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**STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE NEPALI
DELEGATION TO THE FIFTY-NINTH SERIES OF MEMBER
STATES OF WIPO
01 OCTOBER**

**THE 59TH SERIES OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBER
STATES OF WIPO
(30 SEPTEMBER- 09 OCTOBER 2019)**



**Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations and
other international Organizations
Geneva, Switzerland**

Time: 3 minutes

**Statement by the Nepali Delegation
at the Fifty-Ninth Series of Assemblies of Member States of WIPO
Geneva, 01 October 2019**

**Mr. Chair,
Mr. Director General of WIPO
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates**

My delegation aligns with the statement delivered earlier by Singapore on behalf of Asia-Pacific Group.

At the outset, let me express our sincere appreciation to you Mr. Chair for steering this meeting towards a successful conclusion. We wish to commend the Director General for the presentation of the activities of the Organization carried out during the last year. We appreciate DG for making sound financial health of the Organization and also for undertaking a number of activities including training and capacity-building, modernization of national IP policy, establishment of technology and innovation support centres, providing knowledge-based platforms, and transforming the informal sector, and all these with a focus on LDCs.

Mr. Chair,

Effective protection of GR, TKs and TCEs, along with GI (geographical indication) is important for addressing commercial misappropriation of such knowledge. We appreciate the works of IGC for reaching the consensual text of IP convention and urge all member states to finalize it in a speedy manner.

As to the Broadcasting Organization Treaty and Design Law treaty (DLT), we call upon member states for the early resolution of remaining issues including disclosure requirements, technical assistance and capacity building, and holding diplomatic conference for the adoption. We would also like to see the early conclusion of the issue of External Offices (OEs) in line with the 2015 GA guiding principles.

Mr. Chair,

WIPO needs to orient its program priorities and budget allocations towards reaching development outcomes. For countries like Nepal rich in genetic resources, traditional knowledge and cultural heritage, innovative ways for their beneficial utilization are critical for achieving SDGs, poverty reduction, employment generation, human wellbeing as well as for a fair and balanced IP system.

We underline that CDIP should be guided by the principle of mainstreaming development in all WIPO activities. We support its efforts in the implementation of SDGs and WIPO Development Agenda. In this regard, DG's relevant reports are commendable.

My delegation is fully convinced that the more geographically representative WIPO could better deliver to the Organization in the spirit of multilateralism. We urge for equitable representation in the PBC, CoCo and other committee of the Organization. Furthermore, we call for LDC-focus special program in terms of technical assistance, infrastructure and capacity building for supporting their early graduation from the LDC status.

Mr. Chair,

Intellectual property is Nepal's important agenda. We adopted IP policy in 2017. We are now finalizing the draft IP Act in consultation with concerned stakeholders. We expect that our reform initiatives in IP regime will contribute towards the effective protection of the rights of creators and the industrialization in the country.

To conclude, Nepal would welcome the WIPO office to support technology transfer and increase IP awareness in line with the DG's vision of IP for All. Its technical support remains crucial in strengthening our human and institutional capacity building.

I thank you!