

Opening statement by Sweden at the 68th Series of WIPO Assemblies shortened for delivery in plenary

Chair, Excellencies,

First, we would like to express our appreciation to everyone involved in the hard work preparing for this meeting. Chair, we are looking forward to working efficiently under your able guidance to reach productive outcomes agreeable to all.

Director General Daren Tang, allow Sweden to again congratulate you on your re-election. Your re-election demonstrates that your vision has gained broad support among WIPO Members. We look forward to continuing our close cooperation in the coming years and we wish you and your team all the best for the upcoming work.

We would also like to thank the current leadership team and all WIPO staff. We appreciate their dedicated work to strengthen the global IP system during the past year.

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

With regard to WIPO governance, we expect transparency, efficiency and financial prudence, as well as the continuous development of management practices and financial and operational oversight to ensure an effective WIPO.

Whereas Global IP Services are the core of WIPO's support to the IP community, users should continue to expect the highest standard of service from these systems, both in terms of quality and user-friendliness. At the same time, the systems must be continuously updated to reflect evolving user needs. In this endeavour, Sweden stands ready to contribute, for instance within the PCT or Madrid systems, or the valuable work within the framework of CWS.

Moreover, Sweden recognizes the importance of IP in commercialisation and utilisation. We therefore support WIPO's efforts to harness IP as a tool for

competitiveness, innovation, and sustainable development.

We also value WIPO:s work on technical assistance and here look forward to the Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property.

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

Thank you, Chair.