

AGENDA ITEM 21

**ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE'S INNOVATION AND
CREATIVITY SECTOR AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM
CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALTIC STATES GROUP (CEBS)**

A/64/8

Madame Chair, Honourable Director General,

1. We thank WIPO Director General and the Secretariat for preparing the report concerning Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System, as contained in document A/64/8.
2. The report confirms significant negative impact of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. This is reflected not only in the unprecedented damage of the infrastructure serving scientific, educational, research and cultural institutions, but most importantly in the loss of the potential and capacity of the stakeholders of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem. The wide ranging negative effects of the Russian invasion against Ukraine, from the deteriorated mental health of the IP stakeholders, brain drain caused by the humanitarian crisis, amplified by the infrastructure damage as well as reduced financial resources, are subject of serious concern for CEBS countries. The reported decreased number of filings, as well as losses incurred by the Ukrainian Creative Industry are a clear evidence that the continued Russian war of aggression against Ukraine overshadows international efforts aimed at supporting economic growth and development, also through IP. Taking into account detrimental effects of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, it will take years, decades if not longer, to recover the pre-war dynamic growth of innovation infrastructure and potential of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem. International support and assistance is therefore more than needed in these extraordinary circumstances.
3. We welcome all WIPO's efforts aimed at supporting and delivering assistance to the Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity sector, presented in the report. WIPO's continued cooperation with Ukraine to assist the members of the Ukrainian IP stakeholders with an aim to adequately mitigate the adverse effects of the unprovoked and unjustified Russia's war against Ukraine, and

rebuild its innovative and creative ecosystems is necessary. As Russia continues its illegal, targeted, unprovoked and unjustified attacks against civilian infrastructure, we reemphasize the necessity of international community to take any possibility to support Ukrainian people in addressing the negative and long-lasting effects of this war.

4. To conclude Madame Chair, on behalf of the CEBS group let me remind of all WIPO members obligation to respect international law. The UN General Assembly resolution ES 11/1, which deplored in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, as well as the UN GA resolution ES 11/4 condemning attempted illegal annexation of Ukraine's territories, have clearly identified Russia's gross violations of international legal order. Regrettably, despite all resolutions and condemnations, Russia has continued in such violations until today. Nevertheless, you can rest assured that we will stand with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people as long as it takes.

Thank you.