



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

Statement by Ambassador Farukh Amil, Permanent Representative of Pakistan, at Twenty Third Session of Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) of WIPO, Geneva

21 May 2019

Thank you Mr. Chair

We would like to congratulate you and the Vice Chair for your re-election and assuming the roles. We also present our compliments to the Secretariat for preparation of documents for this important meeting. We align ourselves with the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of APG. The work of this Committee is important to support WIPO's mission for the development of a balanced and effective international IP system for the benefit of all. The work-program for the implementation of Development Agenda Recommendations hinges on the effective progress of the CDIP.

We appreciate the Director General's report to the CDIP on the implementation and mainstreaming of the Development Agenda (DA) recommendations. The report highlights positive trends in implementation and mainstreaming of the DA within WIPO's program and budget. We appreciate initiatives mentioned in the report such as Inventor Assistance Programme (IAP) and Access Book Consortium (ABC) and request the Secretariat to increase resources for ABC to assist Member States as it is an important tool to facilitate access to published works in accessible formats for visually challenged persons. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is another important domain to take into account. WIPO's Advanced Technology Applications Centre (ATAC) has an important role in performing organization's functions by using AI in areas including translation, image search and automatic patent classification. We suggest that WIPO should enhance role of ATAC to work with IP offices in assisting them with coherent ICT strategy, management of IP big data and the use of AI for IPO administration.

Mr. Chair,

WIPO training academy has important role in providing training on IP related issues. We suggest that the content of WIPO training academy courses on IP should get evaluated by independent academic reviews to evaluate effectiveness of courses for development oriented activities.

The subsequent DG's report should also highlight costs imposed by IP system on the ability of developing countries to meet their development goals and possible ways of mitigating such costs. We suggest the Secretariat to develop more tools as part of the Development Agenda recommendations and increase scope of its work on IP related flexibilities, access to knowledge and transfer of technology with focus on development oriented approach.

Mr. Chair,

On Report on WIPO's Contribution to the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and its Associated Targets, we believe that WIPO has key role in assisting Member States to acquiring their development objectives. Member States should harness full potential of WIPO's programs and activities for implementation of all SDGs. A holistic approach that embeds all SDGs is integral to implement them. We recommend that the report in future should also focus on issues of fair and affordable access to IP protected technologies or knowledge in order to effectively implement the SDGs. The report should include impact assessment of WIPO's contribution in terms of implementing SDGs to provide linkages between activities and SDGs. Secretariat should also guide Member States about projects that offer more potential in terms of their effectiveness for IP and development. Furthermore, report should also undertake an assessment of best practices on implementation of SDGs by other UN and international organizations.

Mr Chair,

We look forward for constructive discussions on Secretariat's proposal on modalities and implementation strategies for the adopted recommendations. On technical assistance, we hope for constructive discussions on proposal of web forum. To ensure effective delivery of technical assistance, we need to devise institutional mechanism to avoid duplication of activities. We suggest the Secretariat to compile a review of the literature on the relationship between IP and innovation to have an insight and test certain conventional assumptions in this regard.

The discussion on the theme of IP and Development: how to benefit from IP system was important and covered wide array of issues. We hope that discussion would further strengthen WIPO's mission for a balanced and effective international IP system that benefit all. The future discussions should include more case studies and also focus on IP flexibilities for developing countries. Future themes on the agenda of IP and development should not only consider positive impact of IP but also provide roadmap to overcome challenges in terms of access to technology and costs to development of IP laws and policies particularly for developing countries.

Mr Chair,

We look forward for constructive discussion on all agenda items under your able leadership. I would conclude by assuring you our full support. I thank you