

(Check Against Delivery)

**GENERAL STATEMENT
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Mr. Chairman Excellency Ambassador Duong Chi Dung,

I trust your experienced and skillful chairing will steer this session to the successful outcome.

The DPRK Delegation commends Director General Dr. Francis Gurry for your unsparing dedication and expertized leadership and would assure of my country's continued cooperation with you and full support to the work of WIPO.

Under your leadership, WIPO has made tangible achievement over the last year in enhancing the World IP System and strengthening the cooperation with the Member States.

Mr. Chairman,

Progress has been made in the activities of the Working Group on the Development of the Lisbon System, which has discussed and approved the issues relating to the financial sustainability of Lisbon System at its session in May 2019.

In addition, the Working Group has underlined the importance of undertaking activities to increase the membership of the Lisbon System including the Geneva Act and promoting coordination among Lisbon members, which is contributing to further efficient operation of Lisbon System.

The DPRK delegation recognizes that the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications has made progress in drafting the framework for the Design

Law Treaty (DLT) and we look forward to convening the Diplomatic Conference for its Adoption in the near future.

Mr. Chairman,

Our Supreme leader Comrade KIM JONG UN, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK has made the policy speech at the first session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly in April 2019, in which he put forward the main task to solidify the material foundations of socialism by concentrating all national efforts to economic construction and upholding its strategic policy to make the national economy Juche- oriented, modern, IT-based and scientific.

In this regard, the government of our Republic is steadily giving importance to the talents and science and technology with due attention to strengthening National IP Protection System.

With a view to completing National IP Protection System in accordance with its policy of prioritizing science and technology, Intellectual Property Administration has been newly created last year.

I am also delighted that the DPRK has recently signed the Instrument of Accession to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications following the successful awareness raising national workshop conducted in collaboration with WIPO.

The Government of the DPRK will continue to actively promote the development of science and technology based on sound National IP Protection System and will further strengthen technical cooperation with WIPO and other Member States.

Thank you.