

Opening statement by Sweden at the 65th Series of WIPO Assemblies

First of all, we would like to express our gratitude to you Chair, all Vice-chairs and the secretariat for all your hard work preparing for this meeting.

Sweden fully supports the opening statements made by the Netherlands on behalf of Group B and by Hungary on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We would especially like to highlight our unwavering support for Ukraine and the need we see for WIPO to continue supporting their innovation system. The latest developments with bombing of civilian infrastructure such as a children hospital is hitting the future of innovation – Ukraine's children.

We would like to thank Director General Daren Tang and the whole secretariat for the good work and contributions made to further develop the work of WIPO during the last year, not least the success of IGC and we look forward to successful finalisation of the diplomatic conference of the DLT.

A well-functioning IP system is an essential ingredient in a knowledge-based economy. The full potential can only be reached when creative and innovative minds, regardless of gender, social and ethnic background, physical ability, religious belief, or sexual orientation, meet, collaborate, and innovate together.

Gender equality and inclusiveness is of great importance to Sweden. We note that the activities focused on women inventors and innovators have increased at WIPO and we encourage WIPO and Member States to continue work in this important area.

Finally, we wish to reiterate our concerns over the decision to move the Assemblies from the fall to the summer and the difficulties it creates for delegations to prepare for the General Assemblies.

Sweden looks forward to continuing its cooperation with WIPO and the development of the international intellectual property system to the benefit of economic, social, and cultural development for all.

Thank you Chair.