



WIPO General Assemblies

Iceland 2020

General Statement

Iceland would like to begin by sincerely thanking the WIPO team for preparing and organising this General Assemblies meeting during these challenging and unpredictable times. Despite the circumstances all preparation and flow of information has been excellent, and the technical team has offered outstanding assistance, ensuring that this distance meeting runs without any technical hindrances.

The Organization of WIPO is now on a turning point. We would therefore like to take this opportunity and warmly thank the Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, for his strong and reliable leadership for the last 12 years. We congratulate him on his outstanding achievements, such as the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties, the Global Innovation Index, reports on Artificial Intelligence and many more, which have been inspired by his clear interest, vision and care for the Intellectual Property System as a whole and for its users. His accomplishments in Office clearly underline his forward thinking as Director General and during these past years, the Organization has taken several important steps in order to customise its task with rapid technological developments and simultaneously contributed to the modernization of information sharing and communication with the National Offices.

We sincerely thank Mr. Gurry for a strong and fruitful cooperation and support in various aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and wish him the very best in his future endeavours. In particular, we would like to thank Mr. Gurry for visiting Iceland at an international conference in the year 2011 where he also had bilateral meetings with ministers and the president of Iceland. We are very grateful for his support in raising awareness on the importance of Intellectual property rights.

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate and welcome the Director General elect, Mr. Daren Tang, on his election as Director General. We are convinced that the Organization will continue to grow under his strong leadership. We wish Mr. Tang every success in the next years leading the Organization.