

KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND

**STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIFTH FOURTH SERIES OF
MEETINGS OF MEETINGS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF WIPO 22
SEPTEMBER, 2014**

The delegates of the Kingdom of Swaziland takes this opportunity to extend their congratulations to the Director General of WIPO Dr. Frances Gurry on the new mandate given to him to lead this organization for the next five years, you can count on our support in your renewed responsibilities .

We also associate ourselves with the statement delivered by Kenya on behalf of the African Group. We also extend our congratulations to the World Intellectual Property Organization for the final completion of the New Conference Hall and we are most delighted that the Fifty-Fourth Series of meetings are held in the new conference facilities, Madam Chairperson, we also congratulate you as Chair of the General Assembly, and you can count on our support as you execute your duties as Chair.

Swaziland is in full support of the work achieved by the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) so far and it is our sincere hope that moving forward the forty five recommendations of the Development Agenda will be undertaken and finally achieved. On the work of the Inter-Governmental \committee (IGC) on Traditional Knowledge Genetic Resources and Folklore, as a country endowed with rich biodiversity on culture and rich natural resources, we appeal to member states to exercise some sense of flexibility so that finally we come up with a legally binding instrument, that will benefit the original owners of such resources. We are also in full support of the convening of a Diplomatic Conference by the year 2015. On the

Designs Law Treaty we also appeal to member states to exercise some flexibility so that there is a consensus in the provision of capacity building and technical assistance in the treaty including the convening of a Diplomatic Conference during the year 2015.

The Kingdom of Swaziland supports the recommendations of two external offices in Africa to facilitate the administration of Intellectual Property in the continent.

The Kingdom of Swaziland is happy to report that it has made significant progress towards the reviewing some of our Intellectual Property legislations. These are as follows:

- (a) Copyright and Neighboring Rights Bill
- (b) Swaziland Intellectual Property Tribunal Bill
- (c) Patents Bill.

It is therefore our fervent hope that the above Bill will be enacted into law during the course of 2015. For all these developments we extend our thanks and gratitude to The World Intellectual Property Organization for the technical assistance provided to us. Swaziland is also happy to report that in May this year we initiated the process of formation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy, which we hope to finalize during the course of 2015. We again extend our thanks and gratitude to WIPO for the technical and financial assistance provided for this exercise. It is also worth noting that the Kingdom Of Swaziland has finally taken a decision to join the Industrial Property Automation System (IPAS) after a study tour to Botswana that was facilitated by WIPO. We are also happy to report that during the month of October there will be another WIPO Mission to Swaziland which will be looking at the final transition towards the implementation stage of IPAS. We again extend our appreciation to

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WIPO for the technical and financial assistance provided for this exercise.

In conclusion we are fully committed towards supporting all the World Intellectual Property Organization initiatives, in making Intellectual property a vehicle towards the socio economic development of our developing nations. We hope WIPO will continue supporting us as we strive to achieve the national goal of achieving first world status in all sectors of our economy by the year 2022.

I thank you for your attention.