

Sixty-Third Series of Meetings Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Geneva, Switzerland

July 14 – 22, 2022

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Honorable Madam Chair, Honorable Ministers, Your Excellences, distinguished delegates!

The Delegation of Ukraine would like to thank you, the Director General Daren Tang, and the WIPO Secretariat for preparation of these General Assemblies and for the comprehensive report on its activities.

I wish I could inform this august house about achievements of my country in the IP sector, the new forward-looking reforms aimed at innovation and development of Ukraine's creative industry.

But it is already 141st day of Russia's unprovoked, unjustified and brutal aggression, supported by Belarus.

During these four months of the full-scale invasion tragic and irrevocable consequences impacted all spheres of civil life and economy related to the IP fields. Foremost, it is about every day's loss of lives and livelihoods from rockets and shelling like this morning while we were sitting and discussing the Agenda dozens of people were killed in the city of Vinnytsya. National IP system is suffering from huge economic losses, personnel have to operate from shelters, often risking their lives and health.

Destruction of economic and technological infrastructure significantly reduced innovation activities. For example, the number of national applications submitted for registration of IP objects reduced dramatically up to 50%.

Almost total cancellation of cultural events and activities, dramatic reduction of TV, audiovisual and musical productions witnessed the crisis in the creative industry sector and termination of almost all types of royalty payments.

In May 2022, Russian missiles deliberately destroyed the only plant genetic bank in Ukraine, which was located in the city of Kharkiv and stored more than 160,000 varieties, species and hybrids from all over the world.

More than 2000 (two thousand) educational facilities in Ukraine suffered from shelling, including 43 universities. At least five of them are fully destroyed: some of

them were the centres of Technology and Innovation Support Network in Ukraine, some of them were progressive in scientific, innovation and technology activities.

Madam Chair,

Ukraine acknowledges WIPO's continuing efforts to promote and protect intellectual property and encourage creative activity across the world. Ukraine is still confident in WIPO's potential and does believe that WIPO's first task under the WIPO Convention is to contribute to better understanding and cooperation among Member States for their mutual benefit on the basis of respect for their sovereignty and equality.

During the 2021 Assemblies, Ukraine and WIPO signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in IP sphere. All of these activities are forced to be suspended because of the war. The activities on awareness raising and capacity building in the sphere of IP protection and enforcement are frozen. The third module of "Training of Trainers" Session under the WIPO project on the National IP Training Centre in Ukraine was suspended as well. In addition to that, the support and development of Deeptech and innovative start-ups is under huge threat.

In this regard, we call on international community, including the Member States of these General Assemblies to support Ukraine, to act immediately in response to Russia's aggression, as it is prescribed in the UN General Assembly resolution "Aggression against Ukraine". The international community should be united and strong to preserve the capacity of basic norms and principles of the international law violated by Russia.

We demand Russia to immediately stop this detrimental military aggression against our state and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

Thank you!