## Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO: Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings July 9 to 17, 2024

## **General Statement of Denmark**

Denmark aligns itself with the statements made by the EU and Group B.

This year marks an exceptional year for WIPO and its member states, and it underscores the vitality of multilateralism in the field of intellectual property rights. The recent diplomatic conference exemplifies this.

The conference resulted in the adoption of a historic new treaty on intellectual property, genetic resources, and associated traditional knowledge. Denmark consider that the final text represents a well-crafted compromise, and we are pleased with the positive consensus and outcome of process.

Denmark also emphasizes the significance of the upcoming Design Law Treaty (DLT) Diplomatic Conference, hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in November 2024. The coming treaty will hopefully contribute to streamline the global system for protecting industrial designs, making it easier, faster, and more affordable for designers to safeguard their work in both domestic and international markets. Denmark stands ready to contribute constructively.

We would like to reiterate that Denmark strongly condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Denmark continues to stand behind Ukraine and its people. We assure our Ukrainian customers that we will support them in safeguarding their IP rights. To this end, we utilize the maximum flexibility available to consider requests for extensions of time, reinstatements, and restorations.

We thank the Secretariat for preparing the Report on Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System in document A/65/7. Continued cooperation between WIPO and Ukraine is vital in the efforts to support and rebuild Ukraine's IP infrastructure. The implementation of relevant technical assistance is a work in progress that must continue until this conflict is resolved and beyond. We underscore the importance of mitigating the adverse effects of the war and fostering an innovative and creative ecosystem in Ukraine that benefits all stakeholders and contributes to the country's economic strength.

Innovation is a key driver of economic growth. There is a need for research and development to ensure sustainable growth and thereby combat the multitude of global challenges that society at all levels of development is facing. Therefore, there must be a proper incentive to ensure the return of the significant investment associated with the undertaking of such tasks.

Against this background, intellectual property rights (IPR) are a primary instrument in harvesting the fruits of innovation for the benefit of development and economy as well as for sharing knowledge and technology transfer. In this context, we notice that the IP framework has been instrumental in the historically fast development of vaccines to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, efforts must continuously be made to ensure that WIPO delivers cost-efficient IP services that are fit for purpose and thus provide users with premier products.

The efficient functioning of WIPO's global IP services stands very important for Danish users, and we wish to ensure that WIPO strives to deliver world-class services. Consequently,

Denmark applauds WIPO's efforts to improve the global IP systems, including the PCT, Madrid, and Hague systems, and supports the continuing development of IT services for users and offices alike. Smooth systems, ongoing dedication to simplification, and cost savings for the benefit of the users are crucial to the continued and increased use of these global IP services.

We look forward to the Danish EU Presidency in the second half of 2025. Consequently, we recommend reconsidering the timing of the General Assembly, advocating for its return to September-October. Denmark has previously expressed concerns about hosting the Assemblies in July, which deviates from the long-standing tradition of holding them in autumn. This shift poses significant challenges due to concurrent international meetings and obligations.

Finally, we emphasize our commitment to be fully involved and supportive of WIPO's work. Denmark underlines our commitment to contributing in a positive, constructive, and pragmatic manner to WIPO and its bodies.

Thank you.