INTERVENTION OF THE LMCs

63RD Series of Meetings of WIPO Assemblies

AGENDA ITEM 9.VI: REPORT OF THE IGC-GRTKF

Thank you, Madame Chair.

- 1. Indonesia has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Like-Minded Countries Group.
- 2. We would like to start by thanking the Chair and Vice Chairs of the IGC, ADG Kwakwa, and the Secretariat for their efforts in continuing to advance the work in the IGC despite the many challenges faced.
- We are hopeful that this assembly will guide and direct the Committee towards a
 positive decision which can help expedite its work and fulfil its mandate in finalizing
 an agreement on international legal instrument or instruments for the protection of
 GRTKTCE.

Madame Chair,

- 4. It cannot be stressed enough the strategic role the work of the IGC plays in contributing to a balanced, sustainable, and inclusive IP system.
- 5. Yet after over 20 years since its establishment, its primary goal has not been fulfilled. This is not to say that progress has not been made. On the contrary, we believe that progress on the Genetic Resources text has been sufficient, particular through the development of the Chair's Text.

Madame Chair,

- 6. Most of the members of our Group, view the chair's text on GR as the best way forward as a basis towards the convening of a diplomatic conference.
- 7. We therefore urge the General Assembly, to direct the Committee to expedite its work as laid out and agreed in the mandate.
- 8. In this regard, in line with the recommendations of the IGC to this Assembly, the LMCs welcome and look forward to working with the Chair of the IGC in conducting consultations with Member States on the working methodology of the Committee with a view to agree on a more streamlined and effective methodology to be used in the future sessions of the IGC.

9. We also welcome and will actively contribute to the activities that will be conducted by the Secretariat, including the ad hoc virtual meetings of experts on possible disclosure requirements, and a virtual Seminar and/or other virtual technical meetings on information systems, registers and databases of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions before the Forty-Seventh Session of the Committee.

Madame Chair,

- 10. The normative agenda of the IGC to conclude a legally binding instrument or instruments must not be stalled any longer. We cannot let the misuse, misappropriation, and exploitation of GRs, TK, and TCEs continue. We urge all parties to conduct text-based negotiation in good faith and with the spirit of compromise.
- 11. Rest assured that the LMCs Group remains committed in engaging constructively towards a mutually acceptable outcome for the benefit of all Members.

I thank you, Madame Chair.