

Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings of WIPO Assemblies
General Statement
delivered by HE Mr. Darius STANIULIS
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva

9 July 2024 Geneva

Mr. Chair, Director General,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and the Group of Central European and Baltic States.

We support WIPO's policy of promoting collaboration between academia and business and providing support for SMEs. Implementation of the WIPO Baltic TTO Network Project, the IP Diagnostic Tool, the Enterprising Ideas Customization Project are examples of successful collaboration between Lithuania and WIPO.

Lithuania's position in the Global Innovation Index has risen significantly from 39th to 34th place last year. We are continuing steps in improving conditions for innovations, in particular, by implementation of the Intellectual Property Progress Program, the establishment of mediation services and pro-bono consultations, the consolidation of comprehensive IP information into a single website and diverse activities of the newly established IP Academy within the national IP Office, alongside with the increasing number of national, regional, and international IP registrations by our businesses.

Lithuanian delegation welcomes WIPO's commitment to provide support to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector. Still, the indiscriminate devastation of IP ecosystem in Ukraine resulting from the aggression of Russian Federation over the past two years will require engagement and coordinated effort from the international community. We look forward to further annual reporting on this matter.

Respect for states sovereignty and equality is one of the foundational principles of the Convention establishing WIPO. As far as Russian Federation continues to rage a brutal invasion of Ukraine, thereby breaching international law, continued receipt of privileges is inconceivable. In particular, considering Russia continuously undertaking actions to illegitimately deprive protection of intellectual property rights of EU companies in Russia that result in contribution to Russia's revenues further enabling it to wage war in Ukraine.

Therefore, reducing activities of Moscow External Office is a commendable initial effort, yet it falls short of resolving the problem entirely.

To conclude, Lithuania restates its commitment to continuing successful cooperation with WIPO and we look forward to a productive session of the General Assembly.

Thank you.