

ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE WIPO
The Sixty-second Series of Meetings
Geneva, 4 – 8 October 2021

General Statement of the Delegation of Montenegro

Honourable Chair, Excellences and distinguished delegates,

The Delegation of Montenegro wishes to commend the efforts made by the WIPO in its endeavour to maintain its position as a leading organization in protection of intellectual property rights in the world. Aware of a global health threat to humanity, posted by Covid19 pandemic, WIPO has shown, through a package of measures aimed to support member states, as well as through a newly established manner of work, that it is capable to adapt and provide an adequate response to the new reality. Montenegro welcomes such attitude towards global challenges. We are encouraging joint efforts of the WIPO Secretariat and the Member States in considering further advancement of the WIPO services within the increasingly demanding environment.

Let us endorse our commitment to continued cooperation between Montenegro and the WIPO that has been conducted, in spite of new circumstances, with no interruption. Moreover, last year was a time when our cooperation was intensive and will produce visible and sustainable results.

In a strive to provide for IPR protection similar to the one existing in the EU, Montenegro is constantly working on improving IPR system, through amendments of legislation as well as through its efficient implementation. In addition, through work of a Coordination Team for Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, composed of the representatives of all IPR enforcement authorities, we have undertaken activities aimed to detection and suppression of counterfeiting and piracy. Further, recognizing the importance of raising awareness even under existing conditions, we tried to keep our public duly informed on events and achievements in the area of IPR through announcements on certain news through printed media, also through our appearances in visual media, information posted on web page, interviews, etc.

We are pleased to inform on cooperation activities that have taken place from the 61st series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the WIPO Member States.

The IP staff of the Ministry of Economic Development (abbrev. MED), which a leading authority within Montenegrin IPR protection and enforcement system, attended webinars, seminars, meetings and a conference organized by the WIPO. In addition, WIPO provided support in the area of copyright and related rights through advice on CMOs and other copyright related issues. The MED is developing IP Strategy 2022 – 2025 with the expert support of the WIPO. This is a priority activity from the area of international cooperation in the Ministry. Domestic Working

Group, composed of the representatives of IPR authorities (i.e. Ministry of Economic Development, Revenue and Customs Administration, Administration for Inspection Affairs – Market inspection, Police Administration, Commercial Court of Montenegro, State Prosecutor’s Office) provided necessary inputs for the WIPO local and international experts, who drafted the document. Currently, the document is reviewed and commented by the WIPO’s relevant staff. Once finalized and adopted, the Ministry of Economic Development, in cooperation with the WIPO, will organize an event where we will promote Strategy as well as our most fruitful cooperation with the WIPO. This will be also an opportunity to promote, respectively to remind our public of the values of WIPO as a global forum for intellectual property services, policy, information and cooperation.

Delegation of Montenegro is pleased to inform that the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works to Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled is currently in Parliamentary procedure.

Aware of global crisis and faced with certain local issues that hinder our actions in the area of intellectual property, we are going also in future to rely with full confidence on the WIPO support in the area of intellectual property with the aim to provide for a sustainable ambience for creators and innovators and encourage our citizen to use the benefits of IPR protection.

Let us reiterate our thanks to WIPO Division for Transition and Developed Countries for excellent cooperation and full understanding of the needs of Montenegro's IPR protection and enforcement system.

The Delegation of Montenegro wishes to congratulate to the WIPO Director General, WIPO Secretariat, WIPO Committees and all member states for excellence in preparing the 62nd Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of Member States of the WIPO and wish WIPO DG, WIPO Assemblies Chairperson and all the participants good and successful work.