



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

General Statement by Salman Khalid Chaudhary, Second Secretary-II during Thirty-Fourth Session Program and Budget Committee

27 June 2022

Mr. Chairman

Pakistan aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of Asia and the Pacific Group.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election to chair this important Committee of the Organization.

My delegation has taken note of the valuable reports submitted by the Secretariat, the Independent Advisory Oversight Committee, Internal Oversight Division as well as the External Auditor. We would engage constructively on these reports under the relevant agenda item.

Mr. Chairman

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause socio-economic disruptions globally in 2021 as also reflected in various reports presented to this Committee. It is heartening to note that WIPO has continued to display its financial and administrative resilience despite the COVID-19 fallout. As the global scientific and research community continues to embark on new technological solutions to deal with pandemic related challenges, the demand for fee-based services offered by the Organization increased in 2021. This demand can increase manifold if the innovation potential in the developing countries can be timely and adequately tapped.

My delegation believes that current and future innovations, particularly in the global South, hold the key to solving common global challenges faced by humanity including any potential future pandemics. WIPO has a key role in ensuring that developing countries continue to innovate towards the betterment of their own people as well as the world.

My delegation commends WIPO for providing tailormade technical support to the Member States. The pandemic has provided the time and opportunity for the Secretariat and the Member States to prioritize national needs and develop

work plans accordingly. As the health situation has started to improve worldwide, we look forward to the implementation of these projects and work plans in the current biennium.

Me delegation also thanks the Secretariat for the Preliminary Draft of the Terms of Reference of Evaluation of WIPO External Offices. We look forward to a transparent, inclusive and constructive debate under this agenda.

Please be assured of my delegation's full support to you during the course of this meeting.

I thank you.