

Cambodia's STATEMENT
Delivered by H.E. Mr. OUK Prachea
Deputy Minister/Secretary of State of Ministry Commerce
Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO: 54th Series of Meetings
22-30 September 2014

Madam Chair,
Dr. Francis Gurry, Director General of WIPO,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Madam Chair, on your election as the Chair of the Assemblies. I have full confidence in your leadership in steering our Assemblies to a successful conclusion. I also would like to congratulate Dr. Francis Gurry for reelected as the Director General of WIPO. My thanks also go to the WIPO Secretariat's staffs for their excellent arrangements made.

I wish to highlight the progress that has been made by Cambodia.

Since Cambodia has resumed a political and economic stability under the leadership of our Prime Minister **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, the Royal Government of Cambodia has put in place a comprehensive economic policy. IP is part of that policy aimed at encouraging innovative, creative and technological development as well as attracting foreign direct investment into Cambodia. Moreover Cambodia already drafted the National IP Strategy, which is already endorsed by the National Committee of Intellectual Property Right of Cambodia. Our government strongly believes that implementation of an appropriate IP policy and strategy will create wealth for the nation and contribute to the economic growth.

As a result, Cambodia managed to achieve a GDP growth in average **8%** per annum for the last **10 years** (2004–2013 periods). GDP per capita income increased from USD 398 in 2000 to USD 1,043 in 2013 and trade volume is almost USD 16 billions in 2013. IP has partly contributed to this economic achievement.

Cambodia is happy to announce that our Prime Minister has agreed in principle for Cambodia's joining the 92 countries in the Madrid union. We are thankful for the assistance provided by the Brands and Designs Sector, which enabled our accession just before the realization of the ASEAN economic community in 2015. As an LDC, we consider it a particularly significant step in developing an IP system that supports our national strategy of development.

In conclusion, I wish to stress that Cambodia has attached a great importance to the development of a sound IP policy to be used as one of the important tools for economic development and poverty reduction. To make this happen, we need full support and assistance from development partners and international organizations, especially WIPO. I am sure that they will lend their full support to Cambodia in order to realize this goal. With this note, Mr. Chairman, I wish the Assemblies of WIPO fruitful deliberations and successful outcomes.

Thank you for your attention!