

Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine
on Agenda Item 18 “Assistance and Support for Ukraine’s Innovation and Creativity
Sector and Intellectual Property System”
at the 65th Series of Meetings Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO
July 15, 2024

Dear Director General, Mister Chair and Distinguished Delegates

Ukraine would like to express its sincere gratitude to you Director General for your leadership, commitment and understanding in supporting the Ukrainian IP system, our creative and innovative sector, and for this report with your statements today.

We also thank the Secretariat and all WIPO units for their contributions to this report. We would like to acknowledge the remarkable support and guidance by Mr. Habip Asan and the TDC team.

On behalf of all Ukrainian IP and innovation community, we express our sincere appreciation to all the distinguished WIPO Member States that show the best examples of solidarity and advancing decisions on Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System within WIPO.

These commitments by the Member States demonstrate to the global IP community our unity and strength in the face of the greatest challenges.

As Ukraine has repeatedly stated on various international platforms, both at the United Nations and within WIPO, the consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine have reached a global scale and have long gone beyond not only the regional but also the continental level.

While this year’s World IP Day was focused on the Sustainable Development Goals – problems with global security, food, energy, ecology and even the nuclear crisis that followed soon after Russian Federation war of aggression against Ukraine gave a whole new meaning to sustainable values.

Ukraine is the first country in the world to collect evidence of ecocide. Russian aggression undermines our collective fight against the climate crisis.

Ukraine is suffering from the most destructive form of Russia's vision of energy as a weapon. They have destroyed almost all of Ukraine's thermal power generation. This has a huge impact on our IP Office's ability to work and support national stakeholders. We are already working on a generator for 10 (ten) to 16 (sixteen) hours a day. As the equipment is already unable to resist the high temperatures, we are very concerned about the prospects for the coming winter.

Distinguished delegates,

The updated report reflects the areas of support and projects that Ukraine is implementing together with WIPO in the framework of bilateral cooperation, and

which has been strengthened by the adoption and extension of the decision in 2022 and 2023.

A lot of useful measures have been taken and fully considered, including concrete support for the Ukrainian IP Office, legislative advice, and direct assistance to stakeholders from the innovative and creative industries, such as artists, designers, technology and science parks IP managers, TISC staff, IP experts and many other.

Worthy of mention is the support at the strategic level in the development of the National IP Strategy, which focuses mainly on the mitigation of negative impacts in short, medium and long-term plans, as well as the strategic orientation of Ukraine's membership in the European Union.

As a result of all these hard efforts, we see some positive trends in IP registration and filling for almost all IP rights, improvement of IP enforcement, a large number of legislative developments and progress towards EU accession.

However, the report also clearly mentions the deepening and continuation of the negative impacts of Russia's war of aggression and the evolving needs of Ukraine, following last year's assessment conducted by the WIPO International Bureau.

Therefore, we would like to stress that the importance of this report is based on several factors:

- The Report provides us with valuable insights that will serve as a basis for active counteractions against the described negative impacts, supporting the economy and population of Ukraine, preserving jobs and social stability.
- The methodology for collecting and analysing adverse impact data will help to better develop crisis management practices by WIPO and Member States;
- It allows us to verify the data on atrocities committed by Russia and to counteract any forms of propaganda and disinformation.

Therefore, it remains important for us to continue to have these discussions with Member States and the Secretariat at this level.

While we analyse and seek ways to counteract such devastating impacts, Russia continues to devalue our work by using IP as both a hostage and a weapon. As an example of this, last week Rospatent filed the Melitopol Cherry geographical indication and deliberately demonstrated disrespect to the whole IP community and misuse of WIPO platforms and resources to legitimise the illegal temporary occupation of Ukraine's territories.

In this regard, we request the International Bureau of WIPO to take all necessary practical steps in order to prevent such misuse of WIPO platforms in compliance with the UN resolutions regarding territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Only through unity and courage in the face of this threat can we achieve the high goals and mission of this Organization, for the threat posed by the Russian Federation has long become a global concern.

So we reiterate our call for the only possible effective response to Russia`s brutal actions are:

- closing the WIPO External Office in Moscow;
- suspending funding for any WIPO projects for Russia;
- ceasing cooperation with Russian officials and pressuring them to immediately stop using intellectual property, WIPO platforms and resources to legitimise their illegal occupation of Ukraine's territories.
- and continuing support and assistance measures for Ukraine with constant monitoring of their implementation.

Thank you!