

GENERAL STATEMENT 2017 – **NORWAY** – WIPO Assemblies, 57th Series of Meetings, October 2 to 11, 2017

The Norwegian Delegation wishes to express its satisfaction seeing the Chair on the podium and wishes him the best of luck in guiding this Assembly to a successful conclusion. We also welcome the Vice-Chairs. We commend the Secretariat and Director General Francis Gurry for their excellent preparatory work for these assemblies.

Norway maintains the importance of improving the Member States' ability to monitor the economy and administration of WIPO and welcomes the continued efforts and cooperation to this end.

The Norwegian delegation commends the International Bureau for its continued focus on securing the best available global services under the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems. Smooth systems, ongoing dedication to simplification and cost-savings for the benefit of the users - these are crucial to continued and increased use of these global IP-services. We note with pleasure that the working groups under these systems continue to make progress for improving regulations, guidelines and practices. This year we also welcome the renewal of the agreements for the International Authorities under the PCT, hereunder the Nordic Patent Institute (NPI). Norway is committed to the work on global services, in the interest of the existing and future users of the systems.

Norway supports a renewed mandate for the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

Norway looks forward to a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of Design Law Treaty and regrets the delay.

With regard to developments in Norway, the Patents Act was amended with effect from 1 September 2017 to implement legislation pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 and Regulation (EC) No 469/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 concerning the supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products and the possibility for a six-month paediatric extension.

By way of conclusion, the Norwegian Delegation underlines its commitment to contribute in a positive and constructive way to the success of these General Assemblies.