



NATIONAL STATEMENT

BY

**MR. NESBERT SAMASUWO, THE ACTING PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ZIMBABWE MISSION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA**

ON THE OCCASION OF

**65TH SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY (WIPO) ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBER STATES FROM 9TH
TO 17TH JULY 2024, GENEVA SWITZERLAND**

THANK YOU CHAIR,

The Zimbabwe delegation congratulates you and the Vice Chairs on your election to lead our deliberations and equally extends our deep appreciation to the Director General and Secretariat for the excellent preparation for these meetings.

CHAIR,

Zimbabwe continues to register substantive progress in its concerted efforts towards promoting and harnessing Intellectual Property (IP) for transformative growth. A number of milestones point to this direction of steady growth and development.

The IP School Clubs Project piloted in Zimbabwe, Botswana and Malawi in partnership with WIPO, has been an effective tool that continues to equip and empower teachers and students with IP knowledge and capacity.

With regard to the Masters in Intellectual Property programme jointly supported by WIPO, ARIPO and Africa University, tremendous impact has been registered which is attributable to the growing uptake of the MIP as well as the development of the critical mass of IP experts needed to bridge knowledge and skills. Zimbabwe indeed acknowledges with gratitude the continued collaboration with and support from WIPO towards these transformative initiatives.

CHAIR,

The ongoing upgrade of the **Intellectual Property Administration System (IPAS) platform**, together with the data sanitization project

supported by the Japanese Funds in Trust, has effectively transformed our operations and eliminated perennial hardware challenges.

Similarly, my delegation further reports that Zimbabwe is on course in terms of tightening the policy framework, and is working closely with WIPO towards the review of the Zimbabwe National Intellectual Property Policy. In that regard, stakeholder engagements are scheduled to take place later this year.

CHAIR,

In its engagement thrust, Zimbabwe together with WIPO, successfully hosted the National IP Week workshop on Intellectual Property for Innovative and Competitive SMEs, in December 2023. The IP Week ignited tremendous interest among SMEs and to buttress this momentum, we are actively engaging the Africa Division in pursuit of an SME mentoring project.

In conclusion, my delegation is delighted to announce that in May 2025, Zimbabwe in partnership with WIPO, will be hosting the WIPO Worldwide Symposium on Geographical Indications in the majestic tourist resort city of Victoria Falls. It will be our pleasure and honour to welcome you all to this auspicious gathering.

I THANK YOU.

(2 Mins)