General Statement by Ms. Shazia Adnan, DG (IPO-Pakistan) at the Sixty-Fifth Meeting of the Assemblies of WIPO Geneva 09 July 2024

Thank you Mr. Chair,

My delegation congratulates you and the Vice Chairs on your elections.

We commend Director General Tang and the Secretariat for their dedication to promoting innovation globally and responsiveness to member States' priorities.

Pakistan congratulates WIPO for adopting the first-ever treaty on GRs and ATK. As heirs to a rich cultural heritage and a wide-range of natural resources, Pakistan remains committed to the belief that innovation rooted in strong cultural foundations reinforces sustainable development.

We also appreciate WIPO's continued emphasis on the Development Agenda and endorse WIPO's demand-driven and tailor-made support through project-based interventions.

Mr. Chair,

Pakistan is committed to advancing its IP regime through comprehensive legal, policy training and awareness – raising measures.

I am delighted to inform that Pakistan has acceded to the Marrakesh VIP Treaty last year and we are working for accession to PCT and WIPO internet treaties.

Most recently, we have amended our Trademark laws and are in process of amending, Copyright and Patent Legislations to align them with international standards. We are also strengthening the IPR Enforcement regime through new Enforcement Rules and expansion of IP Tribunals across the country.

Mr. Chair,

WIPO's role in ensuring an even distribution of developmental benefits of the IP regime cannot be overemphasized. In ongoing treaty negotiations, we advocate a balanced approach through equitable access to IP protections to promote sustainable development.

We believe that ensuring equitable geographical representation in WIPO's workforce and key WIPO bodies would be beneficial to this cause.

Pakistan also underscores that the development of TORs for the evaluation of WIPO External Offices must be guided by the principles of neutrality, objectivity, transparency and inclusiveness.

Mr. Chair,

Pakistan's IP roadmap includes the formation of a National IP Strategy, establishment of an IPTI and commencement of a Master's Program in IP Law. We are working to fully automate our IP office and establish an online application and online complaint system.

We look forward to continuing our longstanding collaboration with WIPO to modernize our national IP-Ecosystem.

I thank you.