



**CHAIR  
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
GENEVA CHAPTER**



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**Sixty-First Series of Meetings of Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO**

**Agenda item 5: General debate**

**Statement**

**by H.E. Amb. Vaqif Sadiqov, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

**Geneva, 21 September 2020**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of 116 Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The NAM Member States would like to thank the Chair of the General Assembly, Ambassador Zniber of Morocco and WIPO Director-General Francis Gurry and the Secretariat for their able stewardship and tireless efforts in convening the Sixty-First Series of Meetings of Assemblies of the WIPO Member States in the current extraordinary circumstances the globe is facing.

As we are approaching the transition period in the WIPO leadership, the NAM Member States express its deep appreciation for the contribution and commitment of the outgoing Director-General Francis Gurry throughout his twelve years leading the WIPO. During his terms at the helm of the WIPO, he has navigated and led the organization through many major challenges from addressing rapid technological change and ensuring that IP system encourage creativity and innovation. We also commend him for his dedication in seeking to address the needs of developing countries through fostering inclusive and sustainable growth through IP.

The NAM Member States also wish to wholeheartedly congratulate the incoming Director-General Daren Tang on his election to this post. We rest him assured of NAM Member States' support in steering WIPO towards achieving its core mission by enhancing and improving the global IP system to reach the development objectives for all its Member States. In this very spirit, we look forward to working with new Director-General to explore the best avenues and opportunities for developing cooperation in the WIPO-NAM format as well.

Mr. Chairman,

The NAM Member States attach great importance to the cooperation with WIPO in further improvement of IP systems in its member states. The ongoing cooperation activities are crucial to the socio-economic development of NAM member states.

The NAM Member States reiterate its commitment to continue working on matters of concern to developing countries, particularly by mobilizing advanced technical support for member states, streamlining the development dimension across the WIPO activities through the effective implementation of 45 Development Agenda Recommendations as well as promoting creativity and innovation.

NAM Member States will participate in future discussions in a constructive manner with a view to reach concrete conclusions while balancing interests of member states. We would also like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of fair and balanced geographical representation in WIPO's Secretariat.

Mr. Chairman,

We are enduring the difficult times caused by the pandemic which has unprecedented repercussions worldwide. We should strengthen the multilateralism and reinforce international cooperation and solidarity to respond to this global challenge and overcome its consequences. It will be a guiding principle for the NAM member states in its engagement with the WIPO as values of multilateralism has always been at the core of the Non-Aligned Movement's mission from the early days of its establishment.

Thank you.