



REGERINGSKANSLIET

2 October 2019

Ministry of Enterprise and
Innovation

Sweden

Opening Statement by Sweden at the 59:th Series of Meetings

Chairperson,

First of all, we would like to thank you ambassador DUAONG CHI DUNG for all efforts you made during your presidency and we are looking forward to a productive meeting under your guidance. Our congratulations also extend to the vice-chairs.

We would also like to congratulate ambassador Omar ZNIBER (TBE) on his election as future Chairperson.

The secretariat should also be commended for all the preparatory work.

This delegation fully supports the statements made by Canada on behalf of Group B and by Finland, on behalf of EU and its member states.

Sweden would also like to thank the Director General and Deputy Director Generals and Assistant Director Generals. We appreciate the work done and the contributions made to further the work of WIPO.

In particular, the secretariat should be praised for its response to the increased demand of WIPO services which has been handled efficiently. This puts WIPO in a strong financial situation for the future. This positive financial status still requires prudence and transparency, to further benefit the present and future users of the global IP system such as the IP infrastructure, human capacity development and in particular the increased use of WIPO services such as through reduced fees.

Sweden believe that the suggested budget will make it possible for the users of the WIPO services, in particular the PCT Systems, to continue to expect an excellent service as to timeliness, quality and reliability from WIPO at a lower cost, thus making the system more attractive.

Intellectual property law is an important framework for investments in knowledge-based capital. It is a key for growth and competitiveness and forms part of the framework conditions for innovation both, at universities and the society. In order to facilitate a green transition, we have to make sure that the IP- system serves, support and promote innovation toward the sustainable development goals such as the internationally agreed urgency to react to the climate change, . also set out in the Paris Agreement.

In this context we would like to highlight WIPOs effort WIPO GREEN. It is genuinely a good example focusing to support global efforts to address climate change by connecting providers and seekers of environmentally friendly technologies and bringing together key players to catalyze green technology innovation and diffusion.

Regarding developments in Sweden we want to share with the Assemblies the following: For the period of the past three years, the Swedish Government has endowed the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (PRV) with a provisional extended mandate to promote innovation and competitiveness by informing on intellectual property and assets and their significance for a prosperous society. To our satisfaction, at the expiry of the provisional period, the extended mandate will be made permanent. Within the scope of the extended mandate falls the duty to disseminate information about the impacts to society of counterfeiting and piracy and in particular raising of awareness among the younger generation of the positive effects of intellectual property and assets.

This Delegation would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation for the excellent cooperation between WIPO and the PRV in relation to the advanced international training programmes financed by the Swedish international development cooperation agency, Sida. Together with the LDC-division we offer programs directed to “Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries”, and together with the TK-division we offer the program “Intellectual property and genetic resources-in support of innovation”. Since last Assemblies PRV together with WIPO have offered four training programmes. We would like to thank WIPO and in particular the LDC-division and the TK-division for

their enduring and invaluable work and support for these programmes. The cooperation with WIPO is an important factor when Sida decided to continue its commitment in relation to intellectual property by providing funding for two additional years.

The work of the committees of WIPO is important. We recognize the great importance and added value of harmonizing and simplifying design registration formalities and procedures. We believe that the immense work made by SCT has rendered in a result ready for concluding negotiations at a diplomatic conference.

With regard to the SCCR, we would like to thank the Chair of the committee for his efforts in facilitating engagement and progress in the work of the committee and thank the WIPO Secretariat for all the preparatory work done over the course of the year. We aim for a treaty responding to the present and future needs of broadcasting organizations, and we would like to reiterate our commitment to constructively participate in the future deliberations of the Committee.

As regards the subjects of the CDIP and the IGC, Sweden would like to stress the significance of the work carried out by these Committees. Sweden remains committed to continue to participate productively in the work of the IGC towards a realistic and balanced result. It is important that the outcome of the IGC promotes innovation and creativity and safeguards continued access to a rich public domain. The work in the IGC should be efficient, transparent and member-state driven. Sweden would like to reiterate its understanding that any international instrument for the protection of traditional knowledge or traditional cultural expressions should be non-binding as well as flexible and sufficiently clear.

With regard to CWS we are pleased to note continued solution-oriented work.

Furthermore, we would like to emphasize the great importance of WIPO:s Global Intellectual Property Services, and we stand ready to contribute to the valuable work within the PCT and the Madrid systems. Finally, Sweden looks forward to continuing its successful cooperation within WIPO on the development of the international intellectual property system to the benefit of economic, social and cultural development for all.

Thank you Chair