

**Opening Statement by Sweden at the Fifty-First Series of Meetings  
Geneva, September 23 to October 2, 2013**

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Chair,

Sweden would like to express its congratulations on your election, as on the elections of the vice chairs. We also express our confidence in your abilities to guide us to fruitful and successful outcomes of these Assemblies.

This delegation fully supports the statements made by Belgium on behalf of Group B and the delegation of the European Union.

Sweden would like to emphasize its support for WIPO in its mission for the promotion of innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries through a balanced and effective international IP system.

To achieve this mission WIPO need to be efficient in all its tasks. Sweden continues to welcome and support measures leading to mechanisms that are responsive, transparent and robust over-time aiming at a more efficient WIPO. Therefore, we praise the Director General and his team for finalising the strategic realignment program. The organisation has made great improvements, but there are still challenges ahead.

It is of special importance that services of WIPO improve their efficiency as well as meet customers' needs for international protection of their intellectual property. In line with this, WIPO should provide and develop the international legal intellectual property framework and the infrastructure, to make best use of IP as a driving force for economic development.

The work of the committees of WIPO is important and we are happy to note that progress now is being made in several areas.

We would especially like to underline the successful outcome of the diplomatic conference in Marrakesh on the Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities.

We recognise the great importance and added value of harmonising and simplifying design registration formalities and procedures. We believe that the immense work made by SCT has rendered in a result ready for concluding discussions at a diplomatic conference.

With regard to the SCCR, we would like to extend our gratitude to the WIPO secretariat for its continuous efforts to move the issues on the agenda forward and we would like to reiterate our commitment to constructively participate in the future deliberations of the Committee.

With regard the subject of the CDIP and IGC, Sweden would like to stress the significance of the work carried out by the Committees.

Sweden remains committed to continue to participate productively to the work of the IGC and looks forward to establishing a realistic mandate for the future work of the committee. Sweden would like to reiterate its understanding that any international instrument or instruments to be created in the IGC should be non-binding as well as flexible and sufficiently clear.

Sweden is committed to further the international harmonization of patent law. We therefore appreciate and welcome that an agreement for an SCP work plan has been reached. Furthermore we would like to emphasize the great importance of the PCT-system and our commitment to the valuable work of the PCT working group.

Furthermore, this Delegation would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation for the excellent cooperation between the International Bureau and the Swedish Patent and Registration Office in the organising this year's three training programmes relating to various aspects of intellectual property, financed by the Swedish international development cooperation agency, Sida.

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 of all.