

**General Statement by  
H.E. Mrs. Apiradi Tantraporn  
Minister of Commerce, Thailand  
at the 55th Assemblies of Member States of WIPO  
Monday 5 October 2015**

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Mr. Chairman,

1. Thailand would like to first congratulate you on your election and thank the Director General and the Secretariat for their hard work in preparing for these Assemblies. We also would like to thank for the good progress made under WIPO subsidiary bodies over the past year. At the outset, my delegation wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by India on behalf of the Asia Pacific Group.

2. Since the last Assemblies, there have been positive developments in Thailand's intellectual property system. The copyright law has recently been amended in order to enhance copyright protection in the digital environment by introducing new provisions on technological protection measures, rights management information, and ISP's liability limitation.

3. The anti-camcording provisions have eventually been introduced to combat unauthorised reproduction of audio-visual content in cinemas that has been hurting local as well as foreign film industry.

4. The draft amendment to the trademark law that will enable Thailand to accede to the Madrid Protocol will be submitted to the National Legislative Assembly and passed into law within this year.

Our next milestone is to become a Member of the Hague Agreement within the next two years or so.

5. As for the undertakings by WIPO in the past year, Thailand welcomes the successful conclusion of *the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a New Act of the Lisbon Agreement* held at WIPO last May. Recognising the importance of GIs and their potential in stimulating the domestic economic growth and protecting the local wisdom, we believe that any further development on GIs made within WIPO's framework will lead to the robust system beneficial to all Members.

6. We also appreciate WIPO's continued effort in promoting human resources diversity and fair geographical representation & gender balance of WIPO staffs, so as to eventually make WIPO a truly balanced international organisation.

7. On the other hand, several norm settings under the framework of this Organisation remain to be done. To gear up the normative works, we need to narrow differences and find common ground of pending issues and not least, the political will to move forward. Amongst others, Thailand strongly supports the conversion of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore – IGC to the Standing Committee and not least, the renewal of the IGC's mandate

We also stand ready to work constructively with other Members on other issues including the issues in SCCR, SCP and SCT with a view to strengthening international IP system and ensuring that any progress made in the Organisation will contribute to a robust IP system at national and global levels.

8. In addition, as intellectual property and innovation play an ever more significant role in economic, social, and cultural development

as well as bridging the development gaps, it is hence important that we mainstream the Development Agenda into all areas of WIPO's works.

Mr. Chairman,

9. We wish to conclude our statement by expressing our appreciation to WIPO in co-organising the Intellectual Property Exhibition of King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn entitled "Royal Creativity for All" at WIPO during the period of the General Assemblies. The opening ceremony of the Exhibition will be held this evening at the main entrance lobby of WIPO, and we would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite all delegations and distinguished guests to participate in this event.

10. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and we look forward to a constructive meeting of the General Assemblies this week.

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