

**CAMBODIA'S GENERAL STATEMENT AT THE OPENING OF
THE SIXTY-EIGHTH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF
THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO**

**Mr. Chair,
Director General Daren Tang,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,**

At the outset, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to His Excellency Carlos D. Sorreta, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Philippines, on his election as the Chair of the 68th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. Cambodia assures you of its full support in guiding our deliberations toward a successful and productive outcome.

We warmly congratulate Director General Daren Tang on his reappointment, and we wish him every success in leading WIPO in addressing emerging opportunities and challenges in the rapidly evolving global innovation landscape.

Cambodia highly values WIPO's continued support for developing countries and LDCs in leveraging intellectual property (IP) as a driver of innovation, economic growth, and sustainable development. We welcome WIPO's efforts in building a more inclusive global IP ecosystem and reaffirm our strong support for the organization's strategic vision.

Mr. Chair,

Guided by the Pentagonal Strategy – Phase I and Cambodia Vision 2050, the Royal Government of Cambodia remains firmly committed to transforming our nation into a knowledge-based, technology-enabled, and innovation-driven economy. We firmly believe that IP is not only a legal mechanism for protecting rights, but also a strategic asset that fosters innovation, attracts investment, promotes entrepreneurship, enhances competitiveness, and creates opportunities for inclusive growth, and sustainable development.

As Cambodia prepares for its graduation from the LDC status, we recognize both opportunities and challenges associated with this important milestone. A robust and effective IP system will be instrumental in supporting innovation-led growth, facilitating technology transfer, strengthening participation in regional and global value chains, and attracting quality investment.

At the national level, Cambodia continues to modernize its IP legal and institutional framework. We are currently advancing the revision of our Patent Law to ensure greater alignment with international standards and evolving technological developments. At the same time, Cambodia emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the benefits of emerging technologies are accessible to all countries, particularly developing and LDCs. International cooperation, knowledge sharing, and capacity building are essential to ensure that no country is left behind.

Mr. Chair,

Cambodia reaffirms the importance of protecting traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions, and genetic resources. We welcome the adoption of the WIPO Treaty on IP, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge and Riyadh Design Law Treaty, which represents a historic milestone in the evolution of the international IP system. As a country rich in cultural heritage and biodiversity, Cambodia looks forward to continued cooperation with WIPO and Member States to support awareness-raising, capacity building, and effective implementation of this important treaty.

Cambodia also recognizes the important contribution of geographical indications in promoting rural development, preserving cultural heritage, enhancing product competitiveness, and generating sustainable economic opportunities for local communities.

As an active member and Chair of the ASEAN Working Group on IP Cooperation, Cambodia remains committed to strengthening regional collaboration in IP administration, digital transformation, innovation support, and capacity building.

Mr. Chair,

Looking ahead, we commit to work closely with WIPO and all Member States to advance an international IP system that is balanced, inclusive, development-oriented, and responsive to emerging global challenges. We believe that digital transformation, innovation ecosystems and capacity building programme are some of the areas that could help us prepare for the upcoming transitions toward a knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy.

We look forward to further strengthening our cooperation with WIPO in advancing Cambodia's intellectual property and innovation agenda for the benefit of our people, region, and future generations.

I thank you.

---End---