

GENERAL STATEMENT 2020 – **NORWAY** – WIPO Assemblies, 61st Series of Meetings

The Norwegian Delegation wishes to express its satisfaction seeing the Chair, Ambassador Zniber, on the podium and wishes him the best of luck in guiding this Assembly to a successful conclusion. We also welcome and congratulate the Vice-Chairs. We commend the Secretariat and Director General Francis Gurry for their excellent preparatory work for these assemblies.

We thank Francis Gurry for his leadership and his commitment to the international intellectual property community and to WIPO in particular. We wish him all the very best in his future.

We welcome the Director General-elect Mr Daren Tang and look forward to cooperating closely with him.

Norway maintains the importance of improving the Member States' ability to monitor the economy and administration of WIPO and welcomes the continued efforts and cooperation to this end.

The Norwegian delegation commends the International Bureau for its continued focus on securing the best available global services under the PCT, Madrid and Hague systems. Smooth systems, ongoing dedication to simplification and cost-savings for the benefit of the users - these are crucial to continued and increased use of these global IP-services. We note with pleasure that the working groups under these systems continue to make progress for improving regulations, guidelines and practices. Norway is committed to the work on global services, in the interest of the existing and future users of the systems.

Norway looks forward to a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of Design Law Treaty and regrets the delay.

Norway continues to support the work in the SCCR towards a treaty on the protection of broadcasting organizations.

By way of conclusion, the Norwegian Delegation underlines its commitment to contribute in a positive and constructive way to the success of these General Assemblies.