

WIPO Assemblies

58th Series of the Meetings, September 24 to October 2, 2018

Opening Statement (Agenda Item 5) to be included in the Report

Delegation of the Slovak Republic

Mr Chair, respected Director General, distinguished delegates,

The Slovak Republic associates with the statement made by Austria on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and with the statement made by Lithuania on behalf of CEBS Group.

We thank the Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, and the Secretariat for all their highly professional work in preparing numerous documents for these Assemblies which reflect the progress made and the results achieved by the Organization during the year.

Mr. Chair, Slovakia notes and appreciates very positive financial result for the biennium 2016/2017. We welcome the continuous growth of Global IP services and believe that such growth will be furthered by constantly improving the systems that would allow to meet the needs of users.

Slovakia acknowledges WIPO's continuing efforts to improve the global IP systems, provide new IT services to users, institute user-friendly amendments and increase efficiency and we appreciate the progress made and the positive developments with regard to their effective functioning.

We are convinced that WIPO shall continue provision of services through PCT, Madrid, Hague and Lisbon systems by allocating needed resources for their use and promotion providing the equal treatment to all systems.

Regarding the Lisbon Union, Slovakia also has helped to cover its short-term financial deficit, and is ready for further discussions on solutions for its long-term financial sustainability.

Mr. Chair, in respect of normative agenda, we hope that the remaining open issues will be resolved, and the long awaited decision to convene a diplomatic conference for the adoption of the Design Law Treaty will be made.

Mr. Chairman, reiterating the necessity to take into account the rapid developments in the field of communication technologies, we believe that the work of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights will ultimately result in reaching consensus on the Treaty for Protection of Broadcasting Organizations as a meaningful instrument for both current and future needs of the protection.

The Slovak Republic recognizes the importance of the work carried out by the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

Slovakia continues to be in favour of evidence-based approach and text-based negotiations only after agreement on the core issues is reached. We remain willing to work towards an appropriately balanced and flexible outcome.

Slovakia recognizes and is satisfied with the SCP's ongoing work on important issues in this area. Further work in this area is beneficial to all countries, irrespective of their level of development, since it would enhance the credibility, reliability and stability of the international IP system.

We recognize the importance of the activities of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property. We support the WIPO's activities in the field of technical assistance.

Finally, we would like to thank WIPO Secretariat and in particular the Department for Transition and Developed Countries (TDC) for the excellent cooperation and assistance provided to us during the previous period. In mid-October the Roving Seminar on WIPO Services and Initiatives will be organised in Bratislava. Event will provide a discussion forum for wide spectrum of existing and potential users of WIPO services.

In conclusion, Mr Chair, we are looking forward to achieve positive and balanced results concerning all issues during these Assemblies.

Thank you, distinguished delegates, for your kind attention.