

Japan's intervention at 59th WIPO Assemblies (Sep 30<sup>th</sup>-Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019)

Agenda item 13: Report on the Program and Budget Committee A/59/7

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

The delegation of Japan aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegates of Canada on behalf of Group B.

The delegation of Japan recognizes the necessity of considering the ways to correct the imbalance of income and expenditure of each union.

In this regard, we appreciate the proposal presented by the Secretariat and proposal submitted by the Delegation of the USA. However, we should not forget about the financial sustainability of each Union. We believe that the current proposal made by the Secretariat simply will increase the deficits of the Lisbon and Hague Unions. In this regard, we cannot fully support the proposal.

We also thank the Delegation of Switzerland for submitting another proposal. We welcome the detail of "unified budget of WIPO". If the "unified budget of WIPO" means making drastic reform to WIPO's financial structure, we need to carefully discuss the details and the effect of any reforms.

We believe the independence of each union is important. In this regard, we have the same concerns indicated by the delegation of USA that unified budget will deteriorate the transparency of the income and expenditure.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.