

**GHANA'S GENERAL STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED AT THE OPENING
SESSION OF THE 65TH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE
MEMBER STATES OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION (WIPO) - 9TH TO 17TH JULY, 2024**

Mr. Chair,

Ghana aligns itself with the statement delivered by Kenya on behalf of the African Group.

2. We join all previous speakers in commending the Director-General, Mr. Daren Tang, on the good work done under his leadership. We also thank the Secretariat, the DEAA and all supporting staff for their hard work, which has resulted in the successful commencement of this session.

3. I am pleased to highlight the success of the recent Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Treaty on IP, Genetic Resources and associated Traditional Knowledge. This treaty marks a significant milestone in our efforts to protect and promote the rich cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of our Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities. Ghana, along with many other Member States, played a pivotal role in the negotiations, and we are proud of the progress made. The adoption of the Treaty is a testament to our collective resolve to safeguard the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

4. As we celebrate this achievement, we also look forward to the forthcoming Diplomatic Conference to conclude the Design Law Treaty (DLT). We are committed to actively participating in the discussions and negotiations, to achieve a balanced and forward-looking treaty that accommodates the interests of all Member States.

5. Ghana remains dedicated to the principles and objectives of WIPO. We recognize the critical role that Intellectual Property plays in driving economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural enrichment. As such, we continue to invest in strengthening our national IP infrastructure, enhancing public awareness, and fostering innovation across all sectors of our economy. As part of efforts to improve our IP climate, Ghana, in collaboration with the WIPO Academy, is looking forward to hosting, at the end of August, the first African Regional Summer School on Intellectual Property.

6. We are confident that through our collective efforts, we will continue to advance the global IP agenda, ensuring that the benefits of innovation and creativity are fairly shared. We look forward to fruitful engagements at this session of the Assemblies.

7. Let me take this opportunity to inform you all about Ghana's cultural event and reception taking place tonight after the close of today's session, and to invite you all to visit our stand situated in the Lobby of this building throughout this session. We are sure that you will all experience the benefits of delightful geographical indications and other Ghanaian products.

8. I thank you for your attention.