

Agenda Item 17**Lisbon System**

Chair,

1. The European Union and its Member States support the adoption of the the proposed amendments to the Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement and the Geneva Act, as recommended by the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System on 16 June 2022 to the Assembly of the Lisbon Union, for their entry into force on 1 January 2023. For the sake of clarity, these are the amendments contained in the Annex to the Summary by the Chair of the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System of 16 June 2022 (Doc. LI/WG/DEV-SYS/4/3).
2. We are confident that the proposed amendments will contribute to the simplification and streamlining of the procedures under the Lisbon System, and will provide greater clarity for the benefit of the current and future users of the Lisbon System.
3. We are willing to work together with the WIPO Secretariat and other members with the aim to develop the rules of the Lisbon System further, in accordance with the Summary by the Chair of the Fourth Session of the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System.
4. Let us take this opportunity to also inform you that the discussions on a proposal to create EU level geographical indication protection for craft and industrial products have recently started in Brussels.

Thank you.