

2014-09-26

Sweden

Opening Statement by Sweden at the 54th Series of Meetings

Madam Chair,

Sweden would like to thank you for your stewardship of these meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. We also express our confidence in your abilities to guide us to fruitful and successful outcomes of these Assemblies.

Sweden would also like to congratulate Dr. Francis Gurry for his reelection as Director General for WIPO in May this year. We look forward to following his continuous good work with this organization.

Sweden would also like to thank the outgoing Deputy Director Generals and Assistant Director Generals. We appreciate the work they have done and the contributions they have made to further the work of WIPO and we wish them all the best for the future.

First of all this delegation can inform the Assemblies that since July 2014, patent applicants have the option to have their complete processing of national patent applications in English. Sweden believes that this possibility can benefit both national applicants aiming to continue with the application internationally, as well as applicants from outside of Sweden that want to protect their inventions in Sweden.

This delegation fully supports the statements made by Japan on behalf of Group B and by Italy, on behalf of EU and its member states.

Sweden would like to emphasize its support for WIPO in its mission for the promotion of innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries through a balanced and effective international IP system.

To achieve this mission WIPO need to be efficient in all its tasks. Sweden continues to welcome and support measures leading to mechanisms that are responsive, transparent and robust over-time aiming at a more efficient WIPO. Therefore, we praise the Director General and his team for their work in these areas. And while the organization has made great improvements, there are still challenges ahead. It is of great importance that services of WIPO improve their efficiency as well as meet customers' needs for international protection of their intellectual property. In line with this, WIPO should provide and develop the international legal intellectual property framework and the infrastructure, to make best use of IP as a driving force for economic development.



REGERINGSKANSLIE

The work of the committees of WIPO is important. We recognize the great importance and added value of harmonizing and simplifying design registration formalities and procedures. We believe that the immense work made by SCT has rendered in a result ready for concluding discussions at a diplomatic conference.

With regard to the SCCR, we would like to extend our gratitude to the WIPO secretariat for its continuous efforts to move the issues on the agenda forward and we would like to reiterate our commitment to constructively participate in the future deliberations of the Committee.

With regard to the subjects of the CDIP and the IGC, Sweden would like to stress the significance of the work carried out by these Committees. Sweden remains committed to continue to participate productively in the work of the IGC and looks forward to establish a workplan towards a realistic and balanced result. It is important that any outcome of the IGC does not adversely hamper innovation or creativity or decreases access to a rich public domain. The work in the IGC should be efficient, transparent and member-state driven. Sweden would like to reiterate its understanding that any international instrument or instruments to be created in the IGC should be non-binding as well as flexible and sufficiently clear.

Sweden is committed to further the international harmonization of patent law, therefore we are particular. Furthermore we would like to emphasize the great importance of the PCT-system and our commitment to the valuable work of the PCT working group.

Furthermore, this Delegation would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation for the excellent cooperation between the International Bureau and the Swedish Patent and Registration Office in relation to advanced training programmes on various aspects of intellectual property, financed by the Swedish international development cooperation agency, Sida.

Finally, Sweden looks forward to continuing its successful cooperation within WIPO on the development of the international intellectual property system to the benefit of economic, social and cultural development of all.

Thank you, madam chair!