

**65th SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLIES  
OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO**

**Statement by Mr. Peter Kmec**

**Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic**

Honourable Chair,

Director General Daren Tang,

Excellencies and distinguished delegates,

The Slovak Republic is honoured to participate in the 65th series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. We express our sincere gratitude to Director General Daren Tang and the WIPO Secretariat for the meticulous organisation of this Assembly. We commend the continuous efforts of WIPO to advance the global IP ecosystem, especially in these challenging times.

Intellectual property is the cornerstone of innovations, economic growth and social progress. Over the past year, the Slovak Republic has made significant progress in improving its IP framework to better support our innovators and creators.

In line with our National Strategy for Science, Research, and Innovation 2030, Slovakia is committed to transforming into a modern and ambitious country through effective investment in research and innovation.

Our goal is to move up on the WIPO Global Innovation Index and to invest 2% of GDP in R&D by 2030.

The National Innovation Strategy is based on trust, with more funding for higher quality R&D and its co-ordination across the whole policy spectrum. The first steps are already underway and include the implementation of user-friendly super-deductions for R&D, the introduction of legislation to encourage the commercialisation of IP from universities, and increased funding for IP protection and technology transfer. The National IP Strategy adopted by the Slovak Government in July last year goes hand-in-hand with and complements the National Innovation Strategy, thus creating a synergy between the measures implemented.

Education and awareness remain key priorities for Slovakia. We have intensified our efforts to educate young people about the importance of IP rights. Previous year in November, Slovakia established the Intellectual Property Academy, which provides

comprehensive education on IP in a systematic manner. The Slovak Republic appreciates WIPO's guidance and activities in these efforts.

We highlight the success of the Diplomatic Conference on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge and its outcomes.

Last but not least, the Slovak delegation wishes to highlight the great assistance and continued support of the WIPO Regional and National Development Sector and the Division for Transition and Developed Countries' team. We look forward to even closer cooperation, and our activities on new ideas and projects becoming even more dynamic.

We value the participation of the Director General of WIPO at the GLOBSEC Tatra Summit, which took place in Slovakia in October 2023. For the first time ever, the topic of intellectual property was included in the event's programme, giving the opportunity to Director General Daren Tang personally introduce the topic of commercialisation and collateralisation of intellectual property and also to call for the active involvement of banks and a pool of stakeholders in this process.

In conclusion, Slovakia reaffirms its commitment to the principles and goals of WIPO. We look forward to continued cooperation with WIPO to promote innovation, creativity, and the effective protection of intellectual property rights worldwide.

Together, we can build a future where innovation thrives and benefits all.

Thank you for your attention.