

**Item 15. Report on the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP)
(WO/GA/50/4)**

Mr. Chair,

1. The CEBS Group welcomes the work of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and would like to thank the chair of the SCP Mr. Damaso Pardo for guiding the work in the last two sessions. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Deputy Director General Mr. John Sandage and the Secretariat for their work over the past year including the preparation for this General Assembly.
2. We believe that this committee is of great importance as a forum for the member states to exchange the experiences and share the best practices in the area of the patent law, as well as to gain from information and discussions on different important topics, especially in the area of substantive patent law.
3. The CEBS group is pleased to note that constructive participation of delegations engaged in the work of the committee allowed for tangible progress in discussions on the five main topics of the SCP and for reaching agreement on balanced future work programme.
4. The main areas of interest for the CEBS group are and remain the quality of patents and confidentiality of communications between clients and their patent advisors. To our belief it is crucial to continue the work including on the basis of the proposal by the Czech Republic, Kenya, Mexico, Singapore and the United Kingdom on improving the quality of patents as it would be beneficial for the whole patent system. Furthermore, we believe that the work of this committee enhances the international cooperation and enables the solution of cross boarder challenges.
5. We look forward to engaging in further constructive work on these topics, as well as all other important issues included in the work program.

Thank you, Mr. Chair