

63rd series of WIPO Assemblies of the Member States

General Statement by Bangladesh

Agenda – 4: General Statement

Madam Chair,

The delegation of Bangladesh aligns itself with the statement of the Asia Pacific Group. Our appreciation goes to Director General Daren Tang for his report on WIPO activities during last year.

I wish to highlight three points:

First, innovation and technology driven sectors have been increasingly playing a prominent role in global economy. Intellectual property (IP) is recognized as the powerhouse of growth and development as it protects and encourages innovation and creativity. We hope that WIPO will continue its efforts to mainstream development in all its activities with particular focus on developing countries and LDCs.

Second, the world economy is still reeling from the adverse impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. At this critical time Job creation, business entrepreneurship, and investments are badly needed to support sustainable recovery. IP should play a pivotal role in this process. We said earlier that IP should not be a hindrance for ensuring affordable and equitable access to vaccines for the current and the future pandemics.

Third, a number of LDCs, including Bangladesh are in process of graduating from this category soon. My delegation for some time has been calling for special attention to these countries to overcome their IP related challenges during the transition. We thank DG for developing a Graduation Support

Package. However, the specific deliverables, timelines, and focal points in WIPO for this, need to be elaborated and decided upon. The deliverables require to be tested in a few pilot countries in different regions. We would request WIPO to hold consultations with the graduating LDCs on this Package.

I thank you.

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