

## **Closing Statement of the CEBS Group**

Mr. Chair,

Lithuania is honoured to deliver the closing statement on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States Group. At the outset, let me express deepest sympathy of the CEBS Members with Indonesian people for the losses inflicted by the deadly natural disaster.

We would like to express our gratitude to you, Mr. Chair, for your tireless efforts and dedication in guiding our work during these seven days. We also commend the Director General, the Senior Management and all the staff of Secretariat for their concerted efforts and highest efficiency demonstrated throughout the year, before and during 58<sup>th</sup> series of meetings of WIPO member States. Our thanks and appreciation go to staff of WIPO conference services as well as to highly professional interpreters who ensured excellent working conditions for us.

The group would like to commend skillful guidance of Mr. Daren Tang in facilitating our discussions as regards the draft Treaty for Protection of Broadcasting Organizations and thanks all the regional groups for demonstrating flexibility that allowed to reach positive decision on this issue. Our Group remains committed to these negotiations with a view of achieving a contemporary instrument that takes into account rapid technological developments in the field.

The CEBS Members were engaged in the talks on opening new WIPO external offices and appreciate attempts of H.E. Ambassador Elamin to find a way forward. Our group notes that a solution for allocation up to 4 remaining EOs was not yet found and reiterates its support to the Guiding Principles as a whole that were adopted during the General Assembly in 2015 and shall guide further work on this issue.

On the question of the Design Law Treaty, we thank facilitator Ms. Maria Ines Rodriguez for her efforts to find a compromise solution, and repeat our regrets that some members of one group were not prepared to engage on this basis. We believe, that the text of the Design Law Treaty has been finalized already, and in order to solve two outstanding issues efforts and spirit of compromise of all the Membership is needed. Let me reassure you, that the CEBS Group stands ready to continue its constructive engagement on this issue.

Mr. Chair, we also note that the decision on allocation of 5 available seats at Coordination Committee remains to be taken and reiterate our belief that every multimember regional group shall benefit from one additional seat, when 6 seats become available.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair, let me thank all the delegations for their dedication and efforts demonstrated throughout these series of meetings and wish all capital based delegates to have a safe journey home.

Thank you, Mr. Chair