Madam Chair,
Honorable Ministers,
Director General,
Excellences,
Distinguished delegates,

- I would like to thank the Chair of the General Assembly, as well as the Vice-chairs, for your strong efforts in leading us through these crucial discussions. We also extend our thanks to the DG, Mr. Daren Tang and the WIPO Secretariat for preparing this important session of the WIPO Assemblies.

- In Israel, intellectual property has an important and central role in promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, which constitute an economic locomotive in the country. The vast technological development requires legal development alongside it.
• The year 2023 brought with it a significant increase in applications for registration of intellectual property rights in Israel in all sectors. Within the patents’ field, 1636 applications for registration of a patent in Israel were filed, 32,111 applications for registration of trademarks, and 3110 applications for registration of designs (if time allows: an increase of 31.1%, 30% and 21%, respectively, compared to the previous year).

• The considerable increase in applications for patents registration testifies to the centrality of intellectual property rights and its importance in promoting the business layout in Israel. Furthermore, the Israel Patent Office is operating in a great degree in the international arena, for promoting collaborations and positioning the State of Israel as an influential factor in the field.

• In 2023, Israel made the artificial intelligence-based search software a priority, which it uses for search of prior art, available for public use as well.

• Therefore, Israel welcomes WIPO’s efforts to support a balanced and well-functioning global IP ecosystem for the benefit of all.
• In closing, Madam Chair, I would like to reiterate Israel's support of the statements made on behalf of Group B. The delegation of Israel restates its commitment to participating in a constructive and positive manner, and we look forward to the outcomes of these General Assemblies.

• Thank you, Madam Chair.