

**STATEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ARIPO, MR.  
BEMANYA TWEBAZE, AT THE OPENING OF THE 68<sup>TH</sup> SERIES OF  
MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO MEMBER STATES**

*Geneva, 7 July 2026*

**Chairperson,**

ARIPO expresses its sincere appreciation to WIPO, under the leadership of Director General Mr. Daren Tang, for the strong and enduring partnership that continues to benefit our Organization and its Member States.

At the outset, I warmly congratulate Mr. Tang on his appointment to a second term as Director General of WIPO. This renewed mandate reflects the confidence of Member States in his leadership and commitment to a balanced, inclusive and effective global intellectual property system. ARIPO looks forward to continuing our close collaboration with WIPO under his stewardship.

In 2026, our partnership has continued to deliver tangible results through initiatives that strengthen intellectual property systems, build institutional capacity, support the TISC Network, promote IP education through the IP School Club Project, and enhance the use of intellectual property for innovation and economic development.

As ARIPO celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, we reaffirm our commitment to deepening our partnership with WIPO to advance innovation, creativity, and sustainable development across our Member States.

**I thank you.**