

Jamaica Opening Statement - 66th WIPO General Assemblies

7 July 2025 – *checked against delivery*

Mr. President,

Director General Tang,

The Jamaican delegation thanks the Secretariat for the organisation of this 66th session of the WIPO Assemblies and the Director General for his report, and at the outset, aligns with the statement delivered by Ecuador on behalf of GRULAC.

For Jamaica, intellectual property is not merely a legal tool – it is a cornerstone of our national identity and a catalyst for economic transformation. This is reflected in the global resonance of reggae and dancehall music, as well as the innovations of our dynamic entrepreneurs, among other areas. The use of intellectual property has enabled creators and innovators to thrive locally and compete globally.

In this regard, we acknowledge and commend the accomplishments of WIPO over the past year, particularly in areas related to digital modernization, capacity-building, and inclusive governance. We particularly highlight the following achievements:

- **First, the successful convening of the Diplomatic Conference to conclude the GRTKF and Design Law Treaties**, which demonstrate WIPO's commitment to creating a stronger, more secure and more equitable international intellectual property system.

- **Second, in April of this year, Jamaica joined the global community in commemorating World Intellectual Property Day under the theme "IP and Music."** We hosted a vibrant national event that brought together artists, youth, industry stakeholders and policymakers to explore the role of IP in empowering creators and safeguarding the value of our rich musical and cultural heritage.
- **Third, we welcome the successful election of Miss Lilyclaire Bellamy**, Executive Director of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, who will chair the 49th session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs, and Geographical Indications. Her appointment reflects Jamaica's continued deep and active engagement in shaping global intellectual property norms, to the benefit of all nations.

These reflections underscore a central point: which is that intellectual property both generates and drives economic opportunities that are intrinsically linked to Jamaica's national development goals and closely aligned with the objectives of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In closing, Jamaica remains firmly committed to catalyzing inclusive and sustainable economic growth through creativity and innovation founded on a firm commitment to and respect for the international intellectual property rights system. My delegation therefore expresses its deep appreciation for the continued dedication of the WIPO

Secretariat, effectively led by Director General Daren Tang, in fostering a more efficient, responsive and forward-looking intellectual property system.

I thank you, Chair.