

Mr. Chairman,

The Czech delegation would like to associate itself with the statements made by Hungary on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and by Moldova on behalf of the Group of Central European and Baltic States.

We thank the Director General, Mr. Daren Tang, and the Secretariat for their work and for preparing comprehensive documents for this meeting.

The Czech Republic would like to voice its persistent support and solidarity with Ukraine, which is facing a war of aggression of the Russian federation for already more than two years. We condemn Russia's continued military actions, which have significant repercussions on people and businesses inside and outside Ukraine, including the IP community and the relevant stakeholders. We are grateful for the assistance and support measures provided by WIPO Secretariat based on the relevant Decision of the 64th General Assemblies, aiming to help Ukraine rebuild its innovation and creativity sector and intellectual property system, as has been described in the updated factual report (A/65/7). The report provides evidence of the negative impact of the Russian war on Ukrainian IP ecosystem and innovative and creative sector, as well as of the continued need of assistance from WIPO. We therefore urge WIPO to sustain its supporting activities in Ukraine as long as they are necessary. At the same time, we remain hopeful that at our next gathering we might be already taking stock of the process of Ukraine's post-war reconstruction.

We wish to express continued support for the pivotal role of WIPO as the global forum for intellectual property services, policy, information, and cooperation. We attach great importance to an efficient and accessible IPR system, which is a key element in fostering an environment that enables innovation and creativity. This system ensures a legal framework for investment in and commercialization of intellectual creations, the diffusion of knowledge and technology transfer for economic and social growth. We support all WIPO activities, that consider the needs of the users of the IP system, with a special focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Czech Republic continues to place great importance on the improvement of global IP protection systems, namely the PCT, the Madrid System, the Hague System and the Lisbon System, and other services provided to users.

We are pleased to note the continuous expansion of the Lisbon Union family since last year. We extend a warm welcome to the new members to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement concerning Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications, namely São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Portugal, and Djibouti. The Czech Republic firmly believes that increasing the membership of the Lisbon system necessitates sustained and targeted promotional efforts. We eagerly anticipate reconvening the Working Group next year to further the development of the Lisbon System.

Regarding WIPO's normative activities, we appreciate that the Diplomatic Conference in May successfully concluded the Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, and Traditional Knowledge associated with Genetic Resources, ensuring adequate consideration of the IPLC in its provisions. In Riyadh in November, we stand ready to engage in discussions within the Diplomatic

Conference to conclude and adopt a Design Law Treaty actively and with the same multilateral spirit.

The Czech Republic has been continuously actively involved in the work of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR). As our priority remains to reach a consensus on a meaningful international treaty for protection of broadcasting organizations, we look forward to further discussion on the next revised text of the draft treaty. We again welcome that the topic of the resale right (*droit de suite*) has been maintained on the agenda of the Committee. If the SCCR agenda should be expanded, we remain strongly supportive to get the priority to the topic of the Author's Resale Right (*droit de suite*).

The Czech Republic would like to express its satisfaction with the progress made by the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP). Following this, we would like to reiterate our expectation of reaching a more technical debate related to substantive patent law harmonization at this Committee.

Artificial Intelligence is one of the priority areas for the Czech Republic. Therefore, we strongly appreciate the continuation of the debate on AI from an IP perspective. Particularly, we believe that the regular sharing of knowledge and information on the use of AI for IP examination procedures at the national IP offices is highly beneficial for all Member States. In this domain, we also welcome that the strengthened focus on the patentability of AI-related inventions from various angles.

We recognize the importance of the activities of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP). We continue to support WIPO activities in the field of technical assistance.

The Czech delegation remains committed to achieving a reasonable work program for the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) in accordance with the current mandate for 2024/2025 biennium.

In the field of IP enforcement, we continue to support the work of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE), which serves as the multilateral forum for sharing best practice with respect to IP enforcement. We welcome the growing engagement of Member States from all regions in this Committee.

Finally, we would like to briefly accentuate and express our appreciation for the WIPO activities in IP teaching and education provided by the WIPO Academy and for IP policies for universities and public research institutions. We pay increased attention to teaching intellectual property, especially amongst younger generation, and increasing the awareness of IPR protection and its subsequent commercialisation. Therefore, we would like to emphasize the excellent cooperation and assistance of, and highly useful sharing of IP related information about new WIPO services provided to the public and the IP community by the WIPO Secretariat, particularly by the colleagues from the Division for Transition and Developed Countries.

In this context, we would like to highlight the excellent and well-developed cooperation with WIPO in the field of mediation. Based on our bilateral cooperation, we have been able to deepen our support for the use of ADR methods in resolving IP disputes at the national level. To raise

awareness of mediation and ADR methods among national IP users and practitioners, we look forward to exploring further cooperation in this area.

Finally, the Czech delegation remains fully committed to engaging constructively in all IP-related deliberations, while reflecting the needs and interests of all WIPO Member States. In this spirit, and under your guidance, we look forward to a productive session of these GAs.

Thank you.