

**58 SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF
WIPO
GENERAL STATEMENT
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
AGENDA ITEM 5**

Chairman,

The Delegation of Poland associates itself with the statements made by Austria on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and Lithuania on behalf of the Central Europe and Baltic States.

We congratulate the Director General and WIPO staff for the presented reports which reflect the progress made and the results achieved by the Organization in 2017.

The year 2018 is significant for Poland, since it marks the centenary of regaining independence after 123 years under foreign rule and the 100th anniversary of laying the foundations of the industrial property protection system in the Independent Poland and of the establishment of the Polish Patent Office. Since the very beginning Poland has attached great importance to promoting progress and developing the national economy by assuring the proper functioning of industrial property system and the protection of creative works. As early as in 1919 our country became party to the Paris Convention, in 1920 to the Berne Convention and until today it has adhered to 19 international treaties administered by WIPO.

Poland continues to support WIPO in its efforts to promote a sustainable and effective international IP system and in its normative work. During the previous year the Patent Office has continued to focus on promoting industrial property by organizing a wide range of conferences, seminars, workshops and trainings addressed to various institutions and professions, including in cooperation with WIPO, including. One of the most important has been a roving seminar to present WIPO services and user-support tools.

In March this year the Memorandum of Understanding was signed among World Intellectual Property Organization the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and the Polish Patent Office on

launching in the academic year 2018/2019 a new Joint Master's Degree Program in Intellectual Property and New Technologies. In April WIPO and PPO signed another Memorandum - on the promotion of Alternative Dispute Resolution services and raising awareness of WIPO ADR procedures among the users of IP system in our country.

My delegation notes the important endeavours of the WIPO Committees and especially the success of the 28th session of the SCP. We are satisfied with the SCP's ongoing work on important issues, particularly on patent quality, including opposition systems and the confidentiality of communications between client and patent attorney. Further work in this area is beneficial for all countries, irrespective of their level of development, since it would enhance the credibility, reliability and stability of the international IP system. We hope for further progress in this Committee. We also hope for balanced and effective working programs in other Committees.

Poland regrets that the 57. General Assembly was not able to decide positively on the convening of a diplomatic conference for the adoption of DLT. The text that all of us have negotiated so long is mature. We hope that these Assemblies will take a decision on a date for a diplomatic conference in 2019.