



COUNTRY STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement on behalf of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
at the 55th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the
Member States of WIPO including the PCT Union Assembly

COUNTRY STATEMENT

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World Intellectual Property Organization Headquarters
Geneva, Switzerland
(October 5-14, 2015)



**STATEMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE FIFTY-FOURTH SERIES OF MEETINGS
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBER STATES OF THE
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION,
OCTOBER, 2015**

Mr President,

In supporting the statement made by GRULAC on behalf of Latin America and the Caribbean, I wish to join with other delegations in congratulating you on your election to the chair. This delegation anticipates your thoughtful leadership and guidance throughout the General Assemblies. We also wish to congratulate the other officers elected alongside you who will support your efforts in that regard.

Mr President, even though Trinidad and Tobago has only just undergone a change in administration, the country remains committed to enhancing the IP system and participating in the multilateral system.

Mr President, we have continued work toward exploring the legislative amendments to give effect to the gains we made following the positive conclusions of the Beijing Treaty and the Marrakesh Treaty. We are grateful to the Director General and WIPO for the guidance provided in this area and in giving consideration to the establishment of a Voluntary Copyright Registration system.

WIPO's assistance is also appreciated for the continued support of our development of an IP Academy through the Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago. The courses have grown from an IP Clinic for the Sir Hugh Wooding Law School to include an IP Clinic for the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute, where the Intellectual Property Office provides guidance to its business incubator clients and is also about to provide training on patent mining. Other institutions such as exporTT and the University of Trinidad and Tobago are also seeking memoranda of understanding to provide IP guidance and conduct IP Clinics. The IPO has also begun teaching an IP module in an MSc. program in Computer Science at the University of the West Indies.

I am again pleased to mention the project on Building Respect for Intellectual Property, which has been put forward as a Public Sector Investment Program project, has continued as part of the work plan of the IPO.

Mr President, earlier this year Trinidad and Tobago repealed and replaced its Trade Marks Act. The new Act has been assented to and contains provisions for new types of trade marks and paves the way to implement the Madrid Protocol. Once the Regulations are completed and the legislation is proclaimed by the President, we can look forward to accession to the Madrid Protocol. Trinidad and Tobago is grateful for the kind support of the Brands and Designs Sector in reaching this stage.

This delegation is please to acknowledge the hard work of the Caribbean Section in the LAC Bureau under the astute leadership of the Head of Section. We are confident that the Caribbean Unit will be further enhanced so that the section will be able to achieve its objectives in 2015 – 2016.

Mr President, this delegation is anxious to preserve the tremendous gains made in the IGC over the years and supports proposals to strengthen the endurance of the Committee and its work.

This delegation remains encouraged by the way the Director General is shaping the Organization to fulfill the mandate of the member states. We look forward to the continued advancement of IP and under your expert guidance and leadership these discussions and their successful conclusion.

Mr President, I thank you.