



General Statement
53rd Session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee (IGC) on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (16th September 2026)

Thank you Mr. Chair,

We are pleased to see you presiding again over an all-important session of the IGC and express our confidence in your stewardship of this meeting.

2. At the outset, Pakistan aligns itself with the statements delivered by Singapore on behalf of the APG and Indonesia on behalf of the LMCs.
3. Pakistan has consistently underscored that Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TK and TCEs) are vital symbols of identity, national heritage and the dignity of custodians, which include Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.
4. Adequate safeguard for the rights of custodians, and balanced and effective protection for the use of TK and TCEs need to be guaranteed to foster fair and equitable sharing of benefits.
5. Pakistan believes that inclusive protection of TK and TCEs can be achieved only through an effective and legally binding International Legal Instrument which prevents the misuse, misappropriation and exploitation of TK and TCEs, in relation to all Intellectual Property.
6. As we enter the half way point in the 2026/27 mandate of the IGC, my delegation would like to recall the consensus-based approach which enabled the adoption of the WIPO Treaty on IP, GR and ATK in 2024 and the Riyadh Design Law Treaty in 2025. The Treaties stand as testament to the collective commitment of Member States to achieving an inclusive and responsive international IP system.

Mr. Chair,

7. The current IGC mandate and the proposed methodology hold the prospects of advancing focused text-based negotiations on the protection of TK and TCEs.

7. We sincerely hope that Member States will demonstrate flexibility and make the most of this opportunity to reach a common understanding on core outstanding issues, in support of a robust international IP framework.

8. Pakistan looks forward to engaging constructively with all delegations.

I thank you.

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