

Agenda item 3

Draft General/Opening Statement

(to be submitted in writing)

Chair,

1. Slovenia is honoured to take the floor on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We look forward to working efficiently under the able guidance of you and your Vice-Chairs during this week.
2. We would like to thank the WIPO Secretariat for their excellent work in preparing this session, in particular regarding the supporting documentation for the wide range of issues we have on the agenda. We hope all delegations will participate in the deliberation in a positive and cooperative manner in order to make this session a success.
3. The EU and its Member State are pleased to take note of the Secretariat's Report on Progress as well as WIPO's Contribution to the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and its Associated Targets under the Agenda item 4.
4. The EU and its Member States appreciate the document Future Webinars on WIPO's Technical Assistance in the area of Cooperation for Development. We believe technical assistance and the DA project are central for this Committee's work and can lead to substantial improvements in the IP frameworks of the beneficiary countries.

5. We look forward to discussions under the agenda item 6 “IP and Development”, which will contribute to an important exchange of experience and best practices among Member States.
6. Chair, the EU and its Member States will continue to engage constructively in the various discussions we have ahead of us this week.

Thank you.