Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (49th Session), Geneva, December 2 to 6, 2024

CEBS GROUP STATEMENTS

1. Opening of the Session

2. Adoption of the Agenda. See present document and documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/48/INF/2 and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/48/INF/3.

Supportive statement on Ukraine:

Dear Chair,

Along with the tragic humanitarian consequences of the Russian war of aggression, we cannot remain indifferent to the profound and severe impact of the ongoing targeted attacks against Ukraine on cultural, media, and online activities within the field of intellectual property.

For the third consecutive year, this war has led to the destruction of numerous civilian institutions and forced many Ukrainian innovators, artists, creators, scientists, and entrepreneurs to flee their homes and even their country in fear for their lives and the safety of their families. The ongoing Russian war of aggression has also had a detrimental impact on Ukraine's national heritage, including traditional knowledge and folklore. Given the scale of the damage reported by the international community, timely, adequate, and effective support for the Ukrainian IP community is indispensable. In this context, we would like to once again highlight the decision adopted at the WIPO General Assembly in July 2024 regarding Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System. We also request that the International Bureau ensures all publications on WIPO resources and platforms uphold the principles of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

The CEBS Group demands that the Russian Federation immediately cease its unprovoked and unjustified war against Ukraine. We emphasize that the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine violates Article 2(4) of the UN Charter and reaffirm the UN General Assembly Resolution of 2 March 2022, which condemns in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine (ES 11/1), as well as all other resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly during its eleventh emergency special session that condemn the attempted annexation of Ukraine's territories, clearly indicating that no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal.

On behalf of the CEBS Group, let me reaffirm our unwavering support and solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

Thank you.