

Agenda Item 21
Closing of the Sessions

Madam Chair,

1. The Czech Republic is honoured to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.
2. First, we would like to thank you for your extraordinary efforts and wise and skilled guidance throughout these Assemblies that have led to excellent results.
3. We were happy to meet the Member States' delegations in person again, which represents a return to normal. At the same time, we would like to highlight some exceptional moments of these General Assemblies.
4. We remain especially grateful for the large amount of solidarity and support for Ukraine which was demonstrated by the membership within the dedicated agenda item. We see the adopted decision as a meaningful and relevant response of this organisation. We are convinced that its implementation will make a substantial contribution to Ukraine's recovery.
5. We emphasise that consensus is crucial for this organisation and thus welcome that consensus could be achieved regarding the decision taken by this General Assembly on advancing the normative agenda, resulting in convening diplomatic conferences to take place in 2024. We thank all delegations showing flexibility to make this possible. We remain committed to work further and constructively together with all Member States on the way ahead. We are hopeful that the decision taken at this General Assembly will result in the adoption of meaningful and much awaited new international agreements under the aegis of WIPO.
6. Finally, we appreciated being able to witness the first-ever WIPO Global Awards ceremony. These awards celebrate innovative commercial solutions, based on IP rights, which promote economic, social, and cultural progress.

7. We also thank the secretariat and interpreters, whose excellent performance during the session was indispensable for the effective running of these Assemblies.
8. In closing, let us reiterate our continued commitment to WIPO's work. WIPO can count on the active support of the European Union and its Member States.
9. Thank you all and we wish you a safe return home.

I thank you.
