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Geneva, 06 July 2023

## **Sixty-Fourth Series of Meetings, Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, Geneva, July 6 to 14, 2023**

### **oriGIn General Statement**

Ministries,  
Excellencies,

On behalf of oriGIn – the global alliance of Geographical Indications groups and institutions – I would like to reiterate oriGIn strong support to the Lisbon System. It represents a modern and flexible international instrument for the protection of Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin in foreign jurisdictions, to the benefits of small producers and small and medium-sized enterprises. Over the years, the Lisbon System has generated the interest of several WIPO Member States, including developing countries, which have already joined the System or are in the process of doing so.

In this respect, we believe that the long-standing principle of financial solidarity among WIPO Unions and budget programs should continue to apply with respect to the Lisbon System.

On the other hand, we are extremely concerned with the proposals circulated within WIPO aimed at raising the international profile of “genericity” beyond the one of an exception to the internationally recognised Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), to be assessed on a case by case at the national level. oriGIn believes such proposals are extremely dangerous for the international IPRs system, as they have the potential to undermine its basic principles and values across rights, well beyond Geographical Indications.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Massimo Vittori, oriGIn Managing Director