

Honorable Chair, Director General Doctor Francis Gurry, Excellences and distinguished delegates, it is a great pleasure for me to be able to work shoulder to shoulder with you at the Fifty-Eight Assemblies of the Member States of the WIPO and to deliver this statement on behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Latvia.

Mr. Chairman, we are certain that under your and Vice-Chair's leadership and guidance, we will be able to ensure the mission of the WIPO to lead the development of a balanced and effective intellectual property system that fosters innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.

We have a number of important questions under deliberations, but I would like to once again stress the importance to convene the diplomatic conference for the adoption of the Design Law Treaty – the Treaty which is ready to see the daylight.

Before I finish, I would like to paraphrase the words of the national poet of Latvia – Rainis. He has said that **the one who is going to last, is the one who is willing to change**. I hope that we can find this ability, bridge our differences and achieve our common goals.

Thank you.