

STATEMENT at the 59<sup>th</sup> WIPO General Assembly by Ambassador George Papadatos, Permanent Observer of EPLO at the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva

Mr President

Since this is the first time I am taking the floor on behalf of the EPLO let me echo the comments and congratulatory remarks of others for the assumption of the presidency of the WIPO general assembly.

The representative of Greece, who took the floor earlier, made a reference to an MOU signed between the Hellenic Industrial Property Academy and EPLO. Tomorrow the Academy will be signing an MOU with WIPO with particular emphasis on supporting the transnational flow of IP.

EPLO is regularly conducting work on issues of Data enabled IP policy and innovation, not only within the context of WIPO but also in the framework of its participation to other international and UN bodies. However, we wish to underline our commitment in supporting WIPO work at all levels and hope that our collaboration with the Hellenic Industrial Property Academy will contribute to the development of a sustainable, multilateral and inclusive IP system. EPLO is also actively working with WIPO's Judicial Institute and the Academy for the establishment of a programme for the support of Greek IP judges. We restate our commitment to the success of the programme and increasing the capacity of IP judges.

We would like to call attention to the importance of EIPO's future involvement in UN initiatives such as the UN High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation by introducing and inclusive innovation agenda and underline EPLO commitment to contribute in this direction.

In concluding, Mr President, EPLO has a long-standing record on cooperating with WIPO on various issues. I will be remiss if I do not mention the excellent support we have received from DG Gurry and his staff.

Thank you Mr President