

↓

BJAUTA NBSS

CHECK  
AGAINST DELIVERY

CONFIDENTIAL

**Statement of the Bhutanese delegation**  
**Fifty-Fourth Series of Meeting of the Assemblies of the Member States of**  
**WIPO**  
(22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014)

Madam President,  
Director General Francis Gurry,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen.

1. First of all, I take this opportunity to congratulate you, Madam President on your election as Chair of the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly and would like to assure you and the vice-chairs our full support and cooperation in steering the meetings. Our delegation is confident that under your able stewardship we will achieve important results for member countries, as well as for the intellectual property system.
2. My Delegation would also like to extend our sincere congratulations to Dr. Francis Gurry on your re-election as the Director General of WIPO for the second term. This appointment not only acknowledges your past achievements but also demonstrates your confidence and capacity to serve the interests of WIPO's diverse membership. We wish you every success in the exercise of your mandate and look forward to working closely with you and your team.
3. Madam President,  
Bhutan continues to enjoy a very fruitful association with WIPO in terms of technical inputs and capacity-building programs conducted under the bilateral framework. The invaluable contributions made by the Secretariat

to design and implement program that addresses the development needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are very much appreciated. In order to provide effective and adequate protection of Intellectual Property Rights, Bhutan has completed the drafting of National Intellectual Policy and amendment of the IP legislations. We are also in the process of exploring the possibility of establishing Technology and Innovation Support Service Centres (TISC) and Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL).

4. Although the importance of Intellectual Property as a powerful tool for economic development and wealth creation is widely recognized, Least Developed Countries like Bhutan has not yet been able to take full advantage of the benefits of IP as part of our economic development. We would like urge WIPO to continue to facilitate the use of IP for development purposes of LDCs and also to continue focusing on development-oriented activities particularly the enhancement of human resource capacity, strengthening of legislative and institutional framework, technical infrastructure, increased access to knowledge created by the global IP system and facilitate participation of LDCs in norm-setting activities at the international level.
5. The Agenda of the Assemblies contain many important issues of a complex and technical nature, which had been under deliberation in different bodies and standing committees of the WIPO during the past year. My Delegation would like to commend the work carried out by the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), the standing committee on copyright and related rights, the intergovernmental committee on intellectual property, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore (IGC) and other WIPO committees.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

6. Finally we would like to extend our appreciation to the Director General and his team for their active engagement with various projects and thank the secretariat for their efforts in preparing the series of meeting.
  
7. My delegation look forward to constructive deliberations on all agenda items in the coming days and we assure you of our delegation's support to bring substantive progress on all the issues that lie before us.

I thank you, Madam Chairman.