

(iii) The Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications
(doc. WO/GA/55/3)

Madam Chair,

1. The CEBS Group takes note of the report of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications and would like to thank the Chair of this Committee, Mr. Alfredo Carlos Rendón Algara, for his able guidance of the work of SCT 45. Our thanks also go to the Secretariat for efforts invested in preparing SCT session, as well as to the Member States who provided important inputs on different topics, including countries from the CEBS Group.
2. We appreciate the discussions held at the last SCT session concerning the protection of country names and geographical names, and we recognize that the proposals gained cross-regional support from Member States. We look forward to the revision and possible merging of relevant documents and to further discuss this issue in the Committee.
3. With respect to the topic of the industrial designs, we believe that the joint recommendations on Industrial Design Protection for Graphic User Interface can serve as a basis for the modern protection of designs in interested jurisdictions and for further identification of best practices. We hope for adoption of the joint recommendations by the Committee in the near future.
4. Talking about the industrial designs, we would like to stress that expected compromise solution in the area of Design Law Treaty has not been found yet and is still underway. Therefore, we would like to reiterate that the CEBS Group regrets the inability to reach an agreement on remaining outstanding articles of the Design Law Treaty. We would like to restate that the work should not be reverted back to the SCT and the current General Assembly should continue to undertake efforts on reaching a reasonable and compromise outcome on the worked-out text.
5. The CEBS Group welcomed the creation of the Database Prototype on Temporary Protection of Industrial Designs based on the replies to the Questionnaire. We believe that the prototype will be soon extended to a complete database and we support the Secretariat in proceeding with the full development of this database in compliance with the necessary and estimated costs.
6. In relation to the geographical indications, we take the positive note of the valuable information provided during the information session on Geographical Indications at SCT 45 and we are glad that the agreement was reached on future work program on Geographical Indications, under which the information session comprising two panels will be held at next SCT, including two recent topics, especially geographical indication protection for non-agricultural goods and geographical indication protection for services.
7. Finally, we welcome the valuable exchanges among the delegations concerning different practices, efforts to clarify practical issues, as well as deliberations about various proposals, which are of important benefit to all Member States.

8. Thank you.