

General Assembly of Member States of WIPO: Fifty-Fifth Series of Meetings

Geneva, October 5 to October 14, 2015

STATEMENT BY MONTENEGRIN DELEGATION

Mister Chair,
Director General,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates

I would like to congratulate you on your election and also for the two vice chairs, to the Director General and the Secretariat which has prepared all comprehensive documents. We do appreciate their work.

Mr. Chairman,

Montenegro was honored and very pleased with a visit of Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of the WIPO at the beginning of July, this year. This visit was quite short –only for a one day and at the same time the program was very intensive. H.E. Mr. Gurry had meetings with the highest officials of Montenegro: President of Montenegro, Prime Minister and two ministers - Minister of Economy and Minister of Science. Director of IP Office of Montenegro was the host of Mr. Gurry.

The visit has passed in a constructive dialog in all spheres related to IP protection in Montenegro involving all relevant actors in this chain. Mr.Gurry expressed further support of WIPO to the IP Office and Ministry of Economy. Both presidents expressed gratitude to the WIPO for its contribution for all these seven years as a period during which Montenegro has administered IP rights in its territory and nine years of membership in the WIPO. As result of meeting with Minister of science this year for the first time in Montenegro, our scientists won ‘The WIPO Medal for Inventors’. It comprised the part of the program of “Montenegrin Open Science Days”, which has been recognized for its importance in stimulating and recognizing creativity and innovation in Montenegro.

Montenegro participated in the Diplomatic Conference for adoption of **New Act** of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration (the Geneva Act. We fully supported adoption of the new treaty and its argumentation. We strongly believe that it accomplished main goals to spread membership and preserve the concept of Lisbon system.

Montenegro associates itself with the statements made by Romania on behalf of the Regional Group of Central European and Baltic States

Mr. Chairman

We support efforts WIPO devotes for further development of the international normative framework in the field of the intellectual property and its response to new, global challenges. Montenegro remains dedicated to the work of all the WIPO committees and working groups. Montenegro also highly appreciates the International Bureau on providing the best available global services under the PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems within the Transitional and Development Division, Montenegro being part of, for this period has supported the IPOM significantly through given participation for some WIPO bodies, conferences and seminars.

At this instance, let us briefly inform you about developments Montenegro achieved from last year until this General Assembly.

On European roadmap for 2014/ 15 we have duly carried out all our obligations in accordance with the agreed criteria with the European commission.

We actively cooperate with the European Patent Organization in our preparatory work to accede to the European Patent Convention. These activities include rising of knowledge and administrative capacity of IPOM as well as strengthening enforcement bodies and information infrastructure primarily in the IP Office. These activities are still in progress.

Law on Patents, published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro N 42/2015 which came into force on 6 August 2015. The main novelty is that it introduced the evidence of patentability in Article 46 which opened a new legal layer to patent protection in Montenegro.

Montenegro also actively cherishes cooperation with the OHIM. Many activities were undertaken. The OHIM has supported IPOM in different ways: participation in the Liaison meetings on trademarks and design, the IP executive week, successful implementation of the TM Class project with the TM View project to be integrated in the following months. Within these results, needless to say, we also fulfilled our European obligations.

Also Government of Montenegro adopted new drafts of trademark, industrial design, topographies of Semiconductors products and copyright and related rights laws. Now they are in the parliament procedures.

Mr. Chairman,

By way of conclusion, Montenegro delegation wishes to highlight its dedication to contribute in a positive and constructive way to the success of these General Assemblies.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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