IX Governo Constitucional
MINISTÉRIO DO
COMÉRCIO E INDÚSTRIA

STATEMENT BY
HIS EXCELLENCY THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE,
Mr. NINO PEREIRA
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIXTY-EIGHTH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO
Geneva, July 7, 2026

Mr. Chair,

Mr. Director General Daren Tang,

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, I join other Member States in warmly congratulating you, Mr. Chair, on your election to preside over the Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. Timor-Leste aligns itself with the statement delivered by ASEAN and is confident that, under your able leadership, these Assemblies will be productive and successful.

Allow me also to join fellow Member States in extending our warmest congratulations to Director General Daren Tang on your reappointment for a second term. We commend your visionary leadership and continued commitment to advancing an inclusive, balanced and development-oriented global intellectual property system. Timor-Leste highly values its

partnership with WIPO and looks forward to further strengthening our cooperation under your leadership.

This Assembly is particularly significant for Timor-Leste. Following our accession to the World Trade Organization 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. These historic milestones strengthen our determination to build modern institutions, enhance competitiveness and advance sustainable economic development.

In this context, intellectual property 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 Timorese products, knowledge and traditions.

I am pleased to share that Timor-Leste's Industrial Property Code is in the final stages of approval by the National Parliament. Once enacted, it will provide the legal foundation for a modern industrial property system and enable the establishment of Timor-Leste's first National Intellectual Property Office. This marks a major milestone for our country, but it is also the beginning of a new phase. Our priority now is implementation: building effective institutions, developing human capacity, establishing operational systems and ensuring that intellectual property 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 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's technical assistance, expertise and dedication have been instrumental in helping Timor-Leste lay the foundations of its intellectual property 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 partnerships and the sharing of experiences will be crucial in helping us 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 intellectual property: 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 intellectual property continues to advance innovation, sustainable development and shared prosperity for all.

Thank you for your generous attention.

Geneva, July 7 2026