

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA DELIVERED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE SLOVENIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, Ms KARIN ŽVOKELJ, AT WIPO GAS 2024

Honourable Chair,

Director General,

Distinguished delegates

Slovenia aligns itself with the statements of the EU and its Member States and the CEBS Group.

We commend WIPO leadership (and staff) for providing exceptional services to the global IP community, and building well-balanced IP ecosystem.

WIPO's support to innovators, creators and SMEs, and Member States is extremely important. Slovenia thanks WIPO for the fruitful collaboration with our country, especially for assistance in reaching a significant milestone. A month ago, Slovenian Government adopted the first National Intellectual Property Strategy 2030. Slovenian National IP Strategy will strategically promote and support the creation, development, protection, and management of IP to boost creativity and innovation.

Director General, your visit to Slovenia last year still echoes among our stakeholders and it facilitated the process of preparing the Strategy.

We also thank you for assistance in highlighting the need for intellectual property to be recognized as an asset. IP valuation, commercialization and IP-backed financing remain areas of significant interest to Slovenia, and we welcome WIPO's dedication and work in this domain.

We look forward to continued cooperation with WIPO in various areas that align with our newly established strategic objectives on IP. We would highlight the upcoming International Conference on Geographical Indications and Collective Trademarks in the context of Gastronomy and Tourism. It will be held in Slovenia on 25 and 26 November this year and will provide a platform for sharing insights on new legislative frameworks, best practices, and success stories related to both agricultural and non-agricultural GIs. We hope to welcome many of you in Slovenia this fall.

Chair,

Slovenia will work constructively with partners, during these Assemblies and beyond. We supported the multilateral spirit that prevailed during the Diplomatic Conference in May and look forward to contributing to a positive and consensual outcome of the Diplomatic Conference on Design Law Treaty in November.

Thank you.