

GENERAL STATEMENT

Your Excellency, Madam Chair,
Distinguished Director General,
Honourable Delegates,

At the outset we would like to express our most sincere gratitude to the World Intellectual Property Organization for the possibility to be present at the 54th Series of Meetings of the WIPO Assemblies; express our gratefulness to Madam Chair for the ongoing commitment to the work on reaching consensus in the framework of the Meetings and heartily congratulate Distinguished Director General on his re-election.

We have come to these Meetings during a very difficult time of the fight against violation of Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty. The Ukrainian government upholding the principles of nonviolence throughout the course of the last events, is working on the de-escalation of the situation and is setting forward a process to stabilize the country, so that people feel confident that they have the right for a voice, a job and hope for a better future.

We would like to express our gratefulness to the international community for its strong commitment to support economic stabilization and reforms, structural, consolidated and visual, as the country moves forward during this challenging period.

We also would like to thank the international community for its ongoing support and sympathy expressed to the Ukrainian nation in terms of restoration of its territorial integrity, especially with regard to the illegal annexation of the Crimea. On the day-to-day basis we are tackling a series of complicated issues trying to protect the legal rights of the applicants and rightholders guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, as well as by the international IP legislative framework, including the Berne Convention, Patent Cooperation Treaty, Madrid Agreement and others. We are trying to keep in force the intellectual property protection mechanism on the mentioned territory. In this respect we would like to voice a hope first for a peaceful resolution of the situation and for the future support of the international partners which we highly value and estimate.

Considering the tough interstate circumstances we cannot claim to have been extremely intellectual property proactive during this year. But firmly believing that intellectual property is a backbone of a competitive economy and an engine for innovation and prosperity, we can proudly claim that despite all the hardships and severities, the maintenance and support of a strong, comprehensive and efficient IP regime is and has always been a keen interest and on focus of the state.

We highly value WIPO's assistance and contribution to enhancement of system

of IP legal protection in Ukraine. The World Intellectual Property Organization has always been an attentive, friendly and trustful interlocutor, sensitive to the concerns of its every Member State, mobilizing the international community for transformation of the concept of wealth-creating work and sustainable economic development from physically-based to knowledge-based.

We highly acknowledge the significant role of WIPO in consolidating of national and international efforts of the Member States in promoting and rewarding creativity and technology; supporting cultural diversity; backing state, business and private sector stakeholders, as well as stimulating and coordinating their dialogue; building an effective and dynamic intellectual property infrastructure.

We voice a hope for the future intensification of the mutually supportive and beneficial cooperation between the national intellectual property institutions in countries in transition with the purpose of establishing equal partnership between all member-states of WIPO.

In this regard let us express our sincere gratitude for the provided assistance on further development of the draft of the National Intellectual Property Strategy of Ukraine; as well as for joint efforts aimed at the development of the Cooperation Program between the World Intellectual Property Organization and the State Intellectual Property Service of Ukraine for 2014 – 2016 which we plan to sign during these Series of Meetings. We wish to express our appreciation particularly to the Director of the Department for Transition and Developed Countries of the WIPO – Mr. Michal Svantner for efficient and fruitful cooperation aimed at effective implementation of projects and programs for our region.

To this end, we would like to emphasize our willingness to work and collaborate; to wish to all of us fruitful and effective discussions, as well as to reiterate our gratitude to our partners in the international community for standing by and standing united in the essential support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

Thank you, Madam Chair.