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Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings
Geneva, July 7 to 15, 2026

GENERAL REPORT

Adopted by the Assemblies

INTRODUCTION.....	4
ITEM 1 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	5
OPENING OF THE SESSIONS.....	5
ITEM 2 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	5
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.....	5
ITEM 3 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	6
ADDRESS OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO	6
ITEM 4 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	6
GENERAL STATEMENTS	6
ITEM 5 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	6
ELECTION OF OFFICERS	6
ITEM 6 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	6
ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS	6
ITEM 7 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	12
APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL AND ASSISTANT DIRECTORS GENERAL	12
ITEM 8 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	12
DRAFT AGENDAS FOR 2027 ORDINARY SESSIONS	12
ITEM 9 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	12
REPORTS ON AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT	12
ITEM 10 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	16
REPORT ON THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC).....	16
ITEM 11 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	23
REPORTS FROM WIPO COMMITTEES	23
ITEM 12 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA PCT SYSTEM	23
ITEM 13 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA MADRID SYSTEM	24
ITEM 14 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA HAGUE SYSTEM.....	24
ITEM 15 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	24
LISBON SYSTEM	24
ITEM 16 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA WIPO ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTER, INCLUDING DOMAIN NAMES.....	24
ITEM 17 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	24
MARRAKESH TREATY TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO PUBLISHED WORKS FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND, VISUALLY IMPAIRED OR OTHERWISE PRINT DISABLED (MVT).....	24
ITEM 18 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	24
ITEM 19 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	42
REPORTS ON STAFF MATTERS	42
ITEM 20 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	42
AMENDMENTS TO STAFF REGULATIONS AND RULES	42

ITEM 21 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA.....	42
GUIDELINES FOR WIPO PERSONNEL STANDING FOR ELECTION TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL	42
ITEM 22 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA ADOPTION OF THE REPORTS.....	42
ITEM 23 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA CLOSING OF THE SESSIONS	43

INTRODUCTION

1. This draft General Report records the deliberations and decisions of the following 22 Assemblies and other bodies of the Member States of WIPO (the “Assemblies”):

- (1) WIPO General Assembly, sixtieth (33rd extraordinary) session
- (2) WIPO Conference, forty-seventh (20th extraordinary) session
- (3) WIPO Coordination Committee, eighty-sixth (57th ordinary) session
- (4) Paris Union Assembly, sixty-third (36th extraordinary) session
- (5) Paris Union Executive Committee, sixty-sixth (62nd ordinary) session
- (6) Berne Union Assembly, fifty-seventh (30th extraordinary) session
- (7) Berne Union Executive Committee, seventy-second (57th ordinary) session
- (8) Madrid Union Assembly, sixtieth (34th extraordinary) session
- (9) Hague Union Assembly, forty-sixth (21st extraordinary) session
- (10) Nice Union Assembly, forty-sixth (19th extraordinary) session
- (11) Lisbon Union Assembly, forty-third (17th extraordinary) session
- (12) Locarno Union Assembly, forty-sixth (20th extraordinary) session
- (13) IPC [International Patent Classification] Union Assembly, forty-seventh (22nd extraordinary) session
- (14) PCT [Patent Cooperation Treaty] Union Assembly, fifty-eighth (33rd extraordinary) session
- (15) Budapest Union Assembly, forty-third (20th extraordinary) session
- (16) Vienna Union Assembly, thirty-ninth (18th extraordinary) session
- (17) WCT [WIPO Copyright Treaty] Assembly, twenty-sixth (14th extraordinary) session
- (18) WPPT [WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty] Assembly, twenty-sixth (14th extraordinary) session
- (19) PLT [Patent Law Treaty] Assembly, twenty-fifth (14th extraordinary) session
- (20) Singapore Treaty [Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks] Assembly, nineteenth (10th extraordinary) session
- (21) Marrakesh Treaty [Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled] Assembly, eleventh ordinary session
- (22) BTAP [Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances] Assembly, seventh ordinary session

meeting in Geneva from July 7 to 15, 2026, and which made decisions in joint meetings of two or more of the said Assemblies and other bodies convened (hereinafter referred to as “the joint meeting(s)” and “the Assemblies of the Member States,” respectively).

2. In addition to this draft General Report, separate draft Reports have been drawn up on the sessions of the WIPO General Assembly (WO/GA/60/11), WIPO Coordination Committee (WO/CC/86/5), Madrid Union Assembly (MM/A/60/3), Hague Union Assembly (H/A/46/2), Lisbon Union Assembly (LI/A/43/2), PCT Union Assembly (PCT/A/58/4), and Marrakesh Treaty Assembly (MVT/A/11/2). Furthermore, consolidated Reports of the sessions of the other bodies have also been drawn up, as follows: WIPO Conference (WO/CF/47/1), Paris Union Assembly (P/A/63/1), Paris Union Executive Committee (P/EC/66/1), Berne Union Assembly (B/A/57/1), Berne Union Executive Committee (B/EC/72/1), Nice Union Assembly (N/A/46/1), Locarno Union Assembly (LO/A/46/1), IPC Union Assembly (IPC/A/47/1), Budapest Union Assembly (BP/A/43/1), Vienna Union Assembly (VA/A/39/1), WIPO Copyright Treaty Assembly (WCT/A/26/1), WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty Assembly (WPPT/A/26/1), Patent Law Treaty Assembly (PLT/A/25/1), Singapore Treaty Assembly (STLT/A/19/1), and the Beijing Treaty Assembly (BTAP/A/7/1).

3. The list of the members and observers of the Assemblies, as of July 3, 2026, is set forth in document [A/68/INF/1 Rev.](#)

4. The agenda, as adopted, the list of documents and the list of participants appear in documents [A/68/1](#), [A/68/2](#) and [A/68/INF/5](#), respectively.

5. The meetings dealing with the following items of the Agenda (document A/68/1) were presided over by the following Chairs:

Items 1 to 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18, 22 and 23	Ambassador Carlos D. SORRETA (Mr.) (Philippines), Chair of the WIPO General Assembly
Items 5, 7, 8, 19, 20 and 21	Ambassador James BAXTER (Mr.) (Australia), Chair of the WIPO Coordination Committee
Item 12	Konstantinos GEORGARAS (Mr.) (Canada), Chair of the PCT Union Assembly
Item 13	Pascal FAURE (Mr.) (France), Chair of the Madrid Union Assembly
Item 14	Grace ISSAHAQUE (Ms.) (Ghana), Chair of the Hague Union Assembly
Item 17	Franklin PONKA SEUKAM (Mr.) (Cameroon), Chair of Marrakesh Treaty Assembly

ITEM 1 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

OPENING OF THE SESSIONS

6. The Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of WIPO was convened by the Director General of WIPO, Mr. Daren Tang.

7. The sessions were opened in a joint meeting of all the 22 Assemblies and other bodies concerned by the Chair of the WIPO General Assembly, Ambassador Carlos D. Sorreta (Mr.) (Philippines).

ITEM 2 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

8. [CHAIR](#): We now move on to item 2, which is the adoption of the agenda. The agenda for this meeting is A68/1 Prov. 3 and the list of documents related to each agenda item is included in document A68/2 Prov. 3. I am sure that everyone has seen this agenda and we were open to discussions on it before this day and I would now like to propose to the floor that the agenda be adopted. I see no objection. Thank you.

9. The agenda is adopted.

ITEM 3 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ADDRESS OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO

10. The Director General presented his annual report ([the address](#) is available on the WIPO website).

ITEM 4 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

GENERAL STATEMENTS

11. The Delegations and Representatives of the following 142 States (including 13 on behalf of groups of States), 8 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and 31 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided oral or written statements under this agenda item.

ITEM 5 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

12. [CHAIR](#): Good evening to colleagues just joining us and thank you for your patience to those who have been in the room already. We will now move to item 5 of the agenda, election of officers. I have conducted extensive consultations with members in recent days and it is clear to me that there is no prospect of consensus on the slate of nominations for the officers of the governing bodies. In view of that consideration, I have no decision to propose. I would now open the floor to any Delegation wishing to speak. I see no requests for the floor. The item is now closed.

13. The list of all the officers of the Assemblies and other bodies appears in document [A/68/INF/2](#).

ITEM 6 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

14. Discussions were based on document [A/68/3 Rev.](#)

15. [CHAIR](#): The document under consideration is A/68/3 Rev. and I would like to invite Ms. Anna Morawiec Mansfield, Legal Counsel, to make a brief introduction of the document entitled Admission of Observers.

16. [LEGAL COUNSEL](#): Turning now to agenda item 6 on admission of observers, I would like to draw the attention of Delegations to document A/68/3 Rev. The Assemblies of Member States are being invited to consider applications by one IGO, nine international NGOs, and six national NGOs, as listed in paragraph 4 of the document, for observer status in the meetings of WIPO Member States. The organizations concerned are: As an IGO, the Digital Cooperation Organization; as international NGOs, AI Ethics and Integrity International Association, European Composer and Songwriter Alliance, Global Audiovisual Alliance, International Musical Artists Rights Alliance, My Intellectual Property Law Guide, Wikimedia Foundation, Wine Origins Alliance, World Council of Indigenous Games, World Crafts Council; and as national NGOs, the American Bar Association Section of Intellectual Property Law, Federation of Intellectual Property Societies, Paraguayan Association of Intellectual Property Agents, Tathmeer Intellectual Property Association, Union of Inventors, Women's IP Today. In respect of the six

national NGOs, and in conformity with the principles applicable to national NGOs that were adopted by WIPO Member States, the Secretariat held the requisite consultations with the Member States from which the NGO originates prior to the submission of the NGO's request to the Assemblies of Member States. The necessary agreement was received for the six applications concerned.

17. [CHINA](#): China objects to Wikimedia becoming an observer. Wikipedia and Wikimedia contain a huge amount of fake online news in violation of the one-China principle. Over the past few years, China has expressed strong concern on many occasions. However, this organization refused to change the course and continues to challenge international consensus on the one-China principle. We are strongly opposed to that organization becoming an observer. China would like to stress three points once again. One, observers must follow the principles of the United Nations (UN) charter. The one-China principle is unshakeable in terms of the de jure and factual basis. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 2758 has made that politically, legally and procedurally very clear. Wikimedia and its websites attempt to challenge the UN resolution as well as long-term policy of WIPO on the one-China principle, which is a clear violation of international law and UN credibility. As a specialized agency of the UN, WIPO should follow the UN resolution and reject Wikimedia's request for observer status. Two, observers must show their responsibilities over a long period of time. China has repeatedly expressed concern on issues related to Wikimedia. The platform operating Wikimedia, being fully aware of the serious nature of the issues, refused to change course, allows erroneous information, and even, year after year, attempts to crash gate, in a gross violation of the normal procedures and undermining the unity among Member States. This practice is by no means constructive. It is rather turning the application process into a tool and politicizing it, undermining the credibility and authority of WIPO. Three, WIPO should follow the basic principle of consensus. We would like to stress that the decision on observer status requests must follow, and has followed, the consensus principle. All parties must give the green light. All parties are under an obligation to continue to respect and insist on this important principle and practice, so as to ensure the prosperity and stability of international governance of WIPO.

18. [GERMANY](#): Group B thanks the Secretariat for the preparation of document A/68/3 Rev. and fully supports all requests outlined therein. As stated in paragraph 4 of the document, all observer applications have submitted the requisite information to enable the consideration, and subsequent granting, of observer status. As such, we understand that this confirms compliance with all procedural requirements. The organizations listed in Annex I and II of A/68/3 Rev. comprising one IGO, nine international NGOs and six national NGOs demonstrate clear relevance to IP matters. These align with WIPO's observer admission principles as indicated on the WIPO website which emphasize substantive contributions to IP deliberations. Group B emphasizes that observer participation enriches WIPO's policy discussions through technical expertise and regional diversity as evidenced by past sessions. The inclusion of various entities ensures balanced representation across divergent sectors. Group B underscores WIPO's longstanding commitment to inclusivity as reflected in the 209 international and 123 national NGOs currently accredited. Denying observer status without substantive grounds would contradict the spirit of transparency and inclusiveness. We therefore respectfully request the Assemblies to approve the full list of observer applications in A/68/3 Rev. in line with established precedence and procedural fairness.

19. [CUBA](#): The Delegation of Cuba supports the statement delivered by the People's Republic of China and underscores the importance of adopting the decisions on granting observer status to NGOs by consensus. Cuba has a very firm and consistent position in supporting the one-China principle. We recognize the government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China. And Taiwan is an inalienable part of its territory. WIPO as the specialized UN agency on IP should continue to act in full consistency with the relevant UNGA resolutions and its standards for the accreditation of NGOs and respect the institutional and legal frameworks of the multilateral system. Admitting, as an observer, an

organization whose actions could suggest violating the territorial integrity of a state would be a precedent that we could not support.

20. [DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): Participation of the NGOs in the WIPO Assemblies should be decided by consensus of all Member States according to the procedures and regulations of WIPO and every Member States should abide to this principle. Besides this Delegation reaffirms its stand to support the one-China principle and insists that Wikimedia, which is not in compliance with the UN resolution, is not fully qualified to participate in this meeting as observer.

21. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The United States of America supports the approval of the full list of observer applications made in document A/68/3 Rev. We regret that for another year China has objected to admitting the Wikimedia Foundation as a WIPO observer. China continues to claim inaccurately that blocking Wikimedia is a one-China issue. It is not. Rather it is a cynical attempt to intimidate NGOs with a threatening message. Stay away from Taiwan or we will keep you out of international organizations. Observers are critical to the work of WIPO Committees and the Assemblies. They contribute significantly to debates through diverse and informed views. In particular, the Wikimedia Foundation's work aims to provide the infrastructure to help disseminate free knowledge worldwide and has a demonstrated interest in copyright issues directly relevant to WIPO's work. Wikimedia's application should be decided on its merits, on what it could conceivably contribute to our discussions on IP issues in the Assemblies. Wikimedia should not be denied the status because one Member State has chosen to politicize this agenda item. We urge approval of the organizations listed in document A/68/3 Rev. at this session.

22. [REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): The Delegation of the Republic of Korea is pleased to take the floor in support of the request for admission of the Federation of Intellectual Property Societies (FIPRO) as an observer to the Assembly of the Member States of WIPO. FIPRO is a national NGO based in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Since its establishment in 2021, it has worked to foster a sound IP ecosystem through communication and cooperation among IP-related organizations in the Republic of Korea. The objectives of FIPRO are closely aligned with WIPO's mission to promote the protection and effective use of IP for economic, social and cultural developments. In particular, FIPRO contributes to enhancing public understanding of IP through policy planning, research, advisory activities and cooperation among relevant stakeholders. The Republic of Korea believes that the participation of FIPRO as an observer would bring constructive perspectives from the IP community of the Republic of Korea and would further enrich discussions within WIPO. Its network of member organizations and its practical engagement in the IP field will enable it to contribute meaningfully to WIPO's work. For this reason, the Delegation of the Republic of Korea supports the admission of FIPRO as an observer.

23. [PAKISTAN](#): The Delegation of Pakistan thanks the Secretariat for the preparation of document A/68/3 Rev. The admission of responsible observers by WIPO is an important mechanism to ensure an inclusive discourse on subjects of importance at this Organization. Continued observer interaction during the WIPO Assemblies and meetings of its unions enables important support functions and guides Member States in assessing progress and priorities of this Organization's work. A prerequisite for such admission is that aspiring organizations must acknowledge and respect globally recognized principles. The Wikimedia Foundation's request for admission as an observer fails to fulfill this requirement. Pakistan advocates that the admission of an observer at WIPO should be by consensus only. We therefore second the position expressed by other Delegations on the inability to accept the admission of the Wikimedia Foundation as an observer at WIPO.

24. [NICARAGUA](#): As a Member State of WIPO, Nicaragua believes that the functions of this Organization should be restricted to the protection of IP and, therefore, it should also respect

the decisions taken by Member States. Nicaragua rejects the request for the inclusion of the so-called Wikimedia Foundation on the list of observers at the Organization because they have spread false information about the People's Republic of China and repeatedly violated the one-China principle, undermining China's sovereignty. That is in contradiction with UNGA resolution 2758 and WIPO's own position on this for some time. Therefore, it is clear that the Wikimedia Foundation does not fulfill the requirements for obtaining observer status and, consequently, they should not be granted that status. The government of the Republic of Nicaragua defends the principle of the sovereignty and independence of all nations. We reiterate that there is only one China. The government of the People's Republic of China is the single legitimate government representing China. We request that all actions of the Organization and all of its institutions must respect UNGA resolution 2758 and we reiterate that all observer organizations must meet the requirements of this Organization and not undermine the consensus and the spirit of the Organization.

25. [BELARUS](#): We would like to note the argument-based objection by the Chinese Delegation against the provision of observer status to the Wikimedia Foundation. We believe that it is not reasonable to provide the observer status to organizations, against which the Member States have substantiated objections. It is important that organizations that have observer status be truly committed to good faith cooperation with WIPO and constructive contributions to its work. We maintain the importance of the principle of consensus when taking decisions at WIPO, including issues of the provision of observer status to organizations.

26. [BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA](#): The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela wishes to thank the Secretariat for preparing document A/68/3 Rev., which is the document for this agenda item. The Delegation supports what has been indicated by the People's Republic of China. We reject the request from the Wikimedia Foundation according to the one-China principle. We also recall the importance of consensus with regard to decision-making on the admission of observers within this Organization. We oppose the request received from the Wikimedia Foundation.

27. [ALGERIA](#): The Delegation of Algeria took note of the concerns expressed by the distinguished Delegation of China under this agenda item. While we fully recognize the pivotal role that observers play in enriching the deliberations within UN specialized agencies, including WIPO, we wish to underscore the importance of upholding the principle of consensus in matters relating to the admission of observers.

28. [FRANCE](#): The French Delegation aligns itself with the declaration made by Group B. We would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing document A/68/3 Rev. Our Delegation supports the provision of observer status to all the organizations that have made a request for this at these Assemblies. France has always supported the presence and participation of civil society in multilateral organizations. Participation of observers enriches our political discussions at WIPO thanks to their technical expertise and the regional diversity that they provide. In this regard, we support the request by Wikimedia as this foundation works in the interest of the free dissemination of knowledge.

29. [ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN](#): Concerning the admission of observers, the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran takes note of the concerns expressed by the distinguished Delegation of China. While the participation of new institutions as observers has traditionally been welcomed and recognized as contributing to the work of the Organization, it is equally important to preserve the established practice of the consensus-based decision-making, which remains a fundamental principle of WIPO and is highly valued by the Member States.

30. [UNITED KINGDOM](#): The United Kingdom supports the statement delivered on behalf of Group B and thanks the Secretariat for preparing the relevant documentation for this agenda item. Observers play an important role in the work of WIPO. They bring expertise, practical

experience and diverse varied perspectives that enrich and support discussions across the Organization's Committees. The United Kingdom believes that applications for observer status should be considered on their individual merits and in accordance with WIPO's established procedures. Given the Wikimedia Foundation's engagement on issues relevant to WIPO's work, including on copyright issues, we consider that it would contribute constructively to Member State discussions. We are not aware of any information indicating that any requesting organizations would be unable to fill the role of an observer or unable to make a positive contribution to our work. The United Kingdom, therefore, supports the admission of the full list in A/68/3 Rev, including the Wikimedia Foundation, as observers to WIPO.

31. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Delegation of the Russian Federation still believes that it would be appropriate not to provide accreditation to observers against which Member States have concerns or objections. We would like to note that at WIPO, decisions on the admission of observers have always been taken based on consensus, and the practice of provision of observer status to those organizations against which Member States have concerns or objections does not exist. We hope that these traditions, based on the spirit of cooperation and professionalism, will continue at WIPO.

32. [SWITZERLAND](#): Switzerland would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing document A/68/3 Rev. Our Delegation aligns itself with the statement made by Group B. We support all requests for observer admission presented in this document. We would like to recall that the request made by the Wikimedia Foundation has been waiting for validation by the Member States since the 2020 Assemblies. The goal of the Wikimedia Foundation is the promotion of free dissemination of educational content throughout the world. There is a direct link to IP and Wikipedia could contribute significantly to the work of WIPO to that end. Switzerland, therefore, supports this request for observer admission and we encourage the Member States to do the same.

33. [CANADA](#): Canada wishes to express support for the practical inclusion and participation of NGOs in relevant discussions in UN agencies such as WIPO. Canada believes that observers enrich the discussions at WIPO. It is important to have voices amplified in UN agencies beyond those of Member States given the impact of WIPO decisions on end users of the international IP system. Canada does not support the singling out of NGOs who have a demonstrated and clearly stated interest in WIPO's work. The full slate of NGOs seeking admission as observers to these Assemblies should be welcomed in their entirety.

34. [NICARAGUA](#): Once again, we reiterate our opposition to incorporating the Wikimedia Foundation. We cannot allow observers who lack all credibility and break the technical and scientific nature of this Organization to be accepted. There is no reason for accepting them.

35. [NIGERIA](#): While Nigeria is indeed in support of the need to have as many NGOs and observers as possible to lend their voices to the discussions here at the WIPO, I regret to say that at this point Nigeria is not able to support the application or request by My Intellectual Property Law Guide (MIPLG) to be admitted as an observer at this point.

36. [CHAIR](#): Could you say that again, Nigeria, please?

37. [NIGERIA](#): It is MIPLG. We are not able to support its admission at this point.

38. [CHAIR](#): Do I interpret your statement of not being able to support as breaking consensus on it? Just to be clear?

39. [NIGERIA](#): It is our position, Mr. Chair.

40. [CHAIR](#): It is understood. China, you have the floor.

41. [CHINA](#): We thank the many countries for their statements supporting the one-China principle. Of course, some countries have also made ungrounded arguments. We would like to make the following response. First, observer applications must respect rules and principles. The WIPO Convention stipulates that only the Assemblies have the authority to approve the application of observers whereas the Secretariat is only in charge of the procedure review and cannot replace the substantive judgment by members. So long as there are objections from the members, applicant organizations cannot be accepted as observers. Second, observer applications must also respect rules and regulations. The one-China principle is a basic principle of international relations and a common consensus in the international community, with absolutely no room for ambiguity. This foundation is blatantly violating the UNGA resolution 2758 and, therefore, doesn't meet the criteria. Also, certain countries, knowing full well that this foundation violates certain members' territorial integrity and sovereignty, still support the foundation's application for observer status, which is actually politicizing WIPO's work. Third, observer applications must focus on WIPO's core mandate. China has consistently supported NGOs which are genuinely working with WIPO to engage in international governance. However, if we allow organizations which are violating members' sovereignty and territorial integrity to enter WIPO then it will be only tolerating actions that are violating international laws and, therefore, will undermine this organization's credibility. The Wikimedia Foundation's attempt to crash the gate for several times is unpopular and, therefore, is destined to fail.

42. [CHAIR](#): I understand that there is consensus on all requests for observer status except for the Wikimedia Foundation and MIPLG. Thus, I propose the following decision paragraph:

43. The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, decided to grant observer status to the following organizations:

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (IGO)

- (i) Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO).

INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- (i) AI Ethics and Integrity International Association (AIEI);
- (ii) European Composer and Songwriter Alliance (ECSA);
- (iii) Global Audiovisual Alliance (GAVA);
- (iv) International Musical Artists Rights Alliance (IMARA);
- (v) Wine Origins Alliance (WOA);
- (vi) World Council of Indigenous Games (WIG);
- (vii) World Crafts Council (WCC AISBL).

NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS)

- (i) American Bar Association Section of Intellectual Property Law (ABA Section of Intellectual Property Law);
- (ii) Federation of Intellectual Property Societies (FIPRO);
- (iii) Paraguayan Association of Intellectual Property Agents (APAPI);
- (iv) Tathmeer Intellectual Property Association;
- (v) Union of Inventors;
- (vi) Women's IP Today.

44. [CHAIR](#): I see no objections. It is so decided.

ITEM 7 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL AND ASSISTANT DIRECTORS GENERAL

45. See the report of the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document [WO/CC/86/5](#)).

ITEM 8 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

DRAFT AGENDAS FOR 2027 ORDINARY SESSIONS

46. See the report of the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document [WO/CC/86/5](#)).

ITEM 9 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

REPORTS ON AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT

47. Discussions were based on documents [A/68/5](#), [A/68/8](#), [WO/GA/60/2](#), and [A/68/6](#)

(i) Report by the Independent Advisory Oversight Committee (IAOC)

48. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).

(ii) Reports by the External Auditor

49. [CHAIR](#): We resume the meeting of the sixty-eighth session of the Assemblies and, at this point based on our work program, which was circulated last night, we will be taking up agenda item 9. We have three sub items under consideration. We will be addressing each sub item separately. I would like to begin with Item 9(ii) - Reports by the External Auditor.

Three documents are under consideration as stated in our list of documents, namely A/68/5, Report by the External Auditor on the Financial Statements, document A/68/8, Report by the External Auditor on the WIPO/UPOV After Service Health Insurance Plan (ASHIP), and document A/68/6 List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee.

I would now like to welcome the External Auditor's representatives of the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (BPKRI) to cover this sub item. We have two representatives, Ms. Kusumu Ayu Rusnasanti, Director of International Organization Audit and Mr. Bulkayra, Performance Audit Team Leader. I would now like to invite Ms. Rusnasanti to make the introduction. Ms. Rusnasanti, you have the floor.

50. [EXTERNAL AUDITOR](#): Your Excellency, Chair of the Assembly, Distinguished Delegates, Director General of WIPO, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, good morning. It is an honor for me to present the results of the External Audit of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the financial year 2025. At the outset, allow me to note that the reports we are presenting today were reviewed during the fortieth Session of the Program and Budget Committee, held in the week of June 15, 2026. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Committee for its constructive engagement and for taking note of and accepting our reports. Before I proceed, I also convey the warm regards of the Chair of the BPKRI, Dr. Isma Yatun. Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen, we are pleased to report that the External Auditor issued an unqualified audit opinion on WIPO's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025. In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the Organization's financial position, financial performance, changes in net assets, and cash flows,

in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). Furthermore, we found that revenues and expenses were, in all material respects, applied for the purposes approved by the General Assembly, and financial transactions were carried out in accordance with the Organization's Financial Regulations and Rules. Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen, while acknowledging the Organization's strong financial reporting and governance framework, our audit identified several opportunities to further strengthen systems and processes. These relate in particular to: first, investment governance, including the need to strengthen clarity in the Investment Policy, particularly on fund manager engagement and pooled fund procurement. Second, intangible assets, where assigning a formal custodian in the Administrative and Information Management Systems (AIMS) would enhance accountability over recorded assets. Third, building management, specifically the need to establish formal procedures for the disposal and derecognition of replaced components. Fourth, procurement practices, including improving the documentation and filing of contractor performance evaluations. Lastly, PCT–AIMS data interface, where timing configuration issues should be resolved through follow-up on the pending change request. We encouraged the Organization to continue enhancing clarity in its investment policy, strengthen asset accountability arrangements, formalize certain procedures in building management, improve documentation of contractor performance, and further streamline data interface processes. These recommendations are intended to support enhanced transparency, reinforce internal controls, and contribute to the continued strengthening of governance and accountability within the Organization. I am pleased to note that management has agreed with all audit findings and recommendations. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, in addition to the financial audit, we conducted a performance audit focusing on the management of the Madrid System and the Global Databases, in support of WIPO's Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP). The audit concluded that WIPO has effectively managed these systems, contributing to improved quality and accessibility of services for stakeholders. To further enhance performance, we highlighted several areas for continued improvement. For the Madrid System, these include: strengthening system integration between operational and financial processes; refining key performance indicators to better align with strategic priorities and updating operational targets and reporting tools to reflect current performance conditions. For the Global Databases, we emphasized: the importance of more standardized data exchange arrangements with intellectual property offices (IPOs); improvements in data coverage, timeliness, and completeness, and the establishment of mechanisms to better monitor data updates and quality. These observations are aimed at supporting the Organization in further improving service delivery and ensuring long-term sustainability of its digital platforms. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, we also reviewed the status of implementation of prior-year audit recommendations. As of March 2026, we are encouraged to note that 88 per cent of recommendations issued between 2020 and 2024 have been implemented. This reflects a strong commitment by management to continuous improvement. A small number of recommendations remain in progress, particularly in areas related to system development and process improvements, and we encourage continued efforts to ensure their timely implementation. Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates, the BPKRI remains committed to providing independent, objective, and constructive assurance to support WIPO in strengthening governance, transparency, and accountability. We value the continued constructive cooperation with the Organization's management and staff, and we appreciate the support of Member States and oversight bodies. We stand ready to continue supporting the Organization in achieving its strategic objectives for the benefit of all Member States. I will now present the report on the audit of the ASHIP for the year 2025. The year 2025 marks the inaugural financial year of the ASHIP. We are pleased to report that the External Auditor issued an unqualified audit opinion, confirming that the ASHIP financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at December 31, 2025, in accordance with IPSAS, including IPSAS 39 on Employee Benefits. We also confirmed that financial transactions were conducted in accordance with the ASHIP Rules. Mr. Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen, during its first year of operation, ASHIP demonstrated a solid financial position, supported by strong contributions and positive investment performance. Plan assets increased significantly over the year, reflecting

the continued commitment of participating organizations to ensuring the sustainability of employee benefit obligations. Our audit identified several areas for governance enhancement. These relate to: formalizing the methodology for allocation of administrative expenses; establishing clear procedures for the drawdown of funds and considering the long-term governance implications of the current pooled investment arrangement. We encouraged the Organization to formalize these arrangements to further strengthen transparency, clarity, and governance as the Plan continues to evolve. Management has accepted all recommendations. Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates, the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia remains committed to supporting the sound governance and financial sustainability of ASHIP. We look forward to continued constructive engagement with the management and oversight bodies in future audit cycles. Thank you.

51. [ALBANIA](#): The Central European and Baltic States (CEBS) Group wishes to express its gratitude to the External Auditor for the detailed reports where the Auditor's findings and recommendations are presented in a clear and concise manner. We take note of the External Auditor Report which indicates that the financial statements present a fair and accurate view in all material respects in accordance with IPSAS. We also note that the Organization's key financial indicators remain sound despite the fact that the total surplus fell 84,48 million Swiss francs in 2025 mainly due to a decline in net investment gains. Furthermore, we welcome the fact that 2025 marked the inaugural financial year of the WIPO/UPOV ASHIP. Regarding the substantive comments, the CEBS Group emphasizes the importance of taking swift steps to implement the recommendation issued by the External Auditor as considered during the fortieth session of the Program and Budget Committee: updating the regulatory framework of the investment policy clarifying the role of fund managers and ensuring compliance with the procurement manual; assigning custodians for the intangible asset registry in the AIMS system to guarantee proper oversight; improving documentation and completing annual supplier performance reviews for strategic and critical contractors; resolving delays, time and configuration between the PCT systems and AIMS for invoicing and reimbursement processes; designing a comprehensive strategy to ensure seamless integration and robust control between the Madrid Registry System and the Finance Division system, as well as codifying a formal policy for the allocation of administrative expenses between WIPO and UPOV and documented drawdown procedures with the ASHIP governance framework.

52. [GERMANY](#): Good morning, everyone. Group B extends its appreciation to Dr. Isma Yatun and the BPKRI for their comprehensive reports both on WIPO's 2025 Financial Statements as well as on the ASHIP. We also commend the Secretariat for its cooperation and responses to the recommendations that were issued. Our Group attaches great importance to these reports which we have analyzed carefully and appreciate the detailed assessment of both financial and performance aspects of WIPO's operations. Group B welcomes the unqualified audit opinion confirming WIPO's compliance with IPSAS and its sound financial health. However, we also note WIPO's weakened financial performance in 2025 considering that WIPO's total surplus fell by 39.7 per cent compared to 2024. We further acknowledge the External Auditor's assessment that the first ever financial statements of the ASHIP for 2025 present fairly in all material respects, in accordance with IPSAS. We encourage WIPO to continue implementing the External Auditor's recommendations arising from the 2025 audit work, and we look forward to receiving updates on the progress of implementation and future reports. Regarding other substantive comments, we would like to recall the Group B statement as delivered to the fortieth session of the Program and Budget Committee.

53. [CHINA](#): China wishes to thank the BPKRI for providing the comprehensive reports. We appreciate WIPO's progress in implementing the recommendations issued by the External Auditor recommendations. We also note the ten recommendations made by the External Auditor in this report regarding the Organization's finances and performance related to optimizing the Madrid registration system and the global databases, and several valuable recommendations

on operational aspects. We believe that these audit recommendations are timely and important. Therefore, we look forward to their active implementation by the Secretariat.

54. [INDONESIA](#): Indonesia wishes to express its appreciation to the External Auditor for the comprehensive reports and to the Secretariat for its continued cooperation throughout the audit process. We take note of the External Auditor's unqualified opinion confirming that WIPO's 2025 financial statements present fairly in all material respects the Organization's financial position in accordance with IPSAS, and that financial transactions were carried out in conformity with the Financial Regulations and Rules. Indonesia also notes the positive assessment that WIPO continues to maintain a sound financial position, while recognizing that the report identifies a number of opportunities to further strengthen governance, internal controls and operational efficiency. In particular, we note the recommendations concerning investment governance, procurement management, asset management, information systems and the integration of financial and operational processes. We believe that timely implementation of these recommendations will further enhance transparency, accountability and institutional resilience. We also welcome the performance audit focusing on the Madrid System and the global databases. Indonesia considers the recommendations on strengthening system interoperability, improving data quality and coverage and enhancing cooperation with national IPOs to be particularly valuable. Reliable, comprehensive and up-to-date IP data are increasingly important to support innovation, evidence-based policy making and effective global IP services, including for developing countries. Indonesia further welcomes the encouraging progress made by the Secretariat in implementing previous audit recommendations with 88 per cent having been completed. We encourage continued efforts to implement the remaining recommendations in a timely manner. Finally, Indonesia appreciates the constructive and forward-looking nature of the External Auditor's recommendations, which are aimed not merely at ensuring financial compliance, but also at strengthening good governance, institutional effectiveness and the long-term sustainability of WIPO's operations. Indonesia supports the proposed decision of the committee to recommend that the WIPO Assemblies take note of the reports by the External Auditors.

55. [CHAIR](#): Thank you very much, Indonesia, for your statement. Are there any more requests from the floor? I see none. I would like to thank all the Delegations who spoke on agenda Item 9(ii) and their very constructive comments. I would like to ask Ms. Rusnasanti if she would want to respond.

56. [EXTERNAL AUDITOR](#): Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much on behalf of the BPKRI. We really appreciate the very constructive collaboration with the management and also we take note the input from the Member States and we look forward to continued and strengthened collaboration for the upcoming assignment for the audit cycle.

57. [CHAIR](#): At this point we are now in a position to take decisions and I would like to propose the following decision paragraphs:

58. The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, took note of the "Report by the External Auditor on the Financial Statements" (document A/68/5).

59. The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned, took note of the "Report by the External Auditor on the WIPO/UPOV After Service Health Insurance Plan (ASHIP)" (document A/68/8).

60. [CHAIR](#): I see no objections. It is so decided. Sub item 9(ii) stands closed and I would like to thank Ms. Rusnasanti for her cooperation and all her hard work on behalf of her auditing team.

(iii). Report by the Director of the Internal Oversight Division (IOD)

61. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).

ITEM 10 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

REPORT ON THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC)

62. Discussions were based on document [A/68/6](#).

63. [CHAIR](#): We now open agenda Item 10, Report on the Program and Budget Committee (PBC). This item covers all PBC matters except the reports on audit and oversight, which we have already discussed under agenda Item 9. The document considered under the present Item is document A/68/6 - List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee, which contains all decisions taken at the fortieth session of the PBC. Before I give the floor to the Secretariat, I would like to thank the PBC Chair, H.E. Ambassador Alaa Hegazy, and ask the Delegation of Egypt to convey our deep appreciation, as well as the two Vice-Chairs, Mr. Christian Schernitzky and Ms. Alison Urquizo, for their work. Thank you very much. I would now like to invite Ms. Chitra Narayanaswamy, the Controller and PBC Secretary, to make a brief introduction.

64. [SECRETARIAT](#): Thank you very much, Chair, and a very good morning to everyone. As the Chair stated, the PBC held its fortieth session in Geneva, from June 15 to 19, 2026. The PBC agenda covered a number of items, including: Audit and Oversight matters; Performance and Financial Review; Proposals; and items following the 2025 PBC sessions and Assemblies of WIPO Member States. Member States engaged intensively throughout the PBC and took note or recommended for approval by WIPO's Assemblies a number of items, as listed in document A/68/6 (List of Decisions), adopted by the PBC. With your permission Chair, I would like to highlight a few: The PBC recommended to the Assemblies to take note of WIPO's positive performance in the 2024/25 biennium, as contained in the WIPO Performance Report 2024/25. The PBC also recommended to the Assemblies to approve the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements 2025, the inaugural WIPO/UPOV ASHIP Annual Report for the Year to December 31, 2025, and the amended Policy on Investments. The PBC took note of the WIPO Accountability Framework and the Transfer of Obligations under the Closed Pension Fund (CROMPI) to WIPO. Regarding the MTSP, the PBC acknowledged diverse viewpoints, took note of the Director General's assurances, and underscored that the MTSP should continue to be prepared in compliance with the WIPO Financial Regulations and Rules. The PBC requested the Secretariat to prepare Draft Terms of Reference (ToRs), based on the established UN and WIPO evaluation practices, principles, standards and guidelines, taking into account the Guiding Principles contained in document A/55/INF/11, and present it for consideration by the Committee at its forty-first session, in accordance with WIPO General Rules of Procedure. Finally, document A/68/INF/4 provides the status of the payment of contributions as at June 30, 2026. As no new receipts related to annual contributions were received between July 1 and July 8, 2026, the balance of arrears remains approximately 7,5 million Swiss francs.

65. [GERMANY](#): On a personal basis, thank you very much for your kind words to the Vice-Chairs of the PBC. As a Group, we would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee, which is contained in document A/68/6. Group B expresses its appreciation to the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the fortieth PBC session for their effective leadership and dedication to the PBC process. Group B welcomes the proposed amendments to the Policy on Investments. Since the last amendments to the investment policy in 2019, governance standards in investment management, as well as risk management methodologies have significantly evolved. Against

this background, an update to the policy on investments is necessary to adapt to the changed economic and financial environment of WIPO. Group B especially appreciates that the proposed amendments reflect various internal and external inputs along with findings from an extensive benchmarking exercise conducted with a range of organizations. We particularly note that the amendments take into account feedback from the IAOC, as well as findings from the investment management audit carried out by IOD. Moreover, Group B takes note of the discussion on the draft ToRs e for the 2021 Evaluation of WIPO external offices. While we are disappointed that the Secretariat did not take action with respect to the Committee's 2025 decision, requesting the Secretariat to draft new ToRs, we welcome the decision by the PBC this year to request the Secretariat to prepare new draft Terms of Reference based on the established UN and WIPO evaluation practices, principles, standards and guidelines. We stand ready to continue our constructive participation in the discussions at the forty-first session of the PBC. Thank you very much.

66. [EL SALVADOR](#): El Salvador presents this statement on behalf of GRULAC. The Group wishes to highlight the Organization's strong financial performance during the last biennium, reflecting responsible management and well-governed investment policies that have strengthened institutional stability and predictability. These results confirm the soundness of WIPO's financial administration and its commitment to sustainability and to risk management. In this context, our Group believes that this performance allows us to move towards greater support for initiatives that advance the Development Agenda, strengthen the use of IP tools to promote innovation, as well as their protection and enforcement, and facilitates broader and more effective participation of members and of stakeholders in the Organization's meetings. Regarding the savings recorded in the 2024/2025 biennium, we would like to highlight that some of these savings were due to unfilled vacancies. While this contributed to containing expenditure, it also underscores the need to ensure the full and efficient use of budgeted resources. In this regard, it is essential that human resource management does not negatively impact the Organization's operations nor the quality of services it provides to its members. Regarding the Annual Report on Human Resources, we consider it necessary to increase efforts to achieve greater geographical balance, particularly in senior-level positions. We also wish to express our concern at the lack of progress in the opening of external offices. We consider it necessary to resume the examination of pending requests, recognizing that they respond to different contexts and needs and should not remain indefinitely unresolved. We encourage Member States to continue to work constructively in order to strengthen the network of external offices that contribute to a more inclusive, balanced and effective Intellectual Property (IP) system across all regions, including Latin America and the Caribbean. Finally, we wish to reaffirm GRULAC's commitment to maintaining an active and constructive role and reiterate our readiness to continue to work with the Secretariat and members to advance the issues that still require our attention.

67. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Russian Federation has the honor to deliver the statement on behalf of the Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC). Our Group notes with satisfaction the continued positive trend in WIPO's financial results. We encourage the Secretariat to pay particular attention to the preparation of high-quality reporting information, including statistical data analysis, income and expenditure forecasting, and the establishment and achievement of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the international registration systems and for administrative and financial activities in general. We note the need to prepare the next MTSP based on broad dialogue with the Member States, as this approach will ensure a balanced future document. The use of modern technologies to achieve savings and improve WIPO's productivity should not compromise the quality of the Secretariat's work. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, especially when preparing official translations, should be complemented by mandatory review, proofreading and post-editing by experts to ensure accuracy and high quality of translations. The CACEEC Group confirms its readiness to continue to participate constructively in the work of the PBC. Thank you very much.

68. [CHINA](#): We thank the Secretariat for providing the Report on the Program and Budget Committee. China has always attached great importance to the work of the PBC and believes that sound financial and performance management are among the foundations and key pillars of WIPO's governance and operations. China notes with satisfaction that over the past year, under the leadership of Director General Daren Tang, WIPO has once again made positive progress in various areas, including financial revenue, outputs and overall performance management. China highly commends these achievements. At its fortieth session, PBC reviewed and adopted several important documents, including the WIPO Performance report 2024/2025 and the Progress Report on the Implementation of Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) Recommendations. The proposal put forward by China regarding the continued implementation and updating of business continuity strategies was successfully included in the meeting's resolution. In the future, China is willing to continue to actively participate in the work of the PBC in a constructive manner. Thank you.

69. [TUNISIA](#): My Delegation wishes to congratulate His Excellency the Ambassador of Egypt, and his two Vice-Chairs, for their leadership during the fortieth session of the PBC. We note with satisfaction the Organization's solid financial performance during the period under review and the positive achievements, despite some declines, in the various sectors of activity, as well as the progress made towards achieving the expected objectives. My Delegation also appreciates the emphasis placed during this year's review of activities and initiatives promoting development and growth, namely, Strategic Pillar 4. We note with satisfaction the efforts undertaken to diversify the beneficiaries of projects in the field, as well as the initiatives aimed at sustaining the impact of projects through the establishment of community engagement platforms. We believe that greater attention could be paid to measuring the concrete impact of programs on the ground. Beyond the data relating to activities carried out, the training sessions organized, or the number of beneficiaries, it would also be useful to have information enabling an assessment of the lasting impact of these interventions. Furthermore, Mr. Chair, my Delegation encourages WIPO to strengthen its interactions and partnerships with other international organizations to achieve global objectives where IP can play a significant role. We believe that WIPO can play a central role and can create global partnerships aimed at integrating IP into joint development and growth initiatives. The Tunisian Delegation also reiterates its support for the current methodology for allocating expenditures and revenues, based on the principles of unity and solidarity among the unions. As long as WIPO remains in a sound and stable financial position, there is no reason to revise the current methodology. My Delegation emphasizes that all WIPO systems are of equal importance and meet the specific needs of their users, contributing to the development of a balanced and inclusive international IP ecosystem. It is worth remembering that WIPO is a UN agency. Its primary objective is to meet the needs of its Member States, not just to support revenue-generating activities. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

70. [PAKISTAN](#): My Delegation is pleased to note the overall healthy financial status of WIPO as reflected in the WIPO Performance Report. We commend the prudent financial and investment management by the Secretariat which has been key to the Organization's long-term sustainability. Pakistan is of the view that WIPO's financial gains must result in the mainstreaming of the WIPO Development Agenda (DA) across the Organization's program of work. An inclusive budget demands that measures be undertaken for the advancement of the IP ecosystem in its entirety, including special attention to emerging IP ecosystems. We particularly appreciate the continued alignment of the Program of Work and Budget with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With development considerations constituting a central place for inclusive program delivery, it is pivotal that allocated funds be utilized in further supporting technology transfer, bridging the innovation gap and IP commercialization. Regarding the draft ToRs for the Evaluation of WIPO external offices, Pakistan has consistently emphasized that the matter be guided by the principles of objectivity, inclusiveness, transparency and neutrality. The key outstanding questions regarding the entity to be entrusted with the evaluation, its objectives and scope must take into account the guiding principles regarding WIPO external offices agreed to by the Member States in 2015. We strongly advocate

for the evaluation to be conducted by an independent external entity. In the interest of advancing our work on the matter, our Delegation has supported tasking the Secretariat to produce a draft document for further consideration by the Member States. We remain keen to analyze the Secretariat's output and assure you of our constructive engagement on the matter. Thank you.

71. [SPAIN](#): The Spanish Delegation aligns itself with the statement of Group B and appreciates the Secretariat's preparatory work. Spain takes note of the discussions on the MTSP. We reaffirm our confidence that its development will continue to follow established WIPO practices and be in accordance with its Financial Regulations and Rules. A matter of fundamental importance to WIPO's financial sustainability is the Organization's long-term financial obligations and liabilities. In this regard, we wish to acknowledge the progress made in recent years regarding health insurance payable after separation from service, particularly with the creation of the multi-employer plan. We welcome the fact that in the 2025 Financial Statements, the assets and liabilities related to these financial commitments are finally, and for the first time, properly separated, which provides security and increased monitoring capabilities. We encourage WIPO to continue paying close and consistent attention to this matter, making progress toward full coverage of these liabilities and improving the clarity of the information it provides. Spain emphasizes the fundamental role played by all IP systems as the basis of WIPO's work, and as drivers of innovation and economic development on a global scale. For this to remain possible, the Organization's financial sustainability must continue to be a priority without neglecting the cooperation that is essential for the benefits of the IP system to reach all Member States. Spain underlines the importance of maintaining a suitable balance and a prudent approach to the Program of Work and Budget, given the volatility of the international context, so that the Organization preserves its financial soundness while ensuring that IP contributes equitably to the progress of all countries and the effective fulfillment of its mandate. Spain also takes note of the discussions on the evaluation of WIPO's external offices and welcomes the decision to task the Secretariat with preparing a new draft ToRs based on the evaluation practices, principles, standards, and guidelines of the UN and WIPO. We remain ready to continue participating constructively in the work of the forty-first session of the PBC. Thank you very much.

72. [COLOMBIA](#): The Delegation of Colombia welcomes the Organization's positive financial performance and the Proposed Amendments to the Policy on Investments, particularly in paragraphs 7 and 45, seeking greater transparency in the management of resources. Colombia invites Member States to continue constructive and expeditious dialogue on the draft ToRs for the Evaluation of WIPO external offices. Although we welcome the progress that this topic has seen in the recent PBC, we would like to state our concern about the lack of progress in recent years. Since the 2019 General Assembly, candidacies for new WIPO external offices, including Colombia, have been suspended until a decision is made on the evaluation that was to be carried out in 2021, and which, unfortunately, has not yet been completed due to a lack of consensus. For Colombia, it is important that we progress toward the creation and establishment of a WIPO External Office in our country, as this would strengthen a balanced IP system at the service of innovation and well-being of the Latin American population. Finally, the Colombian Delegation would like to invite the Organization to continue to work toward the achievement of goals reported in the WIPO Performance Report 2024/25 as not yet achieved, specifically Strategic Pillar 3 - provide high-quality IP services, knowledge and data that deliver value to users around the world. We have not seen reporting on access licenses or technology transfer in health initiatives where the IP component has been facilitated by WIPO. These activities are of particular importance for Colombia. Similarly, the activities under Strategic Pillar 4 are of importance for Colombia, given the relationship between IP and the improvement of population health, as well as closing the gender gap, which forms part of a balanced IP system that Member States and the Organization should strive to promote, both in their internal operations and in their work as an international body.

73. [BRAZIL](#): Brazil thanks the Secretariat for the report A/68/6 and aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Distinguished Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC. WIPO's positive financial situation derives from its unique position within the UN system as a service provider. Its dependence on Member States' assessed contributions is almost negligible. Therefore, as Member States we have to use available resources wisely and effectively. Operating results provide sufficient surplus for future action and should revert to the benefit of all members and the good health of the IP system. WIPO's financial strength should translate into development outcomes, advancing the WIPO Development Agenda recommendations and WIPO's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. Development should be mainstreamed across all WIPO activities and programs. And for that, technology transfer is a key instrument to reduce the gap between haves and have-nots. The age-old aspirations of developing countries to increase their share in tech innovation and IP holdings needs the support of WIPO to materialize. WIPO's external offices perform an important role in supporting and driving innovation and creativity contributing to the Organization's outreach and helping address common and global challenges. We believe these offices can extend the reach of WIPO's programs to the benefit of host countries and their regions. They should be supervised and held accountable, as should all WIPO Secretariat units. Mr. Chair, Brazil appreciates the discussions held on the MTSP during the last PBC session and the agreement reached to allow sufficient time for the preparation of a robust and inclusive new strategic framework with the future WIPO senior management team. We reiterate the importance of ensuring meaningful consultation with Member States in the formulation of the next MTSP. On substance, the future strategic framework should continue strengthening the implementation of all recommendations of the WIPO DA and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, including through measures that promote more equitable access to emerging technologies. Brazil looks forward to continuing to engage constructively in all PBC meetings, and I thank you for your attention.

74. [ITALY](#): Italy aligns itself with the statement made by Group B. Italy welcomes the strong financial performance reported by WIPO for 2024/25 which reflects the Organization's sound management, operational efficiency and continued ability to deliver results while maintaining a solid financial position. At the same time, we note that the long-term liabilities related to after-service employee benefits and pension obligations remain significant. While we acknowledge the measures undertaken by the Secretariat, we believe that the continued and careful monitoring of the actuarial projections and underlying assumptions remain essential to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Organization's financial position. In this regard, we encourage regular reporting to the PBC Member States on developments related to these liabilities, including updates on funding levels and projected trends. With respect to the investment policy, Italy raised the importance of transparency and oversight. We believe that the PBC should receive more comprehensive and timely information on the management of WIPO's investment portfolio, its performance, risk exposure and the implementation of the investment policy in order to enable Member States to have a clear and updated view for an effective approach. Overall, we commend the Secretariat for the positive financial results achieved during the years and look forward to continued prudent financial management in the years ahead. Thank you, Chair.

75. [CUBA](#): We would like to thank the Secretariat for the report. We support the GRULAC statement on the main issues to be considered under this agenda item as they relate to the Program of Work and Budget 2026/27. In this regard, it is necessary to emphasize the importance of guaranteeing financing for the participation of developing countries in the various Standing Committees and Working Groups, including the budgets for technical assistance and development of the automated system for trademarks and patents. We must also ensure gender equality and geographical distribution at all levels of the Organization. Thank you.

76. [ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN](#): We welcome the outcome of the fortieth session of the PBC. We take note of WIPO's positive financial performance and the progress achieved in

implementing the expected results for the biennium. Iran believes financial strength is a means, not an end. This institutional and financial strength should translate into tangible benefits for the full membership through balanced program delivery, effective technical cooperation, wider access to WIPO services and sustained support for national innovation ecosystems. In this regard, performance should be assessed not only by activities delivered, but also by the lasting results generated for Member States. With respect to the MTSP, we welcome the assurances provided by the Director General concerning continuity and consultation with the Member States. We look forward to a successor plan reflecting the priorities and concerns of all Member States, and which preserves development as an integral component of the Organization's strategic direction. On external offices, my Delegation was pleased to contribute to the flexibility and constructive spirit that enabled the Committee to agree, after several years without progress, on a renewed pathway. This renewed opportunity should be fully utilized. The momentum created by the Committee's decision must now be translated into focused engagement and concrete progress toward the timely finalization of the ToRs. We expect the revised draft to help narrow differences and facilitate the timely finalization of the ToRs. We look forward to receiving that text in advance of the Committee's next session to enable the timely discussion of the ToRs and pave the way for the new external offices, particularly in underrepresented regions. We further encourage continued attention to geographical representation across the Organization, including at senior levels. In particular, WIPO should develop concrete time-bound measures to address the continued under-representation of certain Member States and regions. Chair, Iran remains committed to working with all Member States and the Secretariat toward a more balanced, inclusive and equitable international IP system. Thank you.

77. [SAMOA](#): We thank the PBC for its diligent work and acknowledge the importance of the decisions adopted at its fortieth session. For Small Island Developing States, or SIDS countries, including the Pacific, the strength of WIPO's financial governance directly shapes our ability to participate meaningfully in a global IP system. Samoa sees clear opportunity to enhance the Committee's responsiveness to the needs of SIDS. First, we encourage the PBC to integrate SIDS-focused impact reporting into future financial and performance reviews. As the Committee takes note of documents such as the WIPO Performance Report and Annual Financial Statements, a dedicated lens on how these outcomes translate into real capacity gains for small administrations would significantly improve transparency and equity. Second, Samoa highlights the value of linking oversight findings to development cooperation. The Committee's consideration of the IAOC, IOD and JIU reports is essential, but their conclusions should more clearly inform technical assistance for countries with limited institutional capacity. This is particularly relevant for digital resilience and business continuity, where pacific nations face unique connectivity vulnerabilities. Third, on strategic planning, Samoa welcomes the Committee's guidance on the MTSP. We encourage structured SIDS consultations to ensure that future MTSPs reflect regional priorities such as traditional knowledge (TK) protection, digital transformation and institutional strengthening. Fourth, we see value in improving accessibility of PBC processes. Plain-language summaries and advanced circulation of documents would greatly support small delegations that manage multiple portfolios with limited staff. Finally, as the Committee considers investment policies and long-term liabilities, Samoa encourages SIDS-sensitive risk assessments to ensure that financial decisions do not inadvertently constrain resources available for development cooperation. Samoa reaffirms its commitment to constructive engagement with the PBC. Strengthening the Committee's development responsiveness will ensure that WIPO's financial integrity is matched by its commitment to inclusivity, equity and meaningful participation for all Member States, large and small.

78. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The United States aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Distinguished Representative of Germany on behalf of Group B. As the United States outlined in our opening statement, a new WIPO term brings occasion for this Organization to refresh and refocus on WIPO's mandate enshrined in Article 3 of the WIPO Convention, and that is promoting IP and advancing the efficient protection of IP

throughout the world. Accordingly, it is critical for WIPO's expenditures and resource allocation to reflect that refocus on Article 3, the advancement of the effective protection of IP.

WIPO's MTSP should articulate a vision and priorities that advance WIPO's core mandate and focus on the health of WIPO's systems. The MTSP must be consistent with WIPO's core mandate. WIPO is a specialized technical agency, not a development agency, and its MTSP must reflect that. The United States looks forward to providing more specific input regarding the MTSP in due course. Thank you Chair.

79. [UKRAINE](#): Ukraine attaches great importance to the work of the PBC as a body responsible for strengthening WIPO's institutional integrity, transparency, accountability and sound budgetary governance. In this context, Ukraine wishes to reiterate its principle position regarding WIPO external offices. External offices are a privilege, not a right. Their operation must be transparent, fully aligned with WIPO's mandate and values, and must produce clear and measurable benefits for its users and Member States. The continued operation of the WIPO External Office in Moscow remains a matter of profound concern for Ukraine. It is difficult to reconcile the presence of a WIPO External Office in a capital of a state that continues its illegal, unprovoked, and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, violates the UN Charter, attempts to illegally annex part of another WIPO Member State, and destroys the Member State's innovation and creativity ecosystem. Ukraine, therefore, calls for this issue to remain under close consideration in the work of the PBC, and we reiterate our position that the WIPO External Office in Moscow should be closed. Ukraine also underlines that all WIPO activities, platforms, and projects must fully respect Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

80. [PAKISTAN](#): My Delegation is pleased to note the overall healthy financial status of WIPO as reflected in the WIPO Performance Report. We commend prudent financial and investment management by the Secretariat which has been key to the Organization's long-term stability. We particularly appreciate the continued alignment of the Program of Work and Budget with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the development considerations constituting a central place for inclusive program delivery. Chair, with regard to the draft ToRs for the Evaluation of WIPO external offices, Pakistan has consistently emphasized that the matter be guided by the principles of objectivity, inclusiveness, transparency, and neutrality. We strongly advocate for the evaluation to be conducted by an independent external entity. We remain keen to analyze the Secretariat's output and assure you of our constructive engagement on the matter. Thank you.

81. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): We are speaking in our national capacity. We would like to take this opportunity to exercise our right of reply regarding the statement made by one of the delegates on agenda item 10. We would like to assure everyone here that the WIPO Moscow Office is closed. It is closed from Friday to Monday from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m., and it is also closed on weekends. On the other days, the Office works under the mandate that was issued to it by the Headquarters, and it will continue to do so regardless of any aggressive statements that may be made by representatives of WIPO Member States. Thank you.

82. [CONTROLLER](#): Very good morning to everybody. I have not much to say, except that I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the PBC Chair, H.E. Alaa Hegazy and the Vice-Chairs. I would also like to thank each of the delegations of the PBC for the decisions taken, but also for the hard work leading up to the PBC. There was a lot of engagement in the lead-up. Finally, on behalf of the Secretariat I would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all of our oversight and audit entities, the External Auditor, our IOD Director and her team, and the IAOC. Thank you very much, Chair.

83. [CHAIR](#): I echo those expressions of appreciation especially for Ambassador Alaa Hegazy of Egypt for his leadership in the PBC. At this point, if there are no more speakers, we are ready to take a decision and I would like to propose the following decision paragraph:

84. The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned,
- (i) took note of the “List of Decisions Adopted by the Program and Budget Committee” (document A/68/6), and
 - (ii) approved the recommendations made by the Program and Budget Committee as contained in the same document.
85. [CHAIR](#): I see no objections. It is so decided. Thank you very much. Item 10 now stands closed.

ITEM 11 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

REPORTS FROM WIPO COMMITTEES

- (i) The Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)

86. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (ii) The Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP)

87. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (iii) The Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT)

88. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (iv) The Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) and Review of the Implementation of the Development Agenda Recommendations

89. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (v) The Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC)

90. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (vi) The Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)

91. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).
- (vii) The Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE)

92. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).

ITEM 12 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

PCT SYSTEM

93. See the report of the session of the PCT Union Assembly (document [PCT/A/58/4](#)).

ITEM 13 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

MADRID SYSTEM

94. See the report of the session of the Madrid Union Assembly (document [MM/A/60/3](#)).

ITEM 14 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

HAGUE SYSTEM

95. See the report of the session of the Hague Union Assembly (document [H/A/46/2](#)).

ITEM 15 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

LISBON SYSTEM

96. See the report of the session of the Lisbon Union Assembly (document [LI/A/43/2](#)).

ITEM 16 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

WIPO ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTER, INCLUDING DOMAIN NAMES

97. Discussions were based on document [WO/GA/60/10](#).
98. See the report of the session of the WIPO General Assembly (document [WO/GA/60/11](#)).

ITEM 17 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

MARRAKESH TREATY TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO PUBLISHED WORKS FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND, VISUALLY IMPAIRED OR OTHERWISE PRINT DISABLED (MVT)

99. See the report of the session of the Marrakesh Treaty Assembly (document [MVT/A/11/2](#)).

ITEM 18 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE'S INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY SECTOR AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM

100. Discussions were based on document [A/68/7](#).
101. [DIRECTOR GENERAL](#): Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, I am pleased to introduce the Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System contained in document A/68/7. The report was prepared in accordance with subparagraph (d) of the decision taken by Member States at the Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings of the WIPO Assemblies. As requested by Member States, and in cooperation with, and consultation of Ukraine, the International Bureau (IB) continued to assist and support Ukraine's innovation, creative and IP ecosystems. This support has been guided by the new comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between WIPO and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine signed in July 2025. The MoU on Cooperation in the Sphere of Intellectual Property, reflects Ukraine's latest priorities and provides an important framework for

our continued collaboration. Since last July, we have held over 30 in-person or virtual consultations with Ukrainian authorities. These include my meetings with Deputy Minister of Economy, Mr. Oleksandr Tsybort. We also remain in regular contact with Ms. Olena Orlyuk, Director of the Ukrainian National Office of Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO) as well as with other key stakeholders in Ukraine's innovation and creative ecosystem. The report highlights a number of areas of work. Let me share some examples. First, and as requested, we continue to work closely with Ukraine on its new National IP Strategy and Operational Plan for implementation, which are now before the Government for adoption. I welcome my recent discussion with Deputy Minister Tsybort on the establishment of a joint Working Group in support of implementation and technical work in areas such as IP analytics, technology transfer, creative economy measurement and IP valuation and financing. Second, we have maintained a strong focus on IP skills building, supporting the IP Academy of Ukraine to modernize its digital presence and launching a customized Ukrainian version of the Primer of IP earlier this year. With the support of the Funds-in-Trust Korea, we also continue to empower women entrepreneurs by strengthening their understanding of IP, and for selected participants, providing tailored mentorship on IP commercialization, branding and fundraising. Third, we continue to offer capacity building activities for the judiciary of Ukraine, including the development of an IP Benchbook for Judges. And fourth, we continue to support innovators and creators. During the reporting period, 11 Ukrainian ventures and innovators participated in WIPO's Scale Up Your IP Program for Deep-Tech Ventures, helping them to develop their approach to IP commercialization and integrate IP into these strategies. In addition, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy, we have concluded the first phase of a project supporting collective management organizations (CMOs) through policy advice and the development of a toolkit evaluating CMO reports and effectiveness. I can also report that on July 8 this year, we signed a new cooperation agreement with the UANIPIO around data exchange and dissemination. The agreement paves the way for further work on digitization and the deployment of WIPO's AI tools in Ukraine. The Report also contains an updated assessment of how war is impacting Ukraine's innovation and creative ecosystem. The assessment indicates severe and increasingly structural impacts, with most of the effects identified in previous assessments persisting and, in some cases, intensifying. At the same time, the assessment notes continued resilience and adaptation across the innovation and creative ecosystems with Ukrainian institutions and stakeholders maintaining core functions and, in some cases, expanding services. The assessment together with reporting from other UN Agencies also indicates that Ukraine's innovation, scientific, digital and creative ecosystems are gradually transitioning from emergency response to what is reconstruction-oriented development. While structural constraints remain significant, particularly in relation to human capital, infrastructure and financing, Ukraine's policy direction increasingly emphasizes institutional recovery, EU integration and innovation-led reconstruction. The IP data shows a mixed but resilient picture. National IP filings declined in 2024 while utility model applications continued to grow. In 2025, the continued growth in international filings further evidenced the resilience of the system, with resident filings showing greater resilience than non-resident filings. As requested by Member States, the IB has also taken steps to ensure that publications on WIPO's resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. The IB remains committed to implementing the decisions taken by Member States and continuing its cooperation with Ukraine in support of its innovation, creativity and IP ecosystem.

102. [SECRETARIAT](#): At the outset, please allow me to thank the Director General for introducing agenda Item 18. It is my pleasure to present the Report on Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System as outlined in document A/68/7. The report is structured into five sections which outline the following: Section 1, an introduction and summary of the report; Section 2, an updated impact assessment of the war's effect on Ukraine's innovation and creative ecosystem. This includes key findings from stakeholder consultations and desk research as well as an analysis of Ukraine's innovation performance based on Global Innovation Index (GII), and IP filing and

registration trends; Section 3, an overview of WIPO's assistance and support provided to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and its IP system; Section 4, updates regarding access to WIPO's IP services and the steps taken to ensure that all publications across WIPO's resources and platforms respect and uphold the principles of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. And Section 5, the conclusions of the report. This report is submitted pursuant to mandate given by Member States at the 2024 WIPO Assemblies, including the request to report on implementation of the decision and other relevant activities annually thereafter. Allow me to provide further details on the methodology and findings of the updated impact assessment. As part of the annual reporting under this mandate, the IB conducted an updated assessment of the impact of the war on Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and ecosystem. This assessment was carried out through stakeholder consultations at various levels, including questionnaires and interviews as well as through desk research and data analysis. Approximately 50 stakeholders participated in the assessment, representing governmental authorities, educational and research institutions, innovation support organizations, IP practitioners, businesses, creative industries, collective management organizations and Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs). The assessment also drew on WIPO data, the GII, information provided by Ukrainian authorities, and reporting by the UN system and other international partners. In particular, the Bureau referred to the Ukraine – Fifth Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDNA5) Report published by the World Bank in February of 2026, covering the period from February 2022 to December 2025. According to the RDNA5 Report, socioeconomic losses are estimated at 666.7 billion US dollars while direct damage has reached approximately 195.1 billion US dollars, with housing, transport and energy among the most affected sectors. UNESCO has also verified damage to 527 cultural sites since February 24, 2022. More specifically, many of the effects previously reported to the WIPO Assemblies – as outlined in documents A/64/8, A/65/7 and A/66/8 – persist and, in some cases, have even intensified. Additional systematic constraints have also deepened, including low innovation spending by enterprises, declining student enrollment, market contraction affecting creative industries, and challenges related to IP enforcement capacity. These findings are important not only as an assessment of the situation but also as a basis for ensuring that WIPO's assistance remains targeted, needs-based and responsive to Ukraine's evolving priorities. The creative sector also continues to face significant challenges as a result of the ongoing war. Contributing factors include the sharp reduction in national funding for cultural development, declining production of creative goods and services, acute staffing shortages and the restricted operational capacity of CMOs. Taken together, these factors have had a major negative impact on the sector. The IB also analyzed Ukraine's innovation performance as reflected in the GII. The findings revealed structural challenges consistent with those identified by Ukrainian stakeholders and by the international reporting, with particular emphasis on human capital, infrastructure, research capacity and financing. In the GII 2025, Ukraine ranked 66th out of 139 economies, down from 60th in 2024. At the same time, Ukraine continues to perform above expectations relative to its level of development and retains strong positions in specific areas, ranking first globally in utility models by origin and fifth globally in exports of ICT services. Taken together, the GII findings, WIPO data and reports of the UN system and other international partners provide a coherent picture: persistent weaknesses and deepening structural challenges continue to affect Ukraine's innovation ecosystem, while important areas of resilience, adaptability and potential remain. International reporting during the period, including by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the World Bank and the European Union, also indicates that Ukraine's innovation, scientific, digital and creative ecosystems are gradually transitioning from emergency wartime resilience to reconstruction-oriented transformation. While structural constraints remain significant, particularly in relation to human capital, infrastructure and financing, the policy direction increasingly emphasizes institutional recovery, European integration and innovation-led reconstruction are core pillars of Ukraine's long-term

development trajectory. This transition has also been supported by expanded international cooperation frameworks, including the International Coalition for Science, Research and Innovation, UNESCO's Action Plan, and strengthened integration with European research and innovation frameworks. The evolving security situation and limitations in the availability and comparability of data necessarily constrain the assessment and underline the importance of continued engagement with the Ukrainian authorities. At the same time, Ukrainian institutions and stakeholders have demonstrated remarkable resilience by maintaining core functions and, in some cases, expanding services and adapting operations under extraordinary pressure. This resilience was also identified with regard to IP filings. While national IP filings experienced a declining trend in 2024, utility model applications demonstrated resilience by sustaining positive growth. In 2025, system resilience was further evidenced by continued growth in international filings. In both cases, filings from applicants domiciled in Ukraine showed greater resilience than non-resident filings. Distinguished Member States, as already noted by the Director General, WIPO's cooperation and assistance to Ukraine have included the development of the National Strategy for the Development of the IP Sphere of Ukraine, the provision of policy and legislative advice, and a sustained focus on building IP-related skills and capacities. During the reporting period, progress was made on the phased customization of WIPO Academy eLearning courses. The Primer on Intellectual Property has been successfully customized and launched in Ukraine in early 2026, with around 300 participants in the first quarter of 2026. In addition, 585 Ukrainian nationals benefited from hybrid and distance learning courses offered by the WIPO Academy. The IB also continued to support the judiciary of Ukraine, including through the participation of Ukrainian judges in WIPO judicial programs and progress in the development of the Intellectual Property Benchbook for Ukraine. Progress was also made in other areas of cooperation. A structured project framework has been developed and adopted for the development of the national TISC network in Ukraine in 2026. The IB also continues to facilitate access to patent and non-patent databases and literature for UANIPIO and other Ukrainian institutions through ARDI and ASPI databases. We have also made progress in developing tools tailored for SMEs and start-ups. In close collaboration with UANIPIO, the translation and adaptation of the WIPO IP Diagnostic Tool and the guidebook *Enterprising Ideas: A Guide to IP for Startups* have been completed and validated, with their launch planned soon in 2026. In parallel, the IB assisted the Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture of Ukraine in improving the collective management system, including through support aimed at increasing transparency and efficiency. The IB also continued consultations with Ukraine on possible accession to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications. In the area of WIPO's global IP services, progress was also recorded. UANIPIO's patent collection became part of the PCT minimum documentation, with effect from January 1, 2026. The IB also continued to provide advice concerning the preparation of UANIPIO's application for extension of appointment as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority under the PCT. The IB has continued to allocate adequate financial and human resources within the framework of the approved Program of Work and Budget to support the implementation of technical and legal assistance, capacity building initiatives, and other relevant projects and activities for Ukraine. In line with the mandate given by Member States at the 2024 WIPO Assemblies, and as reaffirmed by the Director General, the IB has continued to take steps to ensure that publications on WIPO resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and the territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. More specifically, the IB has continued to carefully examine the measures that could be taken under the PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems, in line with the respective treaty frameworks. As a result, it has amended content, broadened the scope where necessary, and introduced disclaimers in the relevant WIPO resources and platforms to reflect these principles. Finally, IB remains firmly committed to continuing its close cooperation with Ukraine to ensure that ongoing support and assistance deliver tangible benefits and positive impact for creators, innovators and all members of the IP community. I thank you for your attention and remain at your disposal to respond to any questions or comments from Member States.

103. [ALBANIA](#): Honorable Director General, esteemed Delegates, Mr. Chair, I have the honor to deliver the statement on behalf of supporting members of the CEBS Group. The CEBS group would like to thank the Director General of WIPO for the updated Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System. We are truly thankful to WIPO Secretariat for all their efforts in assisting and supporting the innovation and creativity sector, and the IP system in Ukraine, as contained in document composed. We commend the work that was done within the reported period, with a view to enhance, where possible, the IP infrastructure and ecosystem in Ukraine, taking into consideration the visible needs and circumstances on the ground, which are a direct negative impact of the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine. As highlighted in the report, the war, which has now entered its fifth year, continues to take a profound social, humanitarian and economic toll on the country, with socioeconomic loss estimated at over 666 billion US dollars. The reported resilience and increased trends in some national and international IP filings, such as the growth in Madrid System application and utility models offer reasons for hope. Yet, we express our grave concerns about the findings reflecting that the Russian illegal war of aggression continues to significantly and negatively impact the innovation and creativity sector and the IP system in Ukraine, as structural parameters and overall deliverables remain far below the pre-war levels. This is reflected not only in the unprecedented damage of the infrastructure serving scientific, educational, research and cultural institutions, but most importantly in the loss of human capital and capacity, marked by a sharp decline in higher education enrollment and a 24 per cent single-year drop in researchers. Furthermore, the overall numbers and capacities of key stakeholders, including CMOs, remain severely constrained compared to the pre-war year of 2021. The ongoing humanitarian crisis and the massive displacement of people continue to cause devastating outflow of intellectual capital, which remains a subject of grave concern for our group. The wide ranging and compounding negative effects of the Russian invasion against Ukraine, from the brain drain caused by the humanitarian crisis to the amplified infrastructure damage and reduced financial resources - emphasize the urgent need for the international community to utilize every possibility to continue supporting the Ukrainian people in addressing these negative and long-lasting effects. The above-mentioned facts leave no doubt that it will take many years to compensate for the damage caused by this war. We therefore emphasize the necessity for a long-term sustained engagement from WIPO. WIPO's role in providing targeted, tailored assistance and ensuring compliance with the principle of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity across its platforms is indispensable to address immediate needs and to mitigate long-term irreversible effects. The CEBS Group expresses its unwavering solidarity with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people and calls for WIPO's continued assistance and support based on the decision A/65/8. To conclude, we urge the Russian Federation to heed the numerous demands of the international community to immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine and to immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all its military force from the territory of Ukraine, within its internationally recognized borders.

104. [UNITED KINGDOM](#): I am delivering this statement on behalf of Albania, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. These aligned Member States thank the WIPO Secretariat for the Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System, as contained in document A/68/7, mandated by the decision of the 65th Assemblies of WIPO. We regret that Ukraine continues to be subjected to the aggression of the Russian Federation, following the illegal invasion, and that Ukraine's innovation and creativity sectors continue to be detrimentally impacted. This report is, and will remain, an imperative as long as those illegal actions continue to take place. For over four years we have repeatedly called on Russia to immediately stop its unprovoked and unjustified invasion against Ukraine, that has led to a devastating humanitarian crisis, loss of lives and humanitarian

tragedy, severe destruction and damage of civilian infrastructure. The report before us today leaves no doubt about the profound negative impact of the war of aggression on the functioning of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem. It states that the war continues to have a severe and increasingly structural impact on the innovation and creativity sector and ecosystem in Ukraine. Most of the impact observed in reports to the WIPO Assemblies contained in documents A/64/8, A/65/7 and A/66/8 persist or even intensify and are causing growing damage to the innovation and creative ecosystem. It will take years, perhaps decades, if not longer, for the Ukrainian economy to return to its pre-war trajectory and will require significant resources and efforts to rebuild and recover. It is even more challenging to imagine how long it will take and how much investment will be needed to get back on the growth path that the Ukrainian economy enjoyed before the war. We demand that Russia immediately stop its illegal, unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine, withdraw its troops from the whole territory and cease all violations of international law. As detailed in the report, the war has caused human tragedy, unprecedented rise in poverty among the Ukrainian population and civilian infrastructure damage, estimated at an unimaginable direct damage of approximately 195.1 billion US dollars and socioeconomic losses of 666.7 billion US dollars. The destruction of almost 527 cultural sites verified by UNESCO, scientific and educational sites reported by UNESCO, will undeniably have a negative impact on the Ukrainian IP ecosystem development in a short, medium and long term. We note the persistent challenges described including brain drain and skill shortages such as researchers, engineers and creatives, damage to research infrastructure and equipment, reduced funding and investment, declining student enrollment and research output. These challenges are not just theoretical. They result in tangible impacts on Ukraine, its society and innovation ecosystems. We reaffirm our commitment to ensuring full accountability for war crimes and the other most serious crimes committed in connection with Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The outflow of human capital evidenced by the report and intensified by internal displacement of the population and external migration continues to challenge the IP ecosystem in development in Ukraine. 15,172 civilians killed, 41,378 injured, 5.7 million refugees, 3.7 million internally displaced people. The draining of the population and ever-present fear brought about by war hampers innovation and creativity. We thank the IB for the steps taken to ensure that publications on WIPO resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. These steps consisted of amending existing and/or adding disclaimers in the Terms of Use to the different WIPO databases, broadening or introducing the scope of disclaimers applicable to all international registrations and inserting relevant disclaimers in WIPO publications. We express our continued and unwavering support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people and commend them on their continued functioning and adaptation in the face of ongoing aggression. We express our respect and admiration for the determination and persistence of the Ukrainian innovators and creators who despite extremely difficult conditions do not give up on their activities and continue to contribute to the growth of their economy and IP globally. Likewise, we express satisfaction over the reported resilience of the Ukrainian IP institutions to preserve core functions, expand services and adapt to the new environment. We recognize these efforts and shall continue to support the recovery of the Ukrainian economy and IP ecosystem. We express our satisfaction over the dynamic growth of the agro-food, med-tech as well as ICT and digital sectors in Ukraine and we express satisfaction over the synergic cooperation between WIPO and EU institutions, especially the EUIPO, in assisting Ukrainian SMEs and various groups of IP stakeholders. We recognize and welcome all the activities undertaken by WIPO aimed at strengthening the institutional architecture of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem and delivering concrete and result oriented assistance to various groups of IP stakeholders. We also value all activities aimed at strengthening the resilience of the Ukrainian institutions and strengthening their ability to participate in international projects and initiatives. We are also glad to see expanded international cooperation and support, including the establishment of the International Coalition for Science, Research and Innovation in Ukraine and the UNESCO Action Plan for sciences building a robust science ecosystem in Ukraine. We hope these efforts will continue whilst the

impacts of Russia's war of aggression exist. The positive signs evidenced by the report confirm WIPO's work and efforts are timely, needed and important. That is why this group of aligned Member States expresses our gratitude to WIPO for all the projects carried out, the continued assistance and support by WIPO for Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system in the face of unjustified attacks on the people, the country and consequently the IP and innovation ecosystem that helps the country to thrive. We look forward to the updated assessment of the medium and long-term impacts of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine on Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system at the next year's WIPO General Assemblies. Thank you, Chair.

105. [UKRAINE](#): The Delegation of Ukraine would like to express its sincere appreciation to you, Director General Daren Tang, for presenting the updated Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System contained in document A/68/7, and for your ongoing leadership and commitment to supporting Ukraine's innovation, creativity and IP sector. We also thank Deputy Director General (DDG) Hasan Kleib, Habip Asan, Director, Division for Transition and Developed Countries, the WIPO Secretariat, and all WIPO units involved in the preparation of this report and in delivering concrete assistance to Ukraine. We are also grateful to Member States for their solidarity and for supporting the decision of the WIPO Assemblies in previous years. They help Ukraine protect its innovation and creativity ecosystem under the most difficult circumstances in our modern history. The updated report confirms what Ukrainians live through every day. Russia's war of aggression continues to have a severe and increasingly structural impact of Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system. As stated in the report, most of the negative impact observed in the previous reports persist or have even intensified causing cumulative damage to the innovation ecosystem. But this is not only about damaged buildings, broken equipment and interrupted services. It is about people. It is about inventors who work under air alerts. Researchers who lose laboratories. Authors and artists who lose studios, archives and homes. Entrepreneurs who rebuild their businesses after missile strikes. Public servants who continue to provide IP services while their families live under constant threat. Since the start of the full-scale invasion, 49 Ukrainian IP office colleagues have already been affected by Russia's missiles and drone strikes. Ukraine has also endured one of the hardest winters in its history of independence. Repeated attacks on energy infrastructure, nightly terror and power disruption have affected every Ukrainian. Only recently, Russia's full scale military invasion surpassed the duration of the First World War. The war itself has been ongoing since Russia occupied Crimea and begins its aggression against Ukraine in 2014. Ukraine is currently experiencing one of the most intense large-scale, high-technology wars of our time, involving missiles, drones, cyber-attacks and contact attacks on civilian and critical infrastructure. In the days before and during these assemblies, Kyiv, Odesa, Sumy, Kharkiv, Kherson and other Ukrainian cities again suffered massive Russian missile and drone attacks. Civilians were killed and injured, including children. Critical infrastructure, homes, cultural landmarks and administrative buildings, including those linked to Ukrainian IP system, have been damaged or destroyed. This once again confirms that Russia's war of aggression is also a war against Ukraine's cultural identity. As of the end of the June 2026, since the beginning of Russia's full scale military invasion, more than 1940 cultural heritage sites and 2,500 cultural infrastructure facilities have been damaged or destroyed. At the same time, despite these unprecedented challenges, Ukraine continues to reform, adapt and demonstrate resilience. We welcome the report's recognition that Ukrainian institutions have demonstrated remarkable resilience, maintained core functions and adapted their operations under extraordinary pressure. Together with the Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture of Ukraine, the Ukrainian IPO continues to modernize services, strengthen institutions and align Ukraine's IP system with European and international standards. Ukraine is finalizing the National IP Strategy until 2030 and the operational plan for 2026-2028. The IB's reports on assistance and support for Ukrainian have become important source for this strategic document. We are also advancing IP legislative reform in the context of EU accession, while adapting them to the realities faced by Ukrainian businesses, innovators and creators. During these Assemblies, Ukraine signed the IP Data Exchange Agreement with WIPO, which

is an important step for the integration of Ukrainian IP data into WIPO global databases and for making Ukrainian innovation and creativity more visible to the world. We also continue to strengthen the TISC network, support IP education through our cooperation with the WIPO Academy, develop IP mediation, improve enforcement and bring IP tools closer to SMEs, innovators, creators and universities. Ukrainian IP users continue to show that every Ukrainian patent, trademark, design and creative work is a sign that Ukrainians continue to think about the future, even under missile attacks. It is evident that Russia will not stop Ukrainians from creating, innovating, rebuilding. Ukraine also welcomes the steps taken by the IB to ensure that publications on WIPO resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. However, new cases continue to appear in WIPO-administered systems where addresses from the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine are falsely being located in the Russian Federation. Since the previous Assemblies, Ukraine has identified new international registrations in Madrid Monitor with such false territorial indications. Similar cases also continue to appear in other WIPO-administered systems and related data. This is not merely a technical issue. Nor can it be reduced simply to a private choice of individual users. When such indications are accepted, processed and transmitted through the official channels of the aggressor State, the issue acquires an institutional character. It becomes part of a deliberate pattern of disregarding the UN Charter, WIPO systems and Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Ukraine appreciates the introduction and expansion of relevant disclaimers. But disclaimers are not the final solution. They do not prevent the misuse of WIPO systems. They only react to it. Ukraine, therefore, calls upon the IB to continue developing effective technical and organizational safeguards to prevent, identify and correct false territorial indication in WIPO publications, records and databases. The international IP system is built on trust. Such trust cannot be separated from international law, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity in the principles of the UN Charter. For this reason, Ukraine reiterates its principled position the WIPO External Office in Moscow shall be closed. Funding for any WIPO projects for Russia shall be suspended. And cooperation with Russian officials must not contribute to legitimizing the illegal occupation of Ukrainian territory. Russia shall not receive privileges, honors or distinction within WIPO. WIPO resources and global IP system must not benefit or legitimize the aggressor state. Director General, Distinguished Delegates, Ukraine is grateful for WIPO's continued assistance and support. We ask that this support remains long-term, targeted and practical. It has been in recent years. Every step that strengthens Ukrainian institutions bring closer to comprehensive, just and lasting peace. And every step that protects Ukrainian creativity and innovation proves that destruction will not prevail over creation. Thank you.

106. RUSSIAN FEDERATION: We have familiarized ourselves with yet another lengthy but uninformative report. We can only express sympathies to the Secretariat which, for the fourth year in a row, has had to reproduce the same material while trying to give it the appearance of having some novelty. The artificial nature of the report, and the attempt to compensate for the absence of new facts with lengthy reasoning, can be seen in every line of this document, which has been expanded to thirty pages. This in itself demonstrates that the topic under consideration has been exhausted. What do we see in this document? The first half of the report is the restatement of reports prepared by other international bodies including UNESCO, ILO, ITU, UNECE and the World Bank. It is difficult there to see any added value especially as the majority of issues discussed in other forums do not relate to WIPO's mandate. This is followed by Ukraine's own view of the situation. With such an approach, the document naturally cannot claim to provide a comprehensive, objective and impartial account of the issue under consideration. Finally, the report once again contains statistics on the WIPO registration systems and the indicators of the Global Innovation Index. First, all of these data, covering the last 10, 20, 30 years, have already been repeatedly presented to Member States in previous reports. Accordingly, this section contains no novelty and cannot objectively do so. Second, the statistics themselves do not actually support the conclusions the report seeks to draw. On the contrary, they show that negative trends began to form long before 2022. Consequently, the decisive influence on the decline observed in Ukraine was exerted by other factors, primarily

internal ones. It is noteworthy that the Secretariat has not been able to entirely ignore this obvious conclusion. Thus, the report acknowledges that “Despite these positive international developments, domestic constraints persist. Ukrainian research institutions continue to face severe budget restrictions, uncompetitive salaries that deter young talent, and operational disruptions.”¹ However, further analysis of these factors, their impact on the statistical indicators, or even an attempt to compare them with the fundamental conclusions of the report, are not present in the report. For the second year in a row, particular attention in the report is paid to Ukraine’s “defense and dual use innovation ecosystem” which, according to the report, “achieved significant scale.” Priority support has been given to sectors such as unmanned aerial and maritime vehicles, communications and navigation systems, ground robotic systems, and so on. The report directly states that “these developments reflect the transformation of fragmented innovation activity into a comprehensive defense-industrial ecosystem with indigenous technological capacity”². As a specialized UN agency, WIPO, in principle, can hardly be considered to have the authority to participate in supporting this kind of activity. It is a matter of serious concern that the resources of our Organization, which are designated for development, and in particular for developing countries and least developed countries, are being arbitrarily redistributed to develop military capacity in one specific country. In this context, we would like to recall that both during previous and the current series of Assemblies, there have been repeated statements in favor of broadening the circle of beneficiaries of WIPO support for innovation and creative sectors and IP systems of other interested states, which desperately need the support of the Organization. Unfortunately, the voices of these countries have still not been heard. In this regard we would like to recall the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We believe that the available Organization’s resources should be focused directly on providing technical support to developing and least developed countries and also to states facing crisis situations such as natural disasters, the consequences of climate change, epidemics and turbulence in economic markets. We believe that providing resources to a single Member State, moreover on the basis of purely political considerations, is not acceptable, since such an approach does not take into account the needs of a whole range of other WIPO members. Such an approach also categorically contradicts the fundamental principle of sovereign equality, which forms the basis of international relations and the functioning of international organizations within the UN system. It should be also borne in mind that, as a general rule, the preparation and consideration of projects relating to the provision of technical assistance are part of the work of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property. The implementation of such projects requires a clear understanding of their financing mechanisms, with justification of expenditures, which falls within the mandate of the Program and Budget Committee. However, this is an issue that has not been discussed for consideration in these bodies. We consider this categorically unacceptable and insist on compliance with the procedures established within the Organization for matters of technical assistance. We would like to particularly dwell on the amendments introduced by the Secretariat to the terms of Use of the PATENTSCOPE database. The governing bodies of the WIPO have not instructed the Secretariat to give a political evaluation of the technical documents of this Organization, particularly on matters that go far beyond WIPO’s mandate. Further, the issue of implementing the decision adopted following the vote at the 2024 WIPO Assemblies had already been closed. At the 2025 Assemblies the Director General informed Member States that the Secretariat had comprehensively considered the matter and adopted all measures within the scope of international treaties administered by WIPO. Member States did not adopt any decisions during the 2025 Assemblies providing for additional steps. The dissatisfaction expressed by some delegations with the alleged insufficiency of the measures previously taken by the Secretariat cannot be seen as a legal basis or an institutional basis to introduce new amendments in the Organization’s technical documentation. We would like to recall that, in accordance with the Article 9 of the Convention Establishing WIPO, “The nature of the responsibilities of the Director General and of the staff shall be exclusively international. In the discharge of their

¹ Document A/68/7, paragraph 67

² Document A/68/7, paragraph 51

duties they shall not seek or receive instructions from any Government or from any authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might prejudice their position as international officials. Each Member State undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Director General and the staff, and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their duties.”³ In this regard, we call on the Secretariat to continue to abide by its neutral and apolitical role in carrying out its functions, and on Member States to respect the international character of the mandate of the IB and to refrain from attempts to influence its activities for their own benefit and short-term interests, in violation of the fundamental international treaty of our Organization. The above once again clearly demonstrates the politicized nature of this initiative and, more generally, an attempt of a single group of States to artificially continue to politicize the work of the WIPO through keeping on the agenda of the Assemblies conflictual proposals which clearly violate WIPO’s mandate and do not benefit universal support. We recall that in 2022-2024, decisions on these issues were far from consensus and were adopted by vote, which is unprecedented in the modern history of WIPO. Only about a third of its Member States actually supported these decisions. For the fourth year in a row, Member States are being forced to consider a document that does not contain any fundamentally new facts, does not offer new conclusions and does not formulate recommendations relevant to WIPO’s competence. A legitimate question arises: what is the practical value of this document for the vast majority of Member States of the Organization? Equally legitimate question of, how justified is it that each year time of the Assemblies are given to discussing an item on the agenda which only represents the interests of a limited number of Delegations and which is being used by them to exert pressure on the Secretariat and to promote issues which fall outside WIPO’s mandate. It is necessary, we believe, to take a resolute approach to stop this practice. Such actions undermine WIPO’s authority as a specialized expert structure within the UN system. To avoid such a negative result, we call on Member States to refrain from supporting the report and from any steps aimed at retaining this item on the agenda of our Organization. In the light of all of the above, we believe it would be expedient to remove this item from the agenda and conclude the Organization’s work on this matter.

107. [BURKINA FASO](#): The Delegation of Burkina Faso takes note of the information contained in document A/68/7 on assistance and support to the sector for innovation and creativity and the IP system of Ukraine. My Delegation would like to recall that WIPO is first and foremost a specialized institution of the UN whose mandate is to promote an international IP system that is balanced, inclusive and beneficial to all its Member States. In this regard, we believe that any technical assistance initiative should be conducted in strict compliance with the mandate of the Organization, as well as with the principles of neutrality, impartiality and equal sovereignty of states. It should also be carried out within the framework of the competent institutional mechanisms of WIPO, including those in charge of cooperation for development, technical assistance and budgetary matters. My Delegation also notes that the report increasingly highlights innovation tied to defense and dual-use technologies. In this regard, we believe that resources and activities of WIPO must remain strictly compliant with its mandate and be dedicated exclusively to civilian objectives in the interest of all Member States. In addition, many developing countries and LDCs, as well as other states facing serious economic or humanitarian difficulties continue to need substantial assistance. It is therefore crucial that the support of the Organization is based on objective, transparent and nondiscriminatory criteria. This to ensure the equitable treatment of all Member States. To conclude, my Delegation remains committed to the tradition of making decisions by consensus, which has always been a strength for WIPO. We therefore encourage Member States to retain this spirit of cooperation and to refrain from any politicization that may divert the Organization from its fundamental mandate. Thank you.

³Convention Establishing WIPO, Art.9(8), https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text/283854#P169_16656

108. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The United States takes note of document A/68/7 and the IB's continued efforts to support Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system. The United States recognizes the severe and ongoing impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on Ukraine's IP ecosystem, including damage to research, infrastructure, displacement of innovators and creators and disruption to IP institutions. The United States supports WIPO's technical assistance to Ukraine where it advances WIPO's core mandate, the promotion and protection of IP and delivers concrete practical benefits to Ukrainian innovators, creators and rights holders. We note with particular interest WIPO's work under the MoU signed in July 2025, including support for Ukraine's national IP strategy, the IP academy, TISC network development, CMO transparency reform and judicial capacity building. The United States encourages WIPO to ensure that its assistance to Ukraine remains focused, results oriented and consistent with WIPO's mandate as a specialized technical agency. The United States also reaffirms its support for WIPO's continued steps to ensure that publications on WIPO resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Thank you, Chair.

109. [POLAND](#): Let me address thanks to Director General Daren Tang as well as Director Habib Asan for presentation of the report. Poland fully supports the statements delivered by Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group and by the United Kingdom on behalf of the group of like-minded countries. For yet another year Ukraine continues to suffer and to face Russia's brutal, unjustified and unlawful war of aggression. This latest report once again confirms the devastating consequences of that aggression. It clearly demonstrates that the war continues to have a severe and increasingly structural impact on Ukraine's innovation and creative ecosystem causing growing long-term damage. At the same time, Ukraine institutions and stakeholders have shown remarkable resilience by maintaining core functions and adapting for activities under extraordinary circumstances. The figures set out in the report illustrate the staggering scale of destruction. Socioeconomic losses are estimated at nearly 670 billion US dollars. Above all, however, these figures remind us of the immense human cost of Russia's war. Russia killed over 15,000 civilians. More than 41,000 were injured and almost 6 million Ukrainians have been forced to flee their country as refugees. These are not simply statistics. They represent individual lives cut short, families turned apart and communities devastated. Behind every number stands a human being whose suffering cannot be reduced just to a figure in the report. We thank WIPO for its continued assistance and support to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and its IP system. We also appreciate WIPO's continued efforts to ensure that its resources and platforms are fully consistent with the principles of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. We welcome WIPO's continued engagement and support for Ukraine and encourage the Organization to maintain its assistance in strengthening the country's innovation and IP ecosystem. Thank you.

110. [NIGER](#): The Niger takes note of the report under discussion. The Niger reaffirms its commitment to multilateralism, cooperation and international solidarity. The Niger reiterates its commitment to the principle of equality of states and the equality of the treatment of the Member States of our common Organization. Niger reiterates its support for WIPO technical assistance to the benefit of all Member States of WIPO, in an objective, transparent and nondiscriminatory manner. In this regard, our Delegation regrets that the item concerning assistance to Ukraine is maintained on the agenda of the Assembly. Our Delegation expresses its concern that the Organization's resources are being directed toward a single Member State. Many states, including Developing Countries and LDCs, are facing various challenges, such as climate change, insecurity related to international and internal conflicts, as well as other forms of threats. That is the case, for example, of my country, not to cite others, which is suffering from cowardly attacks by terrorist groups supported by foreign agents. These challenges consume a significant portion of these states' budgets and create a crowding-out effect to the detriment of other equally important sectors, such as innovation, creativity and IP. In this context, directing the resources of the Organization towards one single Member State is a double standard. In addition, the report does not justify why this country is in a unique situation which deserves

such a privileged treatment. To conclude, in light of what has been said, the Niger considers that the Assemblies must either close this case and withdraw this item from the agenda, because it is not necessary, given that any Member States has the right to request and obtain technical assistance from the Organization through appropriate channels, or alternatively, to extend the same treatment granted to this state to all the other Member States of the Organization that are in a similar situation or encounter challenges with similar impact on their IP systems, in order to comply with the principle of equality of states and the equality of treatment of the Member States of our Organization. Thank you.

111. [MALI](#): Mali takes note of the report under consideration, but would like to recall that the main objective of WIPO is first and foremost to promote and protect IP worldwide. It is to build a balanced and accessible innovation ecosystem, that allows to put knowledge and creativity at the service of the economic, social and cultural development of all its Member States. From 2012 to today, Mali has been under threat from all directions, with damage to our ecosystem in the culture, tourism and creativity sectors. The funds that should have been used to be invested in these sectors of the economy is being used for our defense. That being said, in our opinion, this report is somewhat politicized, as it does not align with our main objective, which as I cited at the beginning, is to promote and protect IP and build a truly robust IP ecosystem. This report does not reflect the objective of this esteemed Assembly. For that reason, we simply request that the report be withdrawn from the WIPO agenda. Thank you.

112. [NICARAGUA](#): As Member State of WIPO, Nicaragua would like to reiterate that the function of this Organization is exclusively confined to the protection of IP and its actions should strictly adhere to the decisions reached by consensus among Member States. Nicaragua expresses its disagreement and rejection of the presentation and content of the report on the Assistance and Support to the Innovation and Creativity Sector and the Intellectual Property System of Ukraine, document A/68/7. This report was prepared on the basis of the decisions of the sixty-third, sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth Series of Meetings of the WIPO Assemblies, in 2022, 2023 and 2024. Decisions marked by political bias were adopted counter to the WIPO mandate, not by consensus but by vote, which is something unprecedented in WIPO's modern history, with only one-third of the Member States expressing their support. As a general rule, the consideration of projects focused on providing technical assistance falls under the mandate of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property. The implementation of these projects requires a clear understanding of the financing mechanisms and the cost justification, which falls within the mandate of the Program and Budget Committee of WIPO. However, the matter of assistance to Ukraine has never been considered by these two organs of our Organization. Furthermore, it is unacceptable to propose a particular state for support, as this approach ignores the needs of a significant number of other Member States that require WIPO assistance, particularly Developing Countries, LDCs and those that are experiencing severe economic and military crises. Therefore, the presentation of this report contradicts the principle of equality as the foundation of international relations. It also demonstrates a clear political bias and mismanagement of the budget, favoring only one state. The noted deficiencies indicate the controversial nature of this initiative, and in general, the ambition of one group of Member States which to continue politicizing the work of the WIPO Assemblies by keeping on the agenda an item that clearly does not enjoy universal support. We therefore request that it be withdrawn from this Assembly. Thank you very much.

113. [DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): The Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is against the continued politicization of work of WIPO, which is specialized agency of the UN, entrusted with promoting creativity, innovation, science and technology, and the balanced development of the international IP system. The agenda item before us should be considered strictly within the mandate of WIPO. It is inappropriate to use this Organization as a platform for advancing politically motivated issues that fall outside its competence. The report on the assistance to Ukraine reflects a selective approach that gives preferential treatment to one particular Member States, while many Developing and Least

Developed Countries continue to require technical assistance in strengthening their innovation and IP ecosystem. Such an approach runs counter to the principle of sovereignty and equality among Member States. WIPO's technical assistance should be provided in an impartial, balanced and non-discriminatory manner, taking into account the actual needs of all Developing Countries, rather than focused on a single country. We therefore urge all Member States to preserve the technical and development-oriented character of WIPO and refrain from politicizing its work. Thank you.

114. [BRAZIL](#): The Brazilian Delegation would like to make a few brief observations regarding document A/68/7. Reports prepared by the Secretariat should remain strictly within WIPO's mandate and focus on civilian IP matters. In this regard, we are concerned that the present report includes extensive references to defense-related and dual-use innovation subject to national and security legislation, and to arms-control arrangements which go beyond the technical scope expected of this Organization. Brazil regrets the continued politicization of this issue since 2022, which has undermined the long-standing principle of consensus-based decision making in this Organization. We also recall that this report stems from a decision that did not enjoy consensus among the membership, receiving support by only 64 Member States. This should recommend caution in ensuring that Secretariat documents remain impartial and fully consistent with the WIPO mandate.

115. [BELARUS](#): Belarus has looked at the report of the Secretariat on assistance and support for Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system. We must recall the politicized and contradictory nature of this initiative and the fact that it has been pushed for by a certain group of countries in violation of the rules for the provision of technical assistance by WIPO. Not only was this initiative initially inconsistent with WIPO's mandate, its forceful implementation continues to create an unequal playing field and discriminate against other interested and needy Member States that are affected by conflicts, experiencing deep economic crises, or are under illegal economic sanctions. Thus, this initiative is a display of the unfair artificial politicization of the agenda of WIPO and an abuse of the mandate of the Organization which is categorically unacceptable. The activities of WIPO must be based on inclusive principles and equally respect the interests of all of the Member States of the Organization. We call on the Secretariat to ensure that WIPO technical assistance projects are allocated strictly in accordance with the principles of inclusiveness and equality for all Member States, rather than investing in a single country to the detriment of other countries in need. We support the proposal by other delegations to remove this issue from WIPO's agenda.

116. [LITHUANIA](#): Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered by Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group, by United Kingdom on behalf of the like-minded countries, by the Delegation of Ukraine and the Delegation of Poland. We welcome document A/68/7 and thank the WIPO Secretariat for its comprehensive report as well as for WIPO's continued support for Ukraine's innovation and creative sectors, and its IP system. Lithuania attaches great importance to this agenda item and strongly believes that it must remain on the agenda of the WIPO General Assemblies. It is first and foremost about Ukraine, but it is also about something wider, whether the international community is prepared to defend the principles on which international cooperation depends: sovereignty, territorial integrity, respect for international law. These principles cannot live only in our statements. They must be visible in our decisions. We cannot allow repeated violations to become familiar. We cannot allow aggression to fade into the background of institutional life. Russia's ongoing war of aggression continues to cause deep and lasting damage to Ukraine's research, innovation and creative sectors. Research capacity is being weakened. Creative industries are being disrupted. Innovation networks are being broken. This damage will not end when the fighting ends. Its consequences will shape Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction for years to come. And yet, Ukraine continues to function. It continues to adopt, create and move forward. This resilience deserves our deepest respect. But resilience should never be mistaken for self-sufficiency. WIPO support remains essential. Assistance to public institutions, SMEs, universities, researchers and creators helps preserve

the knowledge, skills and capacity on which Ukraine's recovery will depend. A strong IP system is not a minor technical element of reconstruction. It is part of its foundation. It turns knowledge into investment, creativity into value, innovation into sustainable growth. Lithuania therefore encourages WIPO to continue and where appropriate strengthen its support in close cooperation with the government of Ukraine and international partners. We also call on Member States to provide the political, technical and financial support needed to transform Ukraine's extraordinary resilience into lasting recovery. Solidarity is not measured by the strength of our words alone. It is measured by what those words make possible. Functioning institutions, restored capacity and real opportunities for the people of Ukraine. The same consistency must guide our approach to the WIPO External Office in Moscow. An external office is a privileged institutional presence. Its continued operation cannot be separated from Russia's brutal war of aggression and grave violations of international law. This is not about politics. It is about respect for the UN Charter, institutional credibility and the consequences of aggression. Neutrality does not require business as usual. Continuity is itself a choice. Lithuania therefore reiterates its call for the closure of the WIPO External Office in Moscow. Lithuania reaffirms its full support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. We will continue to stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes.

117. [SAN MARINO](#): This Delegation fully supports the declarations made by the United Kingdom in name of a group of states and the declarations made by United States of America, Poland, Albania, Lithuania in favor of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.

118. [INDONESIA](#): Indonesia has taken note of document A/68/7. We thank the Secretariat for its continued efforts in implementing the mandates entrusted to it by Member States. Indonesia recognizes that armed conflicts can have significant adverse effects on innovation, creativity, research, education and the IP ecosystem. Such circumstances may have long-term implications for sustainable development and recovery efforts. In this regard, Indonesia wishes to offer three observations. Firstly, on the mandate, Indonesia recalls the important role of WIPO as the specialized agency of the UN responsible for IP. We appreciate that the report provides contextual information to facilitate the Member States' understanding of the situation. At the same time, we encourage that WIPO's activities continue to focus on its mandate in the field of IP, consistent with the guidance provided by the Member States. Second, on the delivery of technical assistance, Indonesia attaches importance to ensuring that WIPO's technical assistance remains Member State driven, demand driven, transparent, inclusive and implemented in accordance with the WIPO's approved program of work and budget. We also encourage the Organization to continue strengthening its development cooperation for the benefit of all Member States. Third, on future approaches, Indonesia welcomes initiatives that strengthen the resilience of the IP ecosystem in times of crisis, including through the Development Agenda Project on Enhancing the Capacities of National Intellectual Property Offices in Times of Crisis. We believe that inclusive and broadly accessible frameworks can further promote the sharing of experiences, capacity building and cooperation among Member States facing various challenges, while ensuring that the benefits of WIPO's assistance are available in an equitable and transparent manner. Indonesia remains committed to working constructively with all Member States to ensure that WIPO continues to serve as an inclusive, balanced and development-oriented Organization, advancing innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.

119. [BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA](#): In the complex circumstances of global geopolitics, it is advisable to make decisions on the basis of the principles of equality, non-politicization and technical viability. The principles that govern the functioning of WIPO will guarantee its credibility and the confidence in the adopted decisions. In this regard, Venezuela considers that the statement provided by the Delegation of the Russian Federation provides substantive elements which should be considered, and ultimately request verification of the relevance, for the present and future of the Organization, when a certain country is singled out to receive technical assistance and support in the area of innovation, creativity and the

IP system. A balanced approach requires taking into account the needs of other Member States that require this type of support, among which we highlight Developing Countries, as well as countries experiencing severe adversity after suffering a natural disaster, for example, or those countries that are seriously impacted by the imposition of illegal unilateral coercive measures, whose consequences represent an unquestionable threat to the protection of IP. Along these lines, we emphasize the importance of expanding the list of beneficiaries in this respect, in accordance with the principle of equality as the foundation of international relations.

120. [CUBA](#): The Delegation of Cuba would like to reaffirm that WIPO is a specialized agency of a technical nature. Its work should be carried out in strict compliance with its mandate, without selectivity or politicization. Consensus has been one of the pillars of the work of WIPO. We must preserve this practice as a fundamental element for maintaining the trust among Member States and the legitimacy of the decisions. The decisions adopted by consensus contribute to the unity and effectiveness of the Organization. Cooperation and technical assistance should continue to be provided in an inclusive, non-selective, balanced and transparent and non-discriminatory manner. Within WIPO, Cuba will continue to advocate for dialogue, mutual respect, cooperation and consensus, without politicization, and in compliance with the technical mandate of the Organization. Thank you very much.

121. [CHINA](#): China believes that the mandate of WIPO is to promote international IP cooperation, and the core task of the WIPO Assemblies is to promote the development of the global IP works. Therefore, all parties should respect and focus on the mandates of WIPO and the Assemblies, in order to safeguard the professional and technical nature of the Organization and avoid letting political issues affect the progress of the meeting.

122. [LATVIA](#): Latvia would like to align itself with the statements delivered by the European Union, its member States, the CEBS Group and the like-minded group, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania and San Marino. Latvia thanks the WIPO Secretariat for the Report and for the continued assistance provided to Ukraine innovation and creativity sector and the IP system. For Latvia, this agenda item has a clear and concrete purpose. It is not simply about solidarity. It is about keeping the IP system of a WIPO Member State functioning, while it is being damaged by a full-scale war of another WIPO Member State. That is exactly why WIPO's support matters. The activities described in the Report, support for Ukraine's National IP Strategy, assistance to the SMEs and startups, capacity building for IP professionals and judges, cooperation with Ukraine institutions, support for TISC –they are not symbolic gestures. They are practical, technical measures that help an IP ecosystem continue to work. An IP ecosystem is not built only on laws, databases and procedures. It is built through people, examiners, judges, patent attorneys, creators, entrepreneurs, researchers, universities. Supporting them means supporting the foundation of the innovation and creativity system. Latvia would also like to address directly the arguments repeated year after year that the issue that we are raising is somehow politicizing WIPO. Respectfully, it is not the discussion that is political. It is the reality we are confronted with. Ballistic missiles and drone attacks are not procedural debates. Destruction of research institutions and universities, museums, businesses, innovation infrastructure is not a political obstruction. This displacement of research and innovation and creators is not a political slogan. These are facts with direct consequence for the ability of people to create, protect, manage and commercialize IP. We do understand that facts in this day and age mean less and less. In that regard, we have heard Russia's suggestion that Ukraine's IP system had already faced difficulties before the full-scale invasion, as if this somehow makes the impact of the war less relevant. To pretend that this war has no impact or decisive impact on Ukraine's innovation and IP ecosystem is just plain delusional. WIPO does not need to become a security organization to act within its mandate. Its mandate is IP, innovation and creativity. These depend on functioning institutions, reliable services, legal certainty, trained professionals and access to information. Supporting Ukraine in maintaining these capacities is therefore very much part of WIPO's mandate. And if the concern is that WIPO assistance should remain technical, then we agree. That is exactly what the report

describes – technical, legal, capacity building support to help an IP system continue to function. That is not departure from WIPO's mandate. It is the mandate in practice. Reality behind the report is not theoretical. Attacks on civilian infrastructure continue. We heard, with deep concern, that colleagues from the Ukraine IP Office have also been directly affected in recent weeks. How many of the IP Office heads in this office are confronted with such a reality, where staff come to work after missile and drone attacks, or when their homes are destroyed, if colleagues are injured? Do we really need to compare these situations? This cannot and should not be normalized. When Russia calls the actions of the European Union, its Member States, the CEBS Group and others destructive and political, we should not confuse cause and consequence. Restrictive measures and clear statements by Member States are not the cause of this crisis. They are the consequence of Russia's own actions. What damaged Ukraine's innovation creativity ecosystem is not what is said in this room. It is what is happening on the ground – missiles, drones, destruction, displacement, constant pressure on people and institutions. Latvia's position is clear. Speaking about aggression is not destructive. Aggression is. Despite all this, after more than four years of brutal war, the Ukrainian IP system continues to show remarkable resilience. Ukrainian institutions continue to cooperate. Ukrainian applicants continue to use the international IP system. Ukraine innovators and creators continue to work. As Lithuania said, resilience must not become an excuse for reducing the support. On the contrary, it is precisely because the Ukrainian IP system continues to function that WIPO's assistance can have real, practical and measurable impact. Latvia, therefore, strongly supports continuing annual reporting on this agenda item. This is not procedural burden. It is accountability. Support for Ukraine also does not compete with support for other Member States. WIPO can and should assist countries facing serious challenges, including natural disasters and other crises. But not every crisis is the same. Natural disasters are tragedies. Wars of aggression are choices. When one WIPO Member State damages the innovation and creativity ecosystem of another, WIPO must be able to respond clearly and within its mandate. Assistance to Ukraine is not about unequal treatment. It is about responding to a demonstrated need under the Assembly mandate, in circumstances that are anything but ordinary. Latvia also recalls the importance of fully implementing the previous decisions of the Assemblies, including with regards to publications on WIPO resources and platforms. For WIPO, accuracy of territorial reference is not a small administrative matter. It is organizational dealing with registries, official data and internal legal systems. Accuracy is part of legal certainty and institutional credibility. Therefore, a disclaimer may explain institutional neutrality, but it should not become the final answer where practical correction is possible. This also raises a basic question of institutional consistency. WIPO is assisting Ukraine innovation and IP ecosystem. At the same time, WIPO continues to operate the external office in Moscow, in the capital of the Member State that is responsible for damaging the very ecosystem that WIPO is trying to assist. This is not administrative detail. It is a credibility problem. Hosting a WIPO external office is not a right nor a reward nor a precondition for cooperation with WIPO. It is an institutional choice. In the present circumstances, maintaining that office sends the wrong signal. If there are concerns about WIPO resources, then please, there is exactly a topic that we should discuss. Latvia therefore supports the call for WIPO to seriously reconsider the continuing operation of the Moscow external office. We also thank Russia for confirming on Friday during the PBC discussions that Moscow external office is already closed from 6:00 in the evening until 9:00 in the morning, and during weekends. That is a fact, quite encouraging start. It shows that closure is not an impossible concept. Latvia would simply encourage WIPO to extend this arrangement to the rest of the week. In closure, Ukrainian creators, innovators and IP institutions continue their work in conditions that no IP system should be forced to endure. Latvia thanks again WIPO for the assistance provided to Ukraine and calls on the Organization to continue to stand with Ukraine, clearly, practically, consistently and for as long as it is needed.

123. [SUDAN](#): My Delegation would like to express its appreciation to the Organization for its efforts in providing support and technical assistance to the Member States affected by crises. Having reviewed the report, we would like to emphasize the importance for WIPO to continue

fulfilling its technical and specialized mandate, while focusing its efforts on strengthening the IP systems, building capacity and supporting creativity and innovation in all Member States. In this context, we believe that the Organization should refrain from engaging in politically sensitive and controversial matters, so as to preserve its institutional neutrality and its technical nature, which would, in turn, would contribute to strengthening consensus and constructive cooperation among Member States. We would also like to emphasize the importance of providing support and technical assistance programs on an objective, balanced and non-selective basis, through the Organization's competent bodies and established procedures, while giving due attention to the needs of Developing Countries and LDCs, and all countries affected by crises or conflicts.

124. [ESTONIA](#): Estonia aligns itself with the group statements delivered by Albania and the UK. We warmly thank the Director General for the report and for the update, that is very valuable. We thank WIPO for the work that is carried out in support to Ukraine. The increasingly negative impact of the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine is very evident, and the report that was just presented shows it very clearly. Hence, we welcome the continued work, and we also welcome the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between WIPO and Ukraine, which continues to support Ukraine's IP system and innovation ecosystem. On those who are worried about politicization of WIPO agenda, I can tell you that Estonia does not see politicization and we are perfectly convinced that Secretariat has been acting within its mandate. Supporting Ukraine's IP system is within WIPO's mandate. It is also an investment in resilience, recovery and future. Despite the war, Ukrainian innovators continue to build, create and adapt and we are really thankful to WIPO for their support. WIPO has the mandate to assist countries in crisis, and therefore, Estonia strongly supports WIPO's ongoing work in Ukraine. But to conclude, for those who are worried about politicization, there is actually a solution. We urge the Russian Federation to immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine and to immediately completely and unconditionally withdraw its military forces from the territory of Ukraine, within its internationally recognized borders, and to allow finally Ukraine to be rebuilt and flourish.

125. [SWEDEN](#): Sweden aligns itself with the statement made by the United Kingdom on behalf of several like-minded Member States, as well as with other statements in support of Ukraine. As it has been recalled by other Delegations, this matter goes beyond what is just before our eyes and relates to foundational aspects of respect for international law and respect for the multilateral playbook. We repeat our thanks to the Secretariat for this important report, which is in line with the decision of the 2024 General Assembly that requested the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the decision on assistance and support for Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP systems at the 2025 WIPO Assemblies, and annually thereafter. We want to remind this body that this decision and request were objected to by just eleven Member States.

126. [REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA](#): The Republic of Moldova aligns itself with the statements delivered by Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group and by Distinguished Delegation of the United Kingdom, delivered on behalf of the group of like-minded countries. We thank the Director General and the WIPO Secretariat for the comprehensive report on the assistance and support provided to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and the IP system. We commend the Secretariat for its dedicated efforts in maintaining a broad and practical program of assistance under exceptionally challenging circumstances. The report clearly demonstrates that despite the remarkable resilience of Ukrainian institutions and the expansion of international cooperation, the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine continues to have profound and increasingly structural consequences for Ukraine's innovation ecosystem. The report also clearly highlights the continuing and even intensifying negative impact of the war on Ukraine's IP ecosystem. As a neighboring country, the Republic of Moldova fully understands the urgency of this situation and emphasizes that the technical assistance remains critical for Ukraine's recovery and resilience. Mr. Chair, allow me to make a simple observation. The greatest asset of any nation is its people. This is certainly true for the Republic of Moldova and

is especially true for Ukraine whose extraordinary resilience, creativity and determination continue to inspire the international community, despite the immense challenges brought about by the ongoing war, and we are sad to learn from the Ukrainian representative that the staff of the national IP office has also been injured. For the Republic of Moldova, peace and security in our region are therefore not merely political aspirations. There are indispensable conditions for innovation, competitiveness and sustainable development. The Republic of Moldova believes that WIPO's support for Ukraine should remain a standing priority for as long as the consequences of the war continue to affect the country's innovation and creativity sector. As the report demonstrates, Ukraine's needs are no longer limited to emergency assistance. They increasingly concern the preservation of human capital, the rebuilding of research and educational infrastructure, the recovery of creative industries and the strengthening of IP institutions that will underpin the country's future economic recovery. The decision approved by the Assemblies in 2024 reflected the gravity of the situation in the opinion of the majority of WIPO Member States and showed solidarity with Ukraine. In no way did it discriminate against any Member State, nor did it undermine the principle of equal distribution of resources. We therefore strongly support maintaining the item on assistance support for Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system on the agenda of the WIPO Assemblies and the continuation of WIPO's comprehensive assistance program in close cooperation with the Ukrainian authorities. We urge WIPO to continue to take steps to ensure that WIPO's resources and platforms comply with the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. The Republic of Moldova reiterates its unwavering solidarity with Ukraine and its people, supports the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and remains committed to working with all Member States to ensure that WIPO continues to provide meaningful, targeted and long-term assistance to Ukraine's innovation and IP ecosystem until the country has fully recovered from the devastating consequence of the war. We also urge Russia to immediately, unconditionally withdraw its forces from the territory of Ukraine, including its temporarily occupied territories.

127. [DIRECTOR GENERAL](#): Thank you, Chair. Thank you to all the Member States that intervened. I take note of all the comments and all of the observations. A lot of them were about the mandate of the Secretariat. In this regard, I would just say that the Secretariat works strictly under the guidance of all Member States. I would just observe that the work we are doing here follows from the decisions of this Assembly in 2024. There is one other matter for which I feel I should give an assurance, which is that WIPO's work and the way we operate is to support all Member States equally. Therefore, the support that we are providing pursuant to the General Assembly decision does not preclude us from also serving other Member States in whatever situation you are in, in whatever circumstances you find yourself in. In fact, I think we have been serving a number of Member States that are also otherwise in difficult situations. You know that we try to work in a way that is pragmatic, that is impactful, that delivers results and tries to do it in different situations. I just want to give the assurance to all the Member States that if you find yourself, as circumstances change, needing to reach out to us and to ask us to adjust the work plan or ask us to adjust our support, we are here to support you, we are here to listen to you and to work with you to deliver that. With those assurances, I would like to just say that we look forward to supporting all Member States in our professional, neutral, inclusive way.

128. [CHAIR](#): Thank you very much, Director General Tang for that assurance and clarification. At this time, the Chair has no decision or action to submit to the body, noting only that the last action that we took was in 2024 at the sixty-fifth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies. So, I will be closing this agenda item with no action or decision to be proposed. I see no objections. Agenda item is closed. Thank you very much.

ITEM 19 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

REPORTS ON STAFF MATTERS

129. See the report of the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document [WO/CC/86/5](#)).

ITEM 20 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

AMENDMENTS TO STAFF REGULATIONS AND RULES

130. See the report of the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document [WO/CC/86/5](#)).

ITEM 21 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

GUIDELINES FOR WIPO PERSONNEL STANDING FOR ELECTION TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

131. See the report of the session of the WIPO Coordination Committee (document [WO/CC/86/5](#)).

ITEM 22 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE REPORTS

132. Discussions were based on document [A/68/9](#).

133. [CHAIR](#): As is the usual practice, a Summary Report has been prepared with the decisions agreed during the Assemblies. The Summary Report will be published on the WIPO website after adoption. The Secretariat will then add the statements made by all Delegations under each agenda item including those made today and to be made in agenda item 23 and, as is the usual practice, these will be adopted by correspondence as follows: Delegations will receive the draft extensive reports by August 14, 2026. Your comments should be submitted to the Secretariat by September 11, 2026. The extensive reports will then be deemed adopted by September 25, 2026 and will be circulated accordingly. Regarding item 2, Adoption of the Agenda, I may have inadvertently referred earlier to document A/68/1 Prov 2 as containing the version of the agenda adopted by Member States. I wish to clarify that it was, in fact, the third provisional version of the agenda contained in document A/68/1 Prov 3 published as of Friday, July 2, 2026 which serves as the basis for our discussions, and I apologize for my oversight. Do we have any comments from the floor at this time as we adopt the summary report? I see none. I am now submitting for your kind consideration the summary report, document A/68/9 for adoption and I propose the following decision paragraph as contained in that document and it is on your screen and I read:

134. The Assemblies of WIPO, each as far as it is concerned,

- (i) adopted the present summary report, document A/68/9, and
- (ii) requested the Secretariat to finalize the extensive reports, post them on the WIPO website and communicate them to Member States by August 14, 2026. Comments should be submitted to the Secretariat

by September 11, 2026 after which the final report will be deemed adopted by September 25, 2026.

135. [CHAIR](#): I see no objections. It is so adopted. Agenda item 22 stands closed.

ITEM 23 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

CLOSING OF THE SESSIONS

136. Delegations taking the floor thanked the Director General, Chair and Vice Chairs, Secretariat, interpreters and translators for their work during the Assemblies.

137. [ALBANIA](#): On behalf of the CEBS Group, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Diplomatic Engagement and the Assembly Affairs Division (DEAA). Let me also express our gratitude to all regional coordinators and Member States for their tireless efforts and constructive spirit during these Assemblies. The CEBS Group would like to thank the Director General for his dedicated leadership, particularly during the discussion of agenda Item 18. We welcome WIPO strengthening its cooperation with Ukraine and look forward to further collaboration on this matter. As this Assembly marks the conclusion of my short mandate, I would like to address the members of my own group. It has been an honor, privilege and joy to coordinate the CEBS Group during this period. I am immensely proud of our unity, our shared commitment and the collaborative spirit we have demonstrated. Thank you all for your trust, your constant support and your invaluable cooperation. We look forward to continuing our fruitful collaboration in the future.

138. [GERMANY](#): We would like to reiterate that consensus should remain the imperative way of adopting decisions at WIPO. The Group thanks all the Member States that organized interesting and entertaining side events and acknowledges the hard work and effort that go into preparing and delivering them. They have all facilitated the sharing of diverse and interesting information in many dynamic ways. We would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to all colleagues from the senior management team of WIPO, as well as those from permanent missions whose work at WIPO is about to end. We thank them for their excellent cooperation and wish them all the best. If I may, I would like to add a few words on a personal basis, since this is the last statement I will deliver for Group B. Germany's role as a coordinator of Group B finishes at the end of this month after one year, but I will stay here for one more year. It has been a challenging experience, because I discovered how difficult it can be to reach compromise on big and small issues. I learned a lot about the significance of the Chair's Summary. It has mostly been a very fulfilling experience. I feel grateful and honored for many fruitful and constructive negotiations, as well as numerous enriching encounters with colleagues and friends from all over the world, from within WIPO and without. I was convinced to take over the role as coordinator with the argument that it would be very interesting and fun. It is now time to pass on the fun to someone else. I am happy to announce that the coordination of Group B will be taken up by a trio in the coming year: first by Japan, then by Canada and lastly by Switzerland.

139. [CHINA](#): At these Assemblies we have completed discussions on all the agenda items with success. China will continue to uphold the multilateral IP system, with WIPO at its core, and will follow closely further developments and improvements of WIPO global services. China is pleased to note that, at these Assemblies, the appointments of 25 PCT international authorities were extended. We look forward to the Director General leading the new management team to achieve even greater success in his coming term. Lastly, we thank the interpreters for their excellent service.

140. [EL SALVADOR](#): It is an honor for El Salvador to take the floor on behalf of GRULAC. We appreciate the efforts of Member States in organizing side events, which have enriched this meeting. On a personal level, I would like to express my admiration and sincere thanks to my colleagues in GRULAC for their continuous support and guidance, which were fundamental, as well as to the regional coordinators, whose leadership and commitment have been essential to the effectiveness of our work. GRULAC reaffirms the importance of institutional governance guided by the principles of transparency and responsibility and focused on the Member States, ensuring that this Organization's decisions and priorities duly reflect its collective needs and mandates. We note with satisfaction the progress made on the various agenda items and congratulate those who have recently been appointed DDGs and ADGs, in particular Marco Aleman from Colombia, who leads the IP and Innovation Ecosystem Sector. We reaffirm the importance of development as a cross-cutting pillar of WIPO's work, strengthening technical cooperation, capacity-building and support for developing countries so that IP continues to be an effective means of driving innovation, creativity and economic development. We reiterate our willingness to work constructively with other Member States, the Director General and the Secretariat on the cross-cutting implications of new technologies for IP systems. We would also like to underscore our interest in making progress in discussions on an international instrument on Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs), as well as in the technical discussions on possible changes in the regulations and administrative rules of the PCT, in accordance with the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (GRATK) Treaty and other areas of interest to this group. We reiterate the importance of moving towards more equitable geographical representation across the senior levels of the Organization.

141. [SAUDI ARABIA](#): Saudi Arabia has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of the Asia and the Pacific (APG). The Group appreciates the constructive discussions held during this session and welcomes the spirit of cooperation demonstrated by Member States. The APG congratulates the newly appointed DDGs and ADGs and wishes them every success in carrying out their important responsibilities. The Group also expresses its sincere appreciation to the outgoing members of the senior management team for their dedicated service and valuable contributions to the work of the Organization. The APG reaffirms its commitment to constructive engagement and looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Director General, the new senior management team and all Member States in advancing the work of the Organization. As Saudi Arabia's final statement in its capacity as coordinator of the APG, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all members of the Group for their trust, friendship, cooperation and constructive engagement throughout our term. We would also like to thank our fellow Group coordinators for their friendship, cooperation and constructive spirit over the past year. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Group and we wish the incoming coordinator every success in leading the APG in the period ahead.

142. [SOUTH AFRICA](#): The Delegation of South Africa has the singular honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group. At the outset, allow me to pay homage to four of our outstanding Delegates whose tours of duty have come to an end: Tunisia, Egypt, and two of our former coordinators, Ghana and Kenya. We wish them well in their future endeavors. The African Group welcomes the successful conclusion of this year's meetings and appreciates the constructive engagement demonstrated by Member States across a broad range of agenda items. We remain committed to working in a spirit of cooperation to protect and strengthen multilateralism. The Group welcomes the progress achieved during these Assemblies. At the same time, we reiterate our longstanding position regarding geographical representation and gender balance. The African Group welcomes the steady progress that WIPO has made under the Director General's leadership in advancing gender equality across the Organization, as reflected in the Annual Report on Human Resources and the WIPO Performance Report. However, women accounted for only 22.7 per cent of the applicants for senior leadership positions. This underscores the importance of our collective efforts as Members to broaden the pool of qualified female candidates. We encourage Member States to give due consideration to

the nomination of highly qualified women for future senior leadership positions. The African Group also urges Member States to refrain from politicizing WIPO committees and to uphold the Organization's tradition of constructive dialogue, inclusivity and consensus, ensuring that discussions remain focused on WIPO's core mandate and the shared objective of promoting multilateralism. The African Group reaffirms its commitment to engaging constructively with all Member States to advance an IP system that supports innovation, creativity and sustainable development for the benefit of all.

143. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Delegation of the Russian Federation has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the CACEEC Group. The WIPO Assemblies are a key platform for substantive dialogue among Member States to harmonize approaches and jointly define the future direction of the Organization's activity. We are convinced that seeking consensus should continue to be at the heart of our common work as it allows us to make decisions that enjoy broad support and reinforce the unity of the Organization. In this connection, we would like once again to highlight the importance of the sustained and harmonious development of the IP system in the interests of users from all States and regions of the world. Such a system has to be an effective instrument for supporting innovation, creativity, knowledge transfer and socioeconomic development. It must uncover human potential and widen possibilities for inventors, creators, entrepreneurs and the scientific community; it should not create additional barriers to accessing the results of creative activity. Regarding the outcomes of the meetings, we again welcome the decision to extend the appointment of the existing International Searching Authorities (ISAs) and International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs) for another 10 years, including Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the Eurasian Patent Office, whose activities play an important role in the effective functioning of the patent system in the Eurasian region. We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to the outgoing team of DDGs and ADGs for their many years of work, professionalism and contributions to the Organization's activities. We wish them all success, happiness and new achievements going forward. At the same time, we would like to welcome the new WIPO senior management team and wish them a successful start to their work. We look forward to the further development of the Organization, the continuity of its work and the effective implementation of all objectives in the interests of the entire WIPO membership. These busy days at the Assemblies have again demonstrated that, despite our differences, we are united by our shared responsibility for the future of the Organization. We hope that a spirit of mutual respect and consensus-building will continue to define our joint work at WIPO. As the Russian Federation is taking the floor today for the last time as coordinator of CACEEC, allow me to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and deep gratitude to all distinguished Member States, the coordinators of other regional groups, and the Secretariat, which have provided support and cooperation throughout our time as coordinator. For the Russian Federation, it has been an honor to represent this Group, which brings together highly competent delegations committed to constructive cooperation. We deeply appreciate the trust placed in us by the members of CACEEC. All of the successes we have enjoyed, and all of the positive contributions we have made over the past year were only possible thanks to joint efforts, mutual respect and a continuous willingness to cooperate. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the Member States in our Group. We look to the future with confidence, and we will continue to contribute to the achievement of our common objectives at WIPO, guided by the spirit of cooperation, mutual understanding and solidarity that has always characterized our Group.

144. [SAMOA](#): I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Pacific Island Forum States; we align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of the APG. The Forum reaffirms its strong support for WIPO and for an inclusive, effective and responsive multilateral IP system. For the Pacific, IP remains a key driver of innovation, sustainable development, economic resilience and cultural vitality. It safeguards the knowledge, heritage and creativity of our people while supporting resilience across our blue Pacific. We welcome continued progress towards the implementation of the GRATK Treaty and we look forward to the Pacific regional

workshop to be held in Fiji this October, which will strengthen national capacities and support broader implementation across the Pacific region. We reaffirm our commitment to advancing discussions on the protection of TK and TCEs. As the region most vulnerable to the impact of climate change, safeguarding Indigenous and traditional knowledge and cultural heritage is essential to strengthening resilience, supporting adaptation and promoting sustainable development for future generations. Further capacity-building for SIDS remains essential and we emphasize the need for sustained support to enable the effective participation of Pacific Island States, including our Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in the work of WIPO. The Forum looks forward to continuing our partnership with WIPO and all Member States to deliver practical outcomes that benefit our people and strengthen a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented international IP system.

145. [IRELAND](#): Ireland is honored to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its member States. The successful outcomes of these Assemblies were reached by consensus and reflect our collective commitment to the continued operation of the crucial work of this Organization. We express our sincere appreciation to all who constructively contributed and reaffirm our dedication to consensus-based work within WIPO. The European Union and its member States welcome WIPO's assistance to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and its IP system, which is significantly affected by Russian aggression. The European Union and its member States remain committed to working constructively with Member States to assist WIPO in further developing an efficient and balanced IP ecosystem for the benefit of all. We would also like to wholeheartedly thank the outgoing management team – Lisa Jorgenson, Binying Wang, Sylvie Forbin, Hasan Kleib and Edward Kwakwa – for their valuable contributions throughout their tenure and we welcome the new team, who will have our full support.

146. [BOTSWANA](#): The Delegation of Botswana aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group. These meetings have once again demonstrated the importance of multilateral cooperation in building a balanced, inclusive and future-oriented international IP system. Botswana welcomes the constructive engagement of Member States and the progress achieved across WIPO's committees and governing bodies. Botswana remains firmly committed to an IP system that promotes innovation, creativity, technology transfer and sustainable economic development. For developing countries, IP must continue to serve as a catalyst for industrialization, enterprise development, job creation and economic diversification. We particularly welcome the continued work of the IGC. Botswana looks forward to sustained engagement towards achieving international protection of TK and TCEs, while ensuring that the recently adopted GRATK Treaty is effectively implemented. We encourage continued progress that reflects the diverse interests and development priorities of all Member States in the various WIPO bodies and committees. On staff matters, Botswana continues to advocate for real geographical representation of staff within WIPO. The talent pipeline should be genuinely global, equitable and future-ready. As AI rapidly transforms innovation and creativity, WIPO has a critical role to play in facilitating balanced international dialogue on the relationship between AI and IP. We support approaches that encourage innovation while safeguarding human creativity, promoting legal certainty and ensuring that developing countries can fully participate in and benefit from the digital economy. As we leave Geneva, let us carry forward the spirit of cooperation and consensus that has characterized these Assemblies. While differences of views remain on certain issues, acknowledging that through diversity there is also progress, our shared commitment to an effective and inclusive multilateral IP system provides a strong foundation for continued progress. Botswana reaffirms its commitment to working constructively with all Member States, regional groups and the WIPO Secretariat to ensure that IP continues to serve as a powerful instrument for innovation, creativity, sustainable development and shared prosperity.

147. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The United States of America supports the statement delivered by the Delegation of Germany on behalf of Group B. In particular, we echo the thanks to all the individuals identified in the Group B statement and to the Group B coordinator for his

service. The United States of America strongly encourages the Secretariat to prioritize the following in the second half of 2026 and moving forward. We must continue to modernize, stabilize and prioritize the WIPO filing and registration systems that form the backbone of WIPO's mandate and purpose. But these systems are more than that. They provide a foundation for the global IP system. Supporting and maintaining these systems requires enhanced reinvestment of resources, particularly more complete reinvestment of user fees into these systems. We emphasize again our concerns about the pattern of Member State attempts to improperly introduce IGC issues into various committees across WIPO. This practice undermines WIPO's committee structure and its efficiency and effectiveness in carrying out its mandate, under Article 3 of the WIPO Convention, to promote the protection of IP. The IGC is the committee of competence for GR, TK and TCE-related topics and they must remain there. Otherwise, there is no need for the IGC. Lastly, we again congratulate the newly appointed DDGs and ADGs and look forward to working with them in their respective roles moving forward.

148. [EGYPT](#): The Delegation of Egypt aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group. We appreciate the efforts made by the Director General and his team to advance the Organization's vision and mandates. Over the past few days, the WIPO Assemblies have discussed many important issues and topics before the Member States, and consensus was ultimately reached on them. The Delegation of Egypt emphasizes the importance of dialogue and of placing common interests above all in order to ensure the continued implementation of the Organization's mandate. Egypt looks forward to building on the Organization's achievements of recent years in order to strengthen its role and consolidate a more balanced and effective global IP system that is better able to support innovation and creativity and serve development goals. In that way, we can consolidate the position of WIPO as a leading UN agency, forward-looking and capable of achieving consensus in the service of its Member States and the community of innovators and creators. The Delegation of Egypt wishes the Director General and his new management team every success in their new terms. We also extend our thanks and appreciation to the DDGs and ADGs whose terms have ended for all their work in the service of our Organization.

149. [REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): The Delegation of the Republic of Korea aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the APG. The Republic of Korea welcomes the spirit of cooperation demonstrated during these Assemblies. We congratulate the newly appointed members of the senior management team and look forward to working closely with them. We trust that WIPO will continue to draw strength from the diversity of its membership, including through equitable geographical representation and gender balance. We also express our sincere appreciation to Saudi Arabia for its dedicated service as coordinator of the APG and wish the incoming coordinator every success. The Republic of Korea remains committed to working with WIPO and all Member States to make IP a bridge connecting ideas with markets, technology with investment and countries with one another.

150. [SAUDI ARABIA](#): As we conclude the work of this session, the Delegation of Saudi Arabia notes that a desire among the Member States to work in a spirit of dialogue and consensus has contributed to the successful outcome of these Assemblies. We wish to congratulate the distinguished Delegates who have earned the confidence of Member States and been appointed as DDGs and ADGs. We wish them every success in carrying out their duties, contributing to the implementation of the Organization's programs and enhancing the efficiency of its work in a manner that keeps pace with the aspirations of Member States and responds to future challenges and opportunities. The Delegation also expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the officials whose service in WIPO leadership positions has come to an end. The efforts and contributions that they have made during their terms are much appreciated, and we wish them success in their future endeavors. Saudi Arabia appreciates the positive and constructive spirit that have prevailed in this session's discussions, reflecting the Member States' commitment to strengthening multilateral cooperation and developing a more efficient

and inclusive global IP system that contributes to innovation, creativity and sustainable development. We remain committed to working with WIPO and all Member States in a spirit of partnership and cooperation, and to supporting initiatives that enhance the impact of IP on socioeconomic development and meet the aspirations of Member States. Saudi Arabia renews its thanks to all participating delegations from Member States and looks forward to continued cooperation and joint work in the period ahead in a way that serves the interests of all Member States.

151. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Delegation of the Russian Federation aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the CACEEC Group. We note with satisfaction that decisions were reached on most of the issues on the agenda in a spirit of constructive multilateral cooperation. We particularly welcome the extension of the appointment of Rospatent as an ISA and IPEA under the PCT. We would also like to thank the outgoing DDGs and ADGs for their significant contributions to the development of the global IP ecosystem and wish them good health and success in their future endeavors. We hope that the incoming senior management team will carry out their functions in a professional, conscientious and impartial manner. We strongly oppose any attempts to politicize the Organization's work and to discriminate against users on national or language grounds. We deeply regret that the consideration of purely technical matters relating to the composition of the WIPO Staff Pension Committee and the Coordination Committee have been politicized. We firmly reject attempts to apply criteria unrelated to candidates' competencies, as well as the accompanying hostile and discriminatory rhetoric. Such an approach undermines confidence in the Organization's procedures and creates a dangerous precedent for future consideration of staff issues. For its part, the Russian Federation will continue consistently to support WIPO as a neutral, specialized forum, whose work is based on the principles of non-discrimination, equality and strict observance of international law. Only through such an approach can we maintain trust in the global IP system and safeguard its further sustainable development. The global IP system should encourage innovation and creativity, and not become a barrier to the realization of human potential and the holistic development of people around the world. The Russian Federation reaffirms its readiness to continue to work constructively with WIPO and its Member States.

152. [SAMOA](#): Samoa aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Pacific Island Forum States and the APG. As this Assembly concludes, Samoa reaffirms its strong support for WIPO and for an inclusive, effective and proactive multilateral IP system that safeguards and protects the knowledge, heritage and creativity of our peoples. The global IP system is not keeping pace with the realities facing Indigenous Peoples and SIDS. This is why Samoa cannot accept the segregated consideration of TK and TCEs by the IGC only, while every WIPO committee already shapes how our TK and TCEs are used, misused and monetized. In Samoa's view, the gravest injustice is not only in the hand that strikes, but also in the eyes that choose to look away. Ignorance is fertile soil in which abuse takes root and thrives. Any innovation or creation that was born at the expense of our cultures and heritage should never have drawn its first breath. Samoa stands ready to assist WIPO in a spirit of multilateralism, solidarity and shared responsibility to build an IP system that upholds the dignity of every creator and innovator, which includes Indigenous Peoples and local communities, past, present and future.

153. [UNITED KINGDOM](#): The Delegation of the United Kingdom aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Germany on behalf of Group B. We thank the Member States that have put on an exciting array of events to showcase IP in many varied ways, giving us the sights, sounds and flavors of the diverse and dynamic community at WIPO. We welcome the decisions and progress made during these Assemblies on many topics. Our work is vital for the effective functioning of the Organization and to support innovators and creators around the world in protecting, promoting and commercializing their IP. With the pace of change in society and advancements in technology and AI continuing unabated, our efforts here help Member States to deliver for our stakeholders. We take this opportunity to thank the outgoing sector

leads for all of their work. In particular, we recognize and thank ADG Andrew Staines for his tireless patience and hard work as Secretary to the WIPO Assemblies. He has guided us through many discussions and negotiations with skill, enabling us to advance the work of the Organization and deliver for our stakeholders. We wish to reaffirm our commitment to this Organization, the Director General and his new sector lead team, and to our fellow Member States, to continue promoting and upholding IP, IP registration and IP values in order to support growth, innovation, creativity and development. We wish to recognize the hard work and collaboration of those colleagues departing Geneva for pastures new. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with you, collaborate and learn.

154. [INDONESIA](#): Indonesia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia as coordinator of the APG. Indonesia congratulates the Director General on his reappointment and warmly welcomes the newly appointed DDGs and ADGs. We also express our sincere appreciation to the outgoing members of the senior management team, in particular DDG Hasan Kleib, for their dedicated service and valuable contributions to the Organization. Indonesia remains committed to a balanced, inclusive, development-oriented and forward-looking global IP system that responds effectively to rapid technological change. We welcome the continued discussions in the SCCR on the governance of copyright royalties in the digital environment. To further advance this dialogue, Indonesia will host the Global Forum on Cross-Border Copyright Royalty Governance from October 7 to 9, 2026, in Bali and warmly invites all Member States and relevant stakeholders to participate. Indonesia attaches central importance to the DA and encourages continued support for capacity-building, technology transfer, IP commercialization and the empowerment of MSMEs, women and young people. We also recognize the important contribution of the Audit Board of Indonesia, in its capacity as WIPO's external auditor, to strengthening transparency, accountability and good governance in the Organization. Indonesia looks forward to working constructively with WIPO and all Member States to ensure that the global IP system delivers meaningful benefits for all.

155. [NAMIBIA](#): The Delegation of Namibia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group. We draw from the ancient inspiration that the end of a matter is always better than its beginning, for only the end reflects the true measure of one's character and virtue. Therefore, as we close another series of the WIPO Assemblies, we reflect on the value of WIPO and its impact on improving lives and livelihoods. Namibia wishes to extend its gratitude to the WIPO divisions and various Member States for the effective bilateral engagements that were held, which continue to enrich Namibia's IP ecosystem. Namibia welcomes the successful conclusion of the Assemblies and commends Member States for their constructive engagement and contributions. Namibia reiterates the importance of inclusivity, equitable participation, balanced representation and a development-oriented international IP system that responds to the needs of all Member States. Namibia welcomes progress made in the CDIP, particularly the project on strengthening the capacities of handicraft artisans through IP, which is intended to empower artisans, preserve cultural heritage and create economic opportunities for local communities. Namibia reiterates that development must remain at the heart of WIPO's work and that discussions should continue to produce practical outcomes that support all Member States. Namibia remains committed to constructive engagement and cooperation with WIPO to advance a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented IP system that benefits all nations and peoples.

156. [PHILIPPINES](#): The Delegation of the Philippines takes this opportunity to thank the outgoing DDGs and ADGs for their dedication and contributions. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Likewise, we extend our congratulations and warm welcome to the reappointed and newly appointed members of the senior management team. We look forward to working with you as we continue to navigate the role of IP in fostering economic development. We thank the Director General for his leadership and reaffirm our confidence in his continued stewardship of this Organization, together with the senior management team and the dedicated members of the Secretariat.

157. [GUATEMALA](#): We align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC. At the end of these Assemblies, my Delegation would like to congratulate the new senior management team on their appointments and thank the outgoing members for their valuable work. For me, these Assemblies are of particular significance because they will be my last at WIPO before concluding my work in Geneva. It has been a real privilege to serve my country in this important multilateral forum. I have been lucky enough to work with highly professional colleagues with whom I have built friendships that I am sure will long outlast our institutional responsibilities. I will take with me valuable lessons, countless memories and a profound appreciation for this community.

158. [LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC](#): The continued support of WIPO has been instrumental in strengthening our national IP system and enhancing our capacity to implement IP policies and programs. The Lao People's Democratic Republic is pleased to note the successful deposit of its instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement, marking another significant milestone in our commitment to strengthening international cooperation and expanding access to the international system for the protection of designs. We express our sincere gratitude to WIPO and all partners whose valuable technical assistance and cooperation made this achievement possible. We thank all delegations for their constructive engagement and unwavering commitment throughout these Assemblies.

159. [HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM \(HEP\)](#): On behalf of the HEP, I express our gratitude for the quality and rigor of discussions at the Assemblies, which have demonstrated once again that multilateral dialogue is an essential driver of an equitable and effective global IP system. The decisions made at the Assemblies, such as the constructive reform of the Madrid and Hague systems and the continued focus on multilingualism, chart a clear path towards a more accessible, safer and more inclusive global IP system for creators and entrepreneurs around the world. These regulatory and procedural developments are essential as they simplify access to international protection and enhance legal certainty. Together, we are laying the foundations for a stable framework that fosters technical development, innovation and tangible improvements in living standards. We welcome the spirit of consensus that has prevailed throughout this session and under the Director General's pragmatic and inclusive leadership. HEP reaffirms its full commitment to active collaboration with WIPO and its Member States to support implementation of its decisions on the ground.

160. [DIRECTOR GENERAL](#): I am aware that I am standing between all of you and a soccer match that is going to start very soon, so let me be very brief and share just a few reflections. First, as IP moves from the periphery to the center, this global gathering of the IP community grows bigger and more dynamic. This was the largest ever physical presence at the WIPO Assemblies, with 1,320 Delegates, along with 40 Ministers and Deputy Ministers and 130 heads of IPOs, showing the growing importance of WIPO's work not only to IP leaders but also to senior officials and political leaders. Second, WIPO's ability to bring experts and expertise together under one roof resulted in interesting discussions not just in this hall but also at various side events. I think many of you have observed this as well and this is to be welcomed. Third, the Assemblies have become a place where IP is not only discussed, but also where the role of IP in countries and lives is celebrated. This was the largest showcase of national pavilions, with 15 countries from all regions of the world using the WIPO lobby to bring their innovations, creations, culture and heritage to all 194 Member States. Cultural events brought us dance, music, handicrafts and cuisine from all corners of the world. Superstars like John Legend and Ladipoe graced us with their presence and the WIPO Global Awards continued to celebrate innovators across various industries who are using IP to succeed. Through these events and personalities, IP came truly alive. Fourth, the Assemblies have always been a chance to renew friendships and to make new friends, but WIPO's role as a connector and the use by participants of the Assemblies to connect has grown strongly through events such as the informal dinner and breakfast of the heads of IP offices, the hosting of regional events such as those of the Francophone Alliance for Intellectual Property, and many others. All of these

activities strongly complemented and supported the formal work that takes place in these halls. During these Assemblies, WIPO was not just a series of formal meetings to make organizational decisions. It has also become a way for us to celebrate IP, connect with others and build bridges, united by a common mission of bringing IP to everyone everywhere and a belief in the value of multilateralism. In terms of the substantive discussions, many of you reflected not only on the past year but on the progress made together in the past six years, as well as some of my comments on what is possibly ahead, my four dreams. I will not go into a lot of the reactions or proposals and suggestions; just to say that I paid careful attention to many of them and I thank you for your guidance as we work together as Member States to advance IP throughout the world, deliver impact, build an inclusive IP ecosystem and ensure that all of us win together through this Organization. Ladies and gentlemen, the success of these Assemblies would not be possible without many colleagues and leaders and I would like to start by thanking our Chair, Ambassador Carlos Sorreta of the Philippines, for guiding our work with calmness, skill, good humor and equanimity, allowing us to make decisions by consensus. I also thank the Chairs of all the various agenda items and Assemblies, including the indefatigable Chair of the Coordination Committee, Ambassador James Baxter, who will be with us for one more year, for their efforts. Group coordinators always deserve a special mention because, while their work is important, it is not easy. I likewise thank Member State delegates for their collegiate spirit, professionalism and commitment, and the many observers who attended and enriched our discussions with their specialized perspectives. Turning to my colleagues, and since these are the last Assemblies for this term, I want, once again, to put on record my deep gratitude and appreciation to my outgoing DDGs and ADGs. Some of them have served WIPO for decades, and over the past six years we have worked hard each day to execute the Program of Work and Budget, deliver results and create impact. We did not choose the easier path of maintaining the status quo but took on the greater challenge of transforming WIPO and the global IP ecosystem. So, to Binying Wang, Edward Kwakwa, Hasan Kleib, Lisa Jorgenson and Sylvie Forbin, thank you for all that you have done from the bottom of my heart. We fought the good fight and ran the marathon together and we have made a real difference to many colleagues in here, as well as to innovators and creators around the world. I will miss you all. I also want to acknowledge the many colleagues who worked tirelessly to make these Assemblies possible, from those here on the podium and across the Secretariat to all those working behind the scenes in the events and conference teams, IT, interpretation, news and media, security, procurement, facilities and many other essential functions. On a personal note, thank you to my front office for their support during this busy period. Dear colleagues, dear friends, even as the work of these Assemblies comes to an end, our work of supporting innovators and creators around the world never ceases. As we speak, designs are being sketched, songs are being composed, technological breakthroughs are being made and entrepreneurs are taking the first steps towards launching their businesses. Our shared responsibility is to ensure that the global IP ecosystem gives these ideas and aspirations the opportunity to flourish and that IP is a catalyst for the prosperity, competitiveness, growth and development of all countries.

161. [CHAIR](#): I wish to thank all of you for your cooperation, patience and understanding, and for your work both at the Assemblies and throughout the year. I would like to thank the Director General, whose boundless energy and profound vision bring us together here and will continue to propel us over the next six years. I thank his senior management, congratulating those coming in and thanking those leaving us after many decades of work. I would like to thank our Secretary, Mr. Andrew Staines, who will be leaving his position, as well as his team and everyone who has made the Assemblies a success. I am grateful to the interpreters for their patience and understanding, and to the WIPO technical and media staff, particularly the photographers and the social media team. The events team did a great job in a very small window of time. In my several decades in multilateralism, it has always amazed me when States can come together despite initial fears and eventually leave as friends or colleagues. I now declare closed the Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of Member States of WIPO.

162. The Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of WIPO was closed by the Chair of the WIPO General Assembly.

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ITEM 4 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

GENERAL STATEMENTS

1. The Delegations and Representatives of the following 142 Member States (including 13 on behalf of groups of States), eight intergovernmental organizations and 31 non-governmental organizations provided oral or written statements under this agenda item: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe, European Union (EU), African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), League of Arab States (LAS), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC Patent Office), South Centre (CS), Consortium for Common Food Names (CCFN), European Commercial Patent Services Group (PatCom), Global Expert Network on Copyright User Rights (User Rights Network), Latin American Intellectual Property School (ELAPI), Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIPI), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), International Intellectual Property Commercialization Council (IIPCC), Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (ORIGIN), Third World Network Berhad (TWN), All-China Patent Agents Association (ACPAA), American Arab Intellectual Property Association (AAIPA), Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), Asociación Mexicana para la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual (AMPPI), Bahrain Intellectual Property Society (BIPS), Brand Owners Protection Group (Gulf BPG), Corporación Latinoamericana de Investigación de la Propiedad Intelectual para el Desarrollo (Corporación Innovarte), Egyptian Council for Innovation, Creativity and Protection of Information (ECCIPP), Emirates Intellectual Property Association (EIPA), Emirates Publishers Association (EPA), Emirates Reprographic Rights Management Association (ERRA), Emirates Science Club, European Broadcasting Union (EBU), General Secretariat of the Andean Community, German Association for Intellectual Property Law (GRUR), InfoCons Association, Institute for Intellectual Property and Social Justice (IIPSJ), Intellectual Property Protection Association (IPPA), International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI), Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA), Knowledge Ecology International, Inc. (KEI) and Medicines Patent Pool (MPP).
2. Delegations and Representatives commended the Director General and the Secretariat on their work over the previous year, including with regard to the preparation of documentation and arrangements for the Assemblies. Some Delegations and

Representatives submitted written statements, which are available [here](#) (click on “written statements”).

3. [CHAIR](#): We now proceed to Agenda Item 4, General Statements. We will first give the floor to the WIPO group coordinators, followed by statements from the informal groupings of WIPO Member States. We will then proceed to Ministers and thereafter to individual members and, finally, Observers. I would like to remind Delegations that we have to be brief. We have three minutes for groups and Ministers. Individual members have two minutes and Observers one minute. You will also be able to submit your full statement, regardless of length, to the Secretariat and it will form part of the record. Statements will be available on the webcast and in the record produced for the Assemblies. I would now like to call on the first Delegation, Saudi Arabia, speaking on behalf of the Asia and the Pacific Group.

4. [SAUDI ARABIA](#): Saudi Arabia is honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the Asia and the Pacific Group (APG). The Group congratulates the Director General on his appointment for a second term. As the first Director General from the APG region, his reappointment reflects the confidence that Member States have placed in his leadership. The Group looks forward to continuing its close cooperation with him in advancing WIPO's mandate in a manner that serves the interests of all Member States. The APG commends WIPO for its continued efforts to implement programs with tangible impact and a development-oriented approach that responds to the evolving needs of Member States. The Group reaffirms its support for the WIPO Development Agenda (DA) and welcomes the Organization's continued strengthening of technical assistance, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing programs in support of developing countries, least developed countries (LDCs) and countries with economies in transition. The Group also supports the continued alignment of WIPO's work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and stresses the importance of ensuring that development considerations remain an integral part of the Organization's programs and activities. The Group remains committed to advancing WIPO's normative work through constructive dialogue, consensus-building, and strengthened multilateral cooperation. Continued progress across WIPO's various committees is essential to ensuring a balanced, inclusive and effective international intellectual property (IP) system. An ongoing priority for the APG is achieving equitable geographical representation in WIPO's governing bodies and Secretariat, including at senior management and leadership levels. Ensuring balanced geographical representation at all levels and across all sectors of WIPO, while maintaining merit-based recruitment, is essential to promoting fairness and effective balance within the Organization. In this regard, the Group looks forward to continued efforts to achieve fair geographical representation in WIPO's workforce and its decision-making bodies. It also encourages further progress on issues relating to WIPO's external offices, in accordance with decisions of Member States, and looks forward to reaching consensus on this matter. The APG reaffirms its commitment to constructive engagement and cooperation with all regional groups and Member States. It also reiterates its commitment to supporting an international IP system that is effective, balanced and inclusive, that meets the development needs of its members, and that delivers benefits for all Member States.

5. [GERMANY](#): The Delegation of Germany has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of Group B. Group B would like to congratulate you, Director General, on your re-election. The renewed confidence placed in you by the Member States is a testament to the positive development of WIPO under your stewardship. We welcome your continued dedication and leadership of the Organization in the coming years. We wish to recall the paramount importance of WIPO's core mandate to promote IP protection worldwide. This is of particular importance to our Group and should be adequately reflected in the new Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) in 2027, and in future programs of work and budget. Continued modernization and strengthening of the IP filing and international registration systems should remain WIPO's first priority. WIPO services are crucial for innovators and

creators. Furthermore, strong services are necessary for the well-being of the Organization and to generate sufficient resources to allow for a firm commitment to IP protection and capacity-building. With regard to the financial aspect of WIPO's work, total transparency is of the utmost importance. We would appreciate it if the budget contained more information about the content of sector activities and the allocation of resources. Group B supports the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) reform process and its implementation at WIPO. At the same time, it is fundamental to keep in mind the need for a highly qualified workforce. The principle of merit in staff recruitment is especially important. Highly qualified staff are essential to ensure that WIPO functions well and is able to deliver high-quality services to Member States and the innovative creative community. We would therefore appreciate regular and transparent reporting on hiring, staff movements and organizational changes at WIPO. Group B would like to thank you, Director General, for your active involvement in the recent session of the Program and Budget Committee (PBC), and encourage you to be equally actively involved in other WIPO meetings and to communicate to all Member States the importance of the principle of consensus, particularly with respect to normative work at WIPO. We note the positive financial result for the 2024/25 biennium, with a surplus of 224.5 million Swiss francs. Around 95 per cent of the income originates from fees paid by users of its international IP systems, primarily the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System and Madrid System (the latter accounting for 17 per cent). This observation highlights the role of these international IP filing and registration systems as the financial backbone of the Organization. However, the number of actual filings for each of the fee-funding unions was lower than WIPO estimates. This shows WIPO's vulnerability to global economic fluctuations. Against this background, prudent and effective financial management remains key. Artificial intelligence (AI) is developing rapidly and will progressively support or take on routine work, opening up space and time for staff to focus on newly redesigned tasks. In this regard, we appreciate efforts by WIPO to integrate AI technologies and improve efficiency. We commend WIPO on the success of its Conversation on IP and Frontier Technologies and support ongoing discussions of AI matters in the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) and the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR). You can count on the active and constructive contributions of all Group B members throughout these Assemblies.

6. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Russian Federation has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC), including Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. First, our Group would like to congratulate the Director General on his reappointment. We are confident that, under his leadership, WIPO will continue to strengthen its role as a leading global platform for international cooperation on IP, serving the interests of all Member States and users, and fully respecting the provisions of the core international treaties. The Group's Member States are active users of WIPO's global services. We continue to strengthen mechanisms for protecting and enforcing IP rights. We are also developing digital tools and implementing initiatives designed to strengthen national, regional and international capacity. We attach particular importance to the practical use of IP as a driver of development. Our group continues to focus on supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); marketing IP, developing technology transfer mechanisms, deepening cooperation between science and business, and sharing best practices in these areas. Bearing in mind those priorities, a number of countries in our Group have submitted a project proposal under the DA. We hope that the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) will give it favorable consideration. In addition, we consider it important to promote the policy of multilingualism within WIPO. We are convinced that making Russian an official language in all the international registration systems would be beneficial to millions of users and greatly improve accessibility to the Organization's services. We welcome the use of new and advanced technologies to render the work of WIPO more effective, while strictly maintaining quality

control and key role of human decision-making. In conclusion, we emphasize that ongoing balanced development of the global IP system requires mutual respect, having due regard for the interests of all Member States, and striving for consensus-based solutions. CACEEC stands ready to engage constructively throughout the current session of the Assemblies.

7. [SOUTH AFRICA](#): South Africa is honored to make this statement on behalf of the African Group. These Assemblies provide Member States with a chance to review the progress made in implementing the Organization's mandate. The Group commends the Director General for his leadership, vision and stewardship of WIPO. It remains firmly committed to the DA and underscores the importance of ensuring that the benefits of the IP systems are balanced with equitable access to knowledge, technology transfer and capacity-building, particularly for developing countries and LDCs. The forthcoming twentieth anniversary of the DA presents an important opportunity for meaningful reflection on the progress achieved since its adoption. In that regard, future reports of the Director General on the DA's implementation should place greater emphasis on the tangible and measurable impact of development-related activities on the ground, including their contribution to national capacity-building, local innovation, technology transfer and the use of IP as a tool for economic and social development, and move beyond descriptive accounts of activities by including clear, practical and actionable recommendations on how to strengthen implementation of the DA Recommendations and consolidate their ownership by Member States. The Group reiterates its support for a future work program on patents and health as a response to global health challenges. Supporting national licensing flexibilities and promoting regional pharmaceutical manufacturing capacities are essential to strengthening pandemic preparedness and enhancing equitable access to medicines. WIPO's work on technical assistance is welcome but such assistance must remain demand-driven, transparent and aligned with national development priorities and strategies. The Group attaches great importance to limitations and exceptions to copyright. It welcomes the progress made by the SCCR in that regard and commends it on its decision to commence text-based negotiations with a view to adopting an international legal instrument on limitations and exceptions for libraries, archives, museums, educational and research institutions, and persons with disabilities not covered by the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh Treaty). The Group welcomes the report on staff matters and commends the Secretariat for its efforts to promote gender parity in the WIPO workforce. Nevertheless, the persistent imbalance in geographical representation in the Secretariat remains a source of concern. There is a need to achieve equitable geographical representation at all levels of the Organization, consistent with the principles of the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO Convention). The African Group reaffirms its commitment to engaging constructively, actively and in good faith in order to ensure the successful outcome of these Assemblies.

8. [EL SALVADOR](#): The Delegation of El Salvador has the honor to speak on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC). GRULAC reaffirms its support for a strong, balanced and inclusive IP system that effectively protects right-holders and responds to the needs of Member States, taking into account their different levels of development. We likewise reaffirm the importance of the DA as a cross-cutting strand of WIPO's work – not only in terms of technical cooperation, capacity-building and assistance to developing countries, but also across clusters B (norm-setting, flexibilities, public policy and the public domain and C (technology transfer, information and communication technologies, and access to knowledge) – ensuring that IP remains an effective tool in the promotion of innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. We acknowledge WIPO's support to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular in terms of capacity-building and in developing IP policies aligned with the region's national priorities. We welcome the renewal of the Director General's mandate, which ensures institutional continuity and reflects

the Member States' confidence in his leadership. We acknowledge his efforts to render the Organization more modern and efficient. We support ongoing efforts to achieve more equitable geographical representation at senior levels of the Organization and rectify current imbalances. We appreciate ongoing initiatives, including the pilot plan in Paraguay, and urge their prosecution to produce concrete results. Efforts by WIPO to improve the quality of its services have increased their uptake by Member States and strengthened the Organization's financial position for the 2026/27 biennium. We welcome the responsible and efficient management of the Organization, which has left it in a solid financial situation and therefore able to carry out its mandate. That includes an increase in resources allocated to projects and initiatives for developing countries that take those countries' interests into account. GRULAC stands ready to join the Member States and the Director General, with the support of the Secretariat, to study the cross-cutting implications of the development of AI for the IP system, with a view to arriving at fair, inclusive and coordinated responses to the challenges and opportunities arising from those technologies. Lastly, we stand ready to work constructively to seek consensus and strengthen the international IP system.

9. [CHINA](#): The Chinese Government attaches great importance to IP. It has continued to advance the development of China as an IP powerhouse, updated IP laws and regulations, strengthened protection across the entire chain, promoted the efficient use of IP and optimized IP services. China has successfully met the objectives of its 14th five-year plan for IP and has proceeded to implement the 15th plan, achieving further progress. Over the past year, under the outstanding leadership of the Director General, WIPO has made important strides in all areas of its work. Overall revenue has remained stable and development of the global IP ecosystem has accelerated. China greatly appreciates those achievements and will continue to firmly uphold the multilateral IP system with WIPO as its main platform. This year, the Director General was reappointed with a historically high number of votes, laying a solid foundation for his next term. Just now, the Director General outlined four visions for future work. China welcomes them and would like to offer several suggestions in that regard. First, we look forward to the Director General leading the new senior management team to play a greater role in promoting the global IP ecosystem, enhancing global awareness of IP, further unlocking the value of IP and ensuring that it benefits everyone. Second, we hope that WIPO will continue to modernize global IP services and explore the use of AI technologies so as to better meet the needs of innovators around the world. Third, we look forward to WIPO continuing to mainstream development considerations in its work, helping developing countries to make better use of IP, promoting development, addressing challenges, and building a better and more sustainable future. I now invite David Wong, Director of Intellectual Property of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, to make a supplementary statement. [Hong Kong Special Administrative Region \(SAR\)](#): With the full backing of the State, the Hong Kong SAR continues to use the IP system to advance economic and technological development. Last year, Hong Kong joined the WIPO Lex Judgments Collection database, sharing case law and demonstrating the judicial standards of the Hong Kong SAR. The Hong Kong Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) officially commenced operation at the end of 2025, becoming a member of the China TISC network and joining the WIPO network. The Government of the Hong Kong SAR is working with the central Government to prepare for the assessment of technologies covered by patents held by SMEs, and to support them in valuing intangible assets to facilitate business financing. We are also working with Hong Kong's largest vocational and professional education institution to establish an IP academy in 2026, with a view to fostering IP literacy across all sectors, aligning with the international system and advancing efforts to learn from the Madrid System. Hong Kong will make good use of its advantages in the rule of law, market orientation and internationalization to build a comprehensive IP ecosystem and foster high-quality development in China.

10. [ALBANIA](#): It is an honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Central European and Baltic States (CEBS). The CEBS Group thanks the Director General for his vision in steering WIPO towards a more inclusive, functional and impact-oriented global IP ecosystem. We welcome initiatives to promote user-friendly and accessible IP systems and remain committed to constructive engagement and a consensus-building spirit across all negotiations. In this regard, we strongly support the timely conclusion of a broadcasting organization treaty and stand ready to engage constructively in the continued work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC), in line with the new mandate for the 2026/27 biennium. Our Group believes in the role of IP for growth and development. IP is no longer a purely legal matter but a crucial driver of economic and digital development. CEBS thanks the Secretariat for its Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System (document A/68/7). The report confirms the devastating consequences of the ongoing unjustified and unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine, which has now entered its fifth year and continues to severely affect the country's innovation and creativity ecosystem. In fact, as this assessment shows, since the Russian Federation launched its full-scale invasion, many of the negative impacts previously observed not only persist but have further intensified, causing increasing damage to the sector and, in some cases, having a severe, irreversible and negative impact on the country's innovation and creativity potential. Sustained international support from WIPO remains crucial to mitigating long-term damage and rebuilding a resilient future. With regard to WIPO external offices, the position of CEBS remains unchanged: external offices are a privilege, not a right. Their work must be transparent, fully in line with WIPO's goals and deliver measurable results. For those reasons, the continued operation of the external office in the aggressor State remains a subject of grave concern for the overwhelming majority of the Group's members. The CEBS group remains fully committed to engaging constructively to ensure a successful and productive session.

11. [ALGERIA](#): I have the honor to address you on behalf of the Arab Group. The Arab Group congratulates the Director General on his re-election and commends the Organization for its achievements, in particular programs and projects for developing countries. The Arab Group welcomes the progress made over the past year, in terms of both financial performance and program implementation. It also welcomes the gains made in terms of technical assistance, training and capacity-building, in particular for Arab countries, and calls on the Organization to go further still with new projects for them. In that regard, the Group reiterates its steadfast support for the CDIP and commends it on projects carried out in the Arab region in the framework of the DA and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which have contributed to capacity-building and technical assistance. WIPO should continue working to integrate the DA goals into its various activities. Given the importance of the IP system, WIPO has a key role to play in creating an environment conducive to innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship, while paying particular attention to young people, women, SMEs and start-ups, thereby contributing to economic and social development. IP plays a growing role in fostering innovation in the digital world, especially in the Arab region, which is rich in human resources, with expert creators and inventors capable of making a meaningful contribution to the global innovation process. The Group attaches great importance to increased use of Arabic in the Organization's various activities, including in its publications, studies and media materials, and in protection systems, in particular the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks. The Organization should continue to strive for an IP system that serves as a tool to support innovation and creativity and achieve sustainable development, and to enhance international cooperation in order to build a more balanced and equitable global IP system that does not focus solely on the protection of rights, but also takes into account the development needs of countries and promotes technology transfer, capacity-building and the bridging of the digital divide, thereby contributing to comprehensive and sustainable development for all countries.

12. [EL SALVADOR](#): It is an honor for El Salvador to address you as Secretary *pro tempore* of the Ministerial Forum for IP in Central American Countries and the Dominican Republic. The Forum, established in 2010, reflects the shared vision of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic on the protection and strategic use of IP as a tool for economic, social and cultural development. It has served to make political dialogue between ministers and the Director General more robust, thereby enabling the development of public policies to manage IP in a comprehensive fashion, optimize resources through coordinated regional engagement and generate synergies that reinforce respect for and foster IPRs in the subregion. Recent highlights include a program developed with WIPO on IP-based financing opportunities, which has helped businesspeople and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to develop IP assets and raised the awareness of financial institutions of the value of intangibles as collateral. Those advances underline how important it is to create a financial environment in which IP is included in risk assessment, thereby opening new avenues of financing for innovative companies in the region. We look forward to support from WIPO in phase 3 of the project, by helping financial institutions to analyze the IP portfolios of potential beneficiaries. Another highlight was the meeting on IP and gastronomic tourism, held in June 2025, where national and regional strategies were devised to protect and exploit culinary traditions through IP tools. In closing, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Director General and all WIPO divisions that have actively participated in the design and implementation of these projects. Their commitment and support have been essential in turning this initiative into a tangible and meaningful reality for our subregion.

13. [SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE](#): On behalf of the member States of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), I wish to express our full support for the Director General in his second term. The Organization will no doubt continue to promote innovation, creativity and sustainable development and help to consolidate a rules-based, multilateral system in its particular area. As technology, including AI, rapidly evolves, we need to further strengthen the international IP system as an effective tool for balanced, inclusive progress in our societies. We support the DA and alignment of the MTSP with the 2030 Agenda. In July, the CPLP will mark 30 years of its existence. Our member States across four continents share a common language, spoken by more than 278 million people, and a vision of working together to promote dialogue and solidarity, and to underscore the overriding importance of peace, democracy, the rule of law, human rights and social justice. Those values must be nurtured through training for government officials and for our business and creative communities, and for that reason we are grateful to WIPO for the support it has given to joint projects with the CPLP. Key events last year included the second seminar on industrial property for Portuguese speakers, held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in September, during which CPLP member States signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of industrial property, and a meeting of the heads of copyright and related rights offices from Portuguese-speaking countries, which was held in May 2025 in Sao Tome and Principe. On the occasion of the latter, the CPLP Copyright and Related Rights Network was established. On May 5, 2026, we marked World Portuguese Language Day with a reception here at WIPO Headquarters, where we were able to enjoy music and dance from our countries. The working group on the inclusion of Portuguese as a language of the Madrid System should continue its assessment in a way that is transparent and inclusive, and based on objective criteria. It should take into account user needs, demand trends and technical advances in translation tools. Portuguese is already an official or working language of 33 international organizations, including WIPO. Ultimately, our goal is for Portuguese to become an official language of the United Nations (UN). There is also an ongoing need for a greater geographical balance in WIPO. That issue particularly concerns developing countries, including CPLP member States, and should be approached in line with the principles of representativeness, inclusion and universality that ought to guide the work of the multilateral system. Lastly, we are ready to work with WIPO and its Member States to

make the global IP system stronger, more accessible and inclusive, and able to meet future challenges.

14. [NEPAL](#): Nepal is honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs). As the World Intellectual Property Report (WIPR) highlights, there is a persistent gap in the adoption of technology and registration of breakthrough innovation in developing countries, particularly in LDCs. There is a triple digital gap in LDCs, in terms of infrastructure, usage and affordability. Climate vulnerability; lack of adequate, sustained and targeted investment; landlocked geography; and weak regional integration exacerbate the situation. The LDCs must participate effectively in the international knowledge and technology flow and be helped to bridge the digital, technological and AI gap and to build a strong domestic innovation ecosystem. We appreciate the support of the Director General and his team for LDCs in that regard. WIPO deliverables for the LDCs and the graduation support package, from which many LDCs are benefiting, remain pivotal for enhancing our regulatory and innovative capacities. We welcome the WIPO training session for Geneva-based LDC Delegates on IP matters. This year, it included a segment on AI, a fitting topic. We value the DA and call for the effective operationalization of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) commitment on flexibilities and provisions regarding LDCs, in particular Article 66.2, on technology transfer to LDCs. Policy space for LDCs remains essential for a smooth, sustainable and irreversible graduation. We call for the alignment of standards, procedures and decisions with the DA and the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA). We congratulate the Director General on his re-election and look forward to carrying forward our partnership.

15. [CAMBODIA](#): It is a privilege to deliver this statement on behalf of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC). ASEAN congratulates the Director General on his reappointment. His visionary leadership has transformed the global IP landscape by advancing IP cooperation, promoting innovation and making IP more relevant to economic and social development. ASEAN highly values its close partnership with WIPO and looks forward to continuing this collaboration over the coming year. ASEAN is home to young, dynamic and innovative populations supported by one of the world's fastest growing digital economies. IP has, therefore, become an increasingly important pillar in fostering creativity, encouraging investment, supporting entrepreneurs and driving sustainable economic growth throughout our region. In this context, ASEAN is implementing the ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Action Plan 2016–2025, with the aim of fostering an effective, enterprising and inclusive IP ecosystem. We invite all our partners to work with ASEAN as we pursue this shared vision and strengthen international cooperation in IP. As we implement this Action Plan, ASEAN remains focused on several important priorities. They include strengthening cooperation among ASEAN member States and our dialogue partners, improving communication and coordination, expanding engagement with innovators, universities, research institutions and MSMEs and making greater use of data and digital tools to improve the effectiveness and impact of our IP system. Successful, multi-role cooperation depends on the commitment of every Member State and partner to work together towards a common objective. We are pleased that WIPO has consistently supported ASEAN-led initiatives, while respecting our regional priorities and development needs. We would, therefore, like to express our sincere appreciation to the many WIPO divisions that have worked closely with ASEAN, including the Division for Asia and the Pacific, WIPO Singapore office, IP Office Business Solutions Division and IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector. Together, we have achieved significant milestones. The ASEAN IP Register has continued to expand and now contains more than 8.6 million IP assets recorded across four IPRs. WIPO also supported the first ASEAN retreat for heads of IP offices, creating an important platform for strategic dialogue among senior IP officials. Furthermore, the WIPO IP Management Clinic for SMEs Program has directly benefited more than 20,000 stakeholders across ASEAN, helping

businesses to better understand and leverage IP to make them more competitive. ASEAN welcomes the seven newly agreed areas of cooperation between ASEAN and WIPO, which demonstrate our shared commitment to addressing emerging challenges and opportunities in a rapidly evolving global innovation landscape. ASEAN stands ready to work closely with WIPO and all partners to ensure that this initiative delivers meaningful results.

16. [SAMOA](#): The Delegation of Samoa, speaking on behalf of the Pacific Island States and in alignment with the statement delivered on behalf of the APG, reaffirms its support for WIPO and for an inclusive, effective and responsive multilateral IP system that is grounded in dialogue, cooperation and development. As recognized in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the peoples, cultures, knowledge systems, biodiversity and natural resources are among its greatest strengths, underpinning its identity, resilience and sustainable development. For the Pacific, IP not only protects innovation but also supports economic resilience, cultural vitality and inclusive prosperity. The Group welcomes progress in WIPO's work, particularly the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (GRATK Treaty) and looks forward to its wider adoption and effective implementation. It is pleased to partner with WIPO and Australia to convene the Pacific Regional Implementation Workshop in Fiji in October 2026 to strengthen capacity on genetic resources (GRs) and associated traditional knowledge (TK). The Group continues to prioritize negotiations for the protection of TK and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs), a long-standing priority for the Pacific. Capacity-building for small island developing States (SIDS) remains essential, including technical assistance, institutional strengthening, digital transformation, innovation and creative industries. Also important is the meaningful participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in WIPO's work and the Group calls for sustained assistance for the participation of Pacific Island countries and other countries in the IGC, as well as in the WIPO Voluntary Fund and other initiatives. The international participation of countries in the Pacific in international development work is extremely important and the Group affirms its strong support of WIPO's work in international development. It looks forward to working with all Member States to strengthen WIPO as a responsive, inclusive and forward-looking Organization that delivers tangible development outcomes for all.

17. [ALGERIA](#): It is our wish that these Assemblies may constitute a new building block in the edifice of international cooperation and help to strengthen IP as an effective tool for development and prosperity. I take this opportunity to reiterate my congratulations to the Director General for the renewed confidence placed in him for a second term, which reflects the international community's appreciation of his clear vision for making IP a true driver of innovation and an economic pillar serving creators everywhere. Culture is a force that can shape the future. Algeria, therefore, places the protection of IP at the heart of its strategy for building a knowledge economy. Nurturing creators and safeguarding their rights is the key to transforming the abstract value of beauty into tangible projects with developmental impact, thereby facilitating investment in our young people's capabilities and turning them into sustainable economic assets. As part of that approach, and under the patronage of the President of the Republic, the Ministry of Culture and Arts continues to cultivate an environment conducive to cultural investment. The Moubadar'Art project is an incubator and support mechanism for creative projects. We have also strengthened mechanisms for celebrating excellence through the President of the Republic's Prize for Young Creators, which has become an annual occasion to celebrate Algerian talent. We continue to actively support start-ups in the cultural sector through ambitious initiatives aimed at linking heritage and innovation with the logic of modern entrepreneurship, in line with the goals of our national IP strategy, a focus of which are the creative industries. We believe in the unity of government vision and the complementarity of roles among the different sectors, and these cultural efforts are in harmony with an ambitious national approach adopted by Algeria to entrench a culture of innovation in all its dimensions. We are strengthening our national

system with a package of high-quality programs and initiatives, which includes developing business incubators, supporting start-ups and linking the latter with research institutions. Other initiatives include the President of the Republic's Prize for innovative researchers, the Success initiative for businesses and the establishment of TISCs in universities, all the way to the integrated implementation of the national IP strategy in the fields of scientific research and innovation. We take pride in the level of strategic cooperation that reinforces Algeria's place as an active and influential member of WIPO. In that regard, a high point came with the visit by the Director General to Algeria last September and the official opening of the WIPO Algeria Office, which will serve as a bridge for the transfer of expertise and the localization of knowledge. The Office will be the launch platform for a roadmap on building protection for the geographical indications and collective marks linked to our rich cultural and tourism heritage, in order to safeguard identity and the rights of future generations. In terms of regional cooperation, Algeria will consolidate its role as a key and constructive hub. Over the past years, more and more officials from African and Arab countries that are beneficiaries of WIPO programs have chosen Algeria for their training. The specialized courses provided are clear evidence of Algeria's leadership and reflect its firm aspiration to build an integrated African and Arab system in support of creative industries. Algeria remains committed to supporting the Organization's efforts to shape a fair and equitable global IP system, one that does not merely protect ideas, but also gives creators around the world the tools they need to transform their creativity into added value that serves humanity and turns beauty into a bridge of understanding among nations and peoples.

18. [ANGOLA](#): Allow me to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and acknowledge his contribution to strengthening the IP system at the international level. Angola also associates itself with the statements delivered by the delegations of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, Sao Tome and Principe on behalf of the CPLP, and Nepal on behalf of the Group of LDCs. Angola has consolidated its national innovation ecosystem. Especially noteworthy was the recent opening of the Technology and Science Park in Luanda, a strategic center for fostering research, technological innovation and the creation of tech companies, and promoting IPRs. It has already had a positive impact on the country's ranking in the Global Innovation Index (GII). As part of its cooperation with WIPO, Angola is implementing the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) program. This year, it obtained technical assistance under the Creators Learn IP (CLIP) program. We hope to see the implementation of a project for young musicians from Portuguese-speaking countries in 2027. We also have national initiatives to generate income from our cultural heritage and creative industries and are working with local communities to protect TCEs. In 2025, we started to roll out the Industrial Property Automation System (IPAS), which is designed to modernize and harmonize industrial property management. As part of WIPO support for countries in transition, Angola hosted a seminar on IP and youth innovation, strengthening our national capacity in that area. We reiterate our firm commitment to strengthening the IP system and promoting innovation and creativity as catalysts for sustainable development. Lastly, we call on WIPO to continue our joint efforts in the drafting of our national IP strategy, which will be a key instrument for consolidating a creativity and innovation ecosystem.

19. [ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA](#): The Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda extends its congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment. His inclusive and forward-looking leadership has made a significant contribution to the advancement of WIPO's mandate and the engagement of its Member States. We align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC and express our sincere appreciation to the various divisions of WIPO. We wish to underscore the importance of the Build Back Fund, which has resulted in the registration of Antigua and Barbuda's first three collective marks, in 2024, and, in 2025, the marketing of the Antigua and Barbuda Beekeepers Cooperative's (ABBC) honey products: Antigua and Barbuda wildflower honey and Barbuda logwood honey. In undertaking this project, we also wish to thank the WIPO Department for

Trademarks, Designs and Geographical Indications for its invaluable investment in the lives of our local beekeepers. This initiative has contributed to increased consumer interest in the cooperative and its honey products, while significantly expanding the digital reach of the ABBC. In its culmination, the Cooperative was formally presented in the Buzz to Brand symposium held in Antigua and Barbuda, with its branding and marketing assets marking the successful completion of the project. Moreover, in recognizing the importance of IP in the support of SMEs, Antigua and Barbuda has continued to engage with a range of institutional partners to strengthen IP awareness. A notable example of awareness-raising was the 2025 Women Entrepreneurs in the Caribbean Mentorship Program. This program, facilitated by WIPO, equipped 19 Antigua and Barbuda businesswomen with practical knowledge on leveraging IP to protect and grow their businesses. This initiative, as a result, has empowered our business community in the development of their products and services. In the realm of technological development, the support provided to Antigua and Barbuda in its transition to e-filing by the IP Office Business Solutions Division is noteworthy. This transition is important, as it already prioritized the training of our trademarks and patents staff in the operation of IPAS 4.0 and outlines the new features, functions and services which accompany the introduction of cloud-native. We are grateful for these valuable developments, as we aim to optimize user engagement. Antigua and Barbuda was pleased to commemorate World IP Day 2026 under the theme IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate. The Antigua and Barbuda Intellectual Property and Commerce Office, in partnership with the University of the West Indies Five Island Campus and Cricket West Indies, a global brand and the official governing body for cricket in the Caribbean, convened a national symposium on the relationship between IP and sporting achievement. The symposium also provided an opportunity to highlight Antigua and Barbuda's growing investments in sports development. This includes plans to establish a state-of-the-art cricket West Indies campus and a cricket museum, among other features dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of West Indies cricket. The observance of World IP Day was further enhanced by the launch of our Office's national primary and secondary school art competition. Encouraged by the engagement generated, Antigua and Barbuda remains committed to promoting IP awareness in all sectors of society. In closing, Antigua and Barbuda expresses its sincere appreciation to the Division for Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular the Section for Caribbean Countries, whose partnership has been instrumental in supporting our national initiatives and priorities. We trust that you will further strengthen this unit, as we remain committed to leveraging IP as a catalyst for sustainable development for present and future generations.

20. **ARGENTINA:** The Delegation of Argentina extends warm congratulations to the Director General on his re-election. Argentina attaches great importance to WIPO as the main multilateral forum for developing the international IP system, particularly valuing its role in technical cooperation and capacity-building. At the national level, Argentina has undertaken important reforms to modernize its IP system, updating patent guidelines in the chemical, pharmaceutical and biotech sectors to align them with international standards, simplifying trademark registration procedures and promoting the digitalization of its IP services. Its increased participation in WIPO's bodies demonstrates its commitment to building a stronger, more balanced and inclusive IP system, and it remains committed to strengthening regional cooperation, currently holding the acting presidency of the technical cooperation mechanism for industrial property offices of Latin America, PROSUR. Argentina thanks the Director General for WIPO's focus on technical cooperation and capacity-building. Projects implemented jointly with Argentina have strengthened national capacities and promoted better strategic use of IP by innovators, entrepreneurs and creators. While taking note of efforts made on geographical diversity among staff, Argentina remains concerned that this has not extended to senior leadership roles and encourages the Secretariat to explore all avenues to ensure a more equitable regional distribution, particularly in leadership positions.

21. [ARMENIA](#): Director General, the Delegation of Armenia congratulates you on your re-election and wishes you success. With your leadership, experience and vision, we are confident that WIPO will continue to make significant progress and we look forward to further strengthening our excellent cooperation. Armenia attaches great importance to IP as a key driver of innovation, creativity, technological advancement and sustainable economic development. Guided by this vision, we continue to strengthen our national IP ecosystem through legislative reforms, institutional development, capacity-building initiatives and international cooperation. Capacity-building remains one of our priorities. In cooperation with the WIPO Academy, our established national IP training institution serves as a national center for IP education, professional training and the development of expertise. It will become operational with a pilot launch of its training programs in September for beneficiaries and other interested stakeholders in the field of IP. The Intellectual Property Office of Armenia actively cooperates with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) under the EU-funded EU4IP project. Current joint activities also include the development of a new law on geographical indications, which is harmonized with recent European regulations. The positive impact of these reforms and partnerships is already becoming visible. As a result of sustained efforts to strengthen innovation and the IP system, Armenia has improved its ranking in the GII, rising to fifty-ninth place. Armenia reaffirms its determination to further strengthen the IP framework and to continue our cooperation with WIPO and all partners to advance a modern, effective and inclusive IP system that supports technological progress, economic development, education and the well-being of our societies.

22. [AUSTRIA](#): Austria fully aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States, and by the Delegation of Germany on behalf of Group B. Austria highly values WIPO's role in fostering innovation and economic development worldwide. We reiterate our congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment, and we confidently look forward to continuing our fruitful collaboration during his new term. In 2026, Austria has continued its efforts to strengthen the role of IP in supporting innovation and competitiveness. The industrial strategy adopted by the Government of Austria in January 2026 includes measures to extend the recognition of IP in the balance sheets of companies and to explore the use of intangible assets as collateral for loans. In 2025, the Austrian Patent Office focused on strengthening cooperation with universities and research institutions. A key milestone was the signing of an MoU with the Association of Technical Universities in Austria, whose member institutions are among the country's leading universities in terms of patent applications. Cooperation remains a key focus in 2026. Together with WIPO, the Austrian Patent Office is conducting a study on the use of IP by start-ups and SMEs, which is its focus topic for 2026. The findings will detail how start-ups and SMEs use the IP system, highlight potential barriers and support the development of tailored services. Austria looks forward to the extension of the appointment of the Austrian Patent Office as a PCT International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) for approximately 60 countries. Through that role and the Office's training activities for examiners and IP specialists, Austria is committed to strengthening international cooperation and contributing to an IP system that benefits society in the best possible way.

23. [AZERBAIJAN](#): I congratulate the Director General on his re-election. The development of IP in Azerbaijan is being implemented in accordance with the country's socioeconomic development strategy, digital development concept and AI strategy for 2025–2028. The increasingly interdisciplinary nature of IP is contributing to the innovation ecosystem and the institutional reform implemented by the country's President is making the Intellectual Property Agency of Azerbaijan a key player in development. The focus is on the philosophy of the results of intellectual activity, AI and IP, encompassing their mathematical origins and philosophical and legal aspects, the extent to which innovative potential is harvested and all interdisciplinary research conducted in collaboration with the IP departments in the country's

leading universities. At the core of this IP policy is the rethinking of IP itself, considering it not only an exclusive right but also an object endowed with this right. We are grateful to the WIPO Secretariat for including the Agency's structure and activities among the IP offices reflected in the WIPO Pathfinders Report. An AI board with consulting capability has been created and AI solutions for automating key patenting processes have been developed in collaboration with the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent). I am confident that sharing experiences within WIPO will contribute to the development of national IP systems.

24. **BAHAMAS:** https://webcast.wipo.int/video/A_68_2026-07-08_df472e4d-cafe-4017-aeb9-08ded6a77707?lang=en&startTime=9105.69https://webcast.wipo.int/video/A_68_2026-07-08_df472e4d-cafe-4017-aeb9-08ded6a77707?lang=en&startTime=9108.55 The Delegation of The Bahamas aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC and notes that, like many developing countries and SIDS, it faces capacity and resource challenges that have limited its development potential in such areas as the expansion of IP protection. The Bahamas is grateful for WIPO's technical assistance, which over the past year has enabled it to amend and modernize primary and subsidiary legislation on trademarks, patents, copyright and industrial designs, broaden trademark protection and introduce electronic applications. This assistance has also enabled the Bahamas to create a modern IP office and, for the first time since becoming independent 53 years ago, accede to six WIPO treaties: the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Agreement), the Vienna Agreement Establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Agreement), the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (Singapore Treaty), the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (Budapest Treaty), and, most recently, on May 19, 2026, the PCT, which will enter into force on August 19, 2026. The Bahamas also intends to deposit, later this week, instruments of accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT), the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) and the Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations (Rome Convention). It has completed substantive and subsidiary legislation on geographical indications, new plant varieties and integrated circuits, and is engaged in a workshop to facilitate the registration of its first geographical indication, Bahamian conch and drum. The Bahamas continues to place particular significance on the DA and on WIPO's training and capacity-building work, which aids resource-challenged countries in complying with WIPO treaties and expanding local IP protection and expresses its gratitude for the extensive support and technical assistance provided.

25. **BANGLADESH:** The Delegation of Bangladesh, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the APG, notes that at a time when innovation and emerging technologies, including AI, are creating new opportunities for development, the global IP system has to remain inclusive, balanced and development-oriented, incentivizing innovation to advance industrialization, technology transfer, public health, food security and sustainable development for developing countries, in particular LDCs. As Bangladesh prepares for graduation from LDC status, it views IP as an important enabler of its transition towards a diversified, knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy, and deeply appreciates WIPO's continued support through the Graduation Support Package. It encourages WIPO to further strengthen technical assistance and institutional capacity-building to help graduating and developing countries to ensure that their IP frameworks continue to support sustainable development, and appreciates the trilateral initiative involving WIPO, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) on utilizing flexibilities under the TRIPS Agreement, encouraging WIPO to undertake more of such initiatives. WIPO should provide more support for the marketing of geographical indication products; TK; creative industries; SMEs; women

entrepreneurs; youth; and start-ups. For LDCs, IP could become an effective tool for job creation, export diversification, rural enterprise development and broader participation in the global knowledge economy. The DA should remain at the core of the Organization's work, enabling IP to serve as a catalyst for inclusive economic growth and the achievement of the SDGs.

26. [BARBADOS](#): The Delegation of Barbados, aligning itself with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC, commends the Director General for his continued leadership and vision in guiding the Organization through an increasingly dynamic global IP landscape. Since the previous WIPO Assemblies, Barbados has embarked on an ambitious program to modernize its IP system as part of the Government's broader economic transformation agenda. The agenda is centered on the establishment of the Barbados Intellectual Property Office (BIPO), a State-owned enterprise created to improve the delivery of business registry and IP services while supporting investment, enterprise development and national competitiveness. This reform reflects the Government's recognition that IP is central to national development policy and economic transformation. Barbados is pursuing a vision of IP extending beyond registration and administration to the strategic creation of economic, social and cultural value. This vision is guided by three priorities: strengthening the role of IP as an economic development tool supporting commercialization, enterprise growth, investment attraction and intangible asset value; enhancing innovation and competitiveness through a national innovation ecosystem, including strengthened participation in global innovation measurement frameworks such as the GII; and unlocking the potential of its creative and knowledge-based sectors through the strategic use of copyright, branding, geographical indications and other IP assets. Over the past year, BIPO has undertaken a program of institutional strengthening, including investment in human resource development, digital transformation and process re-engineering. Barbados is working with WIPO on hosting a subregional seminar for Caribbean countries on the PCT and patent examination, as well as a regional enforcement seminar in collaboration with the WIPO Building Respect for IP Division, and looks forward to continued collaboration with WIPO as it enters this new phase in the development of its IP system. While institutional transformation brings challenges, it also presents a unique opportunity to build a modern, agile and development-oriented IP office capable of supporting innovation, investment and sustainable growth.

27. [BELARUS](#): The Delegation of Belarus reaffirms its commitment to building a balanced, inclusive and effective global IP ecosystem. We strongly believe that, at a time of rapid technological change, IP should be a powerful driver of scientific and technical progress, sustainable economic growth and achievement of the SDGs. Under the national strategy for 2030, the Belarusian IP system continues to show rapid growth, despite the external challenges facing the country. Over the past year, we achieved significant, tangible results on the path to digitalization and international integration. The Patent Office of Belarus has become one of the first institutions in the country to successfully digitize 100 per cent of its administrative procedures. This large-scale digital transformation has made State IP services as accessible, transparent and efficient as possible for users. Another important step in the development of the digital sector was our country's full membership of the WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS). Belarus has also successfully established a national TISC network; its active integration into the international eTISC platform was an important step in its development. Moreover, in close cooperation with WIPO experts, a key stage in the implementation of a model IP policy for Belarusian universities has been completed, and another WIPO summer school was successfully held in Minsk in June this year. The sustainable development of the global innovation system is not possible without adherence to the principles of fairness and mutual respect. In this regard, the Delegation of Belarus calls on Member States to focus on depoliticizing international discussions. We are deeply concerned by the continuing pressure arising from sanctions and attempts to use IP

mechanisms as type of unilateral coercive measures. Such actions undermine the basic principles of the international patent system and infringe the legitimate rights of creators and applicants around the world. Belarus calls for open, technical dialogue on an equal footing in WIPO committees, free from discrimination. We also strongly support the Organization's initiatives to facilitate access to IP tools for small businesses, women innovators and young people. Allow me to express my profound thanks to the Director General for his practical approach and the continuous expert support provided to Belarus. Our country will remain a loyal partner of WIPO, contribute constructively to the work of the Assemblies and continue to support joint work to benefit the entire global innovation community.

28. [BELIZE](#): The Delegation of Belize, aligning itself with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC, highlights several national developments. First, it is reviewing its Copyright Act 2000, with WIPO's technical assistance, to modernize its copyright framework in response to digital transformation, emerging technologies and the needs of the creative sector. In March 2026, Belize hosted a virtual IP workshop for start-ups and SMEs in Belize and Dominica, in collaboration with the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service and the Companies and Intellectual Property Office of Dominica, and also hosted the CARIFORUM Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation Project (CarlPI) regional event and the official launch of its phase 2, including the IP Systems and Geographical Indication Mentoring Program. Nationwide consultations on the Geographical Indications Bill 2026 have been successfully completed and the bill introduced to Parliament, a significant milestone in strengthening the protection of origin-based products and supporting rural and cultural development. On AI, Belize has strengthened its collaboration with the Belize Music Agency through an AI empowerment project to ensure that its artists and creators can navigate and benefit from emerging technologies. Belize has also made significant progress in improving efficiency in its IP system through an accelerated patent grant initiative, delivered IP mediation training for agents in October 2025 and recently introduced the WIPO e-filing system, a significant milestone in its digital transformation agenda. Belize reaffirms its support for the Director General's mandate and looks forward to continued cooperation with WIPO in advancing innovation, creativity and sustainable development to meet its needs.

29. [BENIN](#): The Delegation of Benin congratulates the Director General on his re-election and wishes him success. Benin aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group. IP is no longer just a specialized legal field but a strategic tool for economic transformation, aligned with Benin's ambition to build a more productive, innovation- and creativity-based economy through its new national development strategy, Vision Benin 2060, under which innovation is an essential pillar of development. Given that IP is at the core of several national priorities, major reforms are under way for the structural transformation of the economy, positioning IP as a tool for sustainable growth and a key part of public policy, which requires strong IP systems able to protect innovations. Benin accordingly welcomes WIPO's efforts to support developing countries, particularly in offering capacity-building for young innovators and supporting research centers, thereby helping to make the strategic use of IP more democratic and development-oriented. Benin thanks WIPO for helping to organize a week-long IP session in Cotonou in June 2025, bringing together national stakeholders to focus on managing IP effectively for sustained growth. Benin also welcomes progress within the Organization on GRs, TK and TCEs, which remain vital to ensuring appropriate protection of heritage and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits. On AI, the rapid progress observed opens new possibilities for innovation and creativity but also raises questions with regard to IP rights. Benin is following WIPO's work in this area closely and welcomes its initiatives to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to fully harness the opportunities offered by new technologies. Benin reiterates its attachment to multilateralism and to WIPO's key role in promoting a more balanced, inclusive and development-focused global IP system.

30. [BHUTAN](#): Bhutan warmly congratulates the Director General on his appointment for a second term. His leadership has strengthened WIPO's development-oriented vision and reinforced IP as a practical tool for innovation, creativity, enterprise growth and inclusive development. Bhutan's commitment to innovation and creativity continues to grow. This commitment is reflected in our new phase of economic transformation, including the establishment of the Gelephu Mindfulness City, the first-ever mindfulness-based city and a model for sustainable human and future-oriented civilization. In this journey, Bhutan will increasingly have to utilize IP tools to advance its national development philosophy of gross national happiness. Bhutan is also undertaking a comprehensive modernization of its IP framework, covering patents, designs, trademarks, geographical indications, copyright, TK, enforcement, digital administration and IP services. Our objective is to build a balanced, accessible and future-ready IP system that supports creators, enterprises, communities and the public interest. We deeply value WIPO's continued support in legislative development, capacity-building, IP office modernization, creative industry development and the use of IP for branding, market access and origin-linked products. Bhutan reaffirms its constructive engagement with WIPO and all Member States.

31. [BOTSWANA](#): Advances in AI, digital technologies, biotechnology and creative industries are reshaping how innovation is generated, protected and shared. While offering opportunities for economic growth and social progress, these advances also challenge us to ensure that the international IP system remains inclusive, balanced and responsive to the needs of all nations. Botswana is making strides in demystifying IP and fostering its recognition as a catalyst for economic advancement that is available and accessible to innovators, inventors, creators and other stakeholders. The dissemination of content, information and training through WIPO social media and web-enabled training platforms complements these efforts. We thank the Director General and the Secretariat for these tools. We reaffirm our commitment to cooperating with all WIPO Member States and the Secretariat to ensure that the benefits of IP reach people and communities in meaningful ways, empowering women, men, young people and Indigenous Peoples.

32. [BRAZIL](#): Brazil aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC and by the Delegation of Sao Tome and Principe on behalf of the CPLP. As we prepare for a second mandate with the Director General, whose re-election we supported with a strong vote of confidence, allow me to contribute with a perspective from Brazil. On governance, it is important to reaffirm the Member State-driven nature of this UN organization. I must be very candid. Brazil regrets that the proposed new senior management does not reflect proper renewal, rotation or geographical balance. We see increased representation of developed countries in the positions of Deputy Director General or Assistant Director General. Insufficient consideration has been given to technical expertise and in-house career service. The usual non-transparent methods of selection were followed. Member States were not informed about the candidates' identities or their qualifications. Gender balance was clearly not a consideration. An opportunity was lost to add a woman Deputy Director General or Assistant Director General and thereby finally achieve gender parity. We now have one less woman, with women constituting a mere 25 per cent of WIPO's senior team. Promotion within the ranks of the Organization could have sent a signal of the value placed on WIPO's own staff. As we approach the twentieth anniversary of the DA, Brazil recognizes the important work carried out by the Regional and National Development Sector, which has been the flagbearer for development in the Secretariat. However, the time has come to move the other equally important chapters of the DA forward, namely, those on norm-setting, flexibilities, public policy and public domain and access to knowledge. These are critical, substantive areas of the DA that have not been mainstreamed across WIPO activities and programs. This is a crucial pending mandate on which to start work. The next strategic framework should pick up from DA Recommendation 45, which itself picks up from Article 7 of the TRIPS Agreement. It states

that we must protect and enforce IPRs to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare and to a balance of rights and obligations. For the next six years, we must also adjust to a rapidly changing technological landscape, with all areas of human knowledge, creation and work affected by AI and its implications. IP will not be spared from the structural changes of AI. We need to incorporate formal work on AI in WIPO's standing bodies to harness AI for the common good and discuss how to prevent its malicious, unregulated use, concentrated in very few hands.

33. [BURKINA FASO](#): The Delegation of Burkina Faso, endorsing the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and pays tribute to his leadership. Despite a particularly challenging security situation, Burkina Faso, under the leadership of Head of State Captain Ibrahim Traoré, continues to pursue an ambitious policy to make IP and innovation engines of economic transformation, reflected in the promotion of local produce through a labeling system, the creation of the *Bāngr baoobo* research and innovation support fund and the Faso Andubè presidential initiative on strengthening research, innovation and technology transfer. The Government is also working to protect the IP of public and semi-public enterprises and to enhance the protection of copyright and the development of cultural and creative industries, including by strengthening its copyright office. Burkina Faso welcomes its excellent cooperation with WIPO and reiterates its commitment to deepen it further, including by implementing its national IP development strategy and strengthening its TISC, with a view to enhancing patent information and support for copyright, geographical indications and creative industries in order to pursue innovation-based sustainable and inclusive development. Burkina Faso reiterates its commitment to multilateralism and hopes that the Director General's second term will take into account fully the needs of LDCs.

34. [CABO VERDE](#): The Delegation of Cabo Verde, aligning itself with the statements delivered by Sao Tome and Principe on behalf of the CPLP and by South Africa on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and restates its confidence in his leadership in promoting IP as a tool for innovation, competitiveness and sustainable development. In a context marked by geopolitical and economic challenges, it is even more vital to strengthen an inclusive, balanced and development-focused international IP system in line with the DA and the 2030 Agenda. Cabo Verde continues to implement its national IP strategy and policies with WIPO's support through major initiatives intended to modernize the national IP system, including the adoption of a new Industrial Property Code, the digitalization of services through IPAS 4.0, the launch of an IP Lab project, the creation of a TISC network, and capacity-building initiatives for businesses, entrepreneurs, researchers and creators. At the international level, Cabo Verde has remained involved in multilateral cooperation and has held the presidency of the Portuguese-speaking industrial property network since January 2026, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening cooperation among Portuguese-speaking countries. It reiterates its support for the recognition of Portuguese as an official language at WIPO and emphasizes the importance of a multilingual system, including in the Madrid System, to facilitate access for businesses from developing countries to international IP protection mechanisms.

35. [CAMBODIA](#): We congratulate the Director General on his reappointment and wish him every success in leading WIPO through a period of profound technological and economic transformation. We look forward to supporting him and seeing his dreams become reality in the coming six years. Innovation is reshaping economies at an unprecedented pace. Yet, while innovation is becoming increasingly global, participation in innovation remains uneven. This, perhaps, is the defining challenge before us. As small countries advance towards becoming knowledge-based economies, the question is no longer simply how we strengthen IP systems. It is how we strengthen the innovation capabilities that those systems are

intended to support. Cambodia shares this perspective as we advance towards graduation from LDC status and pursue our vision for 2050. Our experience has reinforced the view that IP is most effective when it is part of a broader innovation ecosystem, one that connects research with enterprise, creativity with markets and innovators with opportunities. This requires more than sound legislation; it requires investment in people, stronger research institutions, dynamic start-ups and SMEs, digital transformation and partnerships that enable ideas to move from laboratories and workshops to the marketplace. In this context, the DA is entering an important new phase. While continuing to support strong and balanced IP systems, WIPO can play an even greater role in strengthening innovation ecosystems, supporting technological development and commercialization, enhancing institutional capacity and helping developing countries to participate more effectively in the global knowledge economy. Cambodia welcomes the successful conclusion of the GRATK Treaty and Riyadh Design Law Treaty (DLT). These achievements demonstrate that multilateral cooperation continues to deliver practical outcomes and remains essential in addressing emerging global challenges. As Chair of the AWGIPC, Cambodia remains committed to strengthening regional collaboration, promoting knowledge-sharing and advancing an innovation ecosystem that supports sustainable and inclusive growth across the ASEAN region. Cambodia hopes that the next chapters of the DA will focus on strengthening not only IP systems but also the capabilities that allow more innovators, more enterprises and more economies to participate meaningfully in the global innovation ecosystem. Cambodia stands ready to work with WIPO and all Member States in advancing that shared ambition.

36. [CAMEROON](#): The Delegation of Cameroon, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and assures him of its support in carrying out his mandate, commending his vision for IP as a lever for economic development, particularly for developing economies. Cameroon notes the Director General's plans for his second mandate, including the use of an application programming interface to encourage research and entrepreneurship and support to governments in making IP a vector for development. It appreciates his determination to continue providing capacity-building and technical assistance to Cameroon and to LDCs more broadly. His statement, made in Yaoundé in 2024, and in particular his appeal for innovation in the social goods and cultural sectors, inspired young people. Cameroon stands ready to participate constructively with WIPO and its bodies and is in the process of ratifying several WIPO-administered treaties.

37. [CANADA](#): Director General, Canada congratulates you on your reappointment and we look forward to continuing our close collaboration. Canada remains committed to engaging in constructive dialogue to promote an effective, balanced and inclusive IP system. We emphasize the importance of participating in WIPO work in a spirit of consensus and mutual respect. We assure you of our full support throughout these Assemblies. Canada thanks the Secretariat for its report on assistance to Ukraine (A/68/7). The Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) has recently launched a new business strategy that sets out a clear and forward-looking roadmap to advance the national priorities of Canada. To better support businesses, we have launched IP Central, our one-stop destination for starting an IP journey, and we have advanced significant initiatives to reduce red tape. Further, Canada is conducting an IP performance review to assess how our innovation ecosystem supports IP-intensive firms. We have also initiated public engagement on the possible expansion of our geographical indications regime to include crafts and industrial products. We are grateful for the strong collaboration between WIPO and CIPO, including the WIPO-CIPO Executive Training Program, IP management clinics and collaboration on CIPO's Annual IP Data and Research Conference. Looking ahead, it is essential to ensure that the IP system remains fit for purpose in the context of AI. Canada has recently launched its national "AI for All" strategy. This initiative is aimed at significantly scaling up the adoption of AI by domestic businesses while strengthening sovereign cloud infrastructure and

computing capacity. Canada looks forward to engaging with partners, including WIPO, on the evolving implications of AI for the international IP system.

38. [CHILE](#): The Delegation of Chile would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and wish him the very best of success. We align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC. We underscore the importance of consolidating an effective and balanced IP system that promotes creation, innovation and technological development, thereby contributing to the economic growth and development of all Member States. We firmly support the work of all committees and working groups that help us to achieve our objectives and align our standards to meet the challenges and opportunities of digitalization and AI. We also support the measurable implementation of the DA, which is essential for a coherent system suited to the needs of its members. In this context, we support technical, evidence-based discussions that lead to tangible improvements in our countries. The international registration systems are a core priority for this Organization. They must remain relevant, competitive and accessible for their users. Sound and appropriate institutional governance of a member-led Organization, guided by the principles of transparency and responsibility, is equally important. We therefore applaud the finalization of the selection process for sector leaders. We would like to congratulate the new senior officers and express our deep gratitude to their outgoing colleagues. We welcome the invaluable cooperation that has been offered to our National Industrial Property Institute (INAPI), in particular, underscoring such initiatives as those on IP-backed financing, protection of Magellanic wool, the INAPI Academy, WIPO GREEN and the renewal of INAPI's appointment as a PCT ISA and IPEA.

39. [COLOMBIA](#): The Delegation of Colombia extends warm congratulations to the Director General on his re-election, a clear reflection of Member States' continued confidence in his leadership. Colombia acknowledges the efforts made by the Director General in selecting his new team. It also underscores the importance of upholding the highest professional and ethical standards, and the need for staff to be promoted from within the Organization. It has full confidence in the Director General's judgment in presenting document WO/CC/86/1. Colombia is committed to gender equality and invites Member States to continue bridging gender gaps in their own countries and within WIPO. It welcomes the view of IP as a contributor to sustainable development, innovation and inclusion. That is why Colombia continues to support initiatives to consolidate a more balanced IP system that helps to achieve the SDGs and expands opportunities for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, young people and other historically excluded groups. At a time marked by significant challenges and an increasingly fragmented and polarized environment, Colombia reiterates its commitment to multilateralism, international cooperation and consensus-building – a State policy rooted in the principles of its 1991 Constitution – and its firm conviction that dialogue remains the best tool for facing common challenges. IP must be allowed to play its full role in promoting development, innovation, culture and the reduction of inequality, particularly for the benefit of countries of the global South. Colombia reiterates its commitment to a solid and balanced IP system and recognizes the importance of ongoing discussions in various WIPO bodies, including on patent flexibilities and their implications for public health and access to knowledge for development. The protection of its bio-cultural heritage is also a priority, requiring effective implementation of the GRATK Treaty. Finally, Colombia remains interested in advancing the implementation of the 2019 WIPO Assembly decision to establish a WIPO external office in Colombia and hopes that the process can continue for the benefit of Colombia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

40. [CONGO](#): The Delegation of Congo, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his re-election. The Government of Congo notes with satisfaction WIPO's efforts to

encourage the creation of innovation ecosystems in all regions of the world, and is launching an official IP window in the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Agriculture and Trades. This is the result of a joint initiative with WIPO to help SMEs, start-ups and export-oriented businesses to maximize the advantages of the IP system by including it strategically in their trade activities. Congo took part in the second conference of heads of national IP offices and organizations of OAPI Member States, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire on June 4 and 5, 2026. One of the points discussed was strengthening technical assistance in IP between WIPO and OAPI. Congo supports all efforts to strengthen the partnership between the two organizations.

41. [CÔTE D'IVOIRE](#): The Delegation of Côte d'Ivoire aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the groups to which it belongs and thanks the Director General for his leadership and consistent commitment to an inclusive and development-oriented global IP system. The Ivorian Government is particularly grateful for the Director General's recent official visit to Côte d'Ivoire, which has helped to deepen cooperation between it and WIPO. In the context of the implementation of Vision 2030 and the country's national development strategy, Côte d'Ivoire pays particular attention to promoting innovation, developing creative industries, promoting GRs and TK, and helping SMEs to use IP tools to boost competitiveness. The Delegation welcomes the progress made by the SCCR, in particular with regard to copyright limitations and exceptions, and specifically the adoption of the proposal for a study on the rights of audiovisual authors and remuneration for the exploitation of their works. The Delegation hopes that the same approach will be taken at the Committee's next meeting to the African Group's proposal for a study on the situation of audiovisual performers. Côte d'Ivoire wishes to acknowledge WIPO's ongoing support, particularly in terms of capacity-building, the digitalization of IP services and the development of TISCs. It commends WIPO on its efforts to promote diversity and gender equality within the Organization and urges it to continue working towards a more balanced geographical representation of Member States. Côte d'Ivoire reaffirms its readiness to participate constructively in the work of these Assemblies to achieve concrete, consensual and mutually beneficial results.

42. [CUBA](#): The Delegation of Cuba congratulates the Director General on his re-election. Cuba extends its condolences to the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela following the recent earthquake in that country. Economic development remains a formidable challenge, and Cuba is seeking synergies through effective multilateralism at WIPO, essential to using IP as a tool for development. In a world where economic uncertainty, pervasive digital innovation and societal changes are an indisputable reality, coordination and cooperation among all Member States, together with support for those at lower levels of development, must take precedence. In forums committed to maintaining and strengthening effective multilateralism, such as in WIPO, it is essential that IP be positioned as a tool for development. Cuba is facing an unprecedented crisis due to the severe and ongoing effects of the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed on it by the United States of America. In addition to the intensification of the blockade to extreme levels and the threat of military aggression, there is the energy blockade and the application of so-called extraterritorial secondary sanctions. These are criminal acts that violate international law. The United States seeks to impose on the world the obligation to comply with the blockade against Cuba. The energy blockade and financial restrictions are devastating vital sectors of the country's life, constituting a policy of collective punishment. In these complex circumstances, Cuba reaffirms its strategy of resistance and the development of its science and IP system to ensure national well-being. Despite the adverse circumstances, new science and technology parks, technology-based companies and high-tech firms are being created and priority is being given to science- and innovation-based governance, which requires robust protection and management of IP assets. In the same vein, the General Act on Science, Technology and Innovation was approved in December 2025, recognizing both

cutting-edge science and innovation based on practical experience. Legislative Decree No. 103 on Trademarks and Trade Names, which will enter into force on August 8, 2026, will modernize the protection of these intangible assets. In 2026, Cuba will accede to the Marrakesh Treaty, thereby demonstrating its commitment to ensuring the full and effective participation of people with this disability and their inclusion in society. Cuba is grateful to WIPO for its work in building national capacity. It also appreciates the contribution of the Madrid and PCT sectors and acknowledges the work of the WIPO Academy.

43. [CYPRUS](#): The Delegation of Cyprus congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, which reflects the confidence of Member States in his leadership and vision. This year is particularly significant for Cyprus, which held the Presidency of the Council of the EU during the first half of 2026. Under the motto “An autonomous Union, Open to the World”, the Cyprus Presidency has worked to promote an IP framework supporting European innovation, competitiveness and creativity while remaining open to global technological and digital developments, and has advanced discussion on the patent package, in particular work towards a streamlined supplementary protection certificate (SPC) system for medical and plant protection products – a reform intended to simplify the current SPC framework, reduce the administrative burden and market fragmentation, and provide greater predictability and legal certainty for innovators, while strengthening Europe’s attractiveness for research, innovation and investment in the pharmaceutical and plant protection sectors. Through intensive technical work with Member States and the European Commission, a shared understanding has been developed on key aspects of the issue, and while important work remains, the discussions held during the Cyprus Presidency have laid a constructive foundation for advancing the SPC reform. Under the Cyprus Presidency, discussions also continued on copyright matters, recognizing the importance of a balanced and future-proof framework that supports creators, rights holders and creative industries in the evolving digital environment, and has coordinated closely with the Commission on the preparation and representation of the EU’s position in meetings at WIPO. Cyprus remains committed to multilateralism and to WIPO’s central role in the global IP system, and reaffirms its full support for WIPO’s mission. It continues to support initiatives that foster innovation, empower creators and businesses and ensure that the benefits of IP are shared broadly across society.

44. [DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): On behalf of the Delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, I would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election. Today, the world faces unprecedented challenges, such as climate change, water shortages and the emergence of new infectious diseases. Science and technology, together with IP, therefore remain key to achieving the SDGs, promoting economic and cultural development and providing people with sustainable livelihoods. For WIPO to fulfill its mission of promoting the creation and circulation of IP assets, attention should be paid to the following issues. First, it should perfect the IP protection system in developing countries and actively support them so that they can substantially benefit from IP. Second, as clarified in the DA, more attention should be paid to achieving a balance between obligations and rights in IP protection. Under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Jong-un, President of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, our Government is directing considerable attention to IP protection, with science and technology at the core of its strategy to confidently pave the way towards national prosperity through self-reliance. We adopted the Act on IPRs, the basic law on the IP sector, in September 2025. It laid robust legal foundations for protecting the rights of the creators of intellectual assets. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has organically combined the development of science and technology with production and established a social atmosphere of valuing and giving preferential treatment to those who contribute to the country with new technology. We have also actively introduced AI and other advanced science and technology management activities. The Government is committed to actively promoting the development

of the economy, science and technology, and culture by further perfecting the national IP protection system. We will cooperate closely with WIPO and Member States in this endeavor.

45. [DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO](#): The Democratic Republic of the Congo supports the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf the African Group. We share the vision of an international IP system that is balanced, inclusive and development-oriented. We commend the Director General and the Secretariat for helping Member States to build a modern and accessible IP environment. On the sixty-sixth anniversary of our independence, the Democratic Republic of the Congo reiterates that sovereignty is built through work, science and innovation. Encouraged by the President of the Republic and the head of the Government, our country has built a national innovation ecosystem driven by the Congo Scientific Engineering Incubator. This incubator strengthens scientific governance, legally secures inventions and incorporates international industry standards as well as promoting local innovation. A number of initiatives reflect this commitment: the cassava industry nursery at the University of Kinshasa; in-house units at universities and research centers for bringing prototypes to industrial production; industry internships for developing skills to ensure that they meet international standards; and the official granting of patents, which will take place on July 15, 2026. These initiatives fully align with the priorities of the African Group: capacity-building, technology transfer and promotion of local talent. We would also like to announce that the third Congolese Scientific Engineering Forum will be held in Kinshasa in August this year, under the patronage of the President: all WIPO Member States are invited to attend. The country has just marked its historic return to the football World Cup after a 52-year absence, highlighting the quality of our talent and our national unity. Sport, which is a truly global creative industry, is largely based on IP, trademarks, audiovisual rights, technological innovation, industrial designs and digital creation. For the Democratic Republic of the Congo, this momentum represents an opportunity to create wealth, promote youth entrepreneurship and develop an innovative sports economy. We encourage WIPO to continue its initiatives relating to the protection of sports trademarks, support for sport tech start-ups and efforts to combat counterfeiting. Emerging technologies, including AI, smart devices and virtual reality, are profoundly transforming creativity and innovation. We must adapt the international IP system in order to ensure innovation, equitable access to technology and reduced inequality. The Democratic Republic of the Congo remains committed to working together with WIPO, the Member States and the African Group in order to make IP a catalyst for the development of sport, innovation, creativity, youth employment and economic growth.

46. [DJIBOUTI](#): Djibouti aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Group of LDCs. The Delegation of Djibouti would like to congratulate the Director General on the renewal of his mandate to lead this Organization and wish him every success. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to WIPO for its consistent support in the development of our national IP system. In recent years, with technical support from WIPO, the Djibouti Industrial and Commercial Property Office (ODPIC) has made significant progress. In 2024, ODPIC developed the first national IP strategy, a roadmap for IP development in Djibouti. It is based on seven priority actions, the implementation of which is progressing well, with the continuous support of WIPO. Among the main achievements are the drafting of an institutional policy on IP at the University of Djibouti, the installation of the IPAS 4.0 system to modernize IP filing management, and work to revise the national legislative framework with a view to bringing it into line with international best practices. ODPIC is also pleased to note that, in 2024, Djibouti acceded to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications. In this context, a new project aiming to identify, map and promote Djibouti products with geographical indication potential will soon be launched with the support of WIPO. ODPIC is also proud to have recently completed the IP for Her project, which facilitates support for women artisans

and culminated in the creation of six collective trademarks in the craft sector, thereby illustrating the role of IP in women's economic empowerment. ODPIC also continues to benefit from the support of WIPO in developing its TISC network, with the aim of strengthening national capabilities in respect of innovation, research and technology transfer. Djibouti reiterates its commitment to continue its excellent cooperation with WIPO in order to make IP a driver of economic development, innovation and competitiveness.

47. [DOMINICA](#): The Delegation of Dominica extends its warmest congratulations to the Director General on his appointment for a second term. Dominica aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC and notes that, for Dominica, IP is increasingly recognized not simply as legal protection but as a driver of innovation, entrepreneurship, opportunity, cultural preservation, resilience and the empowerment of women, young people and communities. This transformation has been made possible through Dominica's growing partnership with WIPO. Over the past year, WIPO has worked closely with Dominica to deliver capacity-building programs benefiting creators, entrepreneurs, innovators, authors, athletes, persons with disabilities, young people and small businesses, including a national creative industries workshop and the Caribbean Creative Industries Forum, which strengthened the capacity of its IP office while demonstrating how IP can unlock the economic potential of the Caribbean's creative sector. Dominica has also participated actively in the CDIP, presenting a proposal on leveraging IP systems for climate resilience. Although the proposal was not approved during the previous session, it received strong support from many Member States and Dominica looks forward to its reconsideration at the next session. For SIDS, today more than ever, the work of the CDIP remains indispensable in ensuring that development remains central to all IP systems. Recognizing the importance of strengthening our publishing sector, WIPO has partnered with Dominica to host a webinar series on publishing, providing authors, publishers and aspiring writers with practical guidance on copyright and publishing. Moreover, Dominica's entrepreneurs have benefited from an IP awareness program for SMEs developed in collaboration with Belize, contributing to a notable increase in domestic IP registrations, along with further regional programs supporting AI innovation among young people. The program generated significant interest and contributed to a notable increase in domestic IP registrations. Given the overwhelming interest it generated and its results, Dominica looks forward to conducting another such program. Dominica also appreciated and welcomed more regional IP programs, which provided opportunities for young Dominicans to grow, excel and showcase their AI innovations. These initiatives represent only a portion of WIPO's support for Dominica, yet they clearly demonstrate how meaningful cooperation translates into tangible national development. One of WIPO's greatest strengths is its ability to bring countries together to exchange knowledge, share best practices and address common challenges through its collaboration with institutions. Dominica's experience demonstrates that IP touches every citizen. It supports the musician seeking a global audience, the entrepreneur building a business, the athlete protecting a personal brand, the author publishing a first book, the innovator developing climate smart technologies, the farmer improving resilience, women supporting families and communities, young people driven by AI innovation and students accessing knowledge regardless of their disability. Dominica expresses its sincere appreciation to WIPO, whose continued partnership, technical assistance and responsiveness have been instrumental in advancing our national priorities. It affirms its commitment to working closely with WIPO and all Member States to ensure that IP continues to serve as a catalyst for innovation, sustainable development, climate resilience and inclusive economic growth for all.

48. [DOMINICAN REPUBLIC](#): In recent years, the Dominican Republic has taken meaningful steps to consolidate a holistic IP ecosystem, going beyond mere legal protection to provide mechanisms for transforming ideas into practical opportunities and boosting creativity and innovation for competitiveness and economic growth. It launched its national IP

strategy in February 2025 with WIPO's support, providing a roadmap for incorporating innovation, creativity and IP as key components of sustainable and inclusive growth. This strategy brings together the academic sector, private sector and civil society to promote innovation, protect intangible assets and strengthen productive capacities. It includes an industrial property program for women entrepreneurs and a summer camp for young innovators that has brought together hundreds of young people to promote interest in science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship. The Dominican Republic reiterates its commitment to WIPO and the Director General, and to a balanced, inclusive and development-focused IP system.

49. [ECUADOR](#): Ecuador aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC. Ecuador would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election, in acknowledgment of his leadership and vision to boost development as a cross-cutting pillar of the international IP system. In line with this vision, the National Intellectual Property Rights Service (SENADI) in Ecuador is promoting management aimed at modernizing its services, protecting IPRs and bringing IP closer to all sectors of society. During the past year, SENADI has made progress in digitalizing its services, improving industrial property management systems, strengthening enforcement to combat digital piracy, protecting copyright and TK, and strengthening the SENADI Academy, a national platform for specialized IP training. Such progress has been made possible thanks to the ongoing support of WIPO. We would specifically like to acknowledge the official visit made by the Director General in October 2025, which enabled us to strengthen strategic dialogue on cooperation. The country reiterates its interest in continuing to boost the projects discussed, as well as new initiatives on capacity-building, digital transformation and the responsible inclusion of emerging technologies, including AI. Ecuador would like to reaffirm its commitment to continuing to work constructively with WIPO and its Member States, with the conviction that IP is an essential means of promoting innovation, inclusion and development for the benefit of all of society.

50. [EGYPT](#): The Delegation of Egypt aligns itself with the statements made by the regional groups to which it belongs, and appreciates the ongoing work of the Secretariat on strengthening the global IP system. Egypt is steadily implementing its national IP strategy, given the pivotal role of IP in supporting innovation and creativity, strengthening the knowledge-based economy, and achieving the SDGs. The Egyptian Intellectual Property Authority is close to completion of the transitional phase to operationalize the various IP offices under its umbrella, thereby establishing a unified national system to manage all IPRs more efficiently and in line with best international practices. Egypt is also moving forward in its review of the legislative framework for IP to ensure that it keeps pace with rapid technological and economic developments, thereby fostering an environment of innovation and investment and responding to the challenges and opportunities posed by modern technologies, foremost among them AI. Egypt attaches particular importance to implementing the third goal of the national IP strategy, on maximizing the economic returns of IP. It is implementing a comprehensive package of programs and initiatives in coordination with ministries and relevant entities in a number of priority sectors, with the aim of transforming intellectual assets into added economic value and a driver of growth and development. Egypt is also continuing to implement an ambitious digital transformation program for all IP offices, thereby enabling integrated digital services, improving procedural efficiency, and enhancing the quality of services provided. Egypt values its close partnership with WIPO, which over the past year has resulted in the implementation of many important initiatives and projects. We look forward to the continuation of this constructive cooperation in ways that support our development priorities and contribute to strengthening our national IP system. In this regard, we extend our thanks to the Director General and the Organization's various sectors, in particular the Regional and National Development Sector and the Division for Arab Countries. Egypt reaffirms its firm commitment to supporting joint efforts so that IP

remains an effective tool for protecting innovation and achieving sustainable development and prosperity. We look forward to continuing to work with you, Director General, during your second term and with all Member States to build on the Organization's achievements. Our aim should be to make WIPO better able to meet the needs of Member States, serve the community of innovators and creators, and keep pace with rapid technological developments, above all AI. At the same time, we should continue to strengthen the pillars of sound governance, modernize the international registration systems and enhance the Organization's development role in response to the needs of developing countries and LDCs. In that way, we can ensure that the IP system remains fit for the future, responsive to opportunities and capable of overcoming challenges.

51. [EL SALVADOR](#): The Delegation of El Salvador, associating itself with the statement delivered on behalf of GRULAC and with the intervention of the Secretary *pro tempore* of the Ministerial Forum for IP in Central American Countries and the Dominican Republic, reiterates its commitment to a balanced, inclusive and development-focused IP system, and welcomes WIPO's support for Member States through technical cooperation and capacity-building, including its commitment to ensuring that the benefits of IP reach MSMEs, entrepreneurs, women and young people. El Salvador continues to modernize its institutions through innovation, digital transformation and improved efficiency of public services; a new IP law has modernized its legal framework and strengthened protection for intangible assets, and IP and copyright applications have increased, with the national IP office recording a 35 per cent rise in services provided in 2025. El Salvador has ratified the Riyadh DLT and joined the Patent Law Treaty (PLT), the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs, and the Singapore Treaty, reiterating its commitment to modernizing its IP system and fully integrating into the international system. It thanks WIPO for its support in implementing its national IP strategy, a project on systematizing IP statistics, and its inclusion in a CDIP project on alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms. As the Secretariat of the Subregional Forum of Ministers of Central America and the Dominican Republic, El Salvador welcomes close cooperation with WIPO on regional initiatives promoting the strategic use of IP for development, and congratulates the Director General on his re-election, welcoming his continued support for national and regional priorities and looking forward to his forthcoming visit to the Subregional Forum in October.

52. [ESTONIA](#): Estonia appreciates WIPO's efforts to ensure that innovation and IP remain powerful drivers of sustainable growth, competitiveness and prosperity. For Estonia, innovation is not an abstract ambition. It is a practical choice. We built our digital State because we had to be efficient, open and trusted. Today, our strength lies in a trust-based society, efficient digital public services, transparent governance and a business environment that allows ideas to move quickly from concept to market. This is also how we look at IP. A strong IP system is not only about protection. It is a strategic enabler of innovation, investment and resilience. Estonia is now taking the next steps. Through initiatives such as AI Leap, we are bringing AI into education and preparing students and teachers for the skills of the future. We are also exploring the next generation of digital government, the age of AI agents or the agentic State. AI agents will increasingly support public services, business processes, research and creative work. This creates new opportunities for productivity and accessibility, but it also raises important questions. Who owns AI-assisted outputs? How do we protect human creativity? How do we ensure accountability and how can IP systems remain trusted when the nature of creation itself is changing? These are questions that no country can answer alone. We welcome WIPO's balanced and forward-looking work in facilitating international dialogue on AI and IP. Estonia is ready to contribute to this discussion with our experience in digital government, digital identity, cybersecurity, start-ups and private sector innovation. Our cooperation with companies goes far beyond one sector. It includes digital services, AI, data, cybersecurity, creative technologies and cross-border

solutions that help to protect and scale innovation. Innovation must also be inclusive. Women, young innovators, SMEs and start-ups must have the skills and confidence to use IP strategically. Estonia strongly supports WIPO's work to bring IP closer to people, starting at the grassroots level. We are proud to cooperate with WIPO on the pilot project IP and Careers, which connects IP knowledge with future skills and career opportunities. Estonia also stands firmly with Ukraine. We welcome the renewal of the MoU between WIPO and Ukraine, which supports Ukraine's IP system and innovation ecosystem. Russia's ongoing war of aggression has caused severe damage to Ukraine's institutions, economy and creative sector. Given Russia's violation of international law, the continued activities of the WIPO external office in Moscow remain a matter of deep concern. Estonia reaffirms its full condemnation of Russia's war of aggression and calls for the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Despite the war, Ukraine and innovators continue to build, create and adapt. Supporting Ukraine's IP system is an investment in resilience, recovery and our shared future. Estonia will continue to support ambitious work on AI, IP, digital transformation and international cooperation with WIPO and all Member States that share this ambition to protect ideas, empower innovators and turn innovation into prosperity for all.

53. [ESWATINI](#): The Delegation of Eswatini aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group. My Delegation extends its appreciation to the Director General and the Secretariat for their unwavering commitment to supporting Member States in building balanced, inclusive and effective IP systems. Eswatini remains steadfast in its commitment to a rules-based multilateral IP system that promotes innovation, creativity, technology transfer and sustainable economic development. IP is not merely a legal framework for protecting rights but a strategic instrument for industrialization, entrepreneurship, cultural development and the realization of national development aspirations. In line with this vision, Eswatini continues to strengthen its IP ecosystem through institutional reforms, stakeholder engagement, public awareness-raising initiatives and the modernization of its legislative and administrative frameworks. Our efforts are aimed at ensuring that the IP system serves creators, innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers, businesses and local communities, while fostering an enabling environment for investment and economic growth. We are particularly grateful for WIPO's continued support for technical cooperation and capacity-building, which has significantly contributed to strengthening our national IP infrastructure. We reaffirm our commitment to working closely with WIPO in advancing initiatives that enhance innovation, facilitate the commercialization of intellectual assets, promote respect for IPRs and empower young people, women, SMEs and creative industries. As digital technologies continue to reshape economies and societies, Eswatini recognizes the importance of ensuring that the international IP system remains responsive to emerging technologies while maintaining an appropriate balance between the interests of rights holders and broader public interests. We therefore support constructive dialogue within WIPO on issues relating to digital transformation, AI, TK, GRs and the evolving global innovation landscape. Eswatini welcomes the continued progress made under WIPO's normative agenda and reiterates the importance of inclusive negotiations that take into account the different capacities and development levels of Member States. Eswatini stands ready to engage constructively throughout these Assemblies and looks forward to productive deliberations that strengthen the global IP system for the benefit of all.

54. [ETHIOPIA](#): The Delegation of Ethiopia, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, warmly congratulates the Director General on his election for a second term and commends his visionary leadership during his first, which strengthened WIPO as a responsive, inclusive and forward-looking organization. Ethiopia appreciates his visit to the country and meeting with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in 2025, which further reinforced the strong partnership between Ethiopia and WIPO. Ethiopia stands at a pivotal moment of economic and legal transformation, having

embarked on bold macroeconomic reforms to foster sustainable growth, enhance competitiveness and deepen its integration into the global economy, creating an enabling environment for innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship. In parallel, Ethiopia is modernizing its IP legal framework to align with international standards and best practices, strengthening its IP system to provide effective protection for inventors, creators and innovators while maintaining an appropriate balance with the public interest, including access to knowledge and technology. It is actively working towards joining the Paris Union and the Madrid Union, is at the final stage of acceding to the PCT and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, and is actively supporting implementation of the Protocol to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on Intellectual Property Rights. These milestones will strengthen the protection of Ethiopian innovation, TK and TCEs, while promoting technology transfer and investment. Ethiopia is also making steady progress towards joining the WTO, in which IP protection plays a critical role in ensuring fair competition, encouraging investment and supporting its industrialization agenda. Ethiopia views IP not merely as a legal framework but as a strategic instrument for development and believes that a robust IP system is indispensable to achieving its national vision of becoming a middle-income country and to contributing to the global knowledge economy.

55. [FINLAND](#): The Delegation of Finland, aligning itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States, and by the Delegation of Germany on behalf of Group B, looks forward to WIPO's continued work under the Director General's leadership for a further six years and congratulates him on his achievement. The efficient operation of the IP framework is crucial for future generations of inventors and creators. Finland supports WIPO's work on the future of IP, including AI: while AI's development offers opportunities, its negative impacts, including on creative human creators, should also be alleviated, and a human-centric approach should be safeguarded by exchanging best practices between Member States. Finland believes that interoperable, trustworthy IP data is fundamental for all IP sectors, and has worked intensively with the Copyright Infrastructure Task Force, which will hand over its status report during the session; it invites Members to consider ways to develop an open data framework for copyright data in close cooperation with cultural and creative industries. On industrial property, continued work is needed to make data more uniform and accessible worldwide. On the normative agenda, Finland is pleased that the IGC is working under its mandate for 2026 and 2027, and stresses the importance of continuing exchanges based on practical experience at the national and regional levels, including from Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Finally, Finland highlights the key role of the PCT System within WIPO and looks forward to the extension of the appointment of international authorities during the session.

56. [FRANCE](#): France aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the EU and its member States and on behalf of Group B. Director General, allow me, first of all, to extend our warmest congratulations on your re-election. This renewed confidence attests to unanimous recognition of your work and your vision for the Organization. We also welcome the excellent results presented during the most recent session of the PBC, which are evidence of the Organization's dynamism and sound management. In a context of profound economic and technological change, France reaffirms its steadfast commitment to the key role of WIPO. More than ever, the world needs an international IP protection system that is balanced and accessible to all. In this respect, we reiterate our full support for the WIPO-administered international systems, which are essential for both rights holders and Member States. We underscore the importance of supporting the newest IP systems, such as the Lisbon System, by giving them the time needed to achieve their full potential. Geographical indications remain far more than a mere IPR. They are an excellent tool for development and a means of showcasing local knowledge. Under the Director General's leadership, WIPO is continuing to be a driving force, supporting companies, researchers and

creators in promoting their innovations worldwide. The work being carried out on emerging challenges, in particular those relating to AI, is vital. It must be conducted in a spirit of openness, inclusion and consensus, which is the strength of the Organization. Director General, please rest assured that France will remain by your side in building an ever more effective and inclusive multilateral ecosystem serving innovation, creativity and sustainable development for all Member States.

57. [GABON](#): On behalf of the Delegation of Gabon, I would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and to note his significant achievements since taking office at the head of this Organization. My Delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group. Gabon has begun the process of ratifying the GRATK Treaty, in the belief that it is an essential tool for making the patent system more transparent and combating the misappropriation of GRs and TK. In this regard, we would like to draw the Organization's attention to the risks of biopiracy connected with the exploitation and commercialization of ibogaine products made from the iboga plant, the benefits of which are well known. The Government of Gabon has recently adopted a law to protect this resource, which is part of Gabon's national strategic heritage, and calls for the support of WIPO and its partners in strengthening this legal protection and the promotion of the law. Gabon is continuing to cooperate with WIPO through the preparation of its national IP strategy and the forthcoming establishment of a TISC. This demonstrates the excellent quality of our partnership with the Organization.

58. [GAMBIA](#): The Delegation of the Gambia, aligning itself fully with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, extends warm congratulations to the Director General on his re-election, a testament to Member States' confidence in his vision for a dynamic, inclusive and development-oriented global IP ecosystem. The Gambia acknowledges WIPO's valuable support across various sectors, particularly commending the WIPO project on using IP to reduce work-related injuries and occupational diseases, which demonstrates the practical, cross-cutting relevance of IP in improving workplace safety and supporting national development priorities. It also welcomes WIPO's continued collaboration with ARIPO, which is essential for strengthening regional IP systems and ensuring that ARIPO member States, including the Gambia, benefit from harmonized frameworks, capacity-building and technical assistance. It also expresses appreciation to the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for a recent workshop on plant variety protection conducted in partnership with ARIPO, which is critical for agricultural innovation, food security and the empowerment of breeders and farmers. The Gambia remains committed to strengthening its national IP framework, including through ongoing reforms, institutional capacity-building and public awareness-raising initiatives, and looks forward to working closely with WIPO, ARIPO, UPOV and all Member States to advance a balanced, inclusive and development-driven global IP system.

59. [GEORGIA](#): First and foremost, I would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and express gratitude to him and the entire WIPO team for their continued support, which is making a significant contribution to the development and strengthening of the IP system in Georgia. With the support of the WIPO Academy and the Director General personally, the International Master's Program in IP, Innovation and Entrepreneurship was introduced in Georgia; this year we will celebrate the graduation of its fourth cohort of students. Also this year, the IP Education and Training Center of the National IP Center of Georgia (Sakpatenti) will open in Kutaisi in a new building equipped with modern and innovative technologies. Last year, for the first time since 2014, the qualification examination for patent attorneys was held. That is a significant component of the fundamental reform of the institution of patent attorneys; 28 candidates passed the qualification examination. Georgia successfully hosted a regional conference on the economics of design, the

Riyadh DLT and the Hague System, jointly organized by WIPO and Sakpatenti. In addition, Georgia has acceded to the Riyadh DLT and it is my great honor to hand over the instrument of accession to the Director General. With WIPO's support, we are also working on Georgian accession to the PLT.

60. [GERMANY](#): I wish to congratulate you, Director General, on your reappointment and to assure you that we will closely follow the direction the Organization takes and intervene whenever we deem it necessary. Germany is committed to engaging constructively in the forthcoming deliberations. We are aligned with the positions expressed on behalf of Group B and the EU, and we reaffirm our solidarity with Ukraine. In times of geopolitical uncertainty, the importance of neutral global forums for technical discussion among experts cannot be overstated. WIPO has the mandate to bring us together to identify ways of effecting progress through innovation and IP. It is our common goal and our collective responsibility as Member States to ensure that WIPO can continue to deliver on its important mission. In this context, the services that WIPO delivers to innovators are of key importance to the global IP community, as evidenced by global demand, and they also provide the necessary financial means for WIPO to continue delivering on its mission. It is therefore a key priority to modernize and strengthen all pillars of WIPO services, including the PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems, and the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. The successful implementation of WIPO's mission depends on the recruitment and retention of highly qualified staff. In this regard, merit should remain the guiding principle in staff selection. At the same time, the importance of gender parity and equitable geographical representation should be duly recognized, taking into account the contributions of individual Member States, including through their use of WIPO systems and in line with the principles of geographical distribution, as established in 1975.

61. [GHANA](#): Ghana aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group, and warmly congratulates the Director General on his re-election. His renewed mandate is a clear reflection of Member States' confidence in his leadership and vision to make IP a practical tool for innovation, enterprise growth, cultural preservation and sustainable development. Ghana appreciates WIPO's sustained support, particularly in the successful implementation of the Kente Project and other capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening Ghana's national IP ecosystem. Last year, Ghana launched the Kente Project as a geographical indication. This important milestone will help to protect the authenticity and global visibility of one of Ghana's most cherished cultural expressions. It also demonstrates the practical value of IP in protecting TK, supporting local communities, protecting rural livelihoods and advancing cultural industries. Ghana remains committed to the principles and objectives of WIPO and to a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented international IP system. The importance of capacity-building, technical assistance, innovation support and effective participation of developing countries in the global IP system cannot be overstated. Ghana appreciates WIPO's continued partnership and welcomes initiatives that further enhance innovation, creativity and enterprise development in developing countries, including through the WIPO Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program, under which Ghana submitted a project that has since been selected for implementation. We look forward to fruitful deliberation and constructive outcomes at this session of the Assemblies.

62. [GREECE](#): The Delegation of Greece, aligning itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the EU and its member States, and of Group B, congratulates the Director General on his re-election, which reflects Member States' strong confidence in WIPO's sound financial performance and management; a strong and financially sustainable WIPO is essential to supporting innovation and creativity worldwide. As technological change accelerates, WIPO's role is becoming ever more important, and Greece values its efforts to modernize global IP services, develop user-friendly digital tools, strengthen support for

SMEs, innovators and creators, and promote technology transfer and capacity-building, as well as its role in fostering informed international dialogue on the relationship between AI and IP while preserving a balanced system that encourages innovation and protects creators. At the national level, Greece continues to modernize its IP ecosystem: the Hellenic Industrial Property Organization has expanded the digitalization of its services, introduced AI-assisted patent search tools, strengthened outreach to innovators and businesses, and accredited its first patent attorneys through the Hellenic Industrial Property Academy, while also supporting the commercialization of research results and implementing the new EU system for geographical indications for craft and industrial products. The Hellenic Copyright Organization has further strengthened copyright protection through education, public awareness-raising, legislative initiatives and efforts to combat online piracy, and has contributed to international cooperation, including through WIPO ALERT, while advancing national work on the interaction between AI and copyright. Greece remains committed to further strengthening an effective, balanced and inclusive international IP system.

63. [GRENADA](#): The Government of Grenada takes this opportunity to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and to thank him and his team for the opportunity to participate in yesterday's informal ministerial policy dialogue and share Grenada's perspective on the theme "bridge builders: innovation and creativity driving future societies". I am pleased to provide an update on some of the initiatives undertaken in Grenada over the past year. You will recall that, at the last Assemblies, Grenada reported on preparations to accede to the Madrid Protocol. I am pleased to report that Grenada acceded to the Protocol on December 15, 2025. It came into force in Grenada on March 15, 2026. Grenada thanks the Madrid Legal Division for all the courtesies extended to our Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office to ensure the smooth implementation of the Madrid System in Grenada. Grenada is pleased to report that, following the successful deployment of IPAS 4.0, further advances have been made towards the full use of all the functionalities of IPAS, with the conversion of all industrial property records to an electronic format. We trust that, over the next year and with the guidance of the IP Office Business Solutions Division, Grenada will begin to use all the features of IPAS, including e-filing. Grenada continues to strengthen its legal framework to protect and derive the greatest benefits from its world-renowned, origin-linked products, Grenada cocoa and Grenada nutmeg. In this regard, I am pleased to report that Cabinet has approved a policy on geographical indications that will provide the broad contours for the legal framework for geographical indications in Grenada. Grenada intends to examine the Lisbon Agreement, with a view to giving further protection to Grenada's nutmeg and the cocoa farmers. Grenada reaffirms its commitment to the promotion and protection of IP. Over the next year, it will undertake pre-accession activities regarding the Marrakesh Treaty, advance work on a new Patents Act and review the country's legal framework for copyright.

64. [GUATEMALA](#): We associate ourselves with the statements delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC and the Ministerial Forum for IP in Central American Countries and the Dominican Republic. We express our sincere congratulations to the Director General for this new management phase. We particularly value his commitment to close cooperation with Member States and to initiatives that meet our development realities and needs. For Guatemala, discussing IP means discussing real opportunities for our people and thinking about converting an idea into a project, as is the case for the group of young Guatemalan scientists participating in the development and future launch of the QUETZAL-2 satellite. Their efforts represent the capacity of our young people to innovate, create knowledge and move Guatemala towards new scientific and technological horizons. This vision has taken tangible form with WIPO's valuable support for the participation of four Kaqchikel women in the WIPO Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program on Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Moreover, through the Weaving Tradition, Building Future project, 30 women

weavers received IP training, creating trademarks for their associations and acquiring tools to better commercialize their products. Behind every trademark and every piece of weaving, there is history, tradition and a family discovering new possibilities for development. These experiences confirm that IP can transform lives when it is accessible, inclusive and close to communities. Guatemala is therefore working on its national IP strategy to define strategic objectives to strengthen our creative industries, encompassing music, cinema, science and new technologies. We are aiming for IP that supports our creators, artists, entrepreneurs and innovators, from an idea's birth to its protection, growth and access to new markets. Moreover, with the assistance of WIPO, we have made progress in establishing an academy under the Intellectual Property Register, which will support and assist with training initiatives to promote and raise awareness of IP, enabling us to bring the tools and transformative potential of IP to more people and to all sectors that can benefit from it. Moreover, the Intellectual Property Register Mediation Center, jointly managed by WIPO, has strengthened its efforts, with particular growth in 2025, becoming a pillar for the amicable settlement of IP disputes and an important partner for our overworked justice system. Guatemala is at a defining moment in the strengthening of our IP ecosystem. Coordinated work at the local level between the various relevant stakeholders in the ecosystem, from both the public and private sectors, has led the country towards a shared vision that will help us to bolster the protection and observance of rights to ensure that IP continues to be a powerful tool for our country's growth and economic and cultural development. We reiterate our gratitude to WIPO for supporting Guatemala on this path. The projects we have jointly implemented have been invaluable and have yielded fruit that will last over the long term for the benefit of our people. We reaffirm our willingness to continue working together to ensure that IP is truly a tool for the inclusion, development and well-being of all.

65. [GUINEA-BISSAU](#): The Delegation of Guinea-Bissau aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegations of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, Sao Tome and Principe on behalf of the CPLP, and Nepal on behalf of the Group of LDCs. It also congratulates the Director General on his election for a second term. Guinea-Bissau welcomes the technical and financial assistance of WIPO for processing the protection of "*manga de faca*" as a geographical indication. The protection of this strategic product, which is important to the country's agricultural sector, will pave the way for the country to join the Lisbon System. Registration of another product, equally important to the national innovation system, is pending and Guinea-Bissau hopes that it will soon be concluded. Guinea-Bissau supports the addition of Portuguese to the working languages of the Madrid System.

66. [HOLY SEE](#): At the outset, my Delegation would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election, and to reiterate its appreciation for the work of WIPO in encouraging innovation and creativity and in helping to advance development in all countries. In the modern era, AI has become a primary catalyst of innovation. However, technological progress must remain firmly grounded in a human-centered vision. AI merely imitates certain functions of human intelligence. So-called artificial intelligences do not undergo experiences, possess a body, feel joy or pain, mature through relationships or know from within what love, work, friendship or responsibility mean. Nor do they have a moral conscience. To ensure that AI-driven innovation respects and promotes human dignity, it is therefore essential that those who design, regulate and deploy it adhere to this principle. The IP system exists to serve the common good for all peoples, especially in the time of AI. The human person, with inherent God-given dignity and endowed with a conscience and creativity, must remain at the core of every consideration and decision that touches on IP. In this regard, Pope Leo XIV recalled that among the goods that are universally intended for everyone, we must also include new forms of property, such as patents. When these goods remain concentrated in the hands of a few without adequate forms of sharing and access, a new imbalance is created that contradicts the universal destination of goods.

67. [HUNGARY](#): The Delegation of Hungary congratulates the Director General on his election, thanking him for his outstanding leadership over the past six years, during which WIPO has continued its mission to develop a balanced, effective and well-functioning global IP system. Hungary is confident that, during his second term, with the support of his new management team, the Organization will continue to deliver its services under the PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems efficiently, and implement strategic and policy goals to make the IP system more inclusive and accessible. Achieving these goals is not possible without proper financial management, and Hungary commends the Director General and the Organization for their outstanding results and performance in this regard. Hungary stands ready to support all initiatives contributing to the modernization of the global IP registration systems and the international IP framework and remains committed to engaging constructively in the ongoing work of the standing committees and working groups. Hungary is grateful to the Director General for honoring the country with his personal presence at key events, including the EU Presidency Conference on Intellectual Property in October 2024 and the celebration of the 130th anniversary of the Hungarian IP Office in March 2026. It appreciates the work of the WIPO Academy, to which the Hungarian IP Office will also contribute through a joint Master's program in IP management. Hungary also welcomes WIPO's leading role and assistance in the area of IP-backed financing, increasingly relevant for innovative businesses, and looks forward to the PCT Union Assembly's decision on the extension of the appointment of the Hungarian Patent Office as an ISA and IPEA under the PCT. The Visegrad Patent Institute, celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, provides essential patent services to applicants from six countries in the Central European region.

68. [INDIA](#): Over the past decade, India has adopted several reforms to strengthen its innovation ecosystem, including amendments to the patent rules and revised guidelines on computer-related inventions. Through its national IP awareness-raising initiative, India has trained approximately 2.6 million individuals in IP awareness-raising and education, while other government initiatives have extended pro bono support to entrepreneurs. These efforts have helped India climb to thirty-eighth position in the GII 2025, from eighty-first in 2015, and India now ranks among the top 10 countries globally for patent, trademark and industrial design filings, with consistent growth in meaningful investment on a par with that of established innovation leaders. One of the most important tasks for WIPO is to mainstream IP and innovation into economic development across developing economies while ensuring that technology and knowledge become more accessible. To that end, and pursuant to relevant WIPO General Assembly decisions, there is a need to revive the system of WIPO committees reporting to the CDIP on their contributions to the DA. India reiterates its call to delink the evaluation of existing external offices from proposals for new ones, so that WIPO leadership can be given the flexibility to be present where required to catalyze IP growth. The limited geographical diversity in WIPO's leadership and senior positions remains a genuine source of concern: inclusive multilateralism requires that the Organization's leadership mirror the diversity of all regions and legal systems, rather than perpetuate a divide between developed and developing countries, which sits at odds with the pursuit by WIPO of more inclusive IP discussions.

69. [INDONESIA](#): The Delegation of Indonesia, aligning itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the APG, warmly congratulates the Director General on his reappointment and looks forward to continuing to work closely with him to strengthen the global innovation ecosystem. Indonesia is firmly committed to advancing digital transformation across its IP ecosystem, reflected in the modernization of its legal framework, including a new patent law and ongoing revisions to its industrial design and copyright laws, placing digital transformation at the heart of its IP administration, in line with its national development priorities. Its aim is to deliver IP services that are faster, more inclusive, transparent and accessible, leveraging digital technologies and WIPO's global IP infrastructure. Among pressing global challenges is the governance of the digital ecosystem. A global

framework is needed to ensure that digital realities are managed fairly, transparently and accountably. Indonesia has put forward a proposal on the governance of digital realities, not to create new rights but to promote greater transparency, accountability, interoperability and cooperation in the management of digital copyright-related realities. It appreciates the constructive engagement of Member States on this initiative and looks forward to continuing discussion in the SCCR. Indonesia also intends to convene a global forum on the governance of digital realities, inviting Member States and stakeholders to advance the agenda together. Indonesia underscores the central importance of the DA, whose Recommendations must be mainstreamed effectively across all WIPO bodies and committees rather than confined to a single forum, continuing to serve as a cross-cutting pillar of WIPO's work. Indonesia values WIPO's capacity-building and technical assistance, particularly in IP commercialization, the growth of MSMEs and the branding of geographical indications, and reaffirms its full support for WIPO's mission.

70. [IRAN \(ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF\)](#): I would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election and look forward to continuing our close cooperation with him and the Secretariat. We are entering a period in which technological change will shape not only the future of innovation but also the distribution of knowledge, opportunity and economic power. The international IP system must therefore evolve through a genuinely multilateral process with the meaningful participation of countries representing different civilizations, legal traditions and levels of development. The Islamic Republic of Iran brings to this process a deep civilizational heritage, a rich history of TK and TCEs, more than a century of legislative and institutional experience in IP and significant scientific, academic and innovation capacities. On this basis, the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to contributing actively and constructively to shaping the next phase of the international IP system, guided by the principles of multilateralism, inclusivity and balance. In this regard, development must remain central to WIPO's response to emerging technologies. The Organization should examine not only its technical, legal and operational dimensions but also the broader development implications, including the risk of widening the existing knowledge, technological and capacity gaps. The commitment of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the international IP system is not merely declaratory. In 2025, the country signed the GRATK Treaty and acceded to the Vienna Agreement and the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification. These measures form part of the broader efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to modernize its domestic legal and institutional framework, support its knowledge-based economy and deepen its engagement with WIPO-administered treaties. Over the past year, my country has twice been subjected to aggression and large-scale, unlawful armed attacks, affecting its scientific, technological and innovation infrastructure, in clear violation of the fundamental principles of international law. The consequences extend far beyond the immediate physical damage, placing sustained pressure on research institutions, innovation ecosystems and the services that support creators, researchers and innovative enterprises. The Islamic Republic of Iran nevertheless retains the knowledge, institutions and human resources necessary to protect and rebuild its IP and innovation ecosystem. Within its mandate, WIPO is expected to support these national efforts through focused technical cooperation and capacity-building programs, which provide a basis for broader regional engagement. Building on its legal, institutional and technical experience, the Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to contribute to policy dialogue, knowledge-sharing and capacity-building, and to help to expand access to WIPO programs and services across a region that remains underrepresented. The next technological era must not reproduce the inequalities of the present one. Its rules must be shaped collectively and its opportunities shared more widely. The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to contribute to that endeavor with experience, responsibility and a firm commitment to multilateral cooperation.

71. [IRAQ](#): It is my honor to address you on behalf of the Delegation of Iraq, to renew our congratulations to the Director General on his re-election and to wish him continued success

in advancing the Organization's work and serving the international community. Our meetings this year are taking place at a time when the world is undergoing rapid transformations driven by knowledge, technology, the digital economy and AI. IP is key to building more competitive and sustainable economies. Iraq, therefore, fully supports the pivotal role played by WIPO in building a balanced and inclusive international IP system that takes into account the interests of all countries, promotes technology transfer and creates a fair environment for innovation and development. Iraq is implementing a national program to develop its IP system by updating legislative and institutional frameworks, enhancing digital services, making IPR protection procedures more efficient and providing a supportive environment for innovators, researchers and entrepreneurs. Iraq is working to support start-ups and SMEs, encourage women and young people to invest in innovation, and complete the system for protecting geographical indications in order to preserve the national identity of Iraqi products and enhance their economic and cultural value. Iraq looks forward to expanding cooperation with WIPO through the implementation of high-quality programs to support national institutions, strengthen technical capacities and enhance Iraq's ranking in international indices in a way that reflects the country's significant scientific and research capabilities. Developing countries require continued support to build flexible and effective IP systems capable of addressing the fast-evolving challenges posed by modern technology, particularly AI, the digital economy and emerging technologies. The best way to achieve development and prosperity is to invest in people, knowledge and innovation, with IP serving as a bridge for international cooperation, technology transfer and stronger partnerships among countries. As we reaffirm the commitment of Iraq to working with WIPO and all Member States, we look forward to our current meetings yielding practical outcomes that contribute to building a more inclusive and equitable global system. We take this opportunity to announce the launch of Iraq's national IP strategy for the period 2026–2035 and the hosting of an Arab forum on innovation and IP in Baghdad under the auspices of WIPO. We welcome the ongoing work of WIPO. Iraq will continue to engage in constructive cooperation with all partners in a manner that advances our shared objectives and lays the foundation for a more prosperous and sustainable future.

72. [ISRAEL](#): The Delegation of Israel warmly congratulates the Director General on his re-election. Israel sees great importance in WIPO's pivotal role in fostering a robust, balanced and effective global IP ecosystem. As a nation that continuously champions innovation, Israel works to support and advance the innovation ecosystem domestically and internationally, in close collaboration with governmental and civil society stakeholders. In an era of rapid technological breakthroughs, the Israel Patent Office remains deeply committed to acting as a key contributor to WIPO's shared mission of driving global innovation and economic growth. Israel remains dedicated to establishing a forward-looking IP environment, particularly as it integrates transformative technologies such as AI into its frameworks and procedures.

73. [ITALY](#): The Delegation of Italy aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of Group B and the EU and its member States, and supports the statement on Ukraine. IP has transformative power, particularly for SMEs and start-ups striving towards innovation and Industry 5.0. IP protection can be a strong driver of development for emerging and developing economies, since it generates substantial economic, social and cultural benefits and helps to advance progress towards achievement of the SDGs. Italy is at the forefront of international efforts to promote appellations of origin and geographical indications at every level: production of geographical indications feeds export growth and strengthens the cultural identity of territorial communities and the global reputation of products. This local development-based model, leveraging TK, can benefit emerging and developing economies and contribute to sustainable agriculture and biodiversity protection. Italy therefore welcomes any new accession to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement and is pleased to announce that it will deposit its instrument of ratification on July 14, 2026. Italy also commends WIPO for its work on AI, including the Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure Interchange (AIII) initiative

and the upcoming AI/IP global forum, which can help to set and harmonize normative frameworks based on a human-centric, scientific approach to innovation that respects the balance between technological progress and the protection of creativity and cultural heritage. Following the adoption of the GRATK Treaty and the Riyadh DLT, the Delegation recalls that the next item on WIPO's normative agenda should be to finalize, as soon as possible, a treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations.

74. [JAMAICA](#): Jamaica is a long-standing member of WIPO and the WIPO Coordination Committee. We congratulate the Director General on his re-election and look forward to further advancing our collaboration with WIPO. We are pleased to have hosted the Director General in Jamaica in May 2026. That visit deepened our partnership, enhanced capacity-building in IP and opened new avenues for productivity-enhancing innovation and economic growth, which will be facilitated by the agreements we signed to advance our shared vision for growth and development. We commend the Director General and his management team, as well as other members of staff, for the work that WIPO has been doing to support Member States in their economic and social development. This is evident through the numerous initiatives and programs implemented by WIPO through the DA. Jamaica recognizes the value and importance of WIPO's partnership in our national development, which has found expression in the work of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office and the agency of the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce. We are grateful for the training sessions facilitated by WIPO, as they have contributed to building critical capacity and kept public interest in IP current, allowing Jamaica to be recognized as a country where the protection of IP is valued. Jamaica continues to participate actively in the normative work of WIPO through its various committees and bodies. We are pleased that Ms. Lilyclaire Bellamy, head of our IP Office, was elected to chair the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT). On geographical indications, the IP Office is doing significant work to register new products. It is fascinating to see Jamaican artists and musicians using the IP Office in Jamaica to register their products so that airplay on the radio and overseas brings them income. Jamaica also continues to play an active role in other committees, including the SCCR, whose mandate remains integral to the work of our creators and small businesses. We look forward to hosting the WIPO Caribbean Regional Design Conference in Jamaica, on November 18 and 19, 2026, and are in the process of making the necessary arrangements. Jamaica recognizes the importance of women's entrepreneurship and welcomes WIPO's continued efforts to provide various levels of training and exposure to best practices for women entrepreneurs. These opportunities to collaborate and experience entrepreneurship operations in other countries enable more inclusive and sustainable economic development. The contributions by WIPO experts working with us were of great value to the participants. The theme of World IP Day 2026, IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate, was adopted by our IP Office for Intellectual Property Week 2026, given Jamaica's sprint supremacy and dominance in sports. The activities planned around the theme generated much interest from sporting associations, schools, athletes and coaches, and also enhanced our partnership with the IP enforcement unit of the Jamaica Constabulary Force. The presentations highlighted the role of IP protection and economic benefits from sports, and were well attended and received. Jamaica is building on WIPO initiatives and looks forward to its continued partnership and collaboration with WIPO in support of its mission to lead the development of a balanced and effective global IP ecosystem to promote innovation and creativity for a better and more sustainable future.

75. [JAPAN](#): The Delegation of Japan wishes to congratulate the Director General on his re-election. Japan appreciates the achievements of his first term and expects continued strong leadership in the coming years. The IP system grants exclusive rights to innovators, incentivizes investment in research and development (R&D), encourages the creation of new technology and products, and plays a crucial role in contributing to global economic growth

and the resolution of social challenges. In this regard, the international filing and registration system administered by WIPO serves as essential infrastructure for the global expansion of innovation. Japan is making progress in introducing the ePCT and is grateful to WIPO for the stable operation of the international filing and registration system. For sustainable global economic growth, it is crucial to promote the utilization of the IP system by SMEs, start-ups and entrepreneurs. The Japan Patent Office (JPO) and WIPO have signed a cooperation statement that targets support for 1,000 SMEs, start-ups and entrepreneurs. In that context, Japan welcomes the steady progress of WIPO's IP Management Clinic for SMEs Program. Japan also supports WIPO GREEN initiatives that leverage the IP system to address the global challenge of climate change. It also supports the effort to promote the IP system worldwide through the Funds-in-Trust Japan Industrial Property Global. We recognize that the rapid advancement of AI holds significant potential to enhance the operation of the IP system, including the international filing and registration system of WIPO. Japan welcomes WIPO's proactive initiatives to that end. Japan remains committed to working closely with WIPO and all Member States to ensure that the IP system continues to contribute to global economic growth and the resolution of social challenges.

76. [JORDAN](#): Jordan values the Director General's strategic vision for his second term, particularly his focus on making IP a tool for sustainable development; supporting SMEs, young people and women; addressing the challenges of AI; and continuing work on TK and GRs – priorities that align with our own development objectives. With regard to administrative and financial matters, we support efforts to enhance efficiency, transparency and financial oversight, while ensuring adequate allocation of resources for capacity-building programs in developing countries and strengthening equitable geographical representation. Jordan fully supports the role of WIPO in building a balanced IP system that promotes innovation and sustainable development. We welcome technical assistance and capacity-building programs and support the preparation of an MTSP that takes digital transformation into account. We welcome the development of digital services and the use of AI in search and examination processes, provided that transparency is maintained. Jordan is continuing to develop its national IP system through several projects, including a patent platform, legislative review, and awareness-raising programs under our economic modernization vision. Jordan stands ready to work with WIPO and its Member States to achieve inclusive innovation and sustainable development.

77. [KAZAKHSTAN](#): First of all, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to WIPO for its consistent support to Member States in strengthening their national IP systems, developing innovation capacity and expanding international cooperation. IP is an important area of government policy in terms of creating conditions that are conducive to creative and entrepreneurial activity. The new Constitution in my country came into effect on July 1, 2026, and, for the first time, the protection of IP is now enshrined therein. This underlines the strategic importance of IP in developing a knowledge economy, fostering inventive activity and attracting investment to the country. By enshrining this principle in its Constitution, Kazakhstan underscores its long-term commitment to building a modern and effective system for protecting IP. Developing AI and digital technology is a key policy priority. Kazakhstan has adopted an AI law and a digital code, creating a modern legal framework for the country's continued digital transformation. Technological progress must go hand in hand with respect for fundamental rights, while preserving the central role of humans as the source of creativity, knowledge and innovation. That human-centered approach lies at the heart of our policy in this area. With the support of WIPO, we are continuing to work on a national innovation strategy with an IP component. We are also conducting teaching initiatives and programs to strengthen enforcement and train specialists. Just a week ago, together with WIPO, we launched a project to support start-ups by using AI and IP tools. This will provide a major boost to the development of innovative entrepreneurship and help to make technology companies more competitive. After the current session of the Assemblies, Kazakhstan will

become coordinator of the CACEEC Group. We stand ready to foster greater regional cooperation and dialogue, and to promote joint initiatives with WIPO. I reaffirm Kazakhstan's commitment to the further strengthening of international cooperation on IP and our readiness to continue close engagement with WIPO and its Member States.

78. [KENYA](#): The Delegation of Kenya, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his reappointment and expresses full confidence in his ability to lead the Organization. Kenya acknowledges the importance of IP in fostering innovation, creativity and socioeconomic development, and recognizes that its benefits can be unlocked through equitable access to knowledge, technology transfer and capacity-building, particularly for developing countries and LDCs. It appreciates WIPO's role in Kenya's IP ecosystem, including improvements to its IP registration infrastructure, the digitalization of IP services, and the launch of an online system for patent and trademark services. Kenya nonetheless recognizes that IP awareness in Kenya remains relatively low; the Government is making every effort to address this gap. Kenya is committed to the development of MSMEs, recognizing their key role in the economy, including job creation for its growing youth population, and is partnering with WIPO on a youth-led MSME project aimed at empowering participants through tailored IP mentorship and business strategies to enhance their competitiveness domestically and internationally. Kenya will continue to support the effective implementation of the DA, including the mainstreaming of its 45 Recommendations into substantive programs.

79. [KYRGYZSTAN](#): First of all, let me congratulate the Director General on his re-election. Kyrgyzstan highly values your leadership. We wish you every success and are confident that, under your guidance, WIPO will continue to strengthen the global IP system and promote innovation, creativity and sustainable development. Today, IP is more than a legal tool. It is a key driver of innovation, creativity and economic growth. In Kyrgyzstan, we see IP as an important part of our national policy on science, higher education and innovation. In 2025, Kyrgyzstan established the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Innovation. For the first time, science, higher education, innovation and IP were brought together in one institution. This allows us to coordinate our policies more effectively and to build a stronger knowledge-based economy. This approach is reflected in the national development program of Kyrgyzstan until 2030. The program identifies innovation, scientific research, commercialization of research results and IP as key instruments for making the national economy more competitive and achieving sustainable development. We highly appreciate our cooperation with WIPO and look forward to expanding it further, particularly in the areas of commercialization of IP, IP management in universities, digital transformation of IP services and capacity-building for IP professionals. We sincerely appreciate the support of all Member States that backed the election of Kyrgyzstan as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2027–2028. This is a great honor and responsibility. We fully recognize the importance of this role and are committed to fulfilling it with dedication and a strong sense of responsibility. We see this trust as recognition of Kyrgyzstan's consistent commitment to multilateral cooperation and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Kyrgyzstan remains firmly committed to promoting equal dialogue, mutual respect and shared responsibility in addressing global challenges and advancing peace, security and sustainable development.

80. [LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC](#): On behalf of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I wish to extend our sincere congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment for a new term. I would like to align with the statements made on behalf of ASEAN and the APG. The Lao People's Democratic Republic would like to extend its profound gratitude to WIPO and the Director General for their continued support and close collaboration with the country. We highly value WIPO's steadfast commitment to

strengthening national capacity and supporting the development priorities of LDCs, including the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Over the years, WIPO's assistance in capacity-building, fellowship programs, legal and institutional development, and human resources enhancement has made a significant contribution to strengthening our national IP ecosystem. In particular, we welcome the successful launch of the WIPO IP Management Clinics in Vientiane. Our national IP strategy, the establishment of a collective management organization (CMO), the Oma Collective Mark, Green Jungle Park and the LDC Graduation Toolkit have provided strategic guidance and practical support to our SMEs, enabling them to better leverage IP for innovation and competitiveness. At the same time, the ongoing digitalization project is helping to modernize our IP infrastructure, improve national e-services and enhance the efficiency and accessibility of IP administration in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. We are also pleased to share a significant milestone in the field of copyright and related rights. The Laos Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers, the national CMO, has officially become a member of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC). This achievement represents an important step in strengthening collective copyright management in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, enhancing international cooperation and protecting the rights and interests of creators. Looking ahead, the Lao People's Democratic Republic places great importance on further capacity-building and technical assistance in the field of industrial design and we are moving forward with accession to the Hague Agreement as its hundredth contracting party. We look forward to continuing to cooperate with WIPO and ensuring the effective implementation of our commitment under the Agreement. The Lao People's Democratic Republic reaffirms its strong commitment to our partnership with WIPO and looks forward to deepening our cooperation to promote innovation, foster creativity and achieve sustainable and inclusive development for all Members, thereby strengthening the global IP system and serving as an effective instrument for socioeconomic development and achievement of the SDGs.

81. [LATVIA](#): Latvia fully aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the EU and its member States, and of the CEBS Group. First and foremost, we would like to warmly congratulate you, Director General, on your reappointment. Under your leadership, WIPO has continued to look ahead rather than simply manage the present. That forward-looking vision is exactly what the IP world needs right now. IP is no longer only a legal instrument or registration procedure. It is increasingly a tool for turning ideas into value through technology transfer, commercialization and investment. We therefore welcome continued WIPO work on AI, IP evaluation, IP-backed financing, support for SMEs, young people and the modernization of global IP services, which is also a priority for our country. Latvia is sincerely grateful for its strong cooperation with WIPO, which has delivered tangible results in technology transfer, IP education, judicial training and youth initiatives. This is exactly how we believe international cooperation should be: close to users, close to national needs and with real impact. On the subject of Ukraine, Latvia's message is very clear: WIPO assistance has to continue. The brutal war of the Russian Federation continues to devastate Ukraine, while also changing the security, economic and human reality of our whole region, including in Latvia. At times, it feels as if the world has become dangerously tired of peace, dialogue and cooperation, the very foundation on which an organization such as WIPO is built. We should not normalize this. When civilian infrastructure is attacked, lives and business are destroyed, and young people are forced to build their future under airstrikes, there are no winners, only profound loss for society, creativity and innovation. The world may be unstable, but Latvia's position is not. Our strong support for Ukraine and its people remains unwavering and we urge WIPO to do the same for that country's innovation and creativity sector. Latvia stands ready to engage constructively.

82. [LESOTHO](#): Lesotho aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group. We congratulate the Director General on his

re-election and are confident that we will continue to benefit from his outstanding, visionary, inclusive and development-oriented leadership. On the normative front, 2024 stands as a historic year for multilateral IP cooperation. Lesotho commends WIPO for the adoption of two groundbreaking treaties, the GRATK Treaty, adopted in May 2024, and the Riyadh DLT, adopted in November 2024. WIPO's financial health remains strong, demonstrating sound stewardship of Member State resources. The 2024 performance report shows that WIPO maintained a strong financial position, matched by impressive pragmatic results that reflect effective delivery across all strategic pillars. We commend WIPO for its continued commitment to mainstreaming the DA across all sectors and for its efforts to ensure that the benefits of the IP system are balanced with equitable access to knowledge, technology transfer and capacity-building. Lesotho welcomes the approaching twentieth anniversary of the DA as an opportunity for meaningful reflection on the progress achieved since its adoption. We believe that future reporting on the implementation of the DA will place greater emphasis on the tangible and measurable impact on the ground. Lesotho wishes to express its gratitude to WIPO for the invaluable technical assistance provided over the years. We particularly acknowledge the excellent coordination of the Division for Africa in supporting our national efforts in policy development, legislative review, human capital and institutional development. These efforts are crucial to ensuring that Lesotho's legal and institutional frameworks are aligned with its national priorities and international standards. Lesotho is pleased with the ongoing project on technologies for community development, which represents WIPO's commitment to helping LDCs to use IP for economic and social development. It reflects our shared commitment to leveraging technology and innovation to address poverty, enhance livelihoods and promote sustainable development. We are pleased that Lesotho is among the first countries to benefit from this newly revised project model, which is focused on community needs and measurable outcomes. Lesotho looks forward to continued collaboration with WIPO on other impactful projects that harness the potential of IP for community development. We are particularly interested in projects that strengthen the capacity of our local artisans, SMEs, women and young people, and the protection of TK and TCEs. We are grateful for the endorsement of a branding project for our famous Basotho hat. This project has the potential to transform the lives of Basotho by creating sustainable economic opportunities while preserving, promoting and celebrating our rich cultural heritage. Allow me to address the important issue of human resource management at WIPO, which is fundamental to the Organization's ability to deliver on its mandate effectively and inclusively. Lesotho commends WIPO for its continued efforts to make its workforce more agile, skilled and representative, and for achieving gender parity at the overall workforce level. Nonetheless, more action is needed to address the longstanding imbalance in geographical representation, particularly the underrepresentation of African nationals in leadership and senior management positions. Lesotho remains firmly committed to engaging constructively and in good faith with all Delegations to ensure the successful outcome of these Assemblies.

83. [LIBERIA](#): Liberia aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Group of LDCs. We congratulate the Director General on his re-election. IP is a strategic tool for innovation, industrial development, entrepreneurship, creativity and economic transformation. Liberia continues to benefit from WIPO's invaluable technical assistance in advancing the development of our national IP policy and strategy. Earlier this year, President Boakai submitted eight additional regional and international IP treaties and protocols to the national legislature for consideration and ratification as part of the country's efforts to strengthen and modernize its IP framework. With WIPO's support, the Liberia IP Office continues to enhance service delivery through the IPAS administration system, while more than 250 MSMEs, innovators and creative artists have benefited from IP training and awareness-raising initiatives. We have expanded IP education for young people through the establishment of IP clubs in 20 high schools. This initiative has already yielded positive results, with Liberia emerging as the winner of the recent Regional IP School Club Awards,

organized under the auspices of ARIPO. We have also strengthened IP training and innovation support through TISCs at our universities. Looking ahead, Liberia seeks to continue cooperating to implement our national IP policy and strategy, which include support for female innovators and entrepreneurs, commercializing innovation, technology transfer, strengthening our CMO, protecting TK and GRs, and enhancing IP enforcement training for law enforcement agencies and capacity-building for the judiciary. Under the leadership of President Boakai and with the support of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Liberia remains committed to strengthening its national IP ecosystem and institutions, and to working with WIPO and Member States to ensure that IP contributes meaningfully to sustainable development and shared prosperity for all.

84. [LITHUANIA](#): The Delegation of Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States and by the Delegation of Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group, and congratulates the Director General on his reappointment. Lithuania remains committed to fostering innovation and economic growth through a strong and balanced IP system. It values its close cooperation with WIPO in supporting Lithuanian start-ups, SMEs, universities and innovators. In 2026, Lithuania joined the WIPO IP Management Clinic for SMEs Program; the strong interest shown by Lithuanian start-ups and SMEs confirms the growing need for strategic IP management. Lithuania also appreciates the Baltic Technology Transfer Offices Network established under WIPO's leadership, which has strengthened cooperation among Baltic universities and innovation ecosystems and contributed to more effective technology transfer, and highlights the establishment of the Lithuanian IP Academy within the State Patent Bureau. WIPO educational resources have become an important part of Lithuania's national training activities. These accomplishments demonstrate the benefits of cooperation between WIPO and Lithuania, which remains fully committed to further strengthening this partnership. Lithuania reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine and welcomes WIPO's assistance to Ukraine's innovation, creativity and IP sectors. Sustained international support, including for Ukraine's IP ecosystem, remains essential while the country continues to endure the consequences of the Russian Federation's illegal, unprovoked and unjustifiable war of aggression.

85. [MADAGASCAR](#): My Delegation would like to wish the Director General every success in his second mandate at the head of this Organization. Madagascar believes wholeheartedly in the continued reform and transformation of the Organization, in a world in which digital technology is expanding rapidly, to ensure the long-term sustainability of IP administration through a reliable and operational succession plan. Madagascar reiterates its unwavering commitment to IP as a driver of sustainable growth and peace. It is working tirelessly to encourage R&D and technology transfer, including by organizing a national innovation competition to encourage and support local inventors, establishing an innovation hub, known as UniPod, within the Ministry for Higher Education and Scientific Research, and promoting the use of TISCs. My Delegation commends the efforts of WIPO to promote and protect IP throughout the world, in cooperation with its Member States. Madagascar welcomes the signing of a memorandum of cooperation between WIPO and the Malagasy Industrial Property Office (OMAPI) on IPAS 4.0. Madagascar also welcomes the collaboration between OMAPI and the WIPO Academy on the creation of IP training centers, which would meet the critical need for a professional approach to IP. We remain convinced that IP must be a tool for human development. My country stands ready to cooperate closely with WIPO and all Member States to build a balanced and innovation-oriented global IP system.

86. [MALAWI](#): My Delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, and takes this opportunity to congratulate the Director General on his reappointment. This is a testament to the confidence that my Delegation and the majority of the Member States have in his stewardship. Malawi remains

committed to the development of an effective, balanced and inclusive IP system that serves the interests of creators, innovators, businesses, communities and the public at large. We firmly believe that IP is not an end in itself but an important instrument for promoting economic transformation, industrialization, technological advancement, and cultural and sustainable development. For this reason, Malawi was the first Member State to ratify the GRATK Treaty. We encourage other Member States to expedite their ratification processes. Malawi recognizes the role that the IP system can play in transforming our country into a middle-income economy under the Malawi 2063 plan. For this reason, we are developing an IP policy as a roadmap for utilizing the IP system, which will support innovation in priority fields like pharmaceuticals, green technologies and renewable energy. I would like to thank WIPO for its technical assistance in developing the policy. Malawi wishes to further leverage the WIPO Project for Nurturing Appropriate Technologies and TISCs, which support the country's aspirations to become a middle-income economy by 2063. Malawi has embarked on the following significant institutional and legislative reforms in order to build an effective IP system: (1) Malawi has this year established the Companies, Registrations and Intellectual Property Centre (CRIPC), a semi-autonomous agency that will be the country's IP hub – this is a milestone in strengthening our national IP system by providing a modern institutional framework capable of promoting and supporting creativity and innovation; (2) Malawi is in the advanced stages of drafting a patents bill, which, when enacted, will replace the current Patents Act and modernize our patents legislation – I wish to thank WIPO for the technical assistance provided through the Patents and Technology Sector, which helped us to improve the bill, which I hope to table in Parliament this year; (3) we are also reviewing the Trademarks Act and the Copyright Act in order to improve and align those key pieces of legislation with best practices. I would like to thank WIPO for the support of the Trademark Law Section and Building Respect for IP Division in reviewing our Trademarks Act and making proposals for amendments. Malawi remains committed to collaborating with WIPO and its Member States to build an IP system for the development of our citizens. We look forward to WIPO's continued capacity-building assistance for CRIPC, our IP office, to enable it to support innovators and creators. We also look forward to cooperating with other Member States as we build the institutional capacity of CRIPC, making it effective in supporting the IP system as a tool for development. My Delegation looks forward to participating actively and constructively in these Assemblies and wishes all Member States fruitful deliberations.

87. [MALAYSIA](#): The Delegation of Malaysia, aligning itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the APG and the AWGIPC, congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, commending him on his steadfast leadership in steering WIPO towards a more inclusive, responsive and future-oriented global IP ecosystem. Malaysia recalls with appreciation the Director General's official visit to Malaysia in 2025, which reaffirmed the importance of closer collaboration between WIPO and the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia. Malaysia recognizes that the true value of IP lies not merely in registration, but in successful commercialization and utilization. It remains committed to strengthening the capacity of SMEs, start-ups, universities, research institutions and local innovators to transform IP assets into marketable products, services and technologies generating sustainable economic growth, high-value employment and broader societal benefits. Malaysia welcomes WIPO's continued support through practical capacity-building, technical assistance and knowledge-sharing programs, and reaffirms its unwavering commitment to working closely with WIPO and all Member States in advancing an international IP system that promotes innovation and delivers tangible benefits for businesses, creators and communities alike.

88. [MALI](#): The Delegation of Mali, aligning itself fully with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Group of LDCs, congratulates the Director General on his second mandate. In its national capacity, Mali expresses serious concern about the

purpose of the report on assistance to the creative and IP sector in Ukraine, which it considers part of a politicization of the proceedings of the WIPO Assemblies, contrary to the neutrality that should guide them. Mali remains convinced that IP is a strategic tool for economic and social transformation, particularly for developing countries, given the current global context in which knowledge-based economies hold sway. Mali recognizes WIPO's assistance in updating its national IP strategy, in line with its Mali 2063 vision, the aim of which is to build a resilient, competitive and technologically advanced economy. Mali thanks WIPO for implementing a coaching and mentoring program for more than 50 Malian women entrepreneurs, which has significantly improved their production, protection and the validation of their IP assets. Like many other African countries, Mali faces major structural challenges, including food insecurity, inadequate access to energy and youth unemployment. In spite of the country's dynamism and research skills, cooperation between researchers and entrepreneurs is not properly organized. This limits the capitalization of inventions resulting from research. To remedy this, Mali wishes to deepen cooperation with WIPO, particularly in support of its national innovation ecosystem, to convert existing potential into competitive and marketable assets. The Delegation calls on WIPO to consider the addition of value to local products, especially through geographical indications and collective marks, to better integrate global value chains and strengthen the quality, traceability and reputation of its local products with high added value.

89. [MEXICO](#): First of all, Mexico would like to congratulate the Director General on his re-election. We trust that this new mandate will keep WIPO on track and tend to the needs of Member States, in particular those of developing countries. In 2025, robust collaboration between Mexico and WIPO was strengthened. In particular, we would like to thank the Director General for his visit to Mexico, which facilitated in-depth dialogue on strategic issues on the IP agenda, such as the protection of TK, innovation and inclusion, in order to bring IP closer to more people, including migrants and persons with disabilities. The visit, as well as the Regional Meeting of Heads of Industrial Property Offices of Latin American Countries, which took place in Mexico shortly afterwards, showed the maturity of our institutional relations. Looking to the future, Mexico hopes that Member States, with the support of the Secretariat, will continue to make progress on the issues of greatest importance, such as the effective protection of the TK and TCEs of Indigenous Peoples, and the increased participation of women in innovation and creativity, elements that are essential to building a more inclusive and equitable system. At the same time, we trust that the Organization will continue to foster dialogue on the challenges posed by AI in order to protect creators and encourage innovation, while also improving equitable access to technology. Mexico reiterates its faith in the Assemblies and their ability to continue to build consensus that will strengthen an open, inclusive and development-oriented international IP system.

90. [MICRONESIA \(FEDERATED STATES OF\)](#): The Delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the APG and the Pacific Island States, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and supports the Pacific's priorities of strengthened protection for GRs, TK and TCEs, and the provision of more technical assistance to SIDS. Micronesia remains committed to harnessing IP as a catalyst for innovation, sustainable development and the protection of its TK and cultural heritage. With WIPO's support, Micronesia has achieved important milestones over the past year: in December 2025, it hosted the first Pacific Regional Traditional Health Knowledge Training Workshop, strengthening regional cooperation and the capacity of Pacific Island countries to safeguard traditional health knowledge through IP. WIPO has approved a two-year technical assistance project to establish Micronesia's first national IP office, a landmark initiative that will strengthen its IP system, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and enhance the protection and commercialization of its TK and TCEs. As a SIDS, Micronesia values WIPO's partnership and remains committed to working with Member States to build an inclusive IP

system supporting innovation, protecting cultural heritage and advancing sustainable development.

91. [MONGOLIA](#): Mongolia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the APG. Mongolia joins other Members in warmly congratulating the Director General on his reappointment. We are confident that, under his continued leadership, WIPO will further advance innovation, creativity and inclusive development, while responding effectively to the evolving needs of Member States. IP is not only a legal framework for protection, but also a strategic tool for innovation, economic diversification, cultural development and sustainable growth. As a landlocked developing country, Mongolia faces distinct geographic and economic challenges. We view IP as a bridge that connects our creators, innovators and entrepreneurs to regional and global markets. Mongolia underscores the importance of the DA and values the Organization's initiative to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building and to promote knowledge for developing countries, LDCs and countries with economies in transition. Guided by this vision, Mongolia has continued to modernize its IP system, strengthening digital services and enhancing institutional capacities, while also increasing public awareness among creators, SMEs and the wider public. With the valuable support of WIPO, Mongolia has implemented a range of impactful initiatives to support IP outreach to rural communities and capacity-building for digital creators to participate in the global market.

92. [MOROCCO](#): At the outset, I would like to reaffirm the full support of Morocco for the Director General on the occasion of the renewal of his term at the head of WIPO. IP plays a strategic role as a driver of innovation, competitiveness, creativity and sustainable development. In the area of industrial property, Morocco is implementing its national strategy through the rollout of an ambitious roadmap adopted by the Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property, which is based on promoting innovation and industrial property, accelerating the digital transformation of services, strengthening capacity, and supporting enterprises, researchers, universities and start-ups. The results achieved in 2025 reflect the ongoing momentum in industrial property in Morocco. Applications for the registration of trademarks, industrial designs and patents continued their upward trend. These achievements have also been recognized internationally, with Morocco rising nine places in the 2025 GII. Morocco is intensifying its efforts through the network of TISCs, the IP Marketplace platform for valuing patents, and the Moroccan Academy of Intellectual and Commercial Property. In close cooperation with WIPO, we are working on regional projects, including the launch of a Master's program in IP and innovation. In the area of copyright, Morocco achieved an important milestone this year by adopting a new law that keeps pace with digital transformation, strengthens anti-piracy mechanisms, and updates the system for remunerating rights holders. In this context, the Moroccan Copyright and Related Rights Office has begun to roll out a system for remunerating rights holders for the reproduction of their visual works; this is an important step in strengthening the collective rights management system. Morocco remains committed to making an effective contribution to the work of the Organization and strengthening cooperation with it and all Member States.

93. [MOZAMBIQUE](#): The Delegation of Mozambique aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group, the Group of LDCs and the CPLP. Mozambique congratulates the Director General on his re-election and expresses its appreciation for his leadership and his efforts to bring WIPO closer to Member States, innovators, creators, businesses and communities. The Delegation notes the proposals for the appointment of the Deputy Directors General and Assistant Directors General of WIPO and emphasizes the importance of considering geographical balance, linguistic representation, technical competence, and sensitivity to the priorities of developing countries and LDCs when making appointments to the senior leadership of WIPO. Mozambique emphasizes that IP is not merely a system for protecting rights; it should be recognized as a strategic tool for economic

progress, industrialization, innovation and the enhancement of domestic production. IP is essential for transforming local products into assets, national brands into instruments of competitiveness, creativity into income, knowledge into innovation and tradition into added value. This vision is directly linked to the national agenda for economic diversification and the promotion of “Made in Mozambique”, which should stand for quality, identity, trust, creativity, and national productive capacity. Accordingly, in March 2026, the Government approved an IP policy and strategy, with a focus on enhancing the value of natural resources and cultural heritage and on promoting innovation and creativity through IP. It also ratified the Riyadh DLT, the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs and the Hague Agreement; ratification instruments will be deposited with WIPO in the near future. The next phase of international cooperation on IP should be measured not only by the number of legal instruments adopted or rights registered, but above all by the economic and social impact produced: more SMEs using IP to grow, more domestic products gaining value in the markets, more young innovators protecting and commercializing their solutions, more African brands with international reach and more communities benefiting economically from their TK, TCEs and GRs. Mozambique is designing the relevant strategic institutional instruments, including a national AI strategy and a commission for AI, with a view to promoting responsible governance of technological innovation. For developing countries and LDCs, AI and the digital economy must evolve alongside an inclusive IP agenda. The Delegation of Mozambique urges WIPO to prioritize the effective implementation of the DA, with a measurable impact on the socioeconomic development of Member States. Mozambique will continue to participate in WIPO’s work, advocating a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented international IP system.

94. [NAMIBIA](#): The Delegation of Namibia congratulates the Director General on his well-deserved reappointment and, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, highlights its strong, long-standing and constructive partnership with WIPO. Namibia commends WIPO’s continued technical cooperation, particularly its support for the formulation and implementation of Namibia’s first national IP policy strategy and the development of its second national IP strategy for 2026 to 2030. As it embarks on this next phase, sustained technical assistance from WIPO beyond policy formulation, institutional capacity-building and knowledge transfer remains essential to translate the strategy into inclusive economic growth and improved livelihoods. Namibia welcomes WIPO’s support in modernizing its IP administration, having become the first WIPO Member State to operationalize the copyright module within its national IPAS, enabling online copyright registration and enhancing accessibility, efficiency and service delivery – an achievement that supports the creative and cultural industries as strategic sectors for economic diversification, youth empowerment and sustainable job creation. Namibia remains concerned by the continued imbalance in geographical representation in the Secretariat and encourages sustained efforts towards credible and balanced geographical representation, particularly for the African region: a Secretariat that better reflects the diversity of WIPO’s membership would further strengthen the Organization’s legitimacy, effectiveness and representativeness. Namibia reaffirms its unwavering commitment to multilateralism and to engaging constructively with all Member States in advancing an international IP system that promotes innovation, creativity, knowledge-sharing and sustainable development.

95. [NEW ZEALAND](#): New Zealand congratulates the Director General on his re-election and values his leadership in supporting innovation, creativity and economic growth. In line with WIPO’s focus on connecting IP with innovation and economic impact, New Zealand has recently undertaken the most significant reform of its science and innovation system in more than 30 years. We have brought key business-facing innovation support services together within a new innovation services function, which sits alongside the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) to better support innovation-led growth. Our R&D tax incentive provides a 15 per cent tax credit on eligible expenditure; it has already provided 8.5 billion

New Zealand dollars in R&D and supported more than 2,200 businesses. Encouragingly, we are seeing these businesses increasingly invest in IP protection, highlighting the growing recognition of IP as a strategic asset. The IPONZ has introduced a new commercialization ecosystem framework to help innovators to better understand and leverage their IP. We are also strengthening policy settings to ensure that IP delivers greater commercial and economic value, including support for Māori innovation and enterprises to develop high-value products that integrate scientific research and *Mātauranga Māori* (traditional Māori knowledge) on unique biological resources. Our policy work program includes updating our copyright regime, extending protection, aligning with key international partners and supporting a more consistent global framework for creators.

96. [NIGER](#): The Delegation of Niger, on behalf of the President of Niger, congratulates the Director General on his re-election. Aligning itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Group of LDCs, Niger remains firmly attached to multilateralism and development cooperation. It supports efforts to achieve the SDGs and the Lisbon Agreement. Niger repeats its call for the increased use of geographical indications and collective marks, for the establishment and improvement of the institutional framework and for the provision of capacity-building by WIPO external offices. Niger received WIPO's support in its review of copyright and related rights regulation in order to incorporate TCEs into it. Two activities conducted in 2025 have helped to boost the consideration of IP assets by Niger businesses as a lever for competitiveness. The first was a mentorship program for 32 businesses and the second a project to support 50 women's businesses. Niger is planning, also with the support of WIPO, to establish a "Made in Niger" national brand to bring all products together and protect Nigerien know-how. Niger recently ratified the Marrakesh Treaty and remains open to constructive discussions.

97. [NIGERIA](#): Nigeria warmly congratulates the Director General on his re-election and aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group. Over the past year, a single thread has run through Nigeria's engagement across this Organization's normative architecture, from the negotiations on TK and TCEs through the emerging frameworks on digital governance and AI and on to the advancing work on copyright limitations and exceptions. This thread is the conviction that IP must operate as a living instrument of inclusion. From sports to Afrobeat, Nollywood, fashion, food science, literature and technology, Nigerians are known globally to be highly creative and innovative people. However, not enough of the value generated is coming to our economy. This is about to change. Internally, the Government has undertaken sweeping reforms in our IP ecosystem as a top priority, with the launch in 2025 of a comprehensive national IP policy and strategy being implemented through an interministerial steering committee, which I co-chair with the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, represented here by the Solicitor-General, as well as an interagency coordination group to drive technical delivery. We place on record our appreciation for WIPO's technical support on the policy's development and we were delighted to receive the Director General in Abuja, his first time in Nigeria, just last month. The seriousness of this commitment is reflected in this very room. Nigeria's unprecedented Delegation to these Assemblies draws from the public and private sectors, including some of the most critical stakeholders in our IP ecosystem. Beneath these milestones lies steady technical work: our IP registries are being upgraded; the protection of traditional medical knowledge is proceeding through our patent registries; legislative reform is ongoing; and stakeholder engagements are being galvanized. On the margins of these Assemblies, the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria and WIPO Nigeria Office are working on jointly placing IP into the hands of the MSMEs that power our economy. Last week, I assumed the role of Chair of African ministers responsible for trade in the AfCFTA. Nigeria is also digital trade co-champion for the AfCFTA. There is, therefore, a continental imperative to prioritize IP protection and commercialization in Africa. None of this is incidental. As the DA approaches its twentieth anniversary, its foundational instrumentality,

the mechanism by which developing and emerging economies convert IP from a restrictive legal construct to a cross-sectoral engine of industrialization, technology transfer and shared prosperity is indisputable. Nigeria, therefore, calls for full mainstreaming of the DA across every committee and norm-setting process in the Organization. In a fragmenting world, WIPO's multilateral centrality is a strategic necessity. Nigeria affirms its unwavering commitment to building, within these walls, an inclusive, balanced and future-ready global IP ecosystem, one that leaves no region behind.

98. [OMAN](#): There is an ongoing need to make the international IP system more efficient, inclusive and responsive to the needs of Member States, while taking into account differing levels of development and promoting innovation and knowledge transfer. It is also important to entrench the principles of transparency, efficiency and equitable geographical representation in the filling of senior and other posts in the Organization, in a manner that reflects its international character. Oman continues to develop its national IP system in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, as a pillar supporting a knowledge-based economy and fostering innovation. The IP sector has seen important qualitative developments in recent years, most notably work on the national IP plan, development of the legislative and institutional framework, the expansion of digital services, and more efficient procedures for registering and protecting IPRs. By establishing the Scientific Research and Innovation Authority, Oman has signaled its intention to build an integrated national system that links scientific research, innovation and IP, thereby helping to transform research output into products and technologies with added value, making the national economy more competitive and encouraging investment in innovation. Oman takes pride in its close partnership with WIPO, encapsulated in programs and initiatives in the areas of strategic planning, capacity-building, and training in cooperation with the WIPO Academy, all of which is helping us to develop our national IP system. We also take pride in our cooperation with the Organization in showcasing Omani cultural heritage through the exhibition From Oman to the World, held at WIPO Headquarters in 2025, as well as in the registration of Omani frankincense as an international geographical indication. The latter will go a long way to enhancing protection for this historically and economically important national product, consolidating its position in global markets and supporting the development of the industries based on it, especially in the medical, cosmetic, perfume and other value-added sectors. Oman hopes to work more closely with WIPO, particularly in the areas of innovation, the creative economy, entrepreneurship, digital transformation, technology transfer and capacity-building. It is important to keep pace with technological developments, foremost among them AI, through strengthened capacity-building, the exchange of expertise and policy-making on their responsible use, with a view to fostering innovation and sustainable development. Oman will continue to pursue constructive cooperation with WIPO and all Member States so as to build a global IP system that is more efficient, inclusive and balanced: one that nurtures innovation and creativity to bring about sustainable development for all.

99. [PAKISTAN](#): The Delegation of Pakistan, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the APG, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and appreciates the Secretariat's responsiveness to Member States' priorities. Pakistan deeply values WIPO's commitment to an inclusive, balanced and development-oriented IP system, and particularly appreciates its project-based, demand-driven technical assistance in strengthening national innovation ecosystems. Mainstreaming the DA across the Organization's work remains unfinished business that could allow IP to be further leveraged for lasting socioeconomic impact globally. With WIPO's cooperation, Pakistan is implementing significant reforms to modernize its IP ecosystem, including formulating its first national IP strategy, amending its patent and copyright laws, an inventor assistance program, completing its IP training institute project and integrating it with the IP Academy of Pakistan, strengthening its CMO, furthering IP advocacy and drafting

IPR enforcement rules. At the national level, Pakistan is at an advanced stage of consultation on accession to the GRATK Treaty and has completed the legal groundwork for accession to the WIPO Internet Treaties. Pakistan reiterates that any further agreement on terms of reference for the evaluation of WIPO external offices should be based on a transparent, objective and consensus-based process, and remains keen to continue cooperation with WIPO on its national IP roadmap, digitalization and automation, and further legal reforms to align its IP framework with international best practices.

100. [PANAMA](#): The Delegation of Panama aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC. Panama reaffirms its commitment to a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented international IP system. Innovation, creativity and IP are fundamental tools for promoting economic growth, strengthening competitiveness and creating opportunities for our people. We deeply value the technical cooperation that WIPO continues to provide to Panama, which contributes to the strengthening of our institutional capacity and the development of a national innovation ecosystem that responds to the technological challenges we are currently facing. An example of this is the recent drafting of a law on layout designs of integrated circuits. We trust that, during these Assemblies, we will see the spirit of dialogue, consensus and cooperation that characterizes this Organization, allowing us to move forward with an agenda that responds to the needs and priorities of all Member States.

101. [PARAGUAY](#): The Delegation of Paraguay, representing its national IP office, fully supports the statement delivered by the Delegation of El Salvador on behalf of GRULAC and a solid, balanced and inclusive IP system that protects rights holders while addressing imbalances and differing levels of development among Member States. Paraguay congratulates the Director General on his re-election. In recent years, Paraguay has modernized its institutions by streamlining processes, digitalizing services and strengthening client service. It has also seen an increase in the number of applications for marks, patents and industrial designs and has registered its first two geographical indications, a historic step in enhancing the value of local produce. On enforcement, Paraguay, as Vice Chair of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE), has helped to build a national enforcement campaign with WIPO's support, and hosted, for the first time, the regional meeting of heads of copyright offices of Latin America. It continues to promote innovation and entrepreneurship through initiatives implemented with WIPO support, including the creation of an innovation, creativity and IP observatory under the CDIP program, and has established its first Higher IP Institute to strengthen national capacity for innovation, technology transfer and the management of intangible assets. Paraguay reiterates its commitment to continue working towards a more efficient, inclusive and development-focused IP system.

102. [PERU](#): Allow me to begin by congratulating the Director General on his re-election and expressing our best wishes for his new term. Peru has concluded its internal process of ratifying the GRATK Treaty and will be depositing the corresponding instrument to this Organization. Peru will thus have the honor of being the first country in Latin America and the Caribbean to formally accede to this historic instrument, which represents significant progress for the protection of biodiversity and TK of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. In addition, my country is grateful to WIPO for its ongoing support for capacity-building in innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship, in particular for businesswomen and vulnerable groups. It is also an honor for Peru to have been chosen as Chair of ACE and Vice Chair of the SCT, which reflects the trust that Member States have in us and our commitment to the work of this Organization. We would like to reiterate our willingness to continue working with WIPO and its Member States to promote a more balanced, inclusive and sustainable development-oriented IP system.

103. [PHILIPPINES](#): The Philippines extends its warm congratulations to the Director General on his re-election. We are confident that, under his continued visionary leadership, WIPO will continue to strengthen an inclusive and innovation-driven global IP ecosystem. As the current Chair of ASEAN, the Philippines is proud to advance regional initiatives that contribute to the global IP system. Among our priority economic deliverables is the development of an ASEAN IP valuation manual, which is aimed at strengthening the capacity of enterprises, innovators and institutions to unlock the value of intangible assets. This will further spur commercialization initiatives and IP-backed financing across the ASEAN region. Since the previous Assemblies, the Philippines has further strengthened its geographical indications framework by recognizing four more products: Guimaras mangoes, Aklan piña cloth, Albuquerque Asin Tibuok and the T'nalak Tau Sebu. We have also launched the logo for Philippine geographical indications, reinforcing the protection and promotion of products that reflect our rich cultural heritage and local communities. On IP enforcement, the Philippines recently opened an IP help desk in one of Metro Manila's major malls, bringing IP services closer to businesses, creators and consumers. The Philippines also affirms its commitment to supporting the global patent system through our application to extend our appointment as an ISA and IPEA. We express our sincere appreciation to WIPO for its active engagement and support for the priorities of the Philippines and for being a key partner in advancing initiatives that highlight the importance of IP in the economy. We look forward to the visit of the Director General in the coming months. The Philippines, through the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, looks forward to continuing and deepening its strong partnership with WIPO in the years ahead.

104. [POLAND](#): The Delegation of Poland aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States and by the Delegation of Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group. Let me warmly congratulate the Director General on his re-election. We wish him success in accomplishing the tasks set for his new term, and thank him for his excellent leadership. My Delegation commends WIPO on its financial performance and accountability, achieved in a challenging and uncertain global environment. We acknowledge WIPO's continued efforts to build on its traditional areas of strength by further refining IP registration services that respond to the needs of users and support the growth of filing activity worldwide. In this context, we also appreciate the Organization's activities beyond its core registration function. It is widely recognized that frontier technologies, including AI, are evolving rapidly. Poland attaches great importance to AI-related inventions and AI policy. In May 2026, the Patent Office of Poland introduced an AI strategy and an AI policy with the aim of using AI to support its objectives in a safe, ethical and lawful manner. In this context, WIPO should continue its efforts to explore the intersection of IP and transformative technologies. We appreciate the continued focus of WIPO on programs aimed at increasing the participation of young people and women in the IP ecosystem. My Delegation also greatly values the initiatives for SMEs, start-ups and entrepreneurs. Poland would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the report on assistance to Ukraine (A/68/7) and for providing tailored assistance and support to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and IP system. Poland reiterates its unwavering solidarity with Ukraine and its people. We thank WIPO and, in particular, the Division for Transition and Developed Countries (TDC) for their excellent cooperation and invaluable support.

105. [PORTUGAL](#): The Delegation of Portugal, aligning itself with the statements delivered on behalf of Group B, the CPLP and the EU and its member States, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and reaffirms Portugal's confidence in his leadership and in the Organization's stated mission. In 2026, the National Industrial Property of Portugal (INPI) is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary as a public institute. In the five decades of its existence, INPI has established itself as a modern institution and a leading institution in the protection of industrial property rights and in supporting innovation. With the assistance of WIPO, it has implemented numerous initiatives and projects to strengthen the national

industrial property ecosystem. The activities to celebrate the anniversary include an international conference to be held on October 16, 2026, in the presence of the Director General. That will be an opportunity to reflect on the future of the industrial property in Portugal and in the international context. INPI also appreciates the vital support that WIPO has provided to the CPLP countries. It has been decisive in strengthening institutional capacities and in developing robust and effective IP systems. Portugal expresses solidarity with Ukraine and reaffirms its unwavering support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of that country, its integration into Europe and WIPO's continued assistance to the Ukrainian IP system. At a time of rapid technological evolution and given the growing importance of intangible assets, IP plays a central role in promoting innovation, creativity, competitiveness and sustainable development. It is therefore important to continue promoting efficient, inclusive and accessible IP systems that are able to respond to current challenges and support inventors, creators, businesses and local producers, including through the valuable platform of geographical indications. Portugal will continue working in cooperation with WIPO and contribute to strengthening an international IP system that promotes innovation and creativity, fosters economic growth and contributes to the achievement of the SDGs.

106. [QATAR](#): I take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to the Director General on his appointment for a second term to lead the Organization. This reflects the well-deserved global confidence placed in his sage vision and tangible efforts to harness innovation and creativity for comprehensive and sustainable development. In light of the accelerating structural transformations that the world is witnessing, especially the technological revolution and AI, international efforts to ensure an inclusive and balanced global IP system that serves all countries, developed and developing alike, are vital. The scope of cooperation has expanded to include economic, educational and judicial dimensions, in addition to ADR, arbitration and mediation. In coordination with WIPO, Qatar is drafting its national IP strategy, with the aim of aligning innovation policies with the Qatar National Vision 2030 and achieving the desired shift toward a sustainable, knowledge-based economy. With regard to the protection of broadcasting rights and combating online piracy, Qatar is following closely the ongoing discussions in the SCCR on a WIPO treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations. In view of the importance of the matter, we need to establish a firm international legal framework to protect broadcasting organizations' rights and combat cross-border piracy. We commend WIPO on its efforts in support of regional IP policies, in particular the MoU signed by WIPO and the Secretariat of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) on an IP training center to provide the latest services to all GCC countries. Qatar remains ready to work with Member States to ensure the success of these Assemblies, and committed to continuing thereafter to support WIPO's efforts to enable a global IP system that fosters innovation and ensures equal opportunities and sustainable development for all countries.

107. [REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#): It is my great honor to address these Assemblies on behalf of the Republic of Korea as its first Minister of Intellectual Property. IP is no longer a mere tool for protecting innovation. It has become a strategic asset that shapes industrial competitiveness and the future of nations. Against this backdrop, the Republic of Korea's elevation of the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) to the Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP) in October 2025 reflects our firm commitment to placing IP at the center of our national growth strategy. This elevation also aligns with the broader evolution of the global IP ecosystem, which WIPO and its Member States have advanced together. Going beyond examination and registration, the Ministry will serve as a central body for shaping and coordinating national IP policies and supporting the full cycle of innovation. As the country's chief IP officer, I will lead this effort with commitment and dedication. Our goal is clear. IP must not remain merely a record of rights on paper, but become a dynamic asset that drives real market value. To that end, we will have high-quality

technologies secure timely protection and connect them to transactions, investment and financing, as well as ensuring that strong patents lead to new business, industries and jobs. Recent trends in AI are lowering barriers to innovation and creativity, but they also raise new challenges, such as the need to address the increasing number of AI-assisted applications, refine examination criteria, and assess fair use considerations relating to AI training data. A clear and balanced framework is therefore needed. The Republic of Korea will continue to improve its laws, examination standards, copyright guidelines and application support systems, while protecting the rights and interests of innovators and creators. We will also use AI technologies to detect online IP infringements more quickly and strengthen IP protection and enforcement in the digital environment. At the same time, we will build IP administration infrastructure suited to the AI era. Finally, we will strengthen IP literacy across society, so that researchers, entrepreneurs, SMEs and students can better understand and use IP. The launch of the MOIP is more than an institutional change. It is a new opportunity. We must ask how IP offices can move beyond registration and become strategic institutions for innovation-led growth, and how the IP system can adapt to AI while maintaining balance between innovation and protection. These questions reflect the broader transformations of the IP landscape and I hope all Member States will join us in seeking the answers together. Through this shared effort, we can make IP a bridge that connects ideas with markets, creators with users, technology with investment, and countries with one another. The Republic of Korea will continue to pioneer new paths for IP-driven growth and share its experience and achievements for the benefit of the wider international community.

108. [REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA](#): The Republic of Moldova aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group. We reaffirm our unwavering support for Ukraine and welcome WIPO's continued cooperation with Ukrainian institutions. We congratulate the Director General on his reappointment and reaffirm our commitment to working closely with him and the Secretariat on WIPO's mandate. We are confident that the Organization's leadership will continue to respond effectively to the evolving needs of Member States. We commend WIPO for its work in addressing the legal, technological and policy challenges arising from rapid innovation and digital transformation, and look forward to the successful implementation of the Program of Work and Budget for the 2026/27 biennium. At the national level, the Republic of Moldova continues to modernize its IP system in line with international and European standards. A defining milestone this year was the Republic of Moldova becoming the fortieth member of the European Patent Office (EPO) in June 2026. Together with our participation in the PCT, this strengthens access for Moldovan inventors, researchers and businesses to the global patent system. As an EU candidate country, the Republic of Moldova remains firmly committed to aligning its IP framework with the European *acquis*. Our legislative reform agenda continues to advance. This year, Parliament adopted new legislation on semiconductors, topographies and geographical indications. Further reforms are underway, including a revised Copyright Act and a new Trademark Act to enter into force in 2027. These efforts reflect our commitment to a modern, innovation-driven IP system. In parallel, institutional reforms have strengthened governance in the field of IP. On January 1, 2026, the State Agency on Intellectual Property was placed under the Ministry of Justice, reinforcing institutional coherence and supporting the national legal reform agenda. We will also continue to strengthen enforcement and capacity-building. The Observatory on Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights has been reorganized to enhance cooperation among the relevant authorities; we highly value our partnership with WIPO in this regard. Continuous education remains essential. In cooperation with the WIPO Academy, we have finalized the first Romanian-language distance learning course on IP for judges, which will be launched in October 2026. We also welcome the expansion of WIPO's academic programs, including course DL-410 on IP enforcement. Empowering young people is a priority. This year, we mark the tenth edition of our national IP competition and we are advancing preparation with WIPO and regional partners for a youth camp for young women in science, technology, engineering and

mathematics (STEM), creativity and innovation. The Republic of Moldova remains firmly committed to supporting WIPO's work and to contributing to a balanced and effective international IP system.

109. [ROMANIA](#): The Delegation of Romania, aligning itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States and by the Delegation of Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group, congratulates the Director General on his reappointment and recognizes his leadership and commitment to strengthening the international IP system across all regions. Romania appreciates WIPO's role as a global forum for dialogue and cooperation on IP. At the national level, Romania continues to consolidate its IP system through sustained examination activity, legislative development and awareness-raising in copyright and industrial property. Romania values its cooperation with WIPO on key joint projects, including one to support cultural sustainability and economic revitalization through the protection and promotion of TK and TCEs, carried out by the Romanian Copyright Office together with the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM), and a DA project on enhancing IP education capacities at artistic and creative academic institutions. In September, 2026, WIPO and its Academy will organize a regional event in Romania for girls in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) on creativity, innovation, IP and entrepreneurship, with the participation of 50 young students from Romania, Bulgaria and the Republic of Moldova. Romania reiterates its readiness to host a WIPO external office in Bucharest, having first proposed this in 2010 and restated its offer at each call for proposals, in accordance with the guiding principles; a new external office in Bucharest would boost the IP system and promote WIPO services and values across Central and Eastern Europe.

110. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): For the Russian Federation, IP is a strategic priority and it is continuing to grow rapidly. The President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, has repeatedly stated that IP plays an important role in our country's economy. This year, the Government, at a strategic session, outlined key areas for the development of the IP sector in the Russian Federation to 2036. The main priorities include improving the quality and reducing the timeframes for provision of public services, digitalizing all work processes, actively using AI technologies, developing the IP market and commercializing scientific developments. Thanks to the measures carried out over the past year, the number of patent applications increased by almost 11 per cent and trademark registrations increased by 12 per cent, exceeding 1 million brands. Geographical indications and appellations of origin were registered in almost every part of the country. The effective use of the most up-to-date digital technologies in the work of Rospatent has resulted in more than 80 per cent of applications being filed exclusively online, and the timeframes for expert assessment are among the fastest in the world. At the same time, there is a negative trend: in studying the reports on the outcomes of WIPO's work, we noticed that there has not been growth in applications to international systems, in particular the PCT and Madrid systems. This trend is driven, inter alia, by the failure of certain countries to fulfil their international obligations in good faith. In particular, the EU continues to impose illegitimate, unilateral restrictive measures, which have taken the form of blatant discrimination against Russian applicants on the grounds of their nationality. This leads to a loss of trust among applicants in the international system as a whole and forces them to seek alternative ways to legally protect their innovations. Such a signal cannot be ignored – this is detrimental to the global IP system and, of course, its users. It should be recalled that WIPO is a neutral, specialized organization established to boost creativity and build a balanced international IP system for the benefit of all. Its stability can only be maintained with the strict observance of the balance of interests, the principle of non-discrimination and the protection of rights. We once again call on Member States to refrain from politicizing IP. For our part, we are prepared to engage in further constructive work through WIPO and with Member States.

111. [RWANDA](#): The Delegation of Rwanda, aligning itself with the statements delivered by the groups to which it belongs, congratulates the Director General on his election to a second term. Rwanda recognizes IP as a key driver of innovation, creativity and sustainable economic development and values its partnership with WIPO in strengthening its national IP ecosystem. Over the past year, Rwanda has benefited from several WIPO-supported initiatives, including a regional workshop on text- and data-mining under the CDIP program and the launch, in December 2025, of a customized distance-learning program developed with the WIPO Academy. Rwanda is preparing to develop its national IP strategy with support from WIPO's Division for Africa, which it is confident will better integrate IP into its innovation and economic transformation agenda and promote entrepreneurship, creativity and youth empowerment as pillars of its knowledge-based economy. Rwanda reaffirms its commitment to working closely with WIPO and all Member States to ensure that IP continues to contribute to innovation, inclusive growth and sustainable development.

112. [SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES](#): The Delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines extends its congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment, commending his continued commitment to strengthening the IP systems of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through meaningful technical assistance and capacity-building. It looks forward to continued collaboration during his new term. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has benefited significantly from WIPO's support, particularly the valuable assistance provided to its national library and Ministry of Education through the ABC and the Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) Consortium, improving access to knowledge and educational resources for persons with print disabilities. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains committed to advancing regional cooperation on IP, looking forward to continued engagement on establishing the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) patent system. It also looks forward to advancing the modernization of its plant variety protection framework by updating its legislation to further align with the relevant convention during the second half of 2026. It reaffirms its commitment to working closely with WIPO and its Member States to ensure that IP continues to support innovation, inclusive development and sustainable economic growth.

113. [SAMOA](#): *Talofa lava* and warm greetings from the independent State of Samoa. We congratulate the Director General on his reappointment and look forward to his continued leadership in modernizing WIPO's services, strengthening development outcomes and advancing its treaty-making agenda. The pathway for the development of Samoa for the next five years takes a people-centered and community-empowerment approach to sustainable development and resilience grounded in our faith in God. Our work at WIPO can deliver on Samoa's priorities, including strengthening governance, boosting private sector competitiveness, advancing digital transformation, protecting cultural and creative industries, enabling technology transfer for climate resilience, enhancing international cooperation, and our renewed emphasis on Samoan culture and TK. Samoa appreciates the qualification of the Measina Samoa: Malofie project under the WIPO Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program. This project will support the branding and IP protection of Samoa's traditional tattoos – the *tatau* for men and *malu* for women – and affirms the importance of safeguarding Indigenous cultural heritage. We also appreciate that Samoa is a beneficiary of the WIPO GREEN Acceleration Project in the Pacific. We anticipate that the needs assessment to be undertaken will inform our innovative green technology solutions, which can address climate adaptation in Samoa. The protection of GRs, TK and TCEs in Samoa is essential to ensuring equitable benefit-sharing with rightful custodians. Samoa urges continued progress towards an international legal instrument to protect TK and TCEs, which is a priority for Samoa, the Pacific and Indigenous Peoples globally. We thank the Director General and the Secretariat across its divisions, including the Division for Asia and the Pacific and those relating to TK, the ABC, the Lisbon Registry, the Madrid Registry and the IP Office Business Solutions Division, for all the support extended to Samoa. IPAS

remains central to Samoa's IP registry and we value WIPO's continued technical assistance. We also acknowledge the support of Australia and other Member States that continue to respond to Samoa's call for capacity-building. We are pleased that the Samoa Regional Workshop on the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (GRATK) will be held in October 2026 in Suva, Fiji, to enhance knowledge and understanding of the Treaty. We also acknowledge the workshop on traditional medical knowledge, which was held in Bombay, India, last December, and which brought together traditional healers from across the Pacific to share experiences, network and consider how IP can safeguard generations of healing wisdom. The ministerial dialogue yesterday on the intersection of IP and sports and building bridges for innovation and creativity was useful and informative. I reaffirm Samoa's commitment to its WIPO obligations and to work in partnership with Member States, WIPO and our development partners in building bridges and advancing an inclusive, innovative and creative future for all.

114. [SAUDI ARABIA](#): The Delegation of Saudi Arabia, speaking in its national capacity, aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the groups to which it belongs. Since the last Assemblies, Saudi Arabia has continued to develop its IP system and enhance its integration with the international system, by updating legislative and regulatory frameworks and improving service quality, thereby supporting innovation and creativity and enhancing the attractiveness of the investment environment. The positive impact of the adoption of the Protection of Geographical Indications Act and updating of the Copyright Act is reflected in the improved operational performance indicators of the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP) and a rise in the number of IP applications. The growth rate of filed patent applications reached 28 per cent compared with the previous year, while the number of trademark and industrial design applications grew by 23 per cent and 25 per cent, respectively. SAIP also achieved a score of 98.4 per cent on the comprehensive quality indicator. With regard to capacity-building and the promotion of a culture of IP, more than 100,000 trainees attended the Intellectual Property Academy in 2025, representing growth of nearly 300 per cent over the previous period. Among them were 2,517 trainees from 52 countries other than Saudi Arabia. The reconciliation service for resolving IP disputes also witnessed significant growth, receiving more than 380 requests, which is an indicator of increasing confidence in ADR mechanisms. SAIP is also discharging its functions as an ISA and IPEA under the PCT, thereby helping to support the international patent system and meeting the growing demand for high-quality search and examination services in the region. We are pleased to announce that, during these Assemblies, Saudi Arabia will deposit its instruments of accession to the Riyadh DLT and to the Madrid Protocol. My Delegation is also pleased to announce that programs under the WIPO Saudi Funds-in-Trust (SAFIT) are ongoing. SAFIT provides a platform for development cooperation, capacity-building and the transfer of expertise to developing countries, reflecting the importance that Saudi Arabia attaches to IP as a tool for socioeconomic development. We are also proud to launch an IP and sports initiative with WIPO and international partners. On November 11, 2025, SAIP, in cooperation with the GCC Patent Office, the IP offices of GCC member States, and WIPO, celebrated patent examiners, giving practical expression to the initiative to honor examiners on November 11 each year. There is a need to enhance multilingualism in the Organization, including through the adoption of Arabic as one of the working languages in the Madrid and Hague systems. That will enable users in Arab countries to benefit more fully from the Organization's services and international systems. Saudi Arabia fully supports WIPO in its pivotal role of promoting innovation and creativity, both of which contribute to achieving sustainable development worldwide.

115. [SENEGAL](#): My Delegation would like to congratulate the Director General and commend him on the remarkable contribution that he and his collaborators make to the effectiveness of the international IP system. We welcome the priorities outlined in the Director General's opening statement, in particular with regard to regulating and

democratizing IP, modernizing the global ecosystem to allow it to thrive and adapt to technological developments, and, above all, the dream of making WIPO an organization worthy of its Member States. We have faith in the Director General's vision. The statement delivered on behalf of the African Group, which my Delegation endorses, recalled the need to ensure a balance between protecting IP rights and giving the public access to the benefits of innovation. In this spirit, my country would like to call for a diplomatic conference to adopt a draft treaty on copyright exceptions and limitations, as proposed by the African Group. We also call for an international patent system that is more mindful of the legitimate concerns of local and Indigenous communities in order to protect GRs and TK from misappropriation. Senegal is committed to strengthening its IP system to transform it into a catalyst for development. In this connection, we express our appreciation for the support of WIPO, thanks to which Senegal has benefited from a number of initiatives, including one on IP in the sports sector, approved in 2025, and the approval of the geographical indication for Madd de Casamance. Appropriate technologies have previously enabled us to boost the competitiveness of certain agricultural sectors and make use of agrifood waste by extracting essential oils. At the institutional level, the Senegalese Agency for Industrial Property and Technological Innovation (ASPIT) and the Senegalese Copyright and Related Rights Society (SODAV) support the implementation of our national IP policy, which has been integrated into Senegal 2050, our new national agenda for transformation; we are very much counting on the continued support of WIPO for the implementation of that agenda. We hope that the Director General will soon visit Senegal. My Delegation reiterates its constructive commitment to collaborating with you and contributing actively to the successes of WIPO.

116. [SERBIA](#): The Delegation of Serbia congratulates the Director General on his re-election and wishes him every success in his future work. Through the EU4IP project, and with assistance from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Serbia is preparing a study on the impact of counterfeiting and piracy on its economy, to establish how much real damage the country suffers from illegal activities and which sectors are most affected. The Serbian Parliament recently ratified the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement. Protection of geographical indications might not be the foundation of any country's macroeconomy, but in every country it can help farmers to live better. Serbia places great importance on the collective management of copyright and related rights: virtually all rights holders in Serbia are organized through eight specialized CMOs, the newest of which represents visual artists. According to a report by CISAC, total revenues collected by all organizations in Serbia rose by 9.2 per cent in 2024, placing Serbia forty-fourth in the world in total collections – a solid result for a market of its size. The Intellectual Property Office is also strengthening its capacities using AI, including ANSERA (A New Search ERA), an AI-based patent examination tool developed by EPO, with an AI-based trademark examination system to follow. Serbia thanks the Director General and his team for their support in building its IP system over the years and looks forward to continued fruitful cooperation.

117. [SIERRA LEONE](#): The Delegation of Sierra Leone aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group. Sierra Leone remains firmly committed to building a balanced, inclusive and innovation-driven IP system that serves our national development goals, supports economic diversification and advances the SDGs. In recent years, Sierra Leone has achieved significant milestones. The Cabinet has approved the ratification of almost all major WIPO-administered treaties, demonstrating our commitment to aligning with international standards, with the invaluable technical assistance of WIPO. We have also successfully deployed the IPAS 4.0 system, a major step forward in modernizing our IP administration, improving service delivery and enhancing transparency. To foster innovation from the ground up, we launched the IP School Club initiative, integrating IP awareness into extracurricular learning. We have also concluded an MoU between the Office of the Administrator and Registrar General and the Directorate of Science, Technology and

Innovation, a model partnership that we intend to replicate with universities and research institutions. Discussions with higher education institutions are already underway to integrate WIPO academic programs into their curricula. We have expanded our nationwide IP awareness-raising campaign through workshops, media engagement and capacity-building initiatives, targeting creators, entrepreneurs, law enforcement, the legal community and the private sector. We are encouraged by growing public recognition of IP as a catalyst for economic growth and innovation. Despite this progress, challenges remain. Sierra Leone still lacks a fully operational CMO, which constrains the administration and enforcement of copyright in our creative sectors. Enforcement more broadly requires greater coordination and technical capacity. We also recognize the need to strengthen human resources, expand digital infrastructure and increase the participation of SMEs, women and young people in the IP ecosystem. Sierra Leone therefore welcomes continued collaboration with WIPO on legislative modernization, copyright management, enforcement and IP education, and we particularly look forward to support to establish an effective CMO. The Government of Sierra Leone remains fully committed to a system that promotes creativity, rewards innovation, attracts investment and empowers our people. We express our sincere appreciation to the Director General, the Secretariat and all development partners for their continued support and reaffirm our commitment to working with all Member States to achieve a more inclusive and effective global IP system.

118. [SINGAPORE](#): The Delegation of Singapore, aligning itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the APG and the AWGIPC, congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, the outcome of the February election reflecting the confidence that Member States place in his vision, commitment and leadership, and reaffirms its strong support for his continued leadership. It urges all Member States to continue extending their full support to the Director General, his senior management team and the Secretariat, to ensure that IP delivers tangible benefits for everyone, everywhere. Singapore is firmly committed to strengthening multilateralism and WIPO's central role in developing a future-ready global IP ecosystem. Against a backdrop of rapid technological change and global uncertainty, WIPO's role in advancing a balanced, effective and impact-oriented global IP ecosystem is more important than ever; Singapore's own experience as a small, open economy has shown that innovation thrives when countries cooperate pragmatically to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes, and it therefore supports WIPO's efforts to build bridges across regions, perspectives and stages of development. Some of that work for Southeast Asia is carried out by the WIPO Singapore Office and the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center in Singapore, and Singapore is proud to be a partner on that front. Singapore also shares the Director General's vision of leveraging IP as a catalyst for economic prosperity: under its IP Strategy 2030, it is committed to helping innovators, creatives and enterprises to transform ideas into assets and assets into growth, including through a framework for intangibles disclosure and guidelines for intangible asset valuation, which help businesses to better identify, value and leverage their intangible assets and can also benefit the global IP community by facilitating cross-border understanding and transactions involving intangibles.

119. [SLOVAKIA](#): The Delegation of Slovakia, speaking on behalf of the Industrial Property Office of Slovakia, congratulates the Director General on his re-election, expressing confidence that it will bring efficiency and consistency to the administration of IPRs for all participating countries. Slovakia greatly appreciates its successful and practical cooperation with WIPO, highlighting the support received from the WIPO media team ahead of a conference in Bratislava in September, as well as the knowledge gained through various training webinars and workshops. Slovakia thanks the Director General and his team for their professionalism, pragmatism and commitment, and is confident that continued cooperation will make protection of intangible assets even more efficient for all. The Industrial Property Office reaffirms its belief in the high quality of its ongoing cooperation with WIPO.

120. [SLOVENIA](#): Slovenia aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the EU and its member States and on behalf of the CEBS Group. Slovenia congratulates the Director General on his appointment for a second mandate. We appreciate WIPO's positive performance and continued efforts to make IP more accessible, practical and relevant for users. We particularly welcome WIPO's focus on SMEs and start-ups, young people, women and future challenges, helping to ensure that IP becomes a tool for innovation, creativity and inclusive growth. This approach is closely aligned with the national IP strategy and action plan of Slovenia. For Slovenia, the value of cooperation with WIPO lies precisely in supporting a coherent approach to the whole IP cycle, from awareness-raising and education to the identification and protection of rights, and finally to their strategic use for commercialization, licensing, valuation and financing. In Slovenia, this has translated into very concrete results. We are concluding the first edition of the WIPO IP Management Clinic, providing innovative companies with practical support to develop their IP strategies. A further important example is IP valuation and IP-backed financing, which remain among our key priorities. Building on WIPO work, the Director General's encouragement and valuable exchanges with other Member States, four credit lines with the use of IP as collateral became available in Slovenia on July 1, 2026. Further measures are also being prepared, including national vouchers for IP valuation and certification from IP valuation experts. This development shows the importance of the practical support of WIPO for Member States in building services that bring tangible benefits to users. Slovenia remains committed to multilateralism and constructive engagement during these Assemblies and beyond.

121. [SOUTH AFRICA](#): South Africa congratulates the Director General on his appointment for a second term and expresses its support for his leadership. These Assemblies take place at a moment of profound technological and economic change. AI, digital technologies, biotechnology and the growing importance of intangible assets are shaping economies, industries and societies at an unprecedented scale. At the same time, the world continues to face complex development challenges, including poverty, inequality, public health pressures, food insecurity and climate change. These developments underscore the importance of ensuring that innovation and technological progress continue to contribute meaningfully to sustainable and inclusive development. The IP system must respond to these challenges and help to ensure that innovation and creativity contribute to industrialization, economic diversification and sustainable development. It must also support public health, education, climate resilience and the empowerment of women, young people, small enterprises, Indigenous Peoples and local communities. South Africa welcomes the important progress achieved in recent years, including the adoption of the GRATK Treaty and the Riyadh DLT. We also note the ongoing discussions across WIPO committees on copyright limitations and exceptions, patents and emerging technologies, geographical indications, TK and TCEs, standards, enforcement and global IP services. South Africa therefore calls for a renewed commitment to the DA, balanced norm-setting and practical technical assistance responsive to national and regional priorities. We also encourage continued efforts to strengthen innovation ecosystems, technology transfer, capacity-building and the commercialization of research and innovation, particularly in developing countries. South Africa reiterates its commitment to constructive engagement and an IP system that serves all of humanity by reflecting the diversity, creativity and development aspirations of all nations and peoples.

122. [SPAIN](#): Spain aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of Group B and the EU and its member States, and reaffirms its strong commitment to an efficient multilateralism in which multilingualism constitutes a key element. In the current context, multilateral cooperation is not an option but a necessity in order to ensure a relevant global IP system, of which the PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems are the backbone. Strengthening those systems, bearing in mind that they are not an end in themselves, is imperative. Industrial property must serve to create value and underpin competitiveness. That is why it is essential to continue to make progress on the transfer, commercialization

and use of industrial property as an asset for financing. We encourage the Organization to continue working in this area. These objectives and those of the DA are compatible, and only by integrating them will we be able to build an inclusive IP system accessible to SMEs, women and young people all over the world. In view of the challenges posed by digital transformation, we call for a balanced copyright system that will continue to promote creativity while providing legal certainty for all stakeholders. Regarding financial matters, Spain underscores the importance of acting with caution in view of the volatility of the current international context and to ensure that resources are adequate to support the Organization's core mandate. Spain has a long-term commitment to Ibero-American cooperation, the role of which is reflected at WIPO in the work of Funds-In-Trust Spain. We would like to thank the Director General and his team, led by Marco Aleman, for their continuous collaboration with Spain in this area. Spain reaffirms its readiness to continue actively collaborating with WIPO and all Member States to build a modern, efficient, inclusive and solvent IP system able to respond to global challenges and create opportunities for all.

123. [SRI LANKA](#): The Delegation of Sri Lanka aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the APG. In its national capacity, Sri Lanka attaches great importance to IP as a tool for promoting innovation, creativity, trade, technology transfer and inclusive economic development. As the country continues its economic recovery and institutional reforms, a modern and accessible IP system remains essential to supporting investors, creators, women, young people and academia. Sri Lanka will continue to work closely with WIPO to strengthen its national IP system under the bilateral agreement for technical support between WIPO and the Sri Lankan National Intellectual Property Office. The Office is implementing a digitalization and modernization program, having completed the scanning of IP documents in May 2026. Its national trademark collection is now available through WIPO's Global Brand Database, increasing the international visibility of Sri Lankan brands. Geographical indications remain a national priority, and Sri Lanka has enacted legislation to establish a national registration framework. In copyright, it continues to strengthen its national ecosystem through voluntary registration and CMOs. Sri Lanka appreciates WIPO's support through the GII and looks forward to further cooperation on strengthening innovation, R&D, university linkages and the practical use of IP. It also reaffirms its support for the DA.

124. [SUDAN](#): I wish to begin my statement by congratulating the Director General on his reappointment; I wish him every success. The Sudan aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the groups to which it belongs: the African Group, Arab Group and Group of LDCs. The Sudan attaches great importance to promoting and protecting IP, as it plays a vital role in economic development. It is striving to implement a number of projects in partnership with WIPO in order to build the capacity of its IP-related institutions. That includes devising a comprehensive national IP strategy and a project to register geographical indications for the valuable resources and products that distinguish the Sudan through the unique character of their geographic origin, high quality and rarity. Other projects include work on establishing a national IP training center and TISCs. It is regrettable that all these efforts have been stymied, and that those precious national assets have been destroyed as a result of the war launched by a rogue rebel militia operating outside the law, with continued military and political support from its regional sponsors. That includes the systematic targeting of infrastructure and the commission of large-scale terrorist and destructive acts aimed at the forced displacement of Indigenous populations and agricultural communities, as well as the destruction, burning and vandalization of research centers. The educated class and qualified human resources have been displaced from the country, severely harming the country's creativity and innovation sectors and affecting SMEs and businessmen and women. It is vital that technical assistance remain demand-driven, transparent and aligned with national priorities, and that it contribute effectively to capacity-building, modernization and digital transformation, all the while ensuring effective and equitable access for LDCs and conflict-affected countries to WIPO programs.

Fair geographical representation in the WIPO Secretariat, reflecting diversity and ensuring equal opportunities, is also important. The Delegation of the Sudan looks forward to WIPO playing an effective role in supporting recovery and reconstruction efforts, and helping to rebuild the IP system and promote innovation and sustainable development in the Sudan.

125. [SWEDEN](#): The Delegation of Sweden congratulates the Director General on his re-election and looks forward to continuing close cooperation in the coming years. Sweden fully supports the statements delivered by the Delegation of Germany on behalf of Group B and the Delegation of Ireland on behalf of the EU and its member States. On WIPO governance, Sweden expects transparency, efficiency and financial prudence, as well as continuous development of management practices and financial and operational oversight, to ensure an effective WIPO. Global IP services are at the core of WIPO's support to the IP community, and users should continue to expect the highest standard of service, in terms of quality and user-friendliness. Meanwhile, systems must be continuously updated to reflect evolving user needs. Sweden stands ready to contribute to this within the PCT System, the Madrid System, or the valuable work of the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS). Sweden recognizes the importance of IP commercialization and utilization and therefore supports WIPO's efforts to harness IP as a tool for competitiveness, innovation and sustainable development. Sweden values WIPO's technical assistance work, looking forward to the report on assistance and support for Ukraine's innovation, creativity and IP sector. Sweden looks forward to continuing cooperation with WIPO and the upkeep and development of international IP systems to the benefit of economic, social and cultural development for all.

126. [SWITZERLAND](#): The Delegation of Switzerland congratulates the Director General on his re-election and wishes him every success in his second term. As the host country for WIPO and other international organizations in Geneva, Switzerland will support the Director General's mission to promote and protect IP worldwide, particularly during the current period of turbulence in multilateralism, and will contribute to stronger cohesion and cooperation among the international organizations in Geneva. WIPO should concentrate on two priorities. First, global IP systems: it is of paramount importance for the Organization to continue developing all those systems, especially amid the current uncertainty in the global economy. Second, AI: this is a key priority for Switzerland, which will host the global AI Summit in 2027 and is, this very week, hosting the AI for Good Global Summit. Switzerland commends the Secretariat, in particular its IP and Frontier Technologies teams, on its work in this area, and requests that WIPO maintain its commitment to the area, especially given the rapid pace of technological development.

127. [SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC](#): The Delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic congratulates the Director General on the renewal of his mandate and wishes him success. We align ourselves with the statements delivered by the Delegations of Saudi Arabia and Algeria on behalf of the APG and the Arab Group, respectively. It is my honor to convey the message of a country that is building a new economic vision, one that places intellectual capital at the core of economic reconstruction, and that recognizes that IP is no longer merely a legal tool for protection. Rather, it has become vital to integrated economic and social policy and a fundamental pillar for transforming intangible assets into national wealth. Over the past year, the number of IP protection applications filed with our Office has recorded a significant increase, reflecting growing awareness and confidence. Applications for the registration of domestic and international trademarks during 2025 and the first half of the current year have shown unprecedented growth, exceeding twice the number recorded in 2024. This figure indicates increased awareness in the private sector and among innovators of the importance of IP as a business asset, and a transition from spontaneous creativity to structured innovation that is legally protected and capable of being licensed and franchised. This growth has placed a significant responsibility on us and has driven us to modernize our Office into a one-stop center for the provision of IP services, facilitating procedures, receiving and

examining applications, and improving the working environment. Efforts are also underway to develop a modern software system to deliver fully integrated digital services. As part of our ongoing efforts to develop the national legislative framework, we are updating the legal system governing the protection of IPRs to ensure its alignment with recent developments in this vital sector and with the requirements of international agreements in areas such as geographical indications and industrial designs. A new headquarters for the National Training Center on Intellectual Property Protection has also been established to serve as a hub for national expertise developed through leading programs with the WIPO Academy, including training-of-trainers courses implemented previously. On the sidelines of the Damascus International Fair, we organized an Innovation and Creativity Exhibition that attracted inventors holding patents in various fields, with the aim of building bridges with the private sector so that IP can connect with capital. At the conclusion of the exhibition, several agreements were signed and a number of innovations were commercialized, transforming inventions from mere certificates of IP protection into market products generating economic returns. The Syrian Arab Republic is also taking part in a growing range of international and regional events relating to IPRs. Most recently, it hosted a celebration with the theme of IP in the Development of Sports, which received wide media coverage and strong engagement from stakeholders and interested parties in the country. Patents are not only legal documents but represent a technological roadmap for national industry. Trademarks are ambassadors of our product identity in global markets. Building a national innovation system cannot be achieved in isolation from the international system. We extend our hand to strengthen technical cooperation: protecting an idea means protecting an opportunity, and nurturing an inventor means building the future.

128. [TAJIKISTAN](#): On behalf of the Delegation of Tajikistan, I take this opportunity to offer our warmest congratulations to the Director General on his re-election. We wish him health, happiness and new successes in his important work. Under his leadership, WIPO will continue to play a leading role in promoting innovation, supporting creative activity and strengthening international partnerships for the benefit of all WIPO Member States. Tajikistan highly values its longstanding constructive cooperation with WIPO. In particular, I wish to underscore our sincere appreciation to the TDC for its comprehensive support and active participation in the implementation of joint programs. Thanks to the support and the constructive, innovative initiatives of the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon, the country has entered a new phase of development. Industrial development, the digitalization of the economy, AI and the green economy are the main areas of the country's economic transformation. An important indicator of the development of the national innovation system is the significant growth in the number of applications for IP registration, particularly for inventions. This increase in activity is evidence of the growing interest among scientific communities, universities, research organizations and local businesses in legal protection for the results of intellectual activity. This trend is one of the indicators of the creation of an economy based on knowledge and innovation. In this connection, Tajikistan places particular emphasis on the development of the national IP market. Work is ongoing to create the conditions for technology transfer, IP licensing, the development of mechanisms for the valuation of IP assets and the expansion of opportunities to use them in institutional and entrepreneurial activity. We underscore our readiness to participate actively in WIPO activities and contribute to strengthening international cooperation in the interest of scientific and technological development.

129. [THAILAND](#): I would like to extend Thailand's warmest congratulations to the Director General on his re-election. Thailand has full confidence in his leadership to guide the global IP community forward. Thailand is deeply honored by WIPO's historic appointment of Her Royal Highness Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana Rajakanya of Thailand as the first ever WIPO Ambassador for Fashion and Design. She has actively empowered our local artisans to modernize traditional crafts, bridging heritage and modern design while keeping

their unique cultural identity alive. Through this role, Her Royal Highness could share these successful experiences with other Members' artisans, bringing local craftsmanship from small villages to the world stage. We sincerely thank WIPO for this. IP is not just a legal right but a practical engine for economic growth. In this connection, I would like to share some endeavors to strengthen our forward-looking IP ecosystem for relevant stakeholders. First, the world is moving towards investing in intangible assets and it will be necessary to create conditions that make IP financing work. We are now actively collaborating with financial stakeholders on IP financing, which allows SMEs and start-ups to secure venture capital and bank loans using their creative outputs and IP as collateral, rather than traditional fiscal assets. This provides innovative and creative SMEs with the vital liquidity needed to accelerate their commercial growth. Second, Thailand places the highest importance on WIPO's international IP registration system. Our SMEs and start-ups already utilize the Madrid and PCT systems to protect their brands and inventions globally prior to commercialization. Moving forward, we are expediting our accession to the Hague Agreement, which will allow our wealth of design talent to easily protect creations abroad. Simultaneously, we are also acceding to the WPPT to ensure that our musicians and artists are fairly protected and compensated in the online marketplace. We aim to accede to both treaties by the end of this year. I would also like to highlight the use of geographical indications. This could help to enrich local communities, not only through encouraging the registration of geographical indications and the protection of special community products, but also by working with local producers to formulate IP strategies and add value to products, namely adding branding and design aspects to serve consumer needs, maintaining quality control and matching products with domestic and international markets. Thailand has now registered 260 geographical indications across all provinces, benefiting more than 50,000 entrepreneurs and generating more than 116 billion baht (approximately €3 billion), in revenue. On average, the products' selling prices have increased by between two and five times after geographical indication certification. Thailand reaffirms its commitment to partnering with WIPO. We stand ready to build an IP system that is simple, fair and directly improves the lives of everyday people.

130. [TIMOR-LESTE](#): Timor-Leste aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Cambodia on behalf of the AWGIPC. Allow me to join fellow Member States in extending our warmest congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment. We commend you for your visionary leadership and continued commitment to advancing an inclusive, balanced and development-oriented global IP system. Timor-Leste highly values its partnership with WIPO and looks forward to further strengthening cooperation. These Assemblies are particularly significant for Timor-Leste. Since our accession to the WTO in August 2024 and our admission as a Member State of ASEAN in October 2025, our country has entered a new chapter of integration into the regional and global economy. This historic milestone strengthens our determination to build modern institutions, enhance competitiveness and advance sustainable economic development. IP is becoming an essential pillar of our national development strategy. We see it as a powerful instrument to foster innovation, support entrepreneurship, promote industrial development, strengthen our creative sectors and add value to Timor-Leste's products, knowledge and traditions. The Timor-Leste Industrial Property Code is in the final stage of approval by Parliament. Once enacted, it will provide a legal foundation for a modern IP system and enable the establishment of Timor-Leste's first national IP office. Our priority now is to implement, build effective institutions, develop human capacity, establish operational systems and ensure that IP becomes an instrument that serves innovators, entrepreneurs, creators and businesses throughout Timor-Leste. Allow me to underline that my personal presence at this Assembly as the Minister of Commerce and Industry reflects the importance that the Government of Timor-Leste attaches to its partnership with WIPO. It is also an expression of our profound gratitude for the support that the Organization has extended to our country over many years. WIPO technical assistance, expertise and dedication have been instrumental in helping

Timor-Leste to lay the foundation of its IP system and reach this important stage of development. As we move forward, we look to WIPO as a trusted partner and friend. We also respectfully invite Member States and development partners to accompany Timor-Leste in this next chapter. Technical cooperation, capacity-building, institutional partnership and the sharing of experiences will be crucial in helping us to transform our legal framework into a fully functioning and effective national IP ecosystem. As Thomas Edison wisely remarked, the value of an idea lies in the using of it. For Timor-Leste, this is the true promise of IP, transforming ideas into innovation, innovation into opportunity, and opportunity into prosperity for our people. Timor-Leste remains firmly committed to multilateral cooperation and to the mission of WIPO. We look forward to working with all Member States to ensure that IP continues to advance innovation, sustainable development and shared prosperity for all.

131. [TOGO](#): The Delegation of Togo commends the Director General for his work since his initial appointment, which has earned him the trust of Member States for a second term. IP is a strategic tool for competitiveness, value creation and sustainable development. The Government of Togo is fully aware of the importance of IP and considers it a priority for its economic development. It thanks the WIPO Secretariat and partners for their support in conducting an IP priority needs assessment for the country, the report of which was published in September 2025. Togo looks forward to further financial and technical support in drawing up its national IP strategy, promoting the enhancement of its geographical indications and its TISC network, and calls for increased international collaboration to ensure that LDCs can also harness the full advantages of the IP system for the benefit of their economies and human rights.

132. [TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO](#): Trinidad and Tobago is a small developing country in the Caribbean. Our wealth is not in our oil and gas alone, but rather in our people, their hopes, aspirations, culture and talent. As we gather for these Assemblies, Trinidad and Tobago recalls with pride the conclusion of last year's proceedings, where the sounds of our national instrument, the steel pan, brought the Assemblies to a close, showcasing the innovation that originated in our twin island nation. Since then, Trinidad and Tobago has also been honored by the overwhelming support it received from United Nations Member States for its election as a non-permanent member of the Security Council for 2027-2028. This achievement reflects the confidence of the international community in our commitment to multilateralism and international cooperation, values that underpin the work of WIPO and the global IP system. I wish to congratulate the Director General on his second term. Trinidad and Tobago looks forward to continuing its strong partnership with you and your team as we advance the IP agenda, strengthen innovation ecosystems and promote sustainable development in our respective regions. As a new administration, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has placed significant emphasis on strengthening our IP framework. Our Prime Minister, Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, was a pioneer for IP in our country and has established the Ministry of Land and Legal Affairs. The land aspect deals with tangible, real property and the legal affairs component deals, inter alia, with intangible IP. This shows our commitment and attention to IP in Trinidad and Tobago. We are continuing the work where we left off when we passed legislation to modernize the trademarks framework. Trinidad and Tobago continues to advance the modernization of its IP legislation. Upon returning to office, we immediately prioritized the updating of our Copyright Act to extend the term of protection from life+50 to life+70 years, and to extend the protection of sound recordings from 50 to 70 years. We are proud of our music. We have, therefore, strengthened the management and enforcement of rights in the creative sector. We are committed to acceding to the Hague Agreement and the Riyadh DLT, and the necessary legislative amendments are under way. In the area of plant variety protection, the country is reforming its legislative framework and intends to align with the 1991 Act of the International Convention for the Protection of New Plant Varieties (UPOV Convention). This will enhance protection for plant breeders and support innovation and resilience in our agricultural sector. Furthermore, in the Ministry of Land and Legal

Affairs, under my leadership as Minister, we have been able to prioritize advancements in our world famous fine flavor Trinitario cocoa, with the registration of a certification trademark. We are exploring rice, peppers and pineapple also. We have made significant progress under the WIPO-led creative economy data model. The national report has been completed, providing a comprehensive assessment of the contribution of the creative economy to Trinidad and Tobago. Work is now underway for the second phase, with completion anticipated by the end of 2026. These efforts will support our world famous creative sector, such as our carnival and steel pan. I invite everyone to our shows and to immerse yourself in our culture of sweet music and delicious food, and the warmth of our people. Trinidad and Tobago is a leader in IP in our region and remains committed to strengthening the IP ecosystem alongside our Caribbean colleagues. With WIPO's support, we continue to engage with OECS members on patent examination, cooperation and broader regional collaboration. Our government is actively considering IP valuation and IP-backed financing to help our local artists to access financing by using their talent as collateral. Trinidad and Tobago reaffirms its commitment to a balanced, inclusive and effective global IP system and continued engagement through multilateral, regional and national efforts.

133. [TUNISIA](#): The Delegation of Tunisia is pleased to congratulate the Director General on his election for a second term. We value his close cooperation and excellent relations with Tunisia. The Delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Arab Group. IP is key to building a knowledge-based economy and promoting innovation and creativity in Tunisia. It is continuing, therefore, to work on an integrated IP system. International and regional cooperation is essential; in that regard, Tunisia would like to see the establishment of a pan-African IP office. Tunisia could host such an office, which would enrich the IP landscape. Many successful activities and programs were conducted in 2026 in conjunction with WIPO, including the first Regional Conference of IPTIs of Arab Countries, hosted by Tunisia, and a project to reduce workplace accidents and illnesses through innovation and IP. Under the auspices of the CDIP, Tunisia also conducted a project on IP as a tool for wealth creation for traditional craftswomen in rural areas: creating a collective mark for Jebiniana *mouchtia* (a textile product) has helped to enhance the economic value of traditional products and preserve national heritage. Several other projects will be launched in the second half of 2026, including one designed to raise awareness and promote a culture of respect for IPRs in the media. Tunisia is fully committed to supporting WIPO and its various bodies, and to continuing cooperation with a view to fostering a global IP system that is fairer and more inclusive and effective, in a way that keeps pace with our peoples' aspirations for sustainable development and enhances innovation and creativity in service of future generations.

134. [TÜRKİYE](#): The Delegation of Türkiye congratulates the Director General on his re-election and expresses its confidence in his continued leadership of the Organization. As innovation ecosystems evolve and economies become increasingly driven by intangible assets, IP offices must move beyond their traditional functions and become active enablers of innovation, creativity and economic growth. In Türkiye, we are advancing this vision through a comprehensive digital transformation program. We are exploring the use of AI in IP administration, promoting the commercialization of IP assets and supporting start-ups, SMEs and creative industries. In close cooperation with WIPO, we have recently implemented practical projects aimed at strengthening IP commercialization in academia, enhancing the branding and commercialization of geographical indications, and supporting entrepreneurs and SMEs in making strategic use of IP. We also attach great importance to education and capacity-building through a Master's degree in law run jointly with WIPO, as well as through our active participation in WIPO academic initiatives. Türkiye remains committed to supporting the multilateral IP system and to contributing to regional and international cooperation in support of a more inclusive, innovative and sustainable future.

135. [UGANDA](#): Thank you, Director General, for your comprehensive opening speech. I know you as a forward-looking leader, but today you have said you cannot push forward without looking in the rear-view mirror to the past and the lessons learned in WIPO's journey thus far. Those of us from so-called developing or underdeveloped countries in the southern hemisphere constitute the new frontier of IP. In the tropical forests of South America, Africa and South Asia, the areas that we call the lungs of the universe, without which the world will stop breathing owing to climate change, there exist plant species that can heal many diseases. Beyond protecting these ecosystems, protecting the value inherent in the IP of rare medicinal plants should be a key priority for WIPO. In congratulating the Director General on his reappointment, I thank him for giving Uganda an early Christmas present when he visited us in the first week of December last year. Under his leadership, WIPO has enhanced its partnerships with ARIPO and OAPI. These regional organizations and national IP offices are the true foot soldiers of WIPO. I call for continued support for them and the new generations of IP professionals who need capacity-building to keep abreast of rapid technological advances, especially in the field of AI. Even more importantly, under your leadership, there is a renewed sense of ownership of WIPO by Member States. Our Assemblies are no longer an empty ritual where Member States come to Geneva to rubber stamp decisions made by unaccountable bureaucrats. Director General, we thank you for reducing bureaucracy at WIPO. Your efforts to lead WIPO and to implement its mandate transparently and inclusively are highly appreciated. Nevertheless, like Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*, we need more inclusiveness. The phrase "Please, sir, I want some more", has become emblematic of the struggle for dignity in the face of institutional oppression worldwide. WIPO is a global body and it must aim to look like the world at all levels. I therefore call for the recruitment of more Africans in your office to help to spread the IP gospel in Africa. I have hope because, unlike *Oliver Twist*, who was an orphan, we are not orphans: we have you. We need common-sense leadership at WIPO, which you have provided. The team around you has impressed us with their ability to speak with passion and knowledge in a language that ordinary people – from Guadalajara, the home of tequila, to Ghana and Northern Uganda, where the best shea butter comes from – can understand. These engagements have handed the keys to the intangible wealth that resides in IP to ordinary people. IP must enable our rural communities to get out of poverty, which can only happen if we refrain from using high-voltage language that only electrocutes our people, many of whom have very limited education. Our people need practical advice that can help them to navigate the world of IP. I recall a story of a frog being pursued by a venomous snake. The frog looked up, and perched on a tree was an owl. In the animal kingdom, the owl is considered the wisest on account of its large eyes and the majesty with which it carries itself. The frog paid homage and asked for a solution to the problem at hand. The owl listened and proposed the solution. "Fly away," the owl advised. The frog nodded in agreement and tried to fly away but then realized that it did not have any wings. It turned back to the owl. "I want to fly but I do not have wings." The owl listened sympathetically and then told the frog, "I am sorry, my dear friend, I only deal in general concepts. The details are yours." This seems to be the problem. As a way out, I call on us, the elites in the IP ecosystem, to turn ourselves into step-down transformers that lower the high voltage of IP concepts, knowledge and tools so that they are more practical and user-friendly for ordinary people on the lower rungs of the IP ecosystem. We should provide the shoulders on which ordinary people can stand in their daily struggles so that they can benefit from IP.

136. [UKRAINE](#): Ukraine congratulates the Director General on his appointment for a second term. Unfortunately, the Russian Federation's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine continues to destroy lives, cities and cultural heritage, and to undermine the conditions in which creativity and innovation can flourish and contribute to sustainable development. Only a few days ago, a Russian missile killed an entire family in Kyiv. These are not abstract losses. Behind every figure there are human lives, families, creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and children whose future has been stolen by Russian

aggression. The illegal actions of the Russian Federation form part of a systematic policy of attacks against cultural heritage, the misappropriation of Ukrainian IP and acts that disregard Ukrainian sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. This not only harms Ukraine, but also undermines confidence in the global IP system and WIPO's mandate. It is difficult to understand why the State whose missiles kill Ukrainian families can continue to benefit from financial flows connected to international IP systems, including the PCT and Madrid systems. Creativity and innovation must not help to sustain destruction. For this reason, Ukraine calls on WIPO and its Member States to take clear and principled steps to close the WIPO external office in Moscow, cancel any privileges or distinctions granted to the Russian Federation in WIPO, and prevent the introduction of Russian as a working language in international registration systems. Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction needs are currently estimated at over US\$587 billion, more than US\$60 billion higher than last year's estimates. Despite the war, Ukraine continues to build a modern and innovation-driven IP system. The Government is finalizing the national IP strategy developed with WIPO, which will provide a comprehensive framework for the effective use of IP for economic recovery. Ukraine is advancing new legislation on trade secrets, copyright and related rights, trademarks and patents as part of its broader modernization agenda in the context of EU accession. We are also bringing IP closer to business through the "Own Business" program and explaining digital public IP services. The fact that we can defend our identity while advancing reforms in our IP system demonstrates clearly that the Russian Federation's attempt to erase Ukraine has already failed. Ukraine expresses its appreciation to WIPO and its Member States for their continuous support, which enables a transition from resilience to innovation-led, inclusive and sustainable recovery. Every step that strengthens Ukraine brings us closer to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace. We count on WIPO and its Member States to ensure that the international IP system remains firmly rooted in the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations and that creativity and innovations are used to build, not to destroy.

137. [UNITED ARAB EMIRATES](#): This important annual event, the WIPO Assemblies, provides renewed impetus to strengthen the IP system and promote innovation and creativity around the world. We congratulate the Director General on his election for a second term. The new economy is a fundamental pillar for achieving sustainable economic development. Accordingly, the State has paid great attention to creating a pioneering institutional environment that supports innovators and creators in line with the objectives of the We the UAE 2031 Vision, and contributes to consolidating the country's position as a global center for the knowledge-based economy. In this context, the United Arab Emirates has drafted advanced and forward-looking IP laws, including the Act on the Regulation and Protection of Industrial Property Rights, the Trademarks Act, and the Copyright and Related Rights Act. They are part of a comprehensive legal framework for protecting IPRs and supporting start-up ventures, and cultural and creative industries, thereby contributing to a diversified national economy, enhancing its competitiveness, and ensuring sustainable growth. The United Arab Emirates has launched more than 60 major initiatives over the past three years to nurture the IP, innovation and creativity ecosystem, at a rate of more than 20 annually. They include the AI-powered One-Day Trademark initiative, and the Trademark and Patent Market, the first innovative digital platform of its kind in the United Arab Emirates and the region, for selling and trading in trademarks and patents. Ongoing cooperation with WIPO is vital for developing the United Arab Emirates' IP strategy. We fully support the Organization's efforts to develop and modernize the Madrid System, including through enhanced multilingualism. We stand by the proposal to add Arabic as a Madrid System language, which would make it more inclusive, improve its efficiency and broaden its global utility. We must keep pace with the rapid developments in AI and emerging technologies, within a balanced framework that encourages innovation and protects rights. In the first quarter of 2026, the United Arab Emirates ranked among the top countries in terms of the rate of adoption and application of AI-driven technologies. The

United Arab Emirates firmly supports related WIPO projects and initiatives. It also remains committed to working with WIPO and other countries to promote innovation and creativity. We hope that the current session will help to encourage investment and more IP-related activities as we strive to build a more prosperous and sustainable future for coming generations.

138. [UNITED KINGDOM](#): Director General, we want to warmly congratulate you on your reappointment. Your renewed mandate comes at a critical moment. Rapid technological, economic and geopolitical changes underscore the importance of a trusted, effective and balanced international IP system. We are pleased to have hosted the International Trademark Association's annual meeting earlier this year and to have welcomed you to London. In our discussions on your vision, we exchanged views on the importance of key IP challenges, including the use of AI to improve customer experience, helping innovative small businesses to use IP effectively, and building enforcement structures that reward innovation while protecting citizens from harm. We trust that, under your leadership, WIPO will remain the reliable foundation of a resilient international IP system. We support improved core services for users, innovation, growth and the Organization's financial health. We also recognize the value of WIPO's data, analytics and evidence base in supporting informed decision-making alongside constructive debate and respect for consensus. This can help to deliver inclusive and sustainable outcomes for all Members and stakeholders. We value the growing role of WIPO in the intersection of AI and IP, supporting shared understanding of emerging technologies and challenges. We encourage deeper collaboration with other Geneva-based organizations to support holistic and lasting decisions. We encourage WIPO, as a specialized UN agency, to use its expertise to support sustainable development and uphold its SDG commitments. We also encourage contributions to UN80 priorities by sharing efficiencies and best practices across the UN system. We thank the Secretariat for its report on assistance to Ukraine (A/68/7). We commend the resilience of Ukraine against attacks that continue to damage the country and its IP system. We express our condolences following the recent drone strikes, in which fires caused extensive damage to cultural heritage. The United Kingdom condemns the unjustified and unprovoked war conducted by the Russian Federation and continues to stand with Ukraine as it rebuilds its IP system.

139. [UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA](#): The Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania congratulates the Director General on his appointment and his leadership and aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegations of South Africa on behalf of the African Group and Nepal on behalf of the Group of LDCs. IP is a strategic driver of innovation, creativity, industrialization and sustainable socioeconomic development. As the United Republic of Tanzania advances towards a knowledge-based economy, it also recognizes the transformative potential of AI to accelerate innovation and economic growth; inclusive IP frameworks, capacity-building and technology transfer are essential to enable developing countries to fully benefit from AI and other emerging technologies. The United Republic of Tanzania particularly values WIPO's partnership in implementing strategic initiatives in the country, including an IP management clinic for SMEs and start-ups, the establishment of a WIPO IP training institution, a project on facilitating the transfer of appropriate technology for community development through universities and research institutions, impact-driven capacity-building in IP enforcement, an electronic data management project, installation of IPAS 4.0, training of technical staff in Zanzibar and capacity-building in patent examination and IP education. The United Republic of Tanzania remains committed to strengthening its IP system through legal reform, enhanced service delivery, effective enforcement, institutional capacity-building and public awareness, and reaffirms its commitment to working with WIPO and all Member States to promote an inclusive, balanced and future-oriented international IP system.

140. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The Delegation of the United States of America congratulates the Director General on his re-election and looks forward to his continued leadership of WIPO. A new term offers WIPO the occasion to refresh and refocus on its core goal of promoting IP and advancing strong protection of IP worldwide. The promotion and protection of IP is best advanced through WIPO's filing and registration systems. The time has come to modernize those systems, including by leveraging the most powerful technology tools available, among them AI, to bring them robustly up to date. The Delegation cautions against renegotiating aspects of the highly successful PCT System; rather, WIPO should focus its time and resources on enhancing the experience of PCT applicants, particularly those managing increasingly complex global patent portfolios. With a greater share of the resources already generated by PCT filings reinvested into the system, a single global dashboard and portal to manage an entity's global portfolio is something WIPO should work towards, especially for SMEs. It is also time to move past archaic requirements that discourage trademark owners from making full use of the Madrid System in pursuing important branding rights across the globe. The United States is proud to lead modernization efforts in these systems and looks forward to advancing them with Member States now, not in 10 years' time: the world's inventors, creators and entrepreneurs cannot wait, nor can innovation. Finally, as the Director General starts his new term, Member States must be mindful that WIPO's time, energy and mandate are limited. To succeed, WIPO must decide both on what to do and on what not to do, maintaining its focus. The Delegation looks forward to working to protect the PCT System from harmful encumbrances and to the urgent modernization of the global IP system for applicants in 2026.

141. [URUGUAY](#): The Delegation of Uruguay attaches paramount importance to bringing IP closer to processes of innovation, entrepreneurship and value creation, and has made great strides in consolidating national capacity in this area, particularly in implementing the PCT and through initiatives to promote training, knowledge dissemination, the circular economy, mediation and the gender perspective. Uruguay is particularly grateful to WIPO for selecting its project on IP, the circular economy and social inclusion for its program for accelerating innovation, creativity and development, and welcomes the support of the WIPO Academy and the IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector for providing online training, establishing TISCs, building national indicators, improving the country's GII ranking and enhancing intangible assets in the creative industries. Uruguay reiterates its commitment to protecting authors and artists through a copyright system focused on cultural development, and welcomes opportunities for education, exchange and dissemination that strengthen the protection of those rights, including a regional event on resale rights recently organized with WIPO's support, which was particularly enriching. It also highlights the forthcoming visit of the Director General to Uruguay, which will strengthen mutual knowledge and cooperation between Uruguay's innovation and creative sectors and WIPO, and looks for further opportunities for cooperation between WIPO and the Southern Common Market (Mercosur).

142. [VANUATU](#): The Delegation of Vanuatu, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Samoa on behalf of the Pacific Island States, congratulates the Director General on his re-election and expresses appreciation for his vision and leadership in advancing an inclusive and development-oriented international IP system. For SIDS, IP is a strategic tool for innovation, economic diversification, investment and sustainable development, and is equally essential for preserving cultural heritage and protecting the TK that defines their identity. With WIPO's support, Vanuatu achieved a major milestone in May 2026 by ratifying the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement, the Madrid Protocol, the PCT and the Hague Agreement, thereby strengthening its IP framework, enhancing investor confidence and creating new opportunities for its entrepreneurs, innovators and creators. Vanuatu extends its appreciation to WIPO for its technical assistance, legislative expertise and capacity-building support in achieving those milestones. It attaches great importance to the work of the IGC: TK, TCEs and GRs are not only valuable assets for

Pacific Island countries but also the foundation of their cultures, identities and sustainable livelihoods. Vanuatu welcomes the conclusion of the GRATK Treaty and encourages continued efforts to achieve meaningful outcomes on the protection of TK and TCEs, since a robust international framework is essential to prevent misappropriation and ensure that Indigenous Peoples and local communities are recognized and fairly benefit from the use of their knowledge and resources. As Vanuatu continues to strengthen its IP system, it looks forward to deepening its partnership with WIPO to ensure that innovation and IP contribute to a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable future.

143. [VENEZUELA \(BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF\)](#): I am here before these Assemblies at a time when my country continues to suffer the consequences of the double earthquake of June 24, 2026, which has affected the lives of all Venezuelan families and mobilized the country's institutional and human efforts. On behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the international community, to the governments, bodies, institutions and brother and sister countries that have not hesitated to give our country a helping hand. Every gesture of support has been received by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela with deep appreciation and confirms that multilateralism, when exercised with respect, cooperation and human sensitivity, is an essential tool to support countries in their shared challenges. In that same spirit of cooperation, respect for international law and belief in our shared work, we are here today with a firm commitment to contributing to an IP system that is more balanced, inclusive and useful to developing countries. IP occupies a strategic place on our national agenda for productive recovery, economic diversification, innovation, culture, regional development and technological independence. Led by Acting President Delcy Rodríguez, we are committed to moving towards more modern industrial property legislation that can support the best inventions and innovation processes in our domestic industry. We are aiming to strengthen legal security, stimulate productive investment, protect the efforts of inventors and companies, and bring the IP system closer to those creating concrete solutions for national development. In this connection, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has been creating, collectively and on the basis of consensus, its national IP strategy for the period 2025–2031. There were 44,172 responses to the first national public consultation and 21 common agendas of work were developed, with the participation of 2,135 stakeholders from 283 organizations and institutions from across the country. In 2025, 26,943 IPRs were registered and granted. We have also celebrated the approval of an IP capacity-building project for craftspeople, which is of profound importance to our country because it concerns creative communities that have patiently handed down trades and works born of memory, experience and everyday labors. We would like to thank WIPO for its technical support, institutional arrangements and the sensitivity with which it received our proposal. We also would like to acknowledge all those Member States that have shown an interest in this project, the aim of which is to bring IP to communities from marginalized areas that have very often been the backbone of identity, local economy and cultural heritage. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is moving forward with full awareness of the challenges ahead but sure that we have the strength of our people, the capacity of our institutions and the solidarity of those who have supported us with respect at our most demanding moments. Despite the numerous challenges we have faced recently, we will continue to participate actively in WIPO's various multilateral spaces in a resilient and constructive spirit with a view to cooperating and contributing to an international IP system that is fairer and more balanced, inclusive and development-oriented.

144. [VIET NAM](#): Viet Nam commends WIPO on its initiatives to promote innovation and IP globally during the past term. We are confident that WIPO will continue to position IP as an important tool for enhancing competitiveness and contributing to the socioeconomic development of each nation. Viet Nam also greatly values the effective cooperation and support extended by WIPO to the country in recent years. On June 17, 2026, the Politburo of

the Communist Party of Viet Nam adopted Conclusion No. 51-KL/TW, setting out the country's strategic orientations on IP. The Conclusion calls for the modernization and further strengthening of the legal and institutional framework for IP in line with the digital economy; enhanced protection and enforcement of IPRs; a culture of respect for IP; and advancing international integration by implementing international commitments effectively and strengthening international cooperation in the field of IP. Viet Nam is pursuing a national development model driven by science, technology and innovation, in which IP is recognized as a key pillar. Viet Nam is also determined to build a transparent and effective IP system that protects the rights and legitimate interests of all stakeholders. As a responsible member of the international community, Viet Nam is committed to fully fulfilling its international obligations on IP under multilateral and bilateral treaties. Viet Nam looks forward to working closely with WIPO and all Member States to build a modern, balanced and effective global IP system, thereby contributing to the advancement of global innovation.

145. [ZAMBIA](#): Zambia aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group and the Delegation of Nepal on behalf of the LDCs. We congratulate the Director General on his reappointment and commend his continued leadership of WIPO. Zambia remains committed to a balanced, inclusive and development-oriented IP system that promotes innovation, creativity and sustainable development. We appreciate WIPO's continued technical assistance, particularly through the IP initiative on Zambian Miombo Forest honey, the strengthening of IP education in creative institutions, the development of TISCs and assistance in the review of the country's legislative frameworks on trademark and copyright. Zambia supports continued discussions on copyright limitations and exceptions with the aim of facilitating access to educational materials, digital learning, research collaboration and the preservation of cultural heritage, while maintaining an appropriate balance between the rights of creators and the public interest. Further, Zambia reaffirms its support for the finalization of an international legal instrument on TK and TCEs that recognizes and protects the knowledge and cultural heritage of Indigenous and local communities and enables them to benefit from it. Let me take this opportunity to inform the Assembly that the Cabinet of Zambia has approved accession to the WCT and the Marrakesh Treaty, as well as the ratification of the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances. We look forward to completing the necessary domestic processes as soon as possible. Zambia remains committed to working closely with WIPO and all Member States to build a balanced IP system that supports innovation, economic growth and sustainable development.

146. [ZIMBABWE](#): The Delegation of Zimbabwe, aligning itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of South Africa on behalf of the African Group, congratulates the Director General on his reappointment. Zimbabwe was honored to host the Director General in Harare in December 2025, where he met with President Emmerson Mnangagwa in engagements that further strengthened cooperation between Zimbabwe and WIPO, including the launch of a geographical indication project to protect and promote Chipinge coffee. Zimbabwe has also successfully completed a patent digitalization project funded through the Funds-In-Trust Japan Industrial Property Global, with support from WIPO and the Government of Japan. The project is an important milestone in transforming the Zimbabwe Intellectual Property Office into a modern, efficient and service-oriented institution. WIPO's support for Zimbabwe's SME mentorship and coaching program, whose first phase has concluded and was officially closed by the Director General during his visit, empowers local entrepreneurs to better understand, protect and commercialize their IP assets. Zimbabwe looks forward to the launch of its second phase. It continues to benefit from the WIPO Academy, particularly its Master's in Intellectual Property program, jointly delivered with ARIPO and Africa University, and acknowledges the contribution of the Madrid Fellowship Program in strengthening the capacity of its IP Office staff. It remains committed to strengthening its IP framework. Zimbabwe is advancing the ratification and domestication of

several WIPO-administered treaties and commends WIPO for its unwavering commitment to advancing IP for development.

147. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION \(RIGHT OF REPLY\)](#): The Russian Federation has no choice but to exercise its right of reply with regard to the many baseless accusations leveled against it. As previously, we consistently denounce any attempts to artificially politicize the work of WIPO. Such an approach to this unique specialized negotiation platform can only be considered as a failure to respect the Organization's procedures, the agenda of the Assemblies and the Rules of Procedure. For this small group of countries, which is attempting by any means possible to continue to discuss the topic of Ukraine at WIPO, it makes no difference which body is meeting, under what mandate, or what subjects are on the agenda. The arguments are being repeated again and again, and methods completely contrary to the spirit of our Organization are employed: ultimatums, blackmail, threats, hate speech and politicized soundbites. It is particularly unacceptable to hear such insinuations against the Russian Federation from the EU and its member States, which include specifically discriminatory provisions in their legislation regarding the registration and protection of the rights to trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications by Russian applicants and rights holders. States that openly discriminate on grounds of nationality or language and act in violation of international IP agreements do not have the moral right, much less the legal grounds, to lecture other delegations. The Russian Federation will not tire of countering attempts to present a false image of the situation in Ukraine. The actions of the Russian Federation, including from the perspective of international law, and the aims and objectives of the special military operation have been explained multiple times by both President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sergei Victorovich Lavrov. The Russian Delegation has also repeatedly presented its position to WIPO and its Member States. It continues to fulfil its international obligations and remains a steadfast partner. However, when it comes to protecting its interests and the rights of its citizens, the Russian Federation will use all means and opportunities at its disposal. No threatening acts towards the Russian Federation will go unanswered. Once again, we would like to call for respect for WIPO's mandate, constructive dialogue and refraining from the politicization of the Organization's work. We hope to have the support of the Secretariat and the Chair in this regard, since they are responsible for upholding the Rules of Procedure.

148. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA \(RIGHT OF REPLY\)](#): We are here to engage on IP matters in non-politicized expert exchanges. This is not the forum in which to raise geopolitical issues. Doing so will only distract from WIPO's important work. We do not intend to engage in repeated back and forth interventions on issues that are being discussed in other forums, but the United States is compelled to respond to earlier interventions by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Cuba. We strongly reject the assertions regarding United States and allied military operations against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The United States also wishes to state that the statement by the Delegation of Cuba on the embargo is false. As indicated in other multilateral forums, there are multiple exemptions and authorizations under the United States embargo on Cuba and the United States has for decades permitted the export to Cuba of agricultural products, medicines, medical devices and other basic goods. We regret that both Cuba and the Islamic Republic of Iran decided to use this technical agency to make political claims and we respectfully request a return to advancing our core technical work.

149. [CUBA \(RIGHT OF REPLY\)](#): The Delegation of the United States is unfortunately once again trying to deflect attention and is dishonestly denying the existence of the criminal blockade, with extraterritorial impacts, against Cuba. The self-proclaimed beacon of democracy is ignoring 32 resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which declare the blockade against Cuba illegal and call for its immediate cessation. The silence is

deafening. There has been no mention of the cruel impact on Cuban families of the energy blockade imposed by the United States Government or of its cross-cutting impact on all economic life in Cuba. This siege is tantamount to a naval blockade, which constitutes an act of war and genocide. It is sufficient to read the two Executive Orders signed by the President of the United States on 29 January and 1 May to understand their cruel intentions. Cuba does not and cannot constitute a threat to the United States. Neither is it an enemy of the United States, nor does it wish to be so. There was nothing in the statement by the Delegation of the United States to refute the argument that a military intervention is being orchestrated against Cuba. The Delegation of Cuba calls on the Delegation of the United States to state that its Government will respect the Charter of the United Nations and international law, as well as the standards of United Nations technical agencies, and that under no circumstances will it continue its brutal, criminal economic blockade against Cuba, Cuban families and the Cuban people, which has been ongoing for more than 67 years. The fact that the United States will not make such a statement in this or any other forum testifies to the strength and legitimacy of our position.

150. [IRELAND](#): Ireland is pleased to take the floor on behalf of the EU and its member States. First, just to warmly congratulate you, Director General, on your re-election and extend our sincere good wishes to you as you take up your second term of office. The renewed confidence placed in you reflects the excellent progress that WIPO has made under your stewardship and we have full confidence in your leadership for the term ahead. The EU and its member States participate actively in the work of WIPO, guided by a firm conviction that IP is a key enabler of innovation, economic growth, sustainable development and prosperity. We commend WIPO on its ongoing efforts to make the IP system more accessible, user-oriented and responsive to the needs of stakeholders worldwide, particularly SMEs, women, young people and local communities. We welcome initiatives aimed at enhancing user-focused IP services and activities and remain committed to contributing actively to those efforts. In that context, the EU and its member States will continue to engage constructively across all areas of WIPO's work, fostering dialogue, promoting consensus and acting as a bridge builder in discussions and in negotiations. The EU and its member States attach particular importance to the development of the PCT, Hague, Madrid and Lisbon systems and remain committed to international efforts aimed at strengthening the Lisbon Agreement, including the Geneva Act, and advancing the international protection of geographical indications, having regard to WIPO's core mission of protecting IPRs and recognizing the role of geographical indications in fostering economic, social and sustainable development in line with the DA, while supporting trade and creating new business opportunities. This matter continues to be of particular interest to the EU and its member States. We commend WIPO on its work on energy and climate transition, including through WIPO GREEN, and its efforts to harness IP for economic development, particularly in empowering women and young people. We support further engagement in those areas and recognize WIPO's multilateral contribution to achieving the SDGs. Work on the interface between IP and AI remains a high priority for us. WIPO's assistance to Ukraine is of great importance to the EU and its member States. It has proven to be a valuable instrument in this most critical time for Ukraine. The EU and its member States are ready to engage in discussion on the content of the report under the respective agenda item (A/68/7). We condemn the Russian Federation's unjustified and unprovoked war against Ukraine. The report provides clear evidence that its war of aggression against Ukraine drives us apart, rather than bringing us closer together in our collective multilateral efforts, which are promoted by this Organization. The EU and its member States express our continuous and unwavering support for, and solidarity with, Ukraine and its people. We stand ready to engage constructively in all discussions during these Assemblies.

151. [AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION \(OAPI\)](#): OAPI would like to address its sincere congratulations to the Director General on his re-election and

acknowledge the quality of his work at the head of WIPO. This is an opportunity for OAPI to welcome its excellent cooperation with WIPO and to reiterate its support for WIPO projects to improve IP uptake in OAPI member States. In this regard, your participation in the Heads of IP Offices Conference (HIPOC) meeting in Côte d'Ivoire this year, together with other IP leaders, afforded an opportunity to encourage member States to work to establish an efficient innovation ecosystem with the support of WIPO. This commitment by the Director General and others contributes directly to making IP a strategic tool for our member States.

152. [AFRICAN REGIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION \(ARIPO\)](#):

ARIPO congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, reflecting Member States' confidence in his leadership, which has strengthened the relevance of WIPO and advanced IP as a catalyst of innovation, entrepreneurship and sustainable development. As ARIPO celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, it values its enduring partnership with WIPO and appreciates the Organization's steadfast support for our organization and the tangible impact of our collaboration in strengthening IP systems, building institutional capacity and expanding opportunities for innovators across Africa. ARIPO remains committed to working closely with WIPO to build a more inclusive, balanced and forward-looking global IP ecosystem that empowers innovators, secures opportunity and contributes meaningfully to sustainable development. Innovation creates possibilities. Strong institutions create confidence. Together, they create opportunity.

153. [EURASIAN PATENT ORGANIZATION \(EAPO\)](#): EAPO draws attention to the unilateral and unlawful restrictive measures imposed by the EU in the sphere of IP. European authorities are denying Russian residents legal protection of their IP assets purely on the basis of their country of origin. This includes hundreds of patent applications in critical areas of science and technology. Such measures are a gross violation of the principle of national treatment enshrined in international law, and are causing significant damage to the patent system and to society as a whole. For political reasons, the Russian research center for epidemiology and microbiology that created the Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine, which saved lives in nearly 70 countries during the pandemic, cannot file a patent application. By restricting patenting, European politicians are depriving their citizens of access to cutting-edge medical technologies. Moreover, this significantly undermines the patent system in all countries, as it means that searchable information is incomplete. Such politicized measures do nothing to help achieve the goals that they pursue. They are thus causing significant damage to the global IP system, causing legal uncertainty and setting dangerous precedents. EAPO calls for an in-depth evaluation of the discriminatory political measures taken by the EU and its member States, and of their negative impact on the global IP system.

154. [LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES \(LAS\)](#): All Arab countries welcome their fruitful and constructive cooperation with WIPO under the MoU concluded between the two sides in 2000, which was renewed in 2018. Their efforts were crowned by the signing of a cooperation agreement between the two organizations in 2025 to establish an Arab electronic IP registry platform, which has the backing of Arab IP offices. The League has also submitted to its Standing Technical Committee on Intellectual Property a proposal on cooperation with Rospatent on promoting multilingualism in the Madrid System. It has also recommended the adoption of a unified Arab position to be submitted to the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks. The League continues to encourage its member States to join the Madrid System. To date, 10 Arab countries have done so, and three others are in the process of completing their accession procedures. The League remains committed to its partnership with WIPO and efforts to strengthen IPRs. We renew our congratulations to the Director General and extend our best wishes to him and his team for continued success in achieving the desired objectives during his second term.

155. [ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION \(OIC\)](#): The OIC congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, and values WIPO's leading role in fostering an effective, balanced and inclusive global IP system, responsive to the needs of all nations. It underscores the Organization's contribution to building technical and institutional capacities in developing countries. In that context, the OIC welcomes the signing, earlier this year, of the letter of intent between WIPO and the Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries, which is an OIC-affiliated institution, with a view to fostering innovation and the development of institutional capacity in OIC member States. The OIC recognizes the importance for Member States, especially LDCs, of technology transfer and nurturing Indigenous technologies and capabilities in the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems. The OIC remains committed to promoting science, technology and innovation as key drivers of sustainable development, economic resilience and shared prosperity throughout the region.

156. [GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL PATENT OFFICE \(GCCPO\)](#): The member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council are committed to capacity-building and to effective cooperation between the GCC Patent Office and WIPO, which is being marked today by the signing of a cooperation memorandum to set up an IP training center. The Office is also working to strengthen IP integration in GCC countries. In that context, it organized the first meeting of the Committee on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights and hosted the Regional Conference on Intellectual Property Enforcement Practices, in partnership with SAIP, the USPTO and the JPO. In relation to patents, the Office has launched the GCC Patent Prosecution Highway initiative (GCC-PPH). It also organized, on November 11, 2025, a celebration to mark Examiner Day in recognition of the important and specialized role of patent examiners. Given the importance of working together, we remain committed to cooperation that helps to advance IP, promote innovation and achieve sustainable development.

157. [SOUTH CENTRE \(CS\)](#): Development is integral to WIPO's mandate as a specialized UN agency. Its work should promote a fair balance between IP protection and the public interest, align with the SDGs and address the barriers that IP can create, such as with regard to access to educational materials, health care and green technologies. As we approach the twentieth anniversary of the DA, we urge that it be reaffirmed and strengthened by the WIPO Assemblies in 2027. We are concerned that standing committees are not reporting to the General Assembly on implementation of the DA, despite the 2017 decision. We call for real progress on copyright limitations and exceptions and on the effective protection of TK and TCEs. We call on the Coordination Committee to pay due regard to the importance of recruiting staff members on as wide a geographical basis as possible and to ensure gender balance in accordance with Regulation 4.2 of the Staff Regulations and Rules. We note with concern that the Deputy Director General appointments proposed for the Committee's approval skew representation towards developed countries and reduce gender balance, leaving three groups, including the Asia and the Pacific Group, without representation. The South Centre is open to working with WIPO and will continue to support developing countries and LDCs, including graduating members, in using policy space and all the tools in the IP system, including the flexibility to balance protection with the public interest and safeguard their development needs.

158. [ASIA-PACIFIC BROADCASTING UNION \(ABU\)](#): The ABU congratulates the Director General on the renewal of his mandate. His leadership has been a great strength. The ABU is the largest broadcasting union, representing over 270 broadcasters across more than 60 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Protecting broadcasters against signal piracy remains an urgent priority. The ABU urges WIPO and its Member States to advance work in the SCCR on a modern broadcasting treaty to address this problem.

159. [BRAND OWNERS PROTECTION GROUP \(GULF BPG\)](#): I am honored, at the outset, to extend my sincerest congratulations to the Director General on his reappointment. We would also like to commend the GCC States on the strides they have made in developing the IP system. In the United Arab Emirates, the Ministry of the Economy is leading pioneering initiatives to integrate AI into IP services, accelerate examination procedures and enhance enforcement in cooperation with the private sector, thereby contributing to improved service efficiency and fostering the innovation ecosystem. Saudi Arabia has made significant efforts through its investment in capacity-building via its IP Academy, and the launch of an innovative platform that connects SAIP with trademark owners and their representatives, including legal practitioners, thereby enhancing communication and raising service quality. Kuwait has achieved tangible progress in digital transformation and in strengthening the enforcement of IPRs. Building on these efforts, we call for greater prioritization at WIPO of IPRs enforcement and environmental protection, which are essential to ensuring the effectiveness of the IP system and to safeguarding the environment, investment and owners' rights.

160. [CONSORTIUM FOR COMMON FOOD NAMES \(CCFN\)](#): The CCFN congratulates the Director General on his re-election and looks forward to working together to ensure that WIPO provides balanced information on common name issues. The CCFN continues to seek equity between common names and geographical indications and WIPO information, education and programming, and acknowledges that WIPO wishes to protect the rights of common name users. The CCFN is not concerned about the vast majority of geographical indications but it remains concerned about the few European geographical indications attempting to claim monopoly rights over names that represent types of products that have been spread around the world over hundreds of years through conquest, colonialism, immigration and usage. Those names have been in the public domain and used by family producers for many generations. They represent high quality, competitively priced products, from producers who are highly responsive to their customer's needs, when trading locally and internationally, and who deserve to have their rights respected. The CCFN will continue to work with WIPO and others to achieve fair treatment of common names.

161. [EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION \(EBU\)](#): The EBU firmly supports the work of the SCCR on the adoption of a WIPO broadcasting organizations treaty, and encourages Member States to conclude a meaningful treaty that goes beyond merely protecting the transmission of live events. Piracy of broadcasting signals mostly occurs online and across borders. It is therefore imperative to adopt a treaty that protects the signal in the digital environment. The treaty must include the rights of fixation and making available of stored programs, which are critical to ensuring that the treaty effectively addresses the complexities and challenges posed by a rapidly evolving media landscape. Many years of negotiations have resulted in a comprehensive and flexible text that reflects the various legal traditions of the Member States. The EBU believes that the text is now ready for adoption. It urges the SCCR to maintain its original format of two full sessions per year in order to dedicate sufficient time to the negotiations. Lastly, public broadcasters continue to call on Member States to finalize the text and to recommend that the WIPO General Assembly convene a diplomatic conference. The EBU wishes the SCCR every success and assures Member States of its full support.

162. [EUROPEAN COMMERCIAL PATENT SERVICES GROUP \(PATCOM\)](#): PatCom brings together leading providers committed to ensuring access to high quality, comprehensive and reliable primary patent information. Our members support the global innovation ecosystem through advanced search, analytics and workflow solutions that enable the effective use of IP information by researchers, innovators, industry, IP offices and IP professionals worldwide. PatCom highly values its continued collaboration with WIPO, IP offices and organizations

around the world and looks forward to constructive engagement during these Assemblies in support of shared objectives.

163. GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ANDEAN COMMUNITY: IP constitutes a strategic tool to drive innovation, strengthen competitiveness and promote economic growth, particularly in economies in transition, transforming knowledge and ideas into tangible opportunities for development. In that context, it is worth recognizing the valuable work done by WIPO to strengthen the international IP system and its contribution to social, technological and economic development. Since its inception, the Andean Community has viewed IP as an essential aspect of its member States' development. In close cooperation with WIPO, the Andean Community has launched high-impact initiatives for 116 million Andean citizens.

164. GLOBAL EXPERT NETWORK ON COPYRIGHT USER RIGHTS (USER RIGHTS NETWORK): The Network is an international association of copyright scholars who support the goals of WIPO, as stated in its agreement with the UN, and in the DA, to promote balanced IP systems that support development and technology transfer, including through the appropriate, tailored use of limitations and exceptions to exclusive rights. The Network applauds recent progress at WIPO on these issues, including the move towards text-based work on limitations and exceptions in the SCCR, the progress on a study on text- and data-mining exceptions in the CDIP and efforts to examine the intersection of IP systems and research, including with AI tools. We note the decline in committee reporting on work to implement the DA, as mandated in document WO/GA/39/7. The Centre on Knowledge Governance at the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, which chairs the Network, offers numerous services to WIPO delegations. It has revived the IP watch archives, reports on the work of WIPO committees on its blog, publishes research and offers tailored workshops, technical assistance and scholarships for its courses, including its forthcoming course on IP and AI, to delegations from developing countries. Information on the Network's activities and the blog is available at www.knowledgegov.org.

165. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LATIN AMERICAN SCHOOL (ELAPI): ELAPI congratulates the Director General on his re-election and expresses deep solidarity with the people of Venezuela, while reaffirming that human ingenuity is the most resilient force that people possess in the face of adversity. Experience in Latin America shows that when the environment faces profound crises, IP does not disappear, but rather becomes all the more urgent and vital. Conceived as a unified ecosystem that encompasses everything from scientific development to our cultural and ancestral identity, the true purpose of IP lies in being useful where reality so requires. Global repositories are filled with solutions waiting to be channeled, solutions that require deeper analysis and broader debate. ELAPI reaffirms its commitment to the mandate of WIPO and the principles guiding its work: innovation, creativity, justice and development. ELAPI is fully committed to WIPO, its committees and Member States, in particular those of GRULAC, and stands ready to support WIPO however it can.

166. INTER-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION (ASIPI): ASIPI affirms its commitment to strengthening the international IP system as an essential tool for economic, social and sustainable development in the American region. Innovation must occupy a central place in this agenda. ASIPI therefore promotes greater articulation between IP and the innovation ecosystem alongside universities, research centers, businesses, IP offices and governments. Along this path, collaboration with WIPO has been fundamental. Examples include involvement in the GII, ASIPI training programs for patent drafting, WIPO assistance in putting together a new variation center and promoting the PCT System in countries of the region that have yet to accede to the Treaty. ASIPI will continue working alongside WIPO and Latin American governments to strengthen IP

systems and foster a favorable environment for innovation, investment and sustainable growth.

167. [INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS \(FICPI\)](#): FICPI congratulates the Director General on his re-election. FICPI has brought together independent IP professionals from all over the world who are committed to promoting balanced, high-quality IP systems that foster innovation, investment and economic growth. Our members work every day with innovators, entrepreneurs, research institutions and businesses of all sizes. FICPI values its longstanding partnership with WIPO and appreciates the Organization's leadership in strengthening the global IP system. FICPI remains committed to contributing constructive, educational, technically informed expertise to WIPO's work, in order to make a system that is safe and clear for the final user. FICPI looks forward to continuing to work with WIPO and its Member States and Observers to support IP systems that are accessible, reliable, efficient and capable of meeting the needs of innovators worldwide.

168. [INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMERCIALIZATION COUNCIL \(IIPCC\)](#): It is a great honor to join you today at the WIPO Assemblies to discuss and exchange views on several special issues relating to trade secrets in the era of AI. First, with regard to the importance of trade secrets, in the Chinese tradition, honesty and trustworthiness are regarded as important cornerstones for maintaining relationships. However, with the rapid development of AI, we have found that when some digital information is leaked, there may be no trace to follow. Therefore, the ownership of trade secrets should first be clearly defined in order to provide an institutional guarantee for their subsequent protection. Second, although data are the main assets of many countries in the Global South, there is no appropriate registration system to protect this type of IP. Perhaps WIPO could establish an internationally recognized registration system to help enterprises around the world to protect their commercially valuable data. Third, trade secrets are assets that may be used for financing; therefore, they should also be registered first. WIPO may wish to consider formulating relevant guidelines to help innovators to unlock the commercial value of their IP. The IIPCC hopes to work hand in hand with WIPO to boost the protection of trade secrets and expand channels for IP-backed financing, so that IP might continue to be an engine for global sustainable development.

169. [KNOWLEDGE ECOLOGY INTERNATIONAL, INC. \(KEI\)](#): KEI looks forward to working with WIPO to improve transparency. Public confidence in multilateral institutions is under threat. Increasingly, WIPO is conducting consequential norm-setting negotiations in secret, giving unwarranted and unnecessary credence to critics of the UN and undermining efforts to understand the history and meaning of the agreements that are ultimately reached. Artists, inventors, investors and consumers all have an interest in having better information. In 2019, the WHO adopted resolution WHA 72.8 on improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines and other health products. WIPO should begin cross-cutting work on a similar resolution for the IP systems it supports.

170. [MEDICINES PATENT POOL \(MPP\)](#): The MPP is committed to active engagement with WIPO and its Member States. In recent years, the MPP has presented its free database, MedsPaL, in SCP discussions on patents and health. MedsPaL supports access to essential health products, providing patent and license information, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. It now covers all medicines added to the 2025 WHO essential medicine list and the candidate treatments for the Ebola virus disease. In May, the MPP also announced a voluntary license agreement with pharmaceutical company Roche for baloxamir marboxil, a WHO-recommended influenza antiviral, enabling generic supply in 129 low- and middle-income countries. This could be an important tool for response to a possible future influenza pandemic. Lastly, the WHO-MPP mRNA technology transfer

program, which has been supporting the development of manufacturing capacity in 15 countries across multiple regions, will soon be entering its second phase. Initially focused on COVID-19, it now supports development of mRNA vaccines and therapeutics for other diseases.

171. [ORGANIZATION FOR AN INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS NETWORK \(ORIGIN\)](#): ORIGIN congratulates the Director General on his reappointment, and commends the many Member States that highlighted geographical indications as a catalyst for local empowerment and economic growth, as well as the Lisbon System as a pillar for a diverse and inclusive IP ecosystem. ORIGIN is pleased to note that the number of Contracting Parties to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement, a modern international agreement for the protection of geographical indications, continues to grow. This serves as a powerful reminder that, despite an uncertain international environment in which multilateralism is increasingly under pressure, geographical indications remain firmly anchored in the principles of the rule of law, transparency and international cooperation. ORIGIN is committed to strengthening its collaboration with WIPO and its Member States to further promote the Lisbon System and contribute to its implementation. Regarding international domain names, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) 2026 round for the introduction of new generic top-level domains is likely to increase the risk of abusive domain name registrations affecting IPRs, including geographical indications. ORIGIN encourages WIPO and its Member States to closely monitor the developments related to the 2026 round and to assess whether existing dispute resolution mechanisms remain fit to ensure the effective protection of IPRs, in particular geographical indications.

172. [THIRD WORLD NETWORK BERHAD \(TWN\)](#): Statements from the African Group, GRULAC, APG, Group of LDCs and individual Member States over the past two days have conveyed a consistent and urgent message: IP must contribute to economic and social development. Over the years, IP has become a major vehicle for transferring rents from the global South to global North. In 2023 alone, low- and middle-income countries paid US\$97.9 billion in IP royalties, while receiving only US\$16.6 billion, a deficit of 589 per cent, which shows IP emerging as a new instrument for extraction. In 2024–2025, India received 31,940 PCT applications from foreign applicants and only 3,598 from India. That shows how treaties like the PCT chiefly serve large companies in developed countries by easing multi-jurisdictional patent protection. We call upon Member States to reassess the assumption that IP automatically drives development and reiterate our concern about Group B's inequitable representation in WIPO's upper management.

173. [ALL-CHINA PATENT AGENTS ASSOCIATION \(ACPAA\)](#): The ACPAA congratulates WIPO on its remarkable achievements in the past year under the wise leadership of the Director General. With more than 27,000 individual members and over 4,300 institutional members, the ACPAA is committed to uniting its members, providing them with a platform for exchange and cooperation and channels for keeping abreast of the latest international developments, promoting the advancement of the patent agent profession, and offering high-quality services such as professional training and academic exchanges. The Association encourages its members to take a more active part in international exchanges and cooperation in the field of IP, in order to better serve innovators around the world and contribute China's strength to the development of the global IP system. In recent years, China has become a major user of the Madrid and Hague systems. WIPO should further optimize and improve the global IP services system by adding Chinese as a working language for the Madrid and Hague systems. That would inject new momentum into both systems and promote global brand protection and industrial design innovation.

174. [AMERICAN ARAB INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION \(AAIPA\)](#): Raising awareness of IP, especially among children and young people, is an investment in the future of creativity and innovation. To that end, we work in the Middle East and the United States to promote respect for copyright, encourage innovation and support the responsible use of AI in a way that balances technological development with the protection of creators' rights. The Association is preparing an international workshop on music and AI to highlight the importance of protecting creativity in the digital age. Our interest in the role of innovation in supporting sustainable development and climate action has led us to join the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as an observer. We stand ready to work with WIPO, its Member States and all partners to strengthen the IP system to serve innovation and sustainable development. We congratulate the Director General on his second term at the head of WIPO.

175. [ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA PARA LA PROTECCIÓN DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL \(AMPPI\)](#): AMPPI congratulates the Director General on his re-election and recognizes his dedication to strengthening and modernizing the international IP system. AMPPI is a professional association founded in Mexico in 1963. It brings together more than 300 specialists across various areas of IP. Throughout its history, the Association has promoted the strengthening of the Mexican IP system, capacity-building for professionals and users, and the exchange of experiences and best practices in Mexico and internationally. AMPPI wishes to: recognize the significant work done by WIPO in recent years, in particular the adoption of the GRATK Treaty and Riyadh DLT; thank WIPO for the technical assistance provided to Mexico, which is of direct benefit to professionals who are members of the Association; and express support for the four pillars of future work outlined by the Director General.

176. [BAHRAIN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SOCIETY \(BIPS\)](#): The Society continues to promote a culture of IP through effective partnerships with government entities, the private sector and our partners in the Gulf countries and around the Arab region. In October 2025, we ran the second Gulf Conference on the Role of the Law in Protecting IPRs in the Economic Sector, in partnership with the Emirates Intellectual Property Association (EIPA) and Wide Capital law firm. Coinciding with World IP Day, we joined the Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies in a seminar on Copyright in the Digital Age. We also participated with the Ministry of Education in a forum on IPRs in the age of AI. We will soon launch our IP Clinic initiative with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and the Bahrain Researchers and Inventors Society (BRIS). During the past year, we also signed agreements with Gulf University, the Applied Science University, BRIS and the Bahrain Bar Society.

177. [CORPORACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE INVESTIGACIÓN DE LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL PARA EL DESARROLLO \(CORPORACIÓN INNOVARTE\)](#): Innovarte congratulates the Director General on his re-election and aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of the Holy See, citing Pope Leo XIV and his humanitarian vision of progress, as well as the need to avoid concentrating IP, including patents, in only a few hands without appropriate mechanisms for sharing and access. Innovarte welcomes the fact that socially responsible licensing of technology, particularly those developed by universities, is a subject being studied by the Secretariat, and urges that the matter be given more attention by the standing committees, to enable the identification of experiences, best practices and recommendations. WIPO should not forget the recent pandemic. Maximizing the social value of innovation should be a guiding principle in the work of WIPO, in line with the DA. Indicators for social impact, technology transfer and local production must be adopted.

178. [EGYPTIAN COUNCIL FOR INNOVATION, CREATIVITY AND PROTECTION OF INFORMATION \(ECCIPP\)](#): The ECCIPP launched its Green Innovation Starts with You

initiative in Port Said in cooperation with the Workers' Syndicate and held related training programs and workshops throughout the year in various parts of Egypt. Workshops were also organized in Beheira and Ismailia on sustainable development and green innovation in conjunction with various associations and professional organizations from around the country. The Council inaugurated several fine arts forums and took part in programs for women running small and micro-enterprises held by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and the State Information Service. We also took part in several television interviews to promote a culture and awareness of IP, while continuing to deliver lectures and publish articles designed to raise public awareness.

179. [EMIRATES INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION \(EIPA\)](#): EIPA continues to strengthen its partnership with WIPO. Some 26 senior police officers from the Ministry of the Interior recently graduated from a capacity-building program on enforcing IP laws. We will soon launch a special capacity-building program for customs personnel across the country, and a skills program for trademark agents, which experts from WIPO and the Ministry of the Economy and Tourism will help to deliver. In the Gulf, we organized the second Gulf IP Conference in cooperation with BIPS. At the broader Arab regional level, we are organizing the fifth Arab Conference on IP in partnership with the Arab Administrative Development Organization (ARADO). Our cooperation with INTERPOL is ongoing, and we are preparing for the fifteenth Conference on Combating IP Crimes, which will be held in Dubai on December 15 and 16, 2026. You are warmly invited to attend.

180. [EMIRATES PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION \(EPA\)](#): It is my honor to represent the EPA at this important international gathering. For the Association, supporting the publishing industry is a national cultural mission, and empowering publishers is the key to building the future of knowledge. Under the leadership of Her Highness Sheikha Bodour bint Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, the Association's founder and Honorary President, it continues to develop this vital sector and to empower Emirati publishers through high-quality initiatives, training programs, professional development and broader opportunities to access international markets. Protecting copyright and related rights is essential if creativity is to flourish. Accordingly, we work to promote awareness of the importance of IPRs as a foundation for cultural development and the sustainability of the cultural and creative industries. The EPA remains committed to supporting international efforts aimed at protecting creativity, and through these Assemblies we look forward to fostering meaningful international dialogue and building a sustainable future for publishing and culture.

181. [EMIRATES REPROGRAPHIC RIGHTS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION \(ERRA\)](#): It is an honor for ERRA to take part in these WIPO Assemblies. The close partnership and collaboration between the United Arab Emirates and WIPO over the past three decades have been the cornerstone for development of the legal and regulatory frameworks for copyright, and helped to consolidate the country's standing in global indicators for creators' rights. In this context, we wish to express our profound appreciation to the Honorary President of ERRA, Her Highness Sheikha Al Qasimi, for her support and visionary leadership in promoting culture, safeguarding rights and fostering creativity. Safeguarding rights is not merely a legal responsibility; it is also a moral obligation and an expression of respect for creators. We are therefore committed to ensuring a comprehensive national framework that protects IPRs, reflecting the commitment of the United Arab Emirates to building a legislative and regulatory environment that nurtures creativity and respects the rights of creators.

182. [EMIRATES SCIENCE CLUB](#): The Emirates Science Club is honored to participate in these Assemblies and values the pivotal role that WIPO plays in strengthening the global IP system in support of innovation and sustainable development. The Club is committed to supporting the vision of the United Arab Emirates advancing innovation and IP as two pillars of a knowledge-based economy. The Club is therefore expanding its national and

international partnerships and making use of WIPO Academy programs to build capacity and promote a culture of IP among researchers, young people and innovators. The Club's portfolio of IPRs now numbers 25, reflecting its commitment to transforming research results into protected knowledge assets with real economic and societal impact. The Club will further its cooperation with WIPO and Member States in order to build an effective and inclusive IP ecosystem that supports innovation and encourages sustainable development.

183. [GERMAN ASSOCIATION FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW \(GRUR\)](#): GRUR congratulates the Director General on his re-election. The Association was founded in 1891 and is a not-for-profit organization with a strong academic focus on German, European and international IP law. The Association's members come from all professional groups working in IP law, including judges, academics, industry associations, public administrative bodies and lawyers in private practice. It does not represent nor act in the interests of any particular group of stakeholders. GRUR particularly appreciates regular exchanges and interactions with WIPO. In the interest of developing and advancing fair and balanced IP law systems worldwide, GRUR strongly supports WIPO projects for further international harmonization. The Diplomatic Conferences held in 2024 and the adoption of the Riyadh DLT show that treaties can be adopted based on a spirit of multilateralism and a common understanding between WIPO Member States. GRUR will continue to support these projects and the work of WIPO in general.

184. [INFOCONS ASSOCIATION](#): InfoCons Association congratulates the Director General on the renewal of his mandate for a second term. Under his able leadership, WIPO has achieved unprecedented strengthening of the international IP system. I encourage all participants here to download the InfoCons mobile application, a unique app that operates in 33 languages and serves as a bridge to IP for consumer protection, for the benefit of all consumers.

185. [INSTITUTE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE \(IIPSJ\)](#): IIPSJ stresses the need for WIPO Member States to continue all work under the DA. Building more inclusive IP systems must be a priority, drawing on humanity's combined creative and innovation potential to design solutions for contemporary global challenges. At the seventieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, UN Member States focused on access to justice for all women and girls, observing that in a significant number of countries, women and girls do not enjoy the same legal rights as those of men and boys. IIPSJ urges WIPO Member States to develop an effective strategy to mainstream the work of the CDIP on women and IP across all WIPO programs, and enable Member States to develop and implement more inclusive and equitable IP systems at home.

186. [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION ASSOCIATION \(IPPA\)](#): I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Director General on the renewal of confidence placed in his leadership. It is an honor to speak on behalf of IPPA, the first civil society organization in Saudi Arabia specializing in IP, which works to promote a culture of IP, foster innovation and raise awareness. Over the past year, the Association has continued to implement its awareness-raising and training programs and to organize special initiatives in light of the rapid developments taking place worldwide. There is a need to continue to develop the international IP system in a way that achieves a balance between encouraging innovation and protecting authors' rights. The Association calls on WIPO to take tangible steps to expand the use of the Arabic language in the Madrid and Hague systems, in line with the principle of multilingualism on which the Organization is founded. That would enhance equitable access to international registration services and respond to the aspirations of Arab countries and Arabic-speaking users. NGOs accredited as Observers to WIPO should be enabled to contribute more effectively to its work, by expanding opportunities for them to take part in programs and initiatives and by strengthening

capacity-building efforts. That would boost the role they play in promoting a culture of IP, fostering innovation and serving the communities they represent. WIPO has a pivotal role to play in strengthening international cooperation and building a more efficient, dynamic and responsive global IP system capable of addressing future challenges and opportunities.

187. [JAPAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION \(JIPA\)](#): For 88 years, JIPA has served as a private sector, cross-industry IP organization in Japan, promoting value creation through IP from the perspective of industry. Today, amid a complex international environment and the rapid advancement of technology, such as AI, it is increasingly important to protect markets where trusted products can circulate and to strengthen cooperation among countries. From the private sector standpoint, JIPA shares the Director General's views on IP for everyone, everywhere. WIPO's support and framework for international cooperation are essential to realizing that vision. JIPA will continue to collaborate with WIPO and contribute to sustainable development and social inclusion through IP.

188. [DIRECTOR GENERAL](#): Let me start by saying that this is the biggest Assemblies in the history of WIPO, with the largest attendance of Delegates, Ministers and Vice Ministers, and the largest number of events. I have paid close attention to all statements and want to thank all of you for taking the time to share your thoughts and to update us on the developments in your home countries. I appreciate your support for the work of the Organization and have noted all requests and comments regarding areas for improvement. The work of the Organization is broad, and while there are divergences in views on certain issues, overall I have been struck by the very strong convergence across the house on some fundamental things. First, everyone agrees that IP is not an end in itself but a means to an end. It must be a tool, a catalyst, an enabler: a way for us to connect to innovation and creativity and support entrepreneurs; an enabler for women, young people, rural communities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities; a catalyst for jobs, investments, prosperity, growth, competitiveness and sustainable development. WIPO has been working in this direction for the past six years. I think, first, that there has been a tremendous amount of convergence around that. Second, we need to make sure that the IP system remains not only forward-looking but also human-centered. This is how we operate in WIPO, and how you operate in your governments. Technology is a tool that can be used for bad as well as for good. Over the past 130 years, we have seen revolutionary technologies come and go and, as a global IP community, we have encountered significant changes in transport, communications and digital technologies. We are now living through another period of technological transformation. WIPO remains committed to supporting the human spirit of innovation and creativity: every human being is an innovator and creator. As long as the IP system is shaped and adjusted and evolves, while at the same time keeping sight of the fact that IP should support the human spirit of innovation and creativity, and support innovators and creators, the system will not only remain relevant but will also continue to be valued. WIPO is doing a significant amount of work, with Member States individually, bilaterally and in regional groups. One size does not fit all: every region, every Member State is unique. Even so, all Member States are seeking to ensure that IP supports their economic, social and cultural vibrancy, development and growth. Member States are welcome to meet bilaterally with the Secretariat, and with each other, over the course of the Assemblies, to talk and to share ideas. In a world that is becoming increasingly complex and divided, it is particularly important for heads of national IP offices to share their experiences with regard to challenges and best practices, and to come together as a community to advance the IP ecosystem. WIPO is committed to working closely with all of its Member States and partners to advance the IP agenda as one global IP community.

[End of Annex and document]