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Special Union for the International Deposit of Industrial Designs (Hague Union)

Assembly

Forty-Sixth (21st Extraordinary) Session
Geneva, July 7 to 15, 2026

DRAFT REPORT

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Assembly was concerned with the following items of the Consolidated Agenda (document [A/68/1](#)): 1 to 4, 6, 9(ii), 10, 14, 18, 22 and 23.
2. The reports on the said items, with the exception of item 14, are contained in the draft General Report (document A/68/10 Prov.).
3. The report on item 14 is contained in the present document.
4. Ms. Grace Issahaque (Ghana), Chair of the Hague Union Assembly, presided over the meeting.

ITEM 14 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

HAGUE SYSTEM

5. Discussions were based on document [H/A/46/1](#).
6. [CHAIR](#): We now open agenda item 14, Hague System. One document is under consideration as stated in the list of documents, namely, document H/A/46/1. I would like to welcome two new Contracting Parties to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement, El Salvador and the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO). The Geneva Act will enter into force with respect to El Salvador on October 7, 2026, and with respect to EAPO on October 10, 2026. We now move to document H/A/46/1 entitled "Report on the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs". I would like to invite Ms. Marie Paule Rizo, Director, Hague Legal and Treaty Promotion Division, to briefly introduce document H/A/46/1.
7. [SECRETARIAT](#): The Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs held its fourteenth session from October 6 to 8, 2025. Document H/A/46/1 reports on all the issues discussed at that session. Let me highlight the following. First, the Working Group took note of a report on consultations undertaken by the International Bureau with Offices of Contracting Parties regarding the exchange of priority documents in the context of the Hague System. The Working Group also considered two proposed amendments to the Regulations Under the Geneva Act (1999) of the Hague Agreement. The first was a proposal to remove the mono-class requirement for multiple design applications. The proposal seeks to increase the attractiveness of the Hague System by enhancing flexibility for users, while ensuring that the Contracting Parties can maintain their current application requirements. The Working Group requested further work on this proposal for the next session. The Working Group also agreed to continue discussing at its next session a proposal by the Delegation of Brazil to introduce a new rule providing for the transmission of communications from Offices to holders through the International Bureau. On design representations, the Working Group agreed to the enhancement of 2D image formats and tasked the International Bureau with establishing a consultation forum on the implementation plan and technical details. The Working Group also agreed to continue discussions at a future session regarding the possible introduction of 3D and video formats. Furthermore, the Working Group continued the discussions on a revision of the Schedule of Fees of the Hague System and requested the International Bureau to prepare a broader review of that Schedule of Fees for a future session. Finally, the Working Group continued discussions on the possible introduction of new languages into the Hague System and requested the International Bureau to prepare a document providing possible options for reducing translation costs while maintaining quality and optimizing translation practices as well as an updated financial analysis of the possible introduction of new languages.
8. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): The Russian Federation is honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the States of Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC) that are members of the Hague System. We express our gratitude to the Deputy Director General, Ms. Wang, and the Secretariat for preparing the report on the fourteenth session of the Working Group on the Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. For the States of our regional group, the Hague System is very important for ensuring access for applicants to foreign markets. In this regard, we are interested in the further development of the system and making it more convenient for all users. one of the key areas of this work is, in our view, the expansion of the language regime of the Hague System. We have consistently called for increasing the number of working languages, including through the introduction of the Russian language. We believe that this step would enhance the accessibility of the Hague System, strengthen its universal character, and attract new users. For our part, we will continue to provide the Secretariat with our full cooperation in

this area. We are paying particular attention to adapting the Hague System to the modern level of technological development. We commend the approval by the Working Group of measures aimed at improving the quality of images submitted in two-dimensional format. In this connection, we consider it advisable to continue work on expanding the range of admissible formats for representing industrial designs in international applications, including through the use of three-dimensional images and models. CACEEC reaffirms its willingness to continue making a constructive contribution to the development of the Hague System.

9. [CHINA](#): The Chinese Delegation commends the efforts made by all parties in working to make progress on the topics under the Hague Working Group. As the largest user of the Hague System, China has always attached great importance to the long-term and sound development of the Hague System and has actively and constructively participated in the discussions. China looks forward to substantive progress on issues such as the introduction of new languages and the revision of the Schedule of Fees, as these directly impact the interests of users. Such progress will further improve the Hague System, attract new users and help provide better and more convenient services to global users.

10. [ALBANIA](#): I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States (CEBS) Group. At the outset, the CEBS Group would like to thank the Secretariat and the International Bureau for preparing document H/A/46/1. We would also like to express our appreciation to Ms. Myrto Lambrou Maurer from Greece for her excellent guidance during the fourteenth session of the Working Group and we warmly congratulate Ms. Elizabeth Jones from the United Kingdom on her election as Chair for the fifteenth session. The CEBS Group welcomes the ongoing efforts to enhance the attractiveness, simplicity and flexibility of the Hague System. In this regard, we take note of the constructive discussion on the proposal to remove the mono-class requirement for filing multiple design applications and we look forward to the further analysis requested from the International Bureau to ensure that domestic requirements of Contracting Parties are fully respected. Furthermore, our Group welcomes the agreement reached on enhancing 2D image representations. We look forward to participating in the upcoming consultation forum to address the implementation plan and technical details while continuing future discussions on the potential introduction of 3D and video files. We also note the ongoing discussion regarding the Schedule of Fees and support a broader review that assesses the impact of past revisions to ensure the financial sustainability of the system. Turning to the sensitive issue of the possible introduction of new languages into the Hague System, the CEBS Group maintains its cautious and pragmatic position. We reiterate that any such expansion requires a thorough realistic assessment of potential negative financial implications for current and future users. While we note the Working Group's request for updated studies on Artificial Intelligence (AI) machine translation tools and outsourced translation costs, we firmly believe that the technical and financial feasibility must remain the core criteria for any decision. Consequently, taking full account of the serious financial concerns, together with the ongoing deeply concerning geopolitical context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which has now entered its fifth year, the CEBS Group remains for the time being not in a position to support the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System. With these remarks, the CEBS Group takes note of the report.

11. [EUROPEAN UNION](#): The European Union and its member States attach great importance to the Hague System as one of the key international registration systems operated by WIPO, and to the work undertaken by the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We would like to thank the Secretariat for the work done during the last year and the Working Group Chair for steering the discussions during the last session. We believe that the proposals put forward by the Secretariat aiming at modernizing the system such as the removal of the mono-class requirement or the inclusion of new formats of representation of designs are a positive step leading towards the modernization of the system that has now reached a century. We are looking forward to the continuation of discussions on such proposals during the next session of

the Working Group and to proactively working towards tangible advancements of the system. With regard to the possible introduction of new languages in the system, we consider that the introduction of any new language in any system administered by WIPO must represent an advantage and not a burden for the users of the system. In addition, we believe that the introduction of new languages into the various systems should be done gradually. This could allow us to assess the outcomes before taking any further steps and to ensure the stability of the international registration systems. In this respect, maintaining a good functioning of the international registration systems and particularly in this case of the Hague System services should remain a key priority.

12. [UNITED STATES OF AMERICA](#): The United States of America fully supports efforts to ensure that the revenues of the Hague Union from fees and other sources are at the very least sufficient to cover all the expenses of the International Bureau concerning the Hague Union. This Delegation remains interested in future discussions regarding a broader and more comprehensive review of the Schedule of Fees as well as any proposals that have the goal of improving the financial sustainability of the Hague System. Regarding the WIPO Digital Access Service (WIPO DAS), we believe that the use of WIPO DAS is the most effective user-friendly system for the exchange of design priority documents. For an international design application designating the United States, an applicant must submit a certified copy of a priority application during the pendency of the application before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). We note that the United States does not charge a fee for the submission of a priority document. WIPO DAS enables applicants to better navigate the disparate priority processes and requirements in jurisdictions across the globe, including in the United States. We are keenly aware that design filers, including the United States filers but also filers from across the globe, have experienced challenges in perfecting a priority claim outside the United States, even when using the WIPO DAS system. In keeping with the spirit and user-friendliness of both WIPO DAS and the Hague System, we encourage all Contracting Parties to look at eliminating any extra requirements, such as translations and fees beyond the provision of the priority document itself via WIPO DAS. We especially encourage Contracting Parties to allow for sufficient time and notice to comply with those extra requirements.

13. [UNITED KINGDOM](#): The United Kingdom thanks the Secretariat for preparing the report contained in document H/A/46/1. We welcome efforts to improve and modernize the Hague System. We therefore look forward to continuing discussions on new formats of design representation at the next Working Group. This is an important topic that needs thorough discussion to ensure all aspects are properly considered. The United Kingdom believes that the Hague System should be financially sustainable while remaining accessible to users. We thank the Secretariat for their work thus far on providing information on the Schedule of Fees.

14. [UKRAINE](#): The Delegation of Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Distinguished Delegation of Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group. The Delegation of Ukraine welcomes the continuing work aimed at enhancing the attractiveness, simplicity and flexibility of the Hague System, and we remain committed to constructive engagement within the Hague Working Group. In the broader context of improving access to industrial designs information, Ukraine wishes to share a related national update. During these Assemblies, Ukraine signed the intellectual property (IP) Data Exchange Agreement with WIPO, which will support the future availability of Ukrainian industrial designs data through the WIPO Global Design Database. We express our appreciation to the WIPO Secretariat for its support in concluding this Agreement. Also given Ukraine's broader European Union accession agenda, Ukrainian design data was integrated into the European Union Intellectual Property Office's (EUIPO) DesignView tool last week, further improving access to the Ukrainian industrial designs' information for the global users. We also thank the EUIPO and the European Union-funded project for their valuable support in this direction. Regarding the possible introduction of new languages into the Hague System, Ukraine reiterates its firm position that any such decision must be based on objective criteria, clear user demand, and a realistic assessment of technical, financial and operational

consequences. In this regard, Ukraine sees no justification for the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System. Such a step would not be supported by demonstrated user need and could create unjustified costs and burdens for current users. Ukraine must again draw attention to the misuse of WIPO's administrative systems, including the Hague System. Ukraine appreciates the steps already taken by the International Bureau, including the introduction and expansion of the relevant disclaimers. However, disclaimers are not a final solution, and Ukraine therefore calls for further effective technical and organizational measures to ensure that the Hague System's publications, records and related data cannot be used to legitimize Russia's attempts to distort the internationally recognized borders of Ukraine. Ukraine remains committed to a balanced and efficient Hague System that serves users and fully respects the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Member States.

15. [EL SALVADOR](#): The Delegation of El Salvador has the honor of speaking in its national capacity. We thank the Secretariat of WIPO for presenting the report of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We welcome the progress made in the context of this group, particularly those moving towards simplifying and making the Hague System more accessible, including the analysis of proposals to give greater flexibility for multiple filings of industrial designs, and also efforts to broaden the formats of representation through the inclusion of new technologies. We also recognize the importance of promoting an efficient international system adapted to user needs and able to facilitate the protection of industrial designs and contributing to strengthening innovation and creativity at the global level. It is our pleasure to inform you that, on July 7, we deposited four instruments of ratification and accession to treaties administered by WIPO, including the instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs. This is an important step forward in strengthening the national system of IP for the benefit of industrial designers and enterprises in the creative sector, fashion industry, technology and manufacturing that seek to protect their designs in international markets. We reaffirm our commitment to continue defending the strategic use of IP as a tool to promote innovation, competitiveness and economic development.

16. [CÔTE D'IVOIRE](#): The Delegation of Côte d'Ivoire would like to thank you for steering our work so effectively on the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We welcome the progress made in the implementation of the Hague System and the initiatives undertaken with a view to enhancing efficiency, transparency and accessibility for users. We firmly believe that an international system for protecting industrial designs promotes creativity, innovation and economic development, particularly in developing countries. We would particularly like to emphasize the importance of multilingualism in the organization. A multilingual regime which is more inclusive would facilitate broader and more effective participation of Member States, enhance the access to IP services and contribute to a better dissemination of innovation and knowledge. We support efforts to progressively extend multilingualism throughout the Hague System taking account of available resources and participation of Member States. We reiterate the support of Côte d'Ivoire to the work of the Hague System.

17. [LATVIA](#): Latvia aligns itself with the statement made by the CEBS Group and Ukraine. We welcome the continued work on the legal development of the Hague System and the Secretariat's efforts to further modernize and improve the service for the users. But regarding the proposal to introduce additional languages into the Hague System, Latvia remains firm on the view that this is neither the right priority nor the right time. At a time when the Russian Federation continues the brutal war against Ukraine, continues to violate international law and destroy the very conditions that enable innovation, creativity and international cooperation to flourish, Latvia cannot support the introduction of Russian as an additional working language for the Hague System. The logic is very simple. What type of signal would that send? Similarly to last year, we would like to make one point again. Beyond the current geopolitical circumstances, we also firmly believe that WIPO should take a more strategic and future-oriented approach to

multilingual accessibility. Rather than investing substantial financial and administrative resources into integrating individual languages one by one, WIPO should prioritize the development and deployment of secure AI-powered translations and language technologies. Such solutions have the potential to make WIPO's services generally multilingual, more accessible to all users, more cost-effective and easier to maintain over time. What we are saying is that the question should not therefore be how to add one more language today, but how to make WIPO accessible in many languages tomorrow. For these reasons, Latvia cannot support moving forward with the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System.

18. [LITHUANIA](#): Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered by the European Union and its member States, by Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group, and by the Delegation of Latvia. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the WIPO Secretariat and all Member States for their continued engagement and for the substantial progress achieved in the work of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System. Lithuania welcomes the continued efforts to strengthen the attractiveness, efficiency and user-friendliness of the Hague System. In this regard, we take note of the constructive discussions concerning the proposal to remove the mono-class requirement for multiple design applications. Lithuania supports further analysis by the International Bureau and is in principle open to greater flexibility in this area. We believe that this discussion is particularly timely in light of the recent European Union Design Reform, which aims to modernize and simplify design protection frameworks and better reflect the needs of today's users. Lithuania supports continued discussions on the potential introduction of the three-dimensional representations and video files, which could further improve the ability of the Hague System to accommodate innovative and increasingly sophisticated industrial designs in the digital era. Furthermore, Lithuania supports a balanced, evidence-based and criteria-driven approach to any future consideration of additional languages within the Hague System. Any discussions on language expansion should be guided by objective data, demonstrated user needs, operational feasibility and financial sustainability, while ensuring that no disproportionate burden is placed on the users of the system. At the same time, Lithuania wishes to reiterate its clear and principled position concerning proposals to introduce Russian as an additional language of the Hague System. As long as the Russian Federation continues its unprovoked, unjustified and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine in violation of international law and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), Lithuania remains firmly opposed to such proposals and cannot support the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System. In our view, there is no sufficient justification for advancing such an initiative under the current circumstances. Any consideration of additional languages must remain firmly grounded in objective criteria and genuine user demand. Lithuania remains committed to constructive engagement in the continued modernization of the Hague System and looks forward to working with other Member States and the International Bureau on solutions that respond to evolving needs of users, while preserving the efficiency and sustainability of the system.

19. [SAUDI ARABIA](#): The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing this report and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat and the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We have also taken note of the report, which shows the significant progress made on a number of matters, for example, the exchange of priority documents, the development of design representation formats, the revision of the Schedule of Fees, as well as the ongoing discussions on the possible introduction of new languages into the Hague System. The Kingdom also appreciates the consideration of the use of emerging technologies, including AI tools, to improve the efficiency of translation services and reduce their costs. In this context, the Kingdom reiterates the importance of continuing to study the inclusion of the Arabic language among the working languages of the Hague System. Such a step would contribute to enhancing inclusiveness and coordination, expanding the benefits of the system for Arabic-speaking Member States and facilitating access to its services. We would also like to refer to the deliberations reflected in the document regarding WIPO DAS. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

reaffirms its continued support for the Working Group's work and its commitment to maintaining constructive participation to achieve coordination on various related issues. This will contribute to the further development of the Hague System and improve its efficiency and effectiveness for the benefit of all Member States.

20. [RUSSIAN FEDERATION](#): We are forced to begin our statement with exercising our right of reply. Certain delegations are not ashamed and not mincing their words when they admit that the only reason for opposing the initiative to expand the language regime in the Hague System is based on political motives. By doing so, they effectively confirm that an issue of a purely technical nature, aimed at improving the accessibility of the Hague System for applicants, is being artificially shifted into the political sphere. This is absolutely unacceptable and contradicts the objective of our Organization, which is to promote the protection of IP around the world through cooperation between States, as enshrined in the Convention Establishing WIPO. At the same time, it is impossible to dispute the objective fact that the Russian language is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, with over 255 million speakers. It has the status of an official language in a number of States and is widely used as a language of international communication, science, education and technology. There is no doubt that the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System would significantly improve its accessibility for millions of Russian-speaking users. It would contribute to an increase in the number of applications, not only from the Russian Federation and the countries of the CACEEC region, but also from other WIPO Member States, including States of the CEBS Group where the Russian language is widespread and remains a native language or a language of everyday communication for a significant part of the population. Moving now to the substantive discussion under this agenda item, the Delegation of the Russian Federation would like to express its gratitude to Deputy Director General, Ms. Wang Binying, and the Secretariat for preparing and presenting the report on the fourteenth session of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by CACEEC and we appreciate the efforts of the Secretariat to improve the Hague System, as well as the approval by the Working Group of measures to improve the quality of 2D representations submitted. We consider it equally important to adapt the Hague System to contemporary technological development. In this regard, we support the continuation of work to expand the formats for representing industrial design, in particular through the use of 3D formats. The Russian Federation already has practical experience in applying such solutions in its national system. When filing an application for a patent for an industrial design under the national procedure, an applicant may, at their request, submit a 3D model of the industrial design in electronic format. Moreover, in the framework of the Committee on WIPO Standards, we are continuing to work on the development of Standard ST.91 concerning the presentation of 3D models and images in application materials. Developed by the 3D Task Force under the leadership of the Russian Federation, this Standard is currently being progressively improved. In particular, a draft new annex concerning the 3D model searches has been prepared. We consider this work to be an important contribution to the further development of digital technologies in the Hague System and thank the Hague Registry Secretariat for its participation in the work of the task force. Another equally important area of work for the development of the Hague System is the gradual expansion of its language regime. We hope for the swift introduction into the Hague System of at least all official UN languages, including the Russian language, to improve accessibility for applicants, expand the user base and strengthen the universal character of the system. In addition, we must once again express our deep concern and firmly condemn the actions of the European Union and its member States, which are contrary to international law in the field of IP, regarding the registration and protection of the rights of Russian applicants and rights holders in respect of industrial designs. Such discrimination on the basis of nationality is directly aimed against applicants. It creates a dangerous precedent for the entire international community and is already leading to a loss of trust in the IP system as a whole.

21. [POLAND](#): Poland welcomes the work of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. We would like to thank Deputy Director General Wang Binying, the Chairs of the Working Group and the Secretariat for preparing the last session. As we mark the historic milestone of the Hague System operating for over a century, we highly commend its enduring role in facilitating the international protection of designs. Furthermore, we note with great satisfaction the recent increase in the number of design applications designating Poland within the system. This highly positive trend underscores the growing interest in our market and it clearly reflects the increasing vitality, effectiveness and attractiveness of this international framework. We warmly welcome the Secretariat's proposals aimed at modernizing the system. In particular, the initiatives such as the removal of the mono-class requirement and the inclusion of new formats of representation of designs constitute a significant step forward in aligning the system with contemporary technological and business realities. We look forward to continuing discussions on these pivotal matters during the next session of the Working Group. On the issue of possible introduction of new languages, my Delegation echoes the statements that were delivered by the European Union, by Albania on behalf of the CEBS Group, by Ukraine, Latvia and Lithuania. We are of the view that further discussions and thoughtful considerations are needed on this issue. We wish to emphasize that such possible introduction should be based on clear and objective criteria and must not create an administrative or financial burden for the users of the Hague System. To preserve the efficiency and user-friendliness of the system, any such expansion should be approached with due caution and implemented on a gradual basis. In the current geopolitical situation, Poland is not in a position to support the introduction of the Russian language into the Hague System. The aggressor State that persistently violates international law, the UN Charter and its principles, which are also the basis of this Organization, should not make use of WIPO resources, funds and its global IP registration systems as long as it continues its unjustified and unprovoked war against Ukraine.

22. [LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC](#): I would like to express sincere thanks and also to mark the historic and proud moment for the Lao People's Democratic Republic as we are going to deposit the instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs on July 14, 2026, which is tomorrow. This important milestone reflects the Lao People's Democratic Republic Government's strong commitment to strengthening its IP system and deepening its engagement with the international IP community. The Hague System will provide designers, creators, entrepreneurs and businesses with a simplified and cost-effective mechanism to seek protection for their industrial designs in multiple jurisdictions through a single international application. On this occasion, the Lao People's Democratic Republic wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Director General and the Deputy Directors General of WIPO, the WIPO Secretariat and all partners who have provided valuable technical assistance, guidance and capacity building support through our accession process. Their continued cooperation has been instrumental in helping us achieve this important milestone. We are honored to join the growing family of Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement and look forward to working closely with all Members to ensure the effective implementation of the system and further strengthen international cooperation in the field of industrial design protection. We reaffirm our commitment to promoting innovation, supporting creators and entrepreneurs and contributing to a modern, inclusive and balanced international IP system that benefits all.

23. [EURASIAN PATENT ORGANIZATION \(EAPO\)](#): The Delegation is pleased to note that, on July 10, EAPO deposited with the Director General of WIPO its instrument of accession to the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs. This accession will enable us to strengthen the synergy between the two registration systems - the regional and the international systems. Applicants around the world will be able to simultaneously receive legal protection for industrial designs in the entire Eurasian region using an optimized and streamlined procedure. We would like to sincerely thank Ms. Wang Binying and the Hague team for this fruitful cooperation when preparing for accession and depositing

our instrument. We hope to see further development of the Hague System both in terms of the increase in number of Contracting Parties as well as in terms of improving accessibility of services in all official UN languages, including Russian, Chinese and Arabic. We believe that this is a very important measure to improve the attractiveness of the system for many, many new users. We think that modern automated translation technologies make it possible to develop the system of registration, and WIPO's infrastructure more broadly, without undue burden, thereby supporting multilingualism as one of the fundamental principles of the Organization and the UN.

24. [AMERICAN ARAB INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION \(AAIPA\)](#): AAIPA would like first and foremost to thank the WIPO Secretariat for the efforts undertaken, which have been fruitful last year to improve and strengthen the Hague System. We believe that the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs is one of the major tools that can enable us to protect these rights in our region. That is why we think that we must adopt tangible measures so that the system could be more comprehensive, more exhaustive, so that more users would be able to benefit from it. We must integrate the Arabic language, for example, as one of the official working languages within the Hague System. That would be a strategic step that is of paramount importance. This would enable us to remove any linguistic barriers. It would also be a measure that would help us ensure the fluidity of communication. We would be able to include more Arabic speaking countries into this system as well and that would have a positive impact on the number of users that would accede to this system. We strongly support all proposals aimed at developing the laws and regulations relating to the international registration of industrial designs, in a manner that ensures the simplification of procedures and increases their efficiency and competitive cost-effectiveness. We stand fully ready to provide all forms of support and cooperation with the International Bureau, the Secretariat and the Member States, in a manner that serves our shared aspirations towards strengthening an advanced and accessible environment for the protection of IP at the international level.

25. [HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM \(HEP\)](#): First of all, we would like to address the Director General, Mr. Daren Tang. It is a great honor to address you, on behalf of the non-governmental organization HEP and in my personal capacity, to extend our warmest congratulations for the way that you have stewarded the work of WIPO. Under your impetus, WIPO is strongly showing that IP is a major lever for development, the technological innovation and the improvement of quality of life at the international level. We welcome the crucial discussions concerning the Hague System. The proposed amendments to its Regulations, especially with regard to the management of time limits in cases of disruption to communication services, shows a remarkable willingness to adapt WIPO to current logistical and technological realities. This modernization will provide stronger protection to industrial design creators in the face of unexpected circumstances. The optimization of these international instruments is of paramount importance. It will ensure a more stable and predictable framework for all those who are working on improving healthcare and technology for the future.

26. [CHAIR](#): I would like to propose the following decision paragraph contained in the document concerned, and I read:

27. The Assembly of the Hague Union took note of the "Report on the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs" (document H/A/46/1).

28. [CHAIR](#): I see no objection. It is so decided. Thank you. With this decision, we have concluded the work of the Hague Union Assembly.

[End of document]