

ITEM 5 General Statements

Mr Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor! I have the honour of addressing this assembly today on behalf of the Romanian Delegation.

1. Romania aligns itself with the statement delivered by Finland, on behalf of the European Union and by Croatia, on behalf of the East - European and Baltic countries (CEBS Group).
2. Mr. Chair, Romania would like to thank you for your involvement and hard work in the preparation of the 59th session of the General Assembly of WIPO Member States. We hope that, under your leadership, progress will be made on the items that have been discussed for such a long time within the Organization.
3. To succeed in a constantly changing world, businesses are constantly changing, too. In this respect, Romania acknowledges the importance of protecting intellectual property at national and international level, intellectual creations being also met within the economic, scientific, medical domains and not only.
4. One of the challenges of the intellectual property protection system is the development and use of artificial intelligence by our society. This aspect will continue to transform our daily lives.
5. Regarding the enforcement of intellectual property rights, the green economy, the legitimate trade of goods and services through the Internet and the classical commerce is another worldwide challenge that requires greater efforts to raise awareness among citizens and consumers.
6. Romania acknowledges the quality and attributions of WIPO for the development of the global system of intellectual property protection as well as the efforts made for the existence of a balanced international IP protection system.
7. Regarding the "quality of patents", "exceptions and limitations" and "legal requirements", Romania appreciates the progress made on these aspects discussed in the framework of the Standing Committee on Patent Law (SCP).
8. Romania welcomes the consensus reached by Member States during the 40th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions (IGC) on the new mandate. We support its granting and working program for the 2020/2021 biennium, as proposed by the IGC Committee.
9. Mr. Chair, Romania appreciates the progress made during the last two working sessions of the Standing Committee on Trademark Law, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT). Regarding the Design Law Treaty, Romania considers that the text is sufficiently mature to convene a Diplomatic Conference for the purpose of its adoption.
10. Concerning the activity of the Standing Committee for Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), we restate our satisfaction with the agreement reached by the Committee in April 2019 on the

recommendation to this Assembly on continuing its work towards convening a diplomatic conference, aiming for the 2020/2021 biennium. We reiterate our option for an international legal instrument, fully adapted to the realities of the digital era and responding to the present and future needs of broadcasting organizations. We would also like to express our readiness for continuing the debates on the topics included on SCCR agenda aiming at limitations and exceptions, as well as on *Other matters*, where we support the inclusion of Author's Resale Right (right of suite) on the permanent agenda of the Committee.

11. In terms of the activity of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE), Romania regards it as a key platform for sharing national and regional experiences in the field as well as for strengthening the efforts to tackle counterfeit and piracy. We highly appreciate the activities undertaken in the field of education and intellectual property, our country granting special attention and carrying out significant efforts on the matter.
12. Last but not least, Romania would like to reiterate its readiness for hosting a WIPO external office in Bucharest. As you know, we made the first proposal in 2010 and our offer was reiterated on each call for offers, being strictly designed in accordance with the Guiding Principles.

A new WIPO external office, hosted in Bucharest would mean: boosting the development of the IP system in the sub-region, promoting WIPO's services and values, tailoring WIPO's response to the specific needs of a significant number of TDC states from CEBS, fostering the economic, social and cultural development in this part of the Central and Eastern Europe.

We look forward to constructive discussions during the week and we count on your support for a positive outcome for our candidature, tanking also into account that CEBS is the only region where WIPO has no geographical representation.

13. Mr. Chair, we would like to conclude our statement by reiterating this Delegation's commitment to contribute to a successful outcome of the 2019 Assemblies' sessions. Only working together we could identify the best possible solutions for addressing the issues under discussion in this session.

Thank you for your attention!