

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SOUTH AFRICAN  
UNITED NATIONS  
ORGANISATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION TO THE  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL

57<sup>th</sup> SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE  
ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO

2 - 11 OCTOBER 2017

AGENDA ITEM 17

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (CDIP)

Chairperson

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Senegal on behalf of the African Group.

We thank the Secretariat for the comprehensive report presented by the Director-General on work undertaken by the organisation in implementing the various Development Agenda Recommendations in the last financial period.

Chairperson

*Whether one lives in the developed or the developing world, the fates of **Asians, Africans, Europeans, and everyone** on the planet are inextricably linked... [requiring] **creative and innovative solutions for fostering sustainable growth, securing jobs, and increasing competitive abilities.***"

This could not be more true for South Africa, a country with a population of 55 million, whose people are inherently innovative searching for local solutions to local problems, with innovation in all its forms, from social to frugal to incremental to

grassroots to disruptive, being utilized. There is no doubt that intellectual property in all forms whether registered or not, is an important catalyst in innovation.

With this context in mind, in 2017 we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the WIPO Development Agenda (DA); this adoption being regarded as a watershed moment, confirming that intellectual property, and the associated rights, function in a global economy which is dependent on fully inclusive participation by all nations.

Chairperson

Ten years after the adoption of the Development Agenda the most recent review has reflected some progress made to date, however, recurring matters arose again including the continued lack of effective coordination, monitoring, reporting, evaluation and mainstreaming of the implementation of the DA Recommendations in WIPO especially with regard to the role of the Program and Budget Committee and the Committee on WIPO Standards.

South Africa thanks all delegations for the recent support received for the approval of our initiated development project entitled “***Intellectual Property Management and Transfer of Technology: Promoting the effective use of IP in Developing Countries, LDCs and Countries with Economies in Transition***” and thank WIPO for the inclusion of this technology transfer in the PBC for 2018/19. We look forward to seeing the recommendations coming out of this project being implemented, as envisaged in article ten (titled technology transfer) of the Agreement between the UN and WIPO.

South Africa would like to encourage all delegations to ensure that the mandate of the CDIP is effectively applied, thereby creating a platform for a meaningful, often technical and practical, collegial discussion on IP and development. We look forward to future discussions, deliberations and debates at the next CDIP as we advance the DA.

With this, we thank you.