

Dear Mr. Chairman! Dear Mr. Director General! Esteemed assembly participants!

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I would like to greet all participants of the high-level meeting, wish you success and extend our support to the activities of the WIPO Secretariat.

- At the core of profound reforms carried out by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, intellectual property that supports innovation is marked as a priority along with creative entrepreneurs, investments and competitive markets, which is also reflected in the founding concepts such as “Azerbaijan 2030: National Development Priorities” and “Social and Economic Development Strategy for 2022-2026”. This correlates with the provisions of WIPO's Medium-Term Strategic Plan 2022-2026.

- Stemming from the WIPO 2024 Report on “Innovation Policy as a Tool for Development”, we are focusing our efforts on developing local innovation capacity and the national creative economy, including the establishment of Smart-Village and Smart-Ville on the lands liberated from occupation.

- The proposed legislation takes into account the interaction between copyright and industrial property, as well as traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.

- Recently established national PΘNAH system integrated with IPAS WIPO provides for digital transformation of administrative procedures. The platform designed for contactless communication with the applicant based on the “single window” principle and 24/7 access from anywhere in a single digital space.

- The national IP system is characterized by open registries, simplified application procedures, including 3D format, reduced review times, increased patent activity, and for the last two years IP departments have been established in two universities.

- I believe that this year's global event – COP29, hosted in Baku this fall, will become a platform to discuss a range of IP related issues.