stressed, it would be useful to have more information on the results of the technical assistance activities undertaken. Egypt, he added, had also found it very useful to learn more about what was being done in the field of South-South cooperation UN system-wide. It was clear from the presentation made by the Secretariat that it was indeed a well-defined system. In this regard, he added, Egypt would welcome ideas on how to strengthen cooperation between WIPO, UNOSSC and other South-South existing structures, including on possible partnerships with SS-GATE, participation in future GSSD Expos, and perhaps the possibility to organize South-South cooperation events such as the GSSD Expo in WIPO.

25. Referring to the three presentations made by the Secretariat reporting on the pragmatic activities undertaken in the framework of the project which, it was stressed, contained rich information, the Delegate of China asked whether it would be possible to have access to the reports for more details on the different activities undertaken so that Member States could better reflect on how to take the process forward.

26. Responding to the Delegate of Egypt's comment regarding additional information on concrete results achieved as a result of technical assistance activities featured in the databases, Mr. Wibowo pointed out the fact that all documents relating to specific activities including programs, presentations, mission reports and so on were documents which were all available internally but WIPO had not received the mandate to make these documents available on the public website. Information that could be posted on the public site, for privacy and political reasons, only related to basic information such as the name of the country hosting the event/activity, the number and origin of participants and basic summary information about the activity.

27. Referring to WIPO's cooperation with UNOSSC, Mr. Roca Campaña reiterated the fact that WIPO was in close contact with UNOSSC and would also make such information available

on the South-South webpage. One of the proposals which had been made during the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation as pointed out by Mr. Gad, he stressed, had been for WIPO to host a GSSD Expo, an event, which, as indicated, was hosted each year by a different UN organization. While the 2014 GSSD Expo would be hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, WIPO could foresee, if given the mandate by Member States, to host a future Expo in 2015 or 2016. In any case, he pointed out, WIPO would strive to actively participate and contribute to forthcoming South-South events. The main purpose of the Expo which brought together a large number of stakeholders including industry representatives, representatives from research centers, developing countries, donors and so on, he added, was to showcase development solutions. The 2013 Expo had focused on solutions in the field of green technologies and the 2014 Expo would focus, as it had been understood, on development solutions in the area of science and technology. A lesson learned from WIPO's partnership with UNOSSC, he added, had been the importance of the multilateral system and of traditional donors, as well as the support from emerging developing countries that were making funds and resources available for South-South cooperation such as Egypt, Colombia and many others. WIPO's partnership with UNOSSC had so far been limited to participation in various South-South events, but if mandated by Member States to play a more active role, the Secretariat, he pointed out, was prepared to contribute more substantially to future GSSD Expos and could for instance host one the solution forums in the forthcoming Expo. More information, he concluded, would be made available in the framework of the project's completion report which would be submitted to Member States for consideration in the next session of CDIP.

TOPIC 4: THE WAY FORWARD. GENERAL DISCUSSION

28. Moving on to topic 4 and pointing out to the questionnaires to be returned to the Secretariat for the evaluation of the conference, the Chair indicated that the final session was an opportunity for Member States and other stakeholders to reflect on the way forward with regard to the future of the South-South cooperation project and South-South cooperation in general in the field of IP. He then gave the floor to the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to make a statement on behalf of the Secretary of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA).

29. Presenting, on behalf of the Secretary of ITPGRFA, recent developments in the International Treaty which may be of interest to WIPO's work on South-South cooperation in the field of IP and development, the representative of FAO pointed out the objectives of the International Treaty which were the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security. The International Treaty's truly innovative solution to access and benefit sharing was, he pointed out, its so-called Multilateral System, which put 64 of the most important crops – crops that together accounted for 80 percent of the food that was derived from plants – into an easily accessible global pool of genetic resources that was available to potential users for specific usages. Currently this gene pool included more than 1.6 million documented samples of genetic material and in the first eight months of operation, the System had facilitated more than 440,000 transfers of genetic material. To date, he stressed, the System facilitated the transfer of about 600 to 800 samples of genetic material every day worldwide. The exchange of plant genetic material within the Multilateral System was based on a Standard Material Transfer Agreement, which comprised the terms and conditions of both the access to the plant genetic resources as well as the benefit-sharing from their utilization. According to the provisions of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement, the obligation to share financial benefits arising from the utilization of plant genetic resources was triggered amongst others by the granting of IP rights in commercial products which incorporated such material and which were then under restriction for further research and breeding because of the IP right over the product. An equitable share of the benefits arising from the commercialization of any such product had to be paid to the

International Treaty's "Benefit Sharing Fund". The Benefit Sharing Fund, he added, had been established as a fund to invest in high impact projects supporting farmers in developing countries to conserve crop diversity in their fields and assisting farmers and breeders globally to adapt crops to changing needs and demands. It therefore provided financial support to the implementation of projects, which generated further innovation in the field of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, in the form of technology, new varieties and the like. Under the current project cycle, these innovations included for example building resilience to climate change of high yielding and locally adapted rice varieties, or multiplying wheat and barley landraces with drought- and disease-resistance in order to positively impact the food security, income, and resilience of poor farming communities. The recipient of material from the Multilateral System did not only however have to share financial benefits arising from the utilization of plant genetic resources, which were then put into the Benefit Sharing Fund, in order to support projects at the local level. According to the provisions of the Multilateral System, the Recipient also had to share non-monetary benefits, such as making available all non-confidential information resulting from research and development in the material accessed from the Multilateral System. Furthermore, he added, the International Treaty also provided for the sharing of non-monetary benefits in the form of technology transfer and capacity building. Consequently, several initiatives had been put into place, facilitating access to and transfer of technology, especially to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Among the mechanisms developed under the Treaty was also a Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies, set up and led by countries in response to requests from the Governing Body. It was worth noting in this regard that the UPOV Council had welcomed this Platform and requested the UPOV Secretariat to work with the International Treaty and the platform partners to facilitate the establishment and functioning of the initiative. The objectives of the platform were, *inter alia*, to: (i) contribute to food security, and the social and economic development of the target beneficiaries, through the establishment of a "one-stop shop" for coherent "technology transfer packets"; (ii) promote the co-development and transfer of technologies, recognizing that technology transfer requires a range of supporting activities; and (iii) create a functioning network of institutions with the skills and experience to support and undertake initiatives and projects that aim to co-develop and transfer technologies to beneficiaries in developing countries. This Platform comprised both public and private organizations with technical expertise from various regions of the world. The Treaty Secretariat was also collaborating with the Global Partnership Initiative for Plant Breeding Capacity Building in order to establish a Public-Private Partnership for Pre-breeding. The provisions on non-monetary benefit sharing of the International Treaty therefore provided an important basis for several ambitious and successful initiatives that aimed at strengthening assistance and cooperation among Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders. The exchange of information, access to and transfer of technology, capacity-building initiatives, as well as the facilitated access to the plant genetic resources of the Multilateral System itself all supported the achievement of the core objectives of the International Treaty, namely the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use. In conclusion, the representative of FAO pointed out the fact that Contracting Parties had decided, in the framework of the most recent session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty in Muscat from September 24 to 28, 2013, to further develop the initiatives aiming at implementing the objectives of non-monetary benefit sharing of the International Treaty.

30. The floor was then given to the Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union to make a contribution. Pointing out the importance of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation and of the Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation, having followed the meetings with great interest, the representative of the African Union welcomed the fact that the meeting in Cairo had involved a considerable number of participants and had provided a valuable forum for the exchange of experiences, an exchange of experiences which was also part of the mandate of the African Union and constituted an important concern for the organization particularly at a time when the

African Union was working on setting up the Pan African Intellectual Property Mechanism to be based in Tunis. In this regard, he stressed, the African Union wished to affirm its support to the proposals put forward during the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation and encouraged both WIPO and all development partners to mobilize support for the South-South cooperation process so that the proposals made could be implemented.

31. The Delegate of South Africa then took the floor to present a statement on behalf of the African Group. The African Group, he stated, welcomed the holding of the Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation on IP and Development and the hosting of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Egypt, which, in the African Group's view, had offered an opportunity to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation among developing countries and LDCs in the field of IP and to identify specific proposals on the items which had been discussed. In this regard, the African Group wished to recall that the project had first been presented as an African Group project which had then been approved by CDIP. In this regard, the Group attached great importance to the issue of South-South cooperation on IP and development, keeping in mind that science, innovation and technology were key to improving Africa's competitiveness and economic growth. WIPO, he stressed, could play an important role in promoting the understanding and adoption of IP policies and laws in Member States in respect of their different levels of development as well as in enhancing the flexibility of public policies in the area of IP, and it ought to act as a focal point for sharing successful experiences in developing countries and LDCs regarding the establishment of national IP systems focusing on economic, social and cultural development. In conclusion, the African Group emphasized the importance of carrying out all of the activities foreseen in the South-South cooperation project that would enable WIPO to be a catalyst in this regard.

32. Speaking on behalf of South Africa, in his national capacity, the Delegate of South Africa also thanked the Government of Egypt for having hosted the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation and the Secretariat for the role played in advancing the South-South cooperation project. South Africa, he stressed, wished to reiterate the fact that South-South cooperation was an ongoing initiative and a complement to North-South relations. In this regard, he pointed out, South Africa supported the implementation of a second phase of the project to be undertaken upon completion of the project evaluation by the Secretariat and urged the Secretariat to complete all activities under the project, including the establishment of a focal point on South-South cooperation at WIPO. In conclusion, the Delegate of South Africa noted from the presentations made that a number of organizations had already mainstreamed the issue of South-South cooperation into their activities and urged WIPO to pursue the same path.

33. Congratulating the Secretariat for the organization of the Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation, the Delegate of Brazil then took the floor to share Brazil's position. Brazil, he stressed, attached great importance to the project and was fully engaged in the process, as the host, in particular, of the First WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation held in Brazil in August 2012. Three important issues had been discussed during that meeting, namely IP governance, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore, and finally copyright and related rights, and the report of the meeting had been submitted to the First WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation which had taken place in Geneva in 2012. Brazil, he pointed out, had also, in 2012, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with WIPO establishing a Funds-in-Trust (FIT) dedicated to the promotion of triangular technical cooperation with a view to increasing the capacity of developing countries to use IP tools. This had been the first FIT established by WIPO which was exclusively dedicated to South-South cooperation. Overall, he stressed, the Brazilian Government would commit more than 1 million United States of America dollars during the period 2012-2016 under the FIT. To date, three South-South cooperation initiatives were being supported by this FIT, namely the Second Inter-Regional Forum of Heads of Industrial Property Offices from Arab and Latin American countries which had taken place in Rio de Janeiro in June 2013, the hiring of a specialist consultancy for the PROSUR project, and a training on classifications, search, and

examination in the areas of chemistry and pharmacy which was going to take place in Rio de Janeiro from November 25 to December 12, 2013. All these activities, he pointed out, were being undertaken with the support of the WIPO external office in Brazil which was the Unit responsible for the implementation of this FIT. For Brazil, he underlined, strengthening South-South cooperation had to be a priority in WIPO. South-South cooperation had already been recognized as a strategic and effective tool in other areas and there was no reason for it to be any different in the field of IP. For this to happen, he stressed, good ideas had to be translated into quick actions. While the process had to be essentially member driven with developing countries taking primary responsibility for it, WIPO could and had to play an important role in strengthening South-South cooperation on IP and development, keeping in mind the fact that WIPO had the credentials and necessary expertise to provide support to such bilateral or trilateral activities. In this regard, he concluded, it was important to set up a clear work program providing guidelines for the work of WIPO in the field of South-South cooperation and Member States had to make sure that WIPO also allocated adequate human and financial resources to further promote South-South cooperation.

34. The Delegate of Azerbaijan was then given the floor to present Azerbaijan's position. Welcoming the holding of such events which provided a valuable forum to exchange views on IP and development, the Delegate of Azerbaijan thanked the Secretariat for the useful and informative presentations. South-South cooperation in the field of IP and development, he stressed, was essential in order to take into account existing socio-economic problems of developing countries and LDCs. In this regard, he pointed out, one of the main challenges remained access to information and knowledge as many studies were still not available in all working languages of WIPO. The Government of Azerbaijan, he added, considered IP an issue of the greatest importance recognizing its role in economic development. At present, the IP Center had managed to ensure that the government adopt new legislation against misuse, illicit use and counterfeiting. In December 2012, Azerbaijan had also adopted the Economic Development Program until 2020. The program, he highlighted, included a number of activities in the area of IP. In November 2013, together with the United Nations, Azerbaijan had also organized an international forum on the use of the internet and its impact on the socio-economic sector, focusing, in particular, on the protection of IP rights on the internet. In conclusion, the Delegate of Azerbaijan reiterated the importance which the Government of Azerbaijan attached to the protection of IP rights and its disposition to cooperate with other countries in this regard in the framework of future South-South cooperation initiatives.

35. Sharing Egypt's position, the Delegate of Egypt expressed his appreciation to the Secretariat for the convening of the Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation and welcomed the presence of many developing and developed countries for this exchange of views, experiences and ideas. Egypt, he stressed, was looking forward to working closely with other countries in all fields of IP in a South-South cooperation spirit. The presentations and vigorous exchanges of viewpoints had provided an added value which could provide the basis on which to build the future of South-South cooperation at WIPO. In this regard, he pointed out, it was important for Member States to present a clear roadmap to WIPO to take the South-South cooperation process forward and to ensure the sustainability of the process. South-South cooperation, he added, had to become an integral part of WIPO's programs, pointing out to the importance of South-South cooperation in the field, in particular, of technical assistance and capacity building. It was important in this regard to ensure a second stage to the project taking into consideration the proposals made by Member States and other activities such as the ones presented by the Delegate of Brazil. As highlighted by the Delegate of Azerbaijan, it was also important for the Organization to make documentation available in the languages of the countries of the South to ensure that these could fully benefit from them. A number of JIU recommendations on South-South cooperation were also under consideration by the Organization, in particular on the establishment of institutional structures for South-South cooperation and on the allocation of 0.5 per cent of core budget resources for the promotion of South-South cooperation, including discussions with interested countries to finance South-

South initiatives under additional resources.

36. Providing some concluding observations by way of summarizing the main discussions and proposals on the way forward, the Chair started by highlighting the main points made during the morning and afternoon sessions of the conference. Providing an opportunity to review the work undertaken during the *Second WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Patents, Trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs and Enforcements* from the points of view of the Secretariat, the host country and participating countries including Cambodia, Cuba and Peru, the morning session had highlighted the relevance of South-South cooperation – as a complement to North-South cooperation – and the importance of inter-regional meetings in terms of promoting experience-sharing, knowledge-sharing and networking among developing countries and LDCs. A number of concrete partnerships had already flourished as a direct result of the inter-regional meetings such as highlighted by Egypt's cooperation with India which had been a direct result from face-to-face discussions facilitated by the Second WIPO Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Cairo. The afternoon session, he added, had focused on reviewing the progress made in implementing the project on South-South cooperation and had provided an opportunity for Member States to other delegates to learn more about the new South-South functionalities developed under the project, the South-South webpage, and WIPO's partnership with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

37. In terms of the way forward, the Chair pointed out the main proposals made which, he stressed, would all be reflected in the final report of the conference prepared by the Secretariat and would serve as the basis for further discussions on the future of the WIPO South-South Project in the framework of CDIP. Delegations, he stressed, had overwhelmingly expressed the need for a second phase of the project and had made a number of suggestions in this regard as a follow-up to the proposals made during the two WIPO inter-regional meetings on South-South cooperation, which, they had stressed, had to be translated into concrete activities to take the process forward. In particular, a number of Delegations had expressed the need to further disseminate best practices and lessons learned from developing countries and LDCs, the need to strengthen WIPO's institutional structure for South-South cooperation, and the need to ensure continued cooperation with UNOSSC through, in particular, joint partnerships with the UN South-South multilateral support architecture. Delegations had also emphasized the need to strengthen networking and matchmaking among countries in the South through the further development of the WIPO South-South portal and the organization of further thematic South-South inter-regional meetings. In this regard, he pointed out, Peru had offered to host another inter-regional meeting on South-South cooperation in 2014. Last but not least, some Delegations had also emphasized the need to strengthen access to knowledge and to WIPO databases and resources in the main languages of developing countries and LDCs. In conclusion, the Chair expressed his gratitude to the Secretariat for the convening of this importance conference and for the informative and enriching presentations that had been made.

[Annexes follow]



CONFERENCE

WIPO/SSC/GE/13/1
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2013

**Second WIPO Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation on
Intellectual Property and Development**

organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Geneva, November 22, 2013

PROGRAM

prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO

Friday, November 22, 2013

The Conference will be presided over by His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, and Chair of the Twelfth Session of the Committee on Development of Intellectual Property (CDIP)

9.30 – 10.00 Registration

10.00 – 10.30 Opening Ceremony

Welcome address by:

Mr. Geoffrey Onyeama, Deputy Director General, Development Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 – 11.45 Topic 1: Presentation of the Report of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Patents, Trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs and Enforcement

Speakers: Mr. Alejandro Roca Campaña, Senior Director, Access to Information and Knowledge Division, Global Infrastructure Sector, WIPO

Mr. Mohamed Gad, Counselor, Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cairo

11.45 – 13.00 Topic 2: Panel Discussion: Evaluation of the Second Inter-Regional Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Patents, Trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs and Enforcement

Moderator: Mr. Alejandro Roca Campaña

Panelists: Mr. Sovicheat Penn, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Domestic Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Member of the Secretariat of National Committee for Intellectual Property Rights, Phnom Penh

Mrs. María de los Angeles Sánchez Torres, Director General, Cuban Industrial Property Office, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, La Habana

Mr. Mohamed Gad

Mr. Hebert Tassano Velaochaga, President of the Board, National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property Protection (INDECOPI), Lima

13.00 – 15.00 Lunch Break



CONFERENCE

**WIPO/SSC/GE/13/INF/1
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
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**WIPO Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation on
Intellectual Property (IP) and Development**

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prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO

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