

Opening statement by Sweden at the 66th Series of WIPO Assemblies

Chair, Honourable Ministers, Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

First of all, we would like to express our gratitude to you Chair, all Vice-chairs and the secretariat for all your hard work preparing for this meeting.

Chair, we are looking forward to working efficiently under your able guidance and that of your vice-chairs during this meeting.

The Swedish delegation fully supports the opening statements made by Japan on behalf of Group B and by Denmark on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

We would like to thank the Director General Daren Tang and Deputy Director Generals and Assistant Director Generals. We appreciate all the good work and contributions made to further develop the work of WIPO during the last year.

A well-functioning intellectual property system is an essential ingredient in a knowledge-based economy. The full potential can only be reached when creative and innovative minds, regardless of gender, social and ethnic background, physical ability, religious belief or sexual orientation, meet, collaborate and innovate together.

Gender equality and inclusiveness is of great importance to Sweden. We note that the activities focused on women inventors and innovators have increased at WIPO and we encourage WIPO and Member States to continue work in this important area.

Finally, the Swedish delegation wishes to reiterate its concerns over the decision to move the Assemblies from the fall to the summer and the difficulties it creates for delegations to prepare for the General Assemblies.

Sweden looks forward to continuing its cooperation with WIPO and the development of the international intellectual property system to the benefit of economic, social and cultural development for all.

Thank you Chair.