

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**STATEMENT**  
**BY**  
**HEAD OF DELEGATION OF**  
**THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**  
**AT 57<sup>TH</sup> SERIES OF ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO**

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset I, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, congratulate you on your election as the Chairman of the 57th series of Assemblies of WIPO and express my confidence that the current Assemblies will be successful under your able leadership.

I also express my appreciations to Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General and the Secretariat for their efforts made for the successful proceedings of the Assemblies.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation appreciate the WIPO for the successes achieved in its work for further strengthening the protection system of intellectual property in conformity with the era of knowledge-based economy.

The Secretariat of WIPO fully carried out the programme and budget for 2016-2017 adopted at the 56<sup>th</sup> series of Assemblies

and spared no efforts to successfully implement the Convention of Establishing WIPO, sectoral treaties and other decisions adopted at the last Assemblies.

With its due attention focused on the expert training, a prerequisite to the implementation of the Treaty on Patent Cooperation and other treaties, the Secretariat also made a contribution to the development of intellectual property in developing countries.

In addition, a major step forward was made in its activities for the registration of patent and industrial design and substantial assistance rendered to the activities of the Member States in this regard.

Thanks to the concerted efforts of the WIPO Secretariat and Member States for the successful implementation of the decisions adopted at the 56<sup>th</sup> series of Assemblies, we can now review the outcomes with satisfaction and start elaborating new

goals.

Mr. Chairman,

We are of the view that all the WIPO activities should be oriented towards ensuring that the protection of intellectual property makes a substantial contribution to addressing the global challenges by dint of science and technology.

My delegation commends the work of the working group for the operation of the Lisbon Union for the Intellectual Registration of Appellations of origin and expects an approach to be taken for the stable budget of the Union.

We also hold the view that proactive assistance should be rendered to developing countries in establishing protection system and capacity based on their specific situations.

We highly appreciate the entry into force of the Marrakesh Treaty and call upon all non-States to accede thereto from the

humanitarian point of view.

Mr. Chairman,

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, Supreme leader of the Korean people, set the building of a sci-tech power as a top priority goal to be accomplished in the building of a socialist thriving nation.

With the introduction of great number of inventions and new technologies in several fields of national economy, cutting-edge equipment and other technical means were produced on our own strength, technology and resources, thus contributing to the development of national economy and the improvement of people's livelihood.

In July this year, 15<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition of Inventions and New Technology took place in the DPRK, displaying over 1,500 best inventions and new technologies. Moreover, sectoral sci-tech presentations and exhibitions were also held this year.

The DPRK regards the active participation in WIPO activities as its obligation and to this end, approved last August the amendments to the Convention on Establishing the WIPO and to other WiPO-administered treaties.

Mr. Chairman,

Peaceful environment is prerequisite for the development of science and technology, which are the engines of national economy.

But in reality, the sovereignty of developing countries and their rights to existence and development including the development of science and technology and other economic fields are under serious and constant threat posed by the high-handed policies of certain countries intending to check their aspiration for independence by force.

This case is found in the DPRK. The hostile forces have

imposed unprecedented inhumane sanctions against the DPRK with the aim to bring down the socialist system and stifle the field of people's livelihood.

The DPRK is suffering from such toughest sanctions on unreasonable grounds that it is taking self-defensive measures to safeguard its rights to independence and existence.

However, the reality shows that the tougher the hostile forces impose upon the DPRK, the more stronger the will and spirit of its people to firmly defend its socialist system will become.

Mr. Chairman,

The DPRK will continue to further develop its protection of intellectual property and fulfill its commitments as a Member State of WIPO so as to strengthen the international cooperation with the Organization and other Member States in the protection field of intellectual property.

Thank you.