

## IGC Special session – UK opening statement

Madam Chair,

1. The United Kingdom would like to thank you and your Vice-chairs, as well as the WIPO Secretariat, for all the work leading to this special session.
2. We fully align ourselves with the Group B statement and hope that this week's discussions will enable us to present a revised draft text to the Preparatory Committee of the Diplomatic Conference, which will ultimately constitute a strong basis for successful negotiations during the upcoming Diplomatic Conference.
3. The United Kingdom is committed to developing a balanced and harmonised IP system, which allows for innovation, and WIPO serves as a cornerstone of this effort.
4. Our key objective is to create a transparent system which provides legal certainty for its users and does not stifle innovation. By focussing on harmonising and bringing consistency to disclosure requirements globally, we will improve the efficacy and quality of this system whilst also ensuring that it is usable.
5. There are areas of the draft legal instrument that we strongly support and some that require further discussion. Crucially we need to create a framework which includes both minimum and maximum standard provisions, that create a harmonised standard for disclosure requirement systems, and rationalise the disparate existing national systems. In doing this in a way that is consistent with the wider international system, we will ensure that the instrument provides a workable solution, and that the objectives of the instrument are met.
6. As we near the upcoming Diplomatic Conference, we hope to find a **consensual, well-balanced, and workable outcome for all** and are looking forward to making progress in this session.

Thank you.