

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO Sixtieth-Second Series of Meetings

Honourable Chair, Director General, Excellences and distinguished delegates,

1. I would like to join other delegations in thanking the Chair of the General Assembly His Excellency Ambassador of Morocco, as well as the Vice-chairs, for your leadership and tireless efforts in guiding us through fruitful discussions.

2. I extend our thanks to the Director General and the WIPO Secretariat and everyone involved in the preparations for this important session of the WIPO Assemblies. The delegation of Israel highly appreciates your commitment to health and safety whilst moving forward with the multilateral work.

3. With the challenges posed by the ongoing covid-19 pandemic, Israel firmly believes in the key role intellectual property plays in not only combating the pandemic, but also helping us to build back better.

4. Mr. Chair, the Covid-19 Pandemic has impacted the lives and livelihoods of the global population, and that is why Israel welcomes WIPO's efforts in the Trilateral Cooperation together with WTO and WHO, as well as the package for COVID-19 Related Services and Support. As WIPO adapts and continues to provide IP services during these challenging times, applicants receive clarity when seeking to protect their innovations.

5. I would also like to welcome the new 4 strategic pillars of the programme of work and budget and the initiatives to bring IP to everyone everywhere. By supporting innovation, research and entrepreneurship we can make sure that the IP system is fit-for-purpose, and realize our common goals. Israel applauds the new initiatives to develop tailored assistance Member States and we see great potential in the work to promote IP Offices that wish to go beyond their traditional functions as registers and support broader dimensions of national innovation journeys and the use of IP assets as economic tools.

6. IP is an important economic growth driver, and a tool to support innovation and creativity globally. Therefore, Israel welcomes the World Intellectual Property Organization efforts to support a balanced and well-functioning global IP ecosystem for the benefit of all.

7. Mr. Chair, Israel's economy is largely based on innovation in different fields and sectors. The high-tech industry is only one out of many examples. Israel knows first-hand the importance of IP to a well-functioning innovation ecosystem that supports inventors, SMEs, start-ups, universities and other players in turning ideas into assets.

8. We continue to support the Director General and his team to deliver WIPO's new vision and the medium-term strategic plan. Israel is an active user of the international systems of WIPO and we have one of the biggest number of PCT applications per capita globally, with one of the highest numbers of applications made by women.

The Israel IP Office received in 2020 over 8000 of patent applications, over 85% of them are national phase applications coming from the PCT System. I therefore thank and support WIPO's continuous commitment to constantly improve the registries systems, including through the use of advanced technologies.

9. As an important international player in the emerging technologies field, such as Artificial Intelligence, Israel expects WIPO to have a leading role in adapting the legal framework to encourage creativity and innovative solutions in this field.

10. In closing, Mr. Chair, I would like to reiterate Israel's support of the statements made on behalf of Group B. The delegation of Israel restates its commitment to participating in a constructive and positive manner, and we look forward to the outcomes of these General Assemblies.