

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Industries
91 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
(www.moind.gov.bd)

Ref: General Statement made by Bangladesh Delegation At the 55th WIPO Assemblies

Hon'ble President
Director General, of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry
Distinguished delegates
Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset we would like to align ourselves with the statement made by India on behalf of the Asia and the Pacific Group and the Statement of Benin made from the LDC group.

On behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President for your election as President of the Assemblies and other elected officials for their commitment. We also thank the outgoing President for her contribution. We express our sincere appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General, WIPO as well as to the Secretariat for excellent arrangement and logistics of the meeting. I would like to assure you of our full support and cooperation in your steering the meeting. Our delegation is confident that under your leadership WIPO is dedicated to foster creativity, innovations, strengthen National IP Office to provide world class international IP services.

We are very much aware that WIPO, the global IP institution, is working as a pivotal catalyst in developing intellectual property system across the world with the special attention to the LDCs like Bangladesh. During the past decades WIPO extended its cooperation for the promotion & protection of inventions and innovations in Bangladesh.



Notably, in January 2015, the Hon'ble Director General, of WIPO, Mr. Francis Gurry visited Bangladesh and during his visit a "Service Level Agreement" (SLA) was signed between WIPO and Department of Patent Design and Trademarks (DPDT). In pursuance of this agreement DPDT with the assistance of the WIPO established two 'Technology and Innovation Support Centers' (TISCs) for helping the potential inventors to access to IP databases and other technology resources for the dissemination of best practices and experiences in the field of intellectual property rights of Bangladesh as well as of the whole world.

Recently Bangladesh amended and updated the existing IP laws and rules. We have also enacted Geographical Indications (GI) Law and prepared Rules which is now in operation. It is pertinent to mention that Bangladesh has already implemented Intellectual Property Rights project introducing Automation System in DPDT for the management of IP applications in collaboration with WIPO. We have also introduced a short course on IP at the Bangladesh Institute of Management with the assistance of WIPO.

Bangladesh Government is positively thinking to join PCT and Madrid Protocol. We also express our deep gratitude to WIPO for their help in preparing the draft IP Policies of Bangladesh. Moreover, Bangladesh is currently following the robust National IP Roadmap provided by WIPO.

Mr. Chairman,

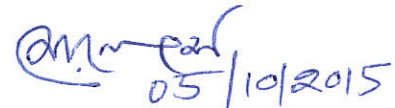
Bangladesh would like to see the mandate of IGC renewed immediately to prepare for legally binding instrument or instruments for GRTKF. We also want an article on technical assistance and capacity building in the proposed DLT. We further urge that the budget of WIPO is approved quickly and in no way the development expenditure stalled or reduced over disagreement on an issue of which the LDCs are not any party. We also support an agreement on broadcasting unions on signal-based approach in traditional sense.



We appreciate the fact that over the years the Director General has strived to build and strengthen the expertise of this organization dedicated to the Least Developed Countries. Our Ministers have also provided guidance to the Organization through the adoption of the WIPO Deliverables. The ministerial Declaration, adopted in Istanbul in 2011, has identified the specific priorities where we want WIPO to focus in it's IP related technical Cooperation activities for the LDCs. In this connection we further want to mention that the coordination for all technical assistance and programme could be directed through the LDC Wing of WIPO so that duplication could be avoided and the LDC Permanent Missions can also contact one single focal point.

Lastly, I would like to conclude my statement with the hope that we will work together and WIPO will continue to extend its cooperation for improvement of IPR system in Bangladesh.

Thank you Hon'ble President .



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