



COUNTRY STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Statement on behalf of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
at the 64th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the
Member States of WIPO

STATEMENT

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World Intellectual Property Organization Headquarters
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**STATEMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE SIXTY-FOURTH SERIES OF MEETINGS
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBER STATES OF THE
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
JULY 2023**

Thank you, Madam Chair, for giving us the floor

Trinidad and Tobago supports the statement made by Venezuela on behalf of GRULAC and joins with the other delegations in congratulating you on your astute leadership and guidance throughout the last year. We also wish to congratulate all the other officers who have supported your efforts in this regard. Trinidad and Tobago is committed to multilateralism and progressing the work of WIPO in this forum.

In this regard, we warmly congratulate our senior diplomat, his Excellency Dennis Francis, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, who was elected President of the General Assembly for its 78th Session. His Excellency served as the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to Geneva in the past.

Madam Chair, we wish to congratulate WIPO on its theme for World IP Day, Women and IP: Accelerating innovation and creativity. In this regard the TTIPO held its 1st ever Appropriate Technology Competition (ATC) in collaboration with WIPO, the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the UWI St. Augustine Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The competition was used to promote and reward excellence for innovative solutions and to promote the use of patent information. It is noteworthy that 5 of the 9 finalists were women and the first

and second place winners were also women, highlighting the invaluable contribution that women make in the innovation arena.

Two female inventors were commemorated and inducted into the TTIPO's Inventors Hall of Fame, one of whom was featured by the Madrid Division of WIPO as an emerging entrepreneur. The National IP Training Center tutors conducted more than five hundred (500) IP focused clinics over the recent period and approximately seventy per cent (70%) of these consultations were attended by female entrepreneurs.

This delegation is pleased to also report that the national IP Strategy as formulated by WIPO is now 70% completed. This is the architecture through which we work and ensure that IP becomes the backbone of our local strategy and is in keeping with our government's 2030 vision.

Madam Chair, this delegation wishes to sincerely express its gratitude to WIPO and the Caribbean Unit for the many initiatives undertaken, including initiatives for our Carnival Museum and Industry. We look forward to our continued partnership in promoting IP in the region, through collaborations and training with regional offices and to furthering the vision of the DG of WIPO.

The "Digital Innovations for Sustainable Environmental and Economic Recovery in Trinidad and Tobago" project is well under way. This project aims to further strengthen our IP ecosystem to support small, and medium enterprises (SMEs). This objective will be achieved through the design of valuation guidelines for IP assets, and the design of mission-orientated policies for digital innovation. This will be buttressed by the National IP Training Centre and to create a first of its kind IP course for the creative industries.

This delegation remains committed to improving the innovation landscape in Trinidad and Tobago. The TTIPO has customized WIPOs IP Diagnostic Tool to help SMEs to successfully utilize their IP and concluded an IPAS automation agreement with WIPO even

while seventy percent of our filings are now online through WIPO FILE. In March this year, horizontal cooperation continued to extend beyond our borders as a Mission to Chile was undertaken to study the structure, challenges and impact on the innovation ecosystem in Chile. Trinidad and Tobago is near conclusion on MOUs with Canada and the EUIPO and we are working to further strengthen our relationship with Chile. The TTIPO with the support of the Honorable AG is in the process of concluding a TISC MOU with WIPO.

Trinidad and Tobago is committed to building the IP ecosystem through multilateralism, regionalism and national approaches.

Madam Chair, I thank you for giving us the floor.