

Honorable President, Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great pleasure to address the General Assemblies on behalf of the Turkish Delegation and I would like to begin by congratulating Ambassador Tatiana Molcean on her election as the Chairperson of the General Assemblies.

I am confident that under her leadership, the Assemblies will produce concrete results.

I would also like to express our special thanks to the Director General and the Secretariat for their hard work in preparing for these Assemblies.

Distinguished Delegates,

The world is facing new challenges every single day.

During the recent pandemic, we have seen the importance of effective communication and close collaboration between individuals, institutions and nations.

As we struggle to adapt to increasing changes in today's world, including the ones in the IP domain; we all try to establish an optimum balance between different stakeholders with conflicting interests and varying perspectives.

In this regard, balanced evolution of the international IP system within the WIPO context has become more important than ever.

In addition, the role and the functioning of the IP offices have become essential to better adapt to the fast-changing innovation ecosystem.

Having this in mind, Turkish Patent and Trademark Office continues its efforts to further strengthen its capacity to respond to multiple stakeholders' needs, which are gradually becoming diversified.

According to the World Intellectual Property Indicators Report 2021, Türkiye ranks 14th in the world for resident patent applications, 7th for trademark applications and 4th for design applications by origin.

On the other hand, Türkiye is among the most active users of PCT, Madrid and The Hague Systems, both as an origin and designated country.

We are confident that this fruitful national and international IP activity will continue in the future.

Furthermore, we are also pleased to announce that, on September 27 last year, the Government of Türkiye ratified the Marrakesh Treaty.

The entry into force of the mentioned Treaty will be soon completed.

Türkiye continues its efforts to implement new Treaties and Regulations in order to contribute to an effective copyright protection.

We have also trust in WIPO's successful administration and guidance on its ongoing and future agendas.

In this respect, while associating ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of Group B, I would like to underline our full support for handling of technical and specialized committee works in a transparent manner.

Finally, we believe that decision making process regarding the selection of host countries for WIPO's new External Offices should be inclusive, objective and transparent according to the Guiding Principles.

In conclusion, I am confident that the General Assemblies will be a success for all Agenda items, and at the end of these Assemblies, I sincerely hope that all of us will return to our countries with a further strengthened confidence in WIPO's balanced and farseeing vision in all matters.

Thank you.