조선민주주의인민공화국 제네바유엔사무국 및 국제기구주재 상설대표부



Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Permanent Mission to the United
Nations Office and Other International
Organizations in Geneva

Statement of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the 65th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO (9 July 2024)

Mr. President,

On behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPR Korea), I would like to congratulate your Excellency on your election as the president of the 65th series of the meetings of the Assembly of the member states of WIPO and wish its successful outcome under your able stewardship.

And I would like to thank Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of WIPO and his secretariat for their sincere efforts to ensure the success of this meeting.

Mr. President,

During the past one year, the users of international registration systems including PCT system, Madrid system and Hague system and the member states to thirty and odd international treaties of WIPO have increased in number and there's been growing interest in the intellectual properties worldwide.

In particular, the successful adoption of "WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge" in the May Diplomatic Conference was an opportunity that highlighted the necessity to develop the patent system and the whole IP system in conformity with the demands of new era.

Mr. President.

While the world is facing unprecedented challenges such as abnormal climatic phenomena due to climate change, food crisis and subsequent global pandemics, IP protection presents itself as important as ever for achieving of UN SDGs and promoting of innovation and progress.

I consider that WIPO should pay attention to the following issues to fulfill its mission of IP protection.

First of all, WIPO should continue to develop fair and ethical IP protection system.

There remains a big gap between north and south in IP protection and its application and cases of infringement of the valuable IP assets created by developing countries are being persisting.

To eradicate such negative practices, it is essential to establish fair and equitable IP protection system, where everyone has his benefit.

However, the efforts of the international community to establish an equal IP protection system are being hampered by selfish attitudes of some countries.

The efforts of the international community to establish a more equal and ethic-based IP system had to go through a long journey of discussion as long as 20 years.

To take a few example, WIPO Treaty on GRATK which was adopted in May and the Design Law Treaty which will be discussed in November in Saudi Arabia.

WIPO should concentrate its work on perfection of balanced and harmonized IP system in conformity with its motto: Promote IP Protection System Worldwide.

Second, WIPO should also direct due attention to the promotion of the sound development of science and technology.

Recently, AI is developing at high speed and people's expectation on it is also growing. However, worries about the side effects of AI on human life are increasing too.

Science and technology that human create should be used for safeguarding the dignity and sovereignty of human and universal value of mankind. It should not be abused for pursuing inequality and injustice, and should not be the property exclusive to some forces.

WIPO should also pay due attention to establish AI related ethics and regulations for ensuring the development of AI in sound and beneficial to everyone.

Last but not least, sinister attempts of politicizing the agenda and activities of the organization, thus creating unreasonable confrontation camps within the WIPO should not be allowed as its mission is none other than the establishment of a worldwide IP protection system and the raising of public IP awareness.

Mr. President,

The Government of DPRK attaches importance to the protection of IP while holding high science and technology as core strategy in opening up with firm conviction the path to national prosperity by dint of self-reliance and self-development.

Under the wise leadership of **Kim Jong Un**, President of the State Affairs of the DPR Korea, "National IP Development Strategic Plan"(2023-2030) has been formulated and it is now implementing its first stage activities.

Numbers of activities to raise social awareness on IP protection are also on-going.

On 26th April, on the occasion of the 'World Intellectual Property Day 2024' many activities such as workshop and lectures took place and exhibitions and expositions on invention, patent, trademarks and other domains are organized regularly.

From the end of September to the beginning of October, "IP Development Exhibition 2024" under the theme of "Innovation and prosperity" will be held in Pyongyang. This exhibition will be held special and comprehensive with its virtual display and site display, quite different from the previous ones.

Mr. President,

The DPR Korea government will further perfect the national IP protection system to actively promote economic, sci-tech and cultural development and closely cooperate with WIPO and other member states.

Thank you.