

**SIXTY FIRST SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE
MEMBER STATES OF WIPO**

Geneva September 21-29, 2020

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellency Director General,

Your Excellences,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Delegation of Albania fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by Latvia on behalf of the CEBS Group.

We congratulate the Director General and WIPO staff for the excellent results achieved since the previous General Assembly meeting.

We all have passed through a wired period and difficult one, working in strange conditions but always we met our goals. During this difficult period, we would like to emphasize that Republic of Albania is part of GLOBAL BRAND DATABASE including over than 18,500 records.

Albania remains focused on implementing the National Strategy on Intellectual Property (2016-2020). The General Directorate of Industrial Property, in the role of the Technical Secretariat, have collected data from the Institutions involved in the Strategy and have compiled the matrix of achievements to date for the indicators foreseen to be realized.

Furthermore, Albania started to draft the new strategic document for the year 2021-2025 thanks to the technical support of WIPO. The document is going to be finalized at the beginning of the next year.

Taking the wondering back to the national level, Albania has drafted amendments to the Law 9947 “On Industrial Property” as amended, which will be in alignment with European Trade Secret Directive, up to the end of the current year.

Moreover, other amendments are done as regard to the inspection body, aiming to adopt legal provisions and procedures for administrative protection of infringement of industrial property rights.

Albania has continued to promote IP rights and the importance of the IP registration in various businesses, universities, different categories in different districts of our country.

In terms of cooperation we would like to inform that Albania signed a memorandum of Understanding with Austrian Patent Office in December 2019. Furthermore, an informative and scientific Centre is established in December 2019 at another technical University, by raising it to four centres in Albania, and by fulfilling also in this way the obligation of the National Strategy on IP.

Albania with the technical and financial support of WIPO has completed the adaption of the manual on: "IP Crimes for the Training of Judges and Prosecutors for the Republic of Albania". It's worth to emphasize that this is the first manual for the judiciary system in the intellectual property field.

This year the promotion of the "World IP Day" on April 26th2020 has been done through the media campaign and social network, which was quite different from the previous years due to Covid-19 pandemic situation.

Also, Albania is looking forward to deepening our cooperation with WIPO, in terms of capacity building and technical assistance in the field, as well as in any other cooperation regarding the field of intellectual property rights.

In conclusion, we would like to express our special gratitude and appreciation to DG Gurry for his extremely important contribution in leading WIPO and for supporting the IP system in Albania.

At the same time, Albania take this opportunity to express the confidence that WIPO under the direction of the new DG Daren Tang will further consolidate its achievements by aiming for even more ambitious objectives and reaffirm our commitment on further developing the intellectual property system in Albania based on a solid collaboration with WIPO.

Thank you!