Statement of the Vice-Minister of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan

A. Akhmetova on the session of the General Assembly, WIPO

## Distinguished Chair, Dear Director General! Dear delegates of the WIPO Member States!

On behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan I have the honor to express our gratitude to the WIPO Secretariat for organization of this session in a hybrid format.

We also would like to thank Mr. Tang for the work of WIPO under his guidance as a General Director.

Let me express my appreciation for the opportunity to consider current issues in the field of intellectual property (IP).

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that effective public health care system is essential for society, the economy and every person.

To ensure universal access to medical services, Governments and leading pharmaceutical companies are taking measures to improve health care services, access to elaborated vaccines and drugs for the treatment of COVID-19.

The Republic of Kazakhstan is also taking measures for ensuring social protection, access to medical services and strengthening the health care system.

Currently Kazakhstan is working on the registration of the national vaccine "QazVac" in the World Health Organization (WHO).

In May WHO Director General T. Gebreyesus during the online meeting with the President of Kazakhstan K.K.Tokayev has announced the readiness to consider the possibility of including Kazakhstan's vaccine into the WHO list. Thus, the issue of international authorization of the domestic vaccine is under the discussion directly with the WHO.

The IP sphere is developing rapidly and is one of the priority directions for Kazakhstan.

Activity on improving national legislation and strengthening of IP protection rights is implemented on a regular basis.

The World Intellectual Property Organization provides with a great support in raising awareness of entrepreneurs, users and copyright holders on IP issues.

Recent amendments to the national legislation allowed to automate fully the process on maintaining state registers and issuing protection documents.

Under verification system of industrial property registration the term of expertise is reduced and the period of IP registration in the relevant state registers is unified.

The amendments are also aimed at regulation of unregistered industrial designs protection for a 3 years period from the date of its publication in accordance with the Agreement on extended cooperation with the European Union.

Today Kazakhstan participates in five international registration systems.

The latest agreements signed by Kazakhstan are:

- Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs to the Eurasian Patent Convention and
- The Agreement on trademarks, service Marks and appellations of origin of goods of the Eurasian Economic Union.

In the framework of international cooperation it is planned to join the Hague System for the Protection of Industrial Designs.

In this regard, Kazakhstan is working on the elaboration of the draft statements for accession to the Geneva Act. And the recommendations of the WIPO on this issue will allow Kazakhstan to join the act and become a member of the Hague System for the interests of our domestic right holders.

In conclusion, I would like to express hope for further fruitful cooperation on issues of intellectual property development and wish you health and prosperity.

Thank you for attention.