

Thank you, Chairperson.

The South Centre is an intergovernmental organization and think tank of developing countries. We provide research and policy analysis to support achieving the SDGs and the Pact for the Future. This requires national policies and an international regime that supports—rather than undermines—development efforts.

It is important for countries to preserve balance in IP law, understand its interaction with various policy objectives and interests, and maintain national policy space for implementing international intellectual property treaties.

We support mainstreaming the WIPO Development Agenda with a functioning coordination mechanism and encourage equitable representation of developing country groups in WIPO, especially the Coordination Committee and PBC.

We urge adoption of the 2026/27 Program of Work and Budget with clear linkage to the SDGs and inclusion of the Development Acceleration Fund.

We also encourage ratification of the GRATK Treaty and advance text-based negotiations on TK, TCEs, and copyright limitations and exceptions for education, libraries, and persons with disabilities.

Thank you.